



Annual Report 2009 / 2010

Contents

	MAYORAL MESSAGE.....	1
1.	ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.....	5
	<i>Section 428 (2) (a) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)</i>	5
2.	TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE REPORT	5
	<i>Section 428 (1) of the Local Government Act 1993 (Additional information)</i>	5
3.	PERFORMANCE OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES	10
	<i>Section 428 (2) (b) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)</i>	10
4.	STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT	11
	<i>Section 428 (2) (c) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)</i>	11
5.	OVERSEAS TRAVEL BY COUNCILLORS, COUNCIL STAFF OR OTHER PERSONS, WHILE REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL.....	12
	<i>Clause 217 (1) (a) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005</i>	12
6.	MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR FEES AND EXPENSES	12
	<i>Section 428 (2) (f) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)</i>	12
	<i>Clause 217 (1) (a1) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005</i>	12
7.	LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.....	12
	<i>Section 428 (2) (e) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)</i>	12
	<i>Clause (1) (a3) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005</i>	12
8.	PRIVATE WORKS.....	13
	<i>Section 428 (2) (k) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)</i>	13
	<i>Clause 217 (1) (a4) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005</i>	13
9.	CONTRIBUTIONS/DONATIONS	13
	<i>Section 428 (2) (l) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)</i>	13
	<i>Clause 217 (1) (a5) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005</i>	13
10.	EXTERNAL BODIES THAT EXERCISE COUNCIL FUNCTIONS OR ACTIVITIES	14
	<i>Section 428 (2) (o) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)</i>	14
	<i>Clause 217 (1) (a6) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005</i>	14
11.	CONTROLLING INTEREST IN COMPANIES	14
	<i>Section 428 (2) (p) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)</i>	14
	<i>Clause 217 (1) (a7) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005</i>	14
12.	PARTNERSHIPS, CO-OPERATIVES AND JOINT VENTURES.....	14
	<i>Section 428 (2) (q) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)</i>	14
	<i>Clause 217 (1) (a8) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005</i>	14
13.	EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY	14
	<i>Section 428 (2) (n) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)</i>	14
	<i>Clause 217 (1) (a9) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005</i>	14
14.	GENERAL MANAGER'S CONTRACT	15
	<i>Section 428 (2) (g) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)</i>	15
	<i>Clause 217 (1) (b) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005</i>	15
15.	SENIOR STAFF MEMBER REMUNERATION.....	15
	<i>Section 428 (2) (g) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)</i>	15
	<i>Clause 217 (1) (c) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005</i>	15
16.	STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SERVICES	15
	<i>Clause 217 (1) (e) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005</i>	15
17.	COMPLIANCE WITH COMPANION ANIMALS ACT AND REGULATION	16
	<i>Clause 217 (1) (f) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005</i>	16
	<i>Companion Animals Act 1998</i>	16
18.	CONDITION OF PUBLIC WORKS	16
	<i>Section 428 (2) (d) of the Local Government Act 1993 (Historical)</i>	16

19.	MAJOR CONTRACTS AWARDED.....	18
	<i>Section 428 (2) (h) of the Local Government Act 1993</i>	18
20.	BUSH FIRE HAZARD REDUCTION	18
	<i>Section 428 (2) (i1) of the Local Government Act 1993</i>	18
21.	MULTICULTURAL SERVICES.....	19
	Section 428 (2) (j) of the Local Government Act 1993	19
22.	HUMAN RESOURCE ACTIVITIES.....	19
	<i>Section 428 (2)(m) of the Local Government Act 1993 (Historical)</i>	19
23.	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	20
	<i>Section 428(2)(r) of the Local Government Act 1993</i>	20
24.	ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN	20
	<i>Clause 217 (1) (c) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005</i>	20
25.	ACCESS AND EQUITY ACTIVITIES	21
	<i>Clause 217 (1) (d) (i)</i>	21
	<i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2005</i>	21
26.	CATEGORY 1 BUSINESS ACTIVITIES	21
	<i>Clause 217 (1) (d) (ii), (iv), (v) and (vi)</i>	21
	<i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2005</i>	21
27.	CATEGORY 2 BUSINESS ACTIVITIES	22
	<i>Clause 217 (1) (d) (iii) and (vi)</i>	22
	<i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2005</i>	22
28.	COMPETITIVE COMPLAINTS HANDLING MECHANISM.....	23
	<i>Clause 217 (1) (d) (vii)</i>	23
	<i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2005</i>	23
29.	RATES AND CHARGES WRITTEN OFF	23
	<i>Regulation 132 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005</i>	23
30.	FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1989 and REGULATION	24
31.	PRIVACY AND PERSONAL INFORMATION ACT 1998.....	24
	ATTACHMENTS	25

MAYORAL MESSAGE

The past twelve months has been a most challenging one for the Uralla Shire Council and its Community. The new Council, now finishing its second year, worked very cohesively during the past year to govern accountably, to gain improvements for its citizens and to maintain itself as an autonomous rural council.

Council's priority at the beginning of the year, in setting the total budget of \$16,749,997, was to continue with Council's core services while increasing the roads maintenance budget to \$4,347,210 (consisting of \$2,522,337 road works, \$1,111,785 administration charge and \$713,088 for depreciation) and \$1,232,120 for rehabilitation, renewal and new road assets.

The actual expenditure on roads was \$5,183,727.83 (consisting of \$2,346,468.16 road works, \$2,096,550.67 depreciation and \$740,709 administration charge) plus \$2,312,433.33 for rehabilitation, renewal and new road assets. The total actual road works, maintenance and capital, was \$4,659,101.49. This is \$904,644.49 more than the budgeted amount of \$3,754,457. The additional \$904,644.49 was provided principally by a \$371,076 lower administration charge and \$646,000.08 of additional Capital and Operating contributions from the Roads and Traffic Authority.

The other major component of Council's activity is in the area of Community Services, where the Uralla Shire Council is an industry leader. Community Services had a budget of \$5,050,092; funded almost entirely with \$4,853,957 from the Federal and State Governments, plus an input of \$196,135 from Council. The Council's contribution consists of \$101,741 for general support, \$50,447 to support the Grace Munro Centre, \$44,669 for the Community Centre and \$7,851 for Youth.

The actual outcome for Community Services was expenditure of \$5,019,145.89 with grants and other income of \$5,182,984.88. The general support was not required; in fact the reduction of administration charge returned \$26,183.22 instead of a cost of \$101,741 in the budget.

The reduction in the administration charge, which benefited not only Community Services but all of Council's principal activities, came from the reduction in administration costs of \$402,856, principally from the removal of nine months of Alliance costs.

While continuing to maintain and rehabilitate the roads, water and sewer infrastructure with its own resources and specific purpose grants, Council was able to utilise the Federal Government's Stimulus Package "Regional and Local Infrastructure Fund – Round 2" funding of \$101,000 to replace the Uralla Pre-School roof with an allocation of \$25,600, extend the Uralla landfill with \$50,000 and with allocations of \$16,400 and \$9,000 improve facilities at Invergowrie and Bushgrove.

Other works, carried over from the previous year and completed at the beginning of this year were the \$1.4 Million dollar Bridge at Maitland Point and stage 1 of The Pinnacles project on the Bundarra Road (Main Road 124). The straightening of the road at the Pinnacles and the further work on stage 2 during this year, will immeasurably improve the safety and convenience of this important road. Currently the road is not available to B Doubles, which adds many kilometres to the journey of this type of transport, particularly stock trucks wishing to access the Armidale Stock Saleyards. The opening of this section of MR 124 will benefit many primary producers in the western portion of the shire and beyond.

The 2009/2010 year for the New England Strategic Alliance of Councils (NESAC) started with three general purpose councils, Walcha Council having withdrawn as of 1 July 2009, and a weeds county council. NESAC consisted of Armidale Dumaresq Council, Guyra Shire Council, Uralla Shire Council and the New England Weeds County Council. The New England Strategic Alliance of Councils' Charter was to expire on 30 September 2009 and needed to be renewed. It was therefore an opportune time for Councillors of each council to look at where the Alliance was successful and where it was not and what changes were needed to the Charter for the next five years.

A Better Practice Review of NESAC was carried out by the then Department of Local Government during late 2008, culminating with a site visit from 18 to 25 February 2009. The site visit had concluded with a debriefing session on the 25th February 2009 to the Mayors and General Managers of the Alliance, in which the Departmental Officer stated that amalgamations were off the agenda at that point in time and that the report would recommend a number of improvements they would like to see in the Alliance. The First Confidential Draft Report on was received by Council in mid June 2009.

MAYORAL MESSAGE (Continued)

At its meeting of 24th August 2009 Council decided; after a great deal of consideration, workshops and public discussion and surveys, to not renew its membership of the Alliance from the 1st October 2009. The Uralla Shire Council was committed to structural change and continues to see Shared Services as the method of achieving this objective. The difference between the Uralla Shire Council and the other members of NESAC was that Council wished to obtain those Shared (outsourced) Services from the most beneficial and cost effective source, be it from the public or private sector.

The Division for Local Government published the final "Review of New England Strategic Alliance of Councils – December 2009" on 21 January 2010. Recommendation 2 (page 5) recommended to the Minister to appoint an independent person to facilitate a review of the arrangements for delivery of local government services in the area served by the Councils (Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra, Uralla and Walcha).

The extent and depth of support for the Uralla Council, from its Community, to remove itself from the alliance and subsequently to remain an autonomous rural council has been demonstrated firstly when the voluntary written surveys on whether or not they wished to be amalgamated were compiled with 310 Votes against and only 6 being for amalgamation. Then an independent statistically based phone survey determined that 66.5% of the population were against a voluntary amalgamation and only 19.9% for such an amalgamation. However, the greatest demonstration of the Community support for the Uralla Shire Council remaining an autonomous rural council was the attendance at the information meeting on Tuesday 20 April 2010 with Mrs Gabriele Kibble AO, the Facilitator appointed by the Minister for Local Government, Hon Barbara Perry. At that meeting more than 1,000 local Shire residents turned up (the exit count was 976 persons) to voice their opinion.

Despite the large turnout of residents and strong submissions from Council and the Community, the Facilitator signed off on a report that recommended (page 62) that "The existing areas of Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra Shire and Uralla Shire Councils should be amalgamated." The Minister accepted that recommendation and referred the report, which became her Proposal, to the Local Government Boundaries Commission on Thursday 10 June 2010. The Proposal was made pursuant to the provisions of sections 218E (1) and 218F (1) of the Local Government Act 1993. The Commission was requested by the Minister to examine the Proposal and report in accordance with section 263 of the Act, with particular attention to Section 263 (3). At the end of the financial year the Boundaries Commission had not responded to the referral.

Since the end of the financial year the Boundaries Commission listed the notice of an inquiry and the calling for submissions on the Local Government Boundaries Commission web-page within the Division of Local Government Website on Friday 16 July 2010 and in an advertisement on page 5 of the Armidale Express on Monday 19 July 2010. Submissions closed on Saturday 14 August 2010. Public hearings were held in Armidale on Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th August 2010.

The community and council of the Uralla Shire Council area have strenuously, and with forceful argument, overwhelmingly rejected the proposal and have shown by the numbers turning up to the information night with Mrs. Kibble and the submissions to the Local Government Boundaries Commission that it is not in the best interest of the Uralla Shire Community to lose its autonomous rural based local authority.

At the date of my message, the Commission is still considering the written and verbal submissions provided by the Councils and their community members.

The 2010 Annual Report is our Council's report card on what was set out to achieve at the beginning of the year, as promised in the Management Plan, and the actual performance. The Review of the Strategic Objectives, Objectives and Performance Targets, Statement of Means and Performance Assessment of the 2009/2010 Management Plan is provided as Attachment B to this Annual Report and the result of that review is on the following pages of my message.

MAYORAL MESSAGE (Continued)

Page		Achieved	Not Achieved	Not Achievable	Total Outcomes
1	Governance	6	3	0	9
	Administration				
2	Corporate Support Services	15	3	0	18
5	Plant Services	9	0	0	9
	Public Order and Safety				
7	Fire Protection	1	1	0	2
7	Animal and Abandoned Articles Control	3	0	0	3
8	Emergency Services	1	0	2	3
	Health				
9	Inspection Services	4	0	0	4
9	Noxious Plant Control	1	0	0	1
	Community Services and Education				
10	Youth Services and Education	4	0	0	4
11	Aged Units	2	1	0	3
11	Aged Care Centres	6	0	0	6
13	Community Support Options Programs	4	0	0	4
13	Tablelands Community Transport	4	0	0	4
14	Community Centre	3	0	0	3
15	Bundarra Neighbour Aid Service	4	0	0	4
15	Other Community Services	1	0	0	1
	Housing and Community Amenities				
16	Urban and Rural Planning and Assessment	7	0	2	9
17	Garbage Collection and Disposal	5	1	0	6
18	Streetscape (Street Cleaning)	6	0	0	6
19	Urban Stormwater Drainage	8	0	0	8
21	Public Cemeteries	5	0	0	5
22	Environmental Management	4	0	0	4
23	Other Conveniences	3	0	0	3
	Water Supplies				
23	Uralla	7	0	0	7
25	Bundarra	3	1	0	4
26	Rural	3	0	0	3
	Sewerage Services				
26	Uralla	4	2	1	7
28	Bundarra	3	0	0	3
29	Rural	2	1	0	3
	Recreation and Culture				
29	Public Libraries	5	0	0	5
30	Public Halls	4	0	0	4
31	Swimming Facilities	7	0	1	8
33	Sporting Grounds and Facilities	1	0	0	1
33	Parks, Gardens and Reserves	3	0	0	3
34	Other Recreation and Culture	3	0	0	3
	Mining Manufacturing and Construction				
34	Quarries and Pits	1	1	0	2
	Transport and Communication				
35	Urban Roads	8	0	0	8
36	Sealed Rural Roads	9	1	0	10
38	Unsealed Rural Roads	4	2	0	6
39	Bridges	8	0	0	8
41	Footpaths	3	0	0	3
41	Parking Areas	2	0	0	2
42	Miscellaneous Transport	8	1	0	9

MAYORAL MESSAGE (Continued)

Page		Achieved	Not Achieved	Not Achievable	Total Outcomes
	Economic Affairs				
43	Camping and Caravan Areas	0	2	0	2
44	Tourism	4	1	0	5
45	Economic Development	3	0	1	4
46	Private Works	2	0	0	2
46	Other Business	3	0	0	3
		206	21	7	234

The Management Plan listed 234 outcomes (after 9 had been withdrawn) to be achieved to facilitate the actions planned for the Council. There are 7 outcomes that are not able to be achievable due to circumstances beyond the control of Council, due to external factors. The 227 outcomes that have been assessed for the year had 206, or 90.7% achieved slightly higher than the 85.0% achieved for the year ended 30 June 2009 and much higher than the achievement for the year ended 30 June 2008 at 75.5%.

The 21 outcomes (9.3% of targets) that have not been achieved are noted in the "Outcome" column of the Report in bold lettering as "**Not achieved**" and the explanations follow:

- The three targets "not achieved" in Governance relate to the Business Paper and Minutes not meeting the performance targets, however they have met statutory and practical deadlines, and the non production of an annual Report for the 2008/2009 year.
- The three Corporate Support targets "not achieved" were due to the conversion from Finance 1 to Authority IT system.
- The Fire Protection "not achieved" is as a result of the failure to have the Zone Commander of the NSW Fire Brigade attend a Council meeting to make a presentation.
- There was no report to Council on the review of funding sources to provide additional aged units in Hill Street.
- The kgs per head of disposed rubbish was not achievable at 100 kgs with approximately 400 kgs per head disposed. The 2010/2011 target has been set at 300 kgs per head. In addition the recycling at 85 kgs per head was too low with approximately 350 kgs per head being recycled. The recycling target for 2010/2011 has been set at 400 kgs per head.
- The Bundarra Water capital programme of \$10,000 upgrade has been deferred to 2010/2011.
- The sewer extension to Leece Road has been deferred to 2010/2011.
- The 100 devices to be checked in Rural Waste Water is greater than the reasonable number of 40, which will has now been adopted as the 2010/2011 target.
- Section 94 contributions have not been reconciled for the three quarters of 2009/2010; however the backlog of reconciliations of Section 94 contributions has been completed.
- The sealing of 10,000 metres of Regional roads was not achieved as funding was re-allocated by Council from Regional Road Resealing to the Regional Road's Pinnacles Road Realignment.
- There were also seven reports which had not been prepared for Council or management.

I wish to thank the Community for their support that they have provided to Council and to me during this challenging time. We continue to be a proud Community that faces the future with confidence in our ability to provide services and facilities for the residents of our Shire and Region to enjoy.



Ronald T Filmer
MAYOR
25 September 2010

Footnote: The information in this message was compiled from reports available in Council Business Papers.

1. ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Section 428 (2) (a) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)

ATTACHMENT A

2. TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE REPORT

Section 428 (1) of the Local Government Act 1993 (Additional information)

The Mission Statement of the Uralla Shire Council is:

The aim of Uralla Shire Council is to offer an excellent quality of life and economic opportunities for its people by means of imaginative leadership, effective teamwork, efficient management and the provision of quality services.

The Uralla Shire Council will strive to:

1. preserve a high quality environment for the community and become a carbon neutral community through balanced control of development and practical, sustainable environmental management.
2. provide appropriate resources for welfare, leisure, housing, recreational, community and cultural activities.
3. provide a high level of public health, safety and community services.
4. provide an efficient and effective transport and community infrastructure.
5. encourage, promote and facilitate the social and economic development of the area by becoming a lighthouse model for local mitigation and adaptability to Climate Change.
6. provide services in an efficient and economic manner which maximise resources.
7. be accountable and open to the community for its performance.
8. provide responsible, resourceful and economic representative government for its residents.
9. encourage commercial, industrial and retail development.

To achieve its mission and aims outlined above the Uralla Shire Council must have sustainability as its underlying objective.

The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development: Our Common Future (The Brundtland Commission, United Nations, 1987) defined Sustainability as “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” As Jon Dee states in his book *Small Business, Big Opportunity – Sustainable Growth*; Sustainability is simply ensuring that economic, environmental and social development go hand in hand.

The elements of the triple bottom line as coined by John Elkington in 1994 consist of:

1. The ‘profit’ bottom line, which is the measure of the traditional profit and loss financial bottom line.
2. The ‘people’ bottom line, which is the measure of how socially responsible a business has been.
3. The ‘planet’ bottom line which is the measure of how sustainable and environmentally responsible the business has been.

The Triple Bottom Line speaks of measures. In this early adoption of the Triple Bottom Line philosophy the Uralla Shire Council has few measures, however a great deal of empirical evidence, acknowledgements, awards and achievements.

The Profit Bottom Line:

The Uralla Shire Council as a local authority is a service provider and infrastructure asset manager. In this dual role the Council raises contributions from the landholders in the area, called rates, charges for use of certain services and receives contributions from other levels of government in the form of grants which are either; legislative, discretionary and contractual.

The gross income from all sources for 2009/2010 was \$15,014,083.59 and this was expended in operational costs of \$15,520,600.96; including the non-cash items of \$2,974,233.78 for depreciation and \$327,500 writing off of the carrying amount of the Collateralised Debt Obligation (CDOs) financial instruments.

2. TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE (Continued)

The Profit Bottom Line (Continued):

This resulted in a deficit for the 2009/2010 year of \$506,517.37. This deficit for the year is acceptable when the once off expenditure of \$602,833.00 are taken into account consisting of the \$327,500.00 write-off of investment in the CDOs and the expenditure within Community Services activity in 2009/2010 of outstanding grants from prior years of \$275,333.00.

The non cash depreciation charged against operations, which together with the capital grants of \$758,775.98 totals \$3,733,009.76 was utilised in the capital funding of new, renewal and replacement of Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment assets of \$3,681,883.21 and loan principal repayments of \$243,010.76.

Council's unrestricted current ratio is a very strong 5.08:1 of unrestricted current assets to liabilities and the Building and Infrastructure renewal ratio is a sustainable 1.06:1 against depreciation of those assets.

The 'People' Bottom Line

Being a service organisation, with an industry leading percentage of Community Service activities, the Uralla Shire Council spends a higher than comparative percentage on employee costs. The percentage of 44% of total costs being for employee costs compares with 35% for other group 10 councils in New South Wales. This higher percentage is due in some measure to the fact that Community Services, which Council provides over the New England North West Region in addition to the Uralla Shire, is by its nature labour intensive.

The Council staff are its most significant resource and therefore the training that Council provides enables those staff to perform at their individual highest level. In 2009/2010 Council expended \$121,995.80 (\$57,503.53 in direct costs) in training of its staff. This is 2.4% of the operational and capital wages and salaries.

For local councils the other "People" in its bottom line are its citizens. The Uralla Shire Council has a number of committees on which local people are able to advise Council in respect to activities that the committees are involved. The committees, in operation during 2009/2010 include:

Community Services:

Bundarra Neighbour Aid Advisory Committee, Grace Munro Centre Service Providers Advisory Committee, McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre Advisory Committee, Friends of McMaugh, Tablelands Community Support Options Advisory Committee, Tablelands Community Transport Advisory Committee, Uralla Community Safety Committee and the Uralla Swimming Pool Advisory Committee.

Management Committees:

Australia Day Celebrations Management Committee, Uralla Events management Committee (incorporating the Thunderbolt Festival Sub-Committee) and the Bundarra Tourism, School of Arts Hall and Caravan Park Management Committee.

In addition to the above Council/Community Advisory and Management Committees there is a Community Group that has grown out of the Council's involvement with the Community through the local Climate Change Consensus Forums set up by the State Government in October 2008 for a State Forum in February 2009. The Uralla Climate Consensus Forum group was very active and produced 40 recommendations that were adopted by the Uralla Shire Council (Resolution 438/08) at its meeting of 15 December 2008.

The Uralla Climate Change Consensus Forum group continued to meet and provide Council's Environment Committee with recommendations in respect to Environmental issues. Since the original purpose for the group had been completed with the State Forum the name of the group was changed to the U3CF group. The group remained independent of Council, however provided Council with a direct Council/Community link that has developed over the time since March 2009.

The U3CF Group/Council collaboration received a Highly Commended Award for Public Participation Enhanced Decision Making in the Australasian 2009 Core Value Awards from the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Australasia.

ATTACHMENT B

2. TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE (Continued)

The 'People' Bottom Line (Continued)

The Council/Community participation within the Uralla Shire Council area was clearly demonstrated on Tuesday 20 April 2010 when more than 1,000 (exit count of 976) adult members of the public attended a public consultation meeting during the "Review of Local Government Service Delivery in the New England Area" and Community expressing its sentiment during the Local Government Boundaries Commission review of the Minister's Proposal to amalgamate the Uralla Shire Council with the councils of Armidale Dumaresq and Guyra.

The 'Planet' Bottom Line

The Uralla Shire Council has made steady progress from a Council that did not view the environment with any particular importance to one that has a particular interest in the environment having two project officers (1.4 Full Time Equivalents) in addition to its Manager Health and Building Services to facilitate projects and monitoring of works to ensure best practice in this area.

The change in focus is demonstrated by the former Waste Management Committee being renamed the Environmental Committee at the committee meeting of 11 November 2008. This change of emphasis combined with the influence of the aforementioned U3CF community group has seen environmental issues grow progressively in importance for the Uralla Shire Council and for its Community.

Our current Environmental Levy was originally conceived as a waste levy primarily to fund the operation of Council's rubbish tips. This is a uniform levy on all assessments within the Shire. An indication of the Council's and Community's change in focus is that this levy is now an Environmental Levy used to fund Council's landfill sites and increasingly environmental projects.

As revenue from recycling has increased from a combination of volume and price together with better management practices at the landfill sites that reduces costs; more funds are being utilised for environmental projects. The increase in price gained from recyclables is due to the market plus Council's involvement with Northern Inland Regional Waste Group (NIRW) a group of 11 councils in the region that provides greater bargaining power when entering into contracts.

Council has supported ComputerBank New England (ComputerBank), providing it with an office, storage and work area as part of the redevelopment of Council's recycling area at the Uralla Landfill, utilising funding from Federal, State and own resources. ComputerBank recycle 97% of the electronic and electrical goods that they receive, with only 3% going to landfill. The e-waste comes not only from Uralla but from locations far removed from Uralla. ComputerBank has also expanded setting up branches in Inverell and in Armidale.

During 2009/2010 Council provided within the Draft 2010/2011 Council budget (now adopted) funding for the free replacement of the current 240 litre general waste bin with 140 litre general waste bin. The weekly waste collection service will continue. This will introduce a further change in cultural re-enforcing recycling, backing up council's education program that has seen a gradual increase in recycling by the Uralla and Invergowrie communities. The 240 litre bin will then be retained by the residents for use as a co-mingled recycling unit using a fortnightly automated collection service, replacing the 40 litre tubs and manual collection. A second waste collection truck has also been funded in the plant replacement.

The change of bin size combined with larger recycling capacity should see a reduction in waste going to the landfill. The reduction of waste will result in increased recycling and longer life of the landfill; reducing the annual charge for the future rehabilitation cost. The ultimate aim of these changes is to have the landfill/Recycling Centre operate at nil net or near nil net cost; thus releasing more of the Environmental Levy to fund a larger range of environmental projects.

The Uralla Creek has its headwaters some 500 metres south of Uralla and runs through the town, joining with Rocky Creek within the town, before joining with Kentucky Creek to become a major tributary of the Gwydir River. The Gwydir River also passed through Bundarra on its way to Copeton Dam and on to join the Murray Darling System. These were the reason behind Council Officers in May 2007 beginning the process of developing the Uralla Sub-Catchment Management Plan, with assistance from officers of the Gwydir Border Rivers Catchment Management Authority and the Community.

2. TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE (Continued)

The 'Planet' Bottom Line (continued)

This Uralla Sub-catchment Management Plan has been a significant basis for the successful funding application to the NSW Environmental Trust of \$2 million for the Biodiversity in High Places Urban Areas (HiCUB) projects for the urban areas of Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra, Uralla and Walcha.

Council operates two water funds which obtain water for Uralla from a weir on Kentucky Creek and for Bundarra from a run of the Gwydir River. For 2009/2010 Council had budgeted to achieve 44.2% of water charges from usage charge (\$312,375 of \$706,739). However due to the success of water pricing increase (\$1.075 to \$1.25 per kilolitre) encouraging water wise practices, a mild summer and wet winter; the usage target was not achieved resulting in only 39.7% of water charges coming from usage (\$242,136.93 of \$609,593.21). The water use for Uralla and Bundarra in 2009/2010 was significantly below past use, without any water restrictions in place.

Council is joining the two funds together from 1 July 2010 and the water usage percentage of the water charge is budgeted to be 50% of the \$685,440 to be raised. The lower volume of water anticipated to be used means that the usage charge has been increased by 8% to \$1.35 per kilolitre.

Council commenced a scoping study, in January 2010, for an Integrated Water Cycle Management (IWCM) study. IWCM is a 30 year strategic planning tool for local water utilities developed by the former Department of Water and Energy (DWE) now the NSW Office of Water. It is the largest of a suite of six Best Practice management initiatives.

IWCM enables utilities to manage their urban water services in a holistic manner within a catchment context in accordance with the *Best-Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines August 2007*. It involves looking at the three components of the urban water services (water supply, sewerage and stormwater) in an integrated way when identifying all the IWCM issues (*read problems*) and developing scenarios (*read solutions*) to address these issues. The scenarios are evaluated and compared on the basis of their social, environmental and economic impacts.

The IWCM process consists of:

- **IWCM Evaluation** (the current study) which identifies the issues which are then validated by a Project Reference Group. The report is anticipated to be completed by the end of this calendar year, 2010.
- **IWCM Strategy**. The current study has identified that all issues are currently addressed by "Business as Usual" and therefore a Simplified Strategy will be undertaken where significant capital works are not required within 10 years. Had this not been the case then a Detailed Strategy would have been required to be undertaken. This will not be necessary unless a decision to proceed with a sewerage scheme in Bundarra is made, which will require substantial funding.

Both strategies (Simplified or Detailed) identify and provide costs for the actions required to address issues identified by the Evaluation Study.

Armidale Dumaresq, Uralla and Walcha Shire Councils and to a lesser extent Guyra Shire Council engaged in the Local Adaption Pathways Program (LAPP), funded by the Australian Government and facilitated by the consultants Sinclair Knight Mertz. The Risk Identification stage of the project Climate Change Adaption Action Plan and discusses specific environmental indicators within each sector, e.g. the chapter on water includes details of water quality, monitoring, consumption, environment protection license compliance, urban storm water activities, waterway management activities, etc.

Council began subscribing to Planet Footprint in 2010 to undertake energy audits. Following a workshop with Council managers on Thursday 10 June 2010, the provision of fleet use details and providing Planet Footprint with permission to access Council's electricity accounts from 2005; Council has received analysis of energy use. Planet Footprint has produced a series of organisational footprint reports based on electricity consumption and fuel use for the financial year 2009 – 2010 consisting of:

- Complete energy consumption within Council owned and operated facilities.
- Service detail reports for Fleet indicating the volumes of fuel used.
- Energy anomaly report.

2. TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE (Continued)

The 'Planet' Bottom Line (continued)

The Quarterly 'Organisation Footprint' reports examine greenhouse gas emissions, the mix of energy sources used; and compare Council's performance to other Council areas of equivalent population. The reports are being analysed by Council's project officers for reporting to Council with recommendations for means of reduction of Council's carbon footprint. The energy anomaly report, which shows significant increases at 30 June 2010, lists 11 sites. The report is being analysed to discover reasons for the increases and remedial actions required.

Council placed solar panels on the Uralla Library roof and an evacuated tube hot water unit on the nearby Visitor Information Centre. Between the two buildings an interpretive "Mr Smiley Sun" sign has been erected and unveiled by the Federal Member for New England Mr Tony Windsor on Friday 27 November 2009 in the presence of Uralla Shire school children. Information on the output by the solar panels is provided on a computer inside the library and Council receives weekly reports. The Uralla Library is connected to Solar Schools Network <http://www.solarschools.net/resources/> and along with some 800 schools with solar panels is an education resource on solar energy and CO₂ savings.

The Uralla Shire Council is investigating the installation of further solar panels, with and without feed in tariffs, and evacuated tube hot water systems for its public buildings and has budgeted to install panels with no less than 50kw of output in 2010/2011.

As mentioned on page 7 in the last paragraph, Council has developed the Uralla Sub-catchment Management Plan and is a participant in the Biodiversity in High Places Urban Areas (HiCUB) projects for the urban areas of Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra, Uralla and Walcha. The General Manager is the Chairperson of both the Steering and Advisory Committees for this project.

Utilising funding from both its own resources and HiCUB, Council has undertaken significant revegetation works, Willow and invasive weed removal, and native tree, scrub and ground cover plantings within the urban area riparian zones of the of Uralla and Rocky Creeks. These have been on Council, Crown and Private lands. The works involved many agencies, the Community and a collaborative effort with Council that has seen a dramatic improvement in the water quality of these streams at the exit point from the urban area. The program is being monitored and evaluated by Eco Logical Australia <http://www.ecoaus.com.au/contact/#armidale> and base line data is currently being established for comparison after project completion. Such information will be beneficial for future Annual Reports.

Council's engineering workforce has received training through the recommendations of the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW) in sediment control on construction and major maintenance projects near watercourses. The ongoing reviewing of construction sites and obligations of POEO Act, including training, before during and after works will be undertaken by Council's Environmental Project Officers.

Council is assisting a community group to commence a community garden by providing land on which to operate the garden and funding. Similarly Council has been an active supporter, with materials and plant, to the Rocky River Public School in its "Amazing Maize Maze" garden in which the children of the school (approximately 30) laid out, planted, tended, harvested and sold a crop of maize in 2009/2010 season. The school has continued the garden for the 2010/2011 season.

In the area of education the Uralla Shire Council's Environmental Project Officers are actively involved with the schools in the shire with donations of worm farms, advice on worm farming and composting, visits and lessons on environmental subjects.

The measure of the impact of Council's education can be gauged by the fact that in the recent Thunderbolt Festival Parade three schools and the early Day-care centre had floats with themes of: Solar Energy and our Carbon footprint, Renewable energy, "Reduce, Re-use, Recycle" and Climate Change. Also the "Frog Dreaming" activity day in Uralla, organised by SNELC and supported by Council, was a great success with school children from other towns and Armidale attending. Uralla's next generation is well aware of the importance of the environment.

Council is a member of the Love Food, Hate Waste campaign a collaboration of the NSW Government, Woolworths, Australia Food and Grocery Council and the Local Government and Shires Association.

2. TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE (Continued)

The 'Planet' Bottom Line (continued)

One project funded by the first Federal Stimulus Package to Local Government was a walking track from Alma Park to Mt Mutton. While the Federal Stimulus Package funding was \$35,000 the total project cost \$67,125.58, over two years, with Council funding and the use of four trainees. The project removed woody weeds, pinus pinaster and cotoneaster, and removal of other weeds under the supervision of the New England Noxious Weeds County Council officers, construction of a walking track and re-fencing the top area.

The First Stimulus Package also provided \$35,000 for a solar heating unit for the Uralla Swimming Pool, which along with the solar energy and hot water at the Library and Visitor Information Centre (page 9) and the walking track (above) was opened by the Federal Member for New England Mr Tony Windsor on Friday 27 November 2009

Council works with:

- Southern New England Land Care (SNELC) and Border Rivers-Gwydir Catchment Management Authority (BRGCMA) in the control of feral animal (Foxes and Rabbits).
- New England Noxious Weeds County Council for weed control and education of staff in weed identification.
- Northern Inland Regional Waste with education regarding recycling and waste minimisation.

The organiser of the New England Sustainability Strategy (NESSie) is an Invergowrie (Uralla) resident and he works closely with the Uralla Shire Council, including holding the launch of the Solar Energy partnership at the McCrossins Mill, Uralla. Through NESSie the New England Region had one of, if not the highest per capita, uptake of solar energy units in Australia.

Council uses every opportunity; its Monthly Council Newsletter, website, free fridge magnets with recycling theme and articles and advertisements in the local media; to promote Reducing, Reusing and Recycling and the reduction of the Carbon footprint of the Uralla Shire Community.

3. PERFORMANCE OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

Section 428 (2) (b) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)

Legislative Context

Section 428 of the Local Government Act 1993 requires Council to report as to its achievements in implementing its delivery program and the effectiveness of the principal activities undertaken in achieving the objectives at which those principal activities are directed.

However, this is the transitional period between the old and new provisions of Section 428 and Section 406 of the Local Government Act; with the introduction of the Local Government Amendment (Planning and Reporting) Act 2009 from 1 October 2009 to facilitate the Integrated Planning and Reporting guidelines. The Uralla Shire Council has selected the 30 June 2011 for the date of adoption of the Community Strategic Plan and for the setting of the delivery program, under the Integrated Planning and Reporting Guidelines. Council has operated the year 2009/2010 and will operate 2010/2011 under the transition arrangements with the Managements Plans adopted on Monday 29 June 2009 and Monday 28 June 2010 respectively. The first year for full operation under the new Section 428 to apply to the Uralla Shire Council will be the year ended 30 June 2012.

This Annual Report provides information on the performance of principal activities on its achievements with respect to the objectives and performance targets set out in its Management Plan for 2009/2010 adopted by Council at its meeting of Monday 29 June 2009 (Resolution 243/09).

The details of the Review of the Strategic Objectives, Objectives and Performance Targets, Statement of Means and Performance Assessment of the 2009/2010 Management Plan is provided as Attachment C to this Annual Report and the result of that review summarised on the pages 3 and 4 pages of the Mayoral Message.

ATTACHMENT C

4. STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT

Section 428 (2) (c) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)

Legislative Context

The new Section 428A of the Local Government Act 1993 requires an inclusion, in the year in which an ordinary election of councillors is held, in the Annual Report a State of the Environment Report, as to the state of the environment in the local government area in relation to environmental issues as may be relevant to the objectives for the environment established, within the environmental objectives, by the community strategic plan.

The next ordinary election of councillors is due in September 2012 and therefore a State of the Environment Report is not mandatory for the 2009/2010 year.

However, as stated in section 3 above, this is the transitional period between the old and new provisions of Section 428 and the introduction of the Integrated Planning and Reporting guidelines under Section 406 of the Local Government Act

A State of the Environment Report, under the old guidelines was prepared for the Southern New England (including the council areas of Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra Shire, Uralla Shire and Walcha Councils) for the year 2008/2009 and is being prepared for the 2009/2010 year. The State of the Environment Report provides a profile of the Southern New England Region, population and climate, and contains reports on the condition of the environment, issues and actions required in relation to the following environmental sectors:

- (i) land,
- (ii) air,
- (iii) water,
- (iv) biodiversity,
- (v) waste and resource recovery,
- (vi) noise,
- (vii) Aboriginal heritage,
- (viii) non-Aboriginal heritage,
- (ix) management plans relating to the environment of each of the four councils.

ATTACHMENT D

A Review of the State of Environment (SoE) Report 2008/2009

The 2008/2009 Southern New England State of the Environment Report was received by Council at its meeting of Monday 23 November 2009 (Resolution 507/09). The Report addresses each of the aforementioned eight environmental sectors listed (i) to (viii) above.

Armidale Dumaresq and Uralla Shire Council and to a lesser extent Guyra Shire Council engaged in the Local Adaption Pathways Program (LAPP), funded by the Australian Government, with the consultants Sinclair Knight Mertz. The Risk Identification stage of the project Climate Change Adaption Action Plan and discusses specific environmental indicators within each sector, e.g. the chapter on water includes details of water quality, monitoring, consumption, environment protection license compliance, urban storm water activities, waterway management activities, etc. There is scope to include more detail regarding special Council projects and the environmental impact of Council activities.

The current reporting includes information on Council activities along with information from, or regarding, other sources, such as activities and/or projects of Southern New England Landcare, Rural Fire Service, Rural Lands Protection Board and Catchment Management Authorities.

The incorporation of the review of the Southern New England State of the Environment Report 2008/2009 into the Uralla Shire Council's 2009/2010 Management Plan is listed on pages 115 and 116 of the State of the Environment Report attached as Attachment C to the 2009 Annual Report. The forty recommendations from the Climate Change Consensus Forum (Appendix M) were adopted by Council at its meeting of 15 December 2008 (Resolution 438/08) and since then have become part of the Council's Management Plan Volume 3 (pages 3 to 19).

5. OVERSEAS TRAVEL BY COUNCILLORS, COUNCIL STAFF OR OTHER PERSONS, WHILE REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL

Clause 217 (1) (a) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

The General Manager was invited to make a presentation to the annual conference of the International City/County Managers Association (ICMA) held in Montreal, Canada, from Sunday 13 to Wednesday 16 September 2009. The General Manager's presentation was on Shared Services. The cost of travel and accommodation was borne by the General Manager. Council agreed (Resolution 452/09) to pay for the registration of the General Manager and partner. The registration amounted to \$867.05 (US\$690).

A report on the conference was made to Council meeting of Monday 26 October 2009 and the PowerPoint of the paper has been made available for general distribution.

No other person, Councillor or staff member, travelled overseas while representing Council during the 2009/2010 year.

6. MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR FEES AND EXPENSES

Section 428 (2) (f) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)

Clause 217 (1) (a1) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

The Council is constituted of nine Councillors and Council has adopted a Policy, reviewed and revised in September 2009, regarding the payment of expenses and the provision of facilities for Councillors. All fees and expenses are paid in accordance with that Policy.

The Mayoral allowance for 2009/2010 was set at \$13,500. An equipped office with telephone is provided for the Mayor adjacent to the Council Chambers. Councillors, including the Mayor, are paid an annual meeting fee of \$9,000, which is paid in equal monthly instalments regardless of whether or not meetings have been attended. Council subsidises the connection of Councillors to the internet and pays for expenses associated therewith. Stationary and secretarial support is available for the carrying out of authorised Council business.

In addition to the above fees, Council pays for all accommodation, meals and travelling costs for Councillors attending seminars and conferences outside the Council area, and reimburses Councillors for travelling expenses to attend Council meetings. The following expenses were paid during the reporting year:

*	Mayoral allowance	\$13,500.00
*	Councillor's fees	\$80,512.27
*	Councillor training	\$12,944.66
*	Expenses associated with Delegations, Conferences:	\$15,874.92
*	Food at Council and Committee meetings	\$ 2,988.75
*	Mayor's mobile phone	\$ 417.07
	Total	<u>\$126,237.67</u>

7. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Section 428 (2) (e) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)

Clause (1) (a3) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

Council has taken legal advice in respect to the losses incurred with the Global Financial Crisis and its effect upon financial instruments purchased on Council's behalf, under an alleged Individual Managed Portfolio by Lehman Brothers Australia (formerly Grange Securities) and has signed up with IMF in a class action against Lehman Brothers Australia for losses of \$566,989.31 at 30 June 2008, since that date Council has written the value of the investment to Nil.

Legal costs were incurred as a result of assistance requested in the following areas

*	Legal support against Minister's Proposal	18,913.20
*	Legal action – investment recovery	11,362.49
*	Legal action – debt recovery	<u>2,320.44</u>
	Total	<u>\$32,596.13</u>

7. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS (Continued)

Since the end of the financial year a further \$3,653.20 has been incurred in obtaining a legal opinion regarding the Minister's Proposal to forcefully amalgamate the local government areas of Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra Shire and Uralla Shire Councils.

8. PRIVATE WORKS

Section 428 (2) (k) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)

Clause 217 (1) (a4) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

Council makes the following charges for work carried out on private land.

Plant	Council adopts a standard schedule of hire charges for the use of plant on private land. The charge is on the basis of wet hire and is market competitive.
Additional Labour	Direct cost plus 25% for overheads.
Materials	Actual cost plus 12.5%.

The rates are reviewed annually during the preparation of the Annual Budget and advertised with the Schedule of Fees and Charges attached to the Management Plan. Council has not carried out any work on private property during the 2009/2010 year except where proper private works orders have been raised and works charged.

Council raised \$438,164.69 from direct expenditure of \$340,763.96 resulting in a gross surplus of \$97,400.73 (28.6%) allowing for \$56,786.00 (16.7%) recovery of administration and \$40,614.73 (11.9%) net surplus.

9. CONTRIBUTIONS/DONATIONS

Section 428 (2) (l) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)

Clause 217 (1) (a5) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

Contributions totalling \$15,075.17 were made to schools and local community groups under Section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993 as follows:

*	Presentation Nights:	
*	Uralla Central School	\$200.00
*	Bundarra Central School	\$200.00
*	St Josephs School	\$200.00
*	Rocky River School	\$100.00
*	Kingstown School	\$100.00
*	Kentucky School	\$100.00
*	Thunderbolt Festival management Committee	\$8,090.17
*	Bundarra Tourism & Development Committee	\$1,700.00
*	Uralla Arts Lantern Parade	\$1,500.00
*	Kentucky Hall Celebration	\$1,500.00
*	Uralla Rotary Art Show – hall hire cost	\$1,000.00
*	Australia Day Management Committee	\$385.00
	Total	<u>\$15,075.17</u>

Uralla Shire Council provides local community groups with the use of a small shop, "The Uralla Community Store", located in the main street from which to run fund-raising activities such as the sale of raffle tickets, produce, handicrafts and cake stalls. Applications are called for annually with one week per year being allocated to each group. The rent paid to the store owner in the 2009-2010 year was \$6,336.00.

10. EXTERNAL BODIES THAT EXERCISE COUNCIL FUNCTIONS OR ACTIVITIES

Section 428 (2) (o) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)

Clause 217 (1) (a6) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

During the reporting period the following bodies acted under delegation:

- Australia Day Celebration Management Committee
- Bundarra School of Arts Hall, Caravan Park and Rural Transaction Centre Management Committee
- Uralla Events Management Committee (including the Thunderbolt Festival Sub-Committee)

11. CONTROLLING INTEREST IN COMPANIES

Section 428 (2) (p) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)

Clause 217 (1) (a7) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

Council did not hold a controlling interest in any Company during the reporting period.

12. PARTNERSHIPS, CO-OPERATIVES AND JOINT VENTURES

Section 428 (2) (q) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)

Clause 217 (1) (a8) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

During the reporting period Council was involved in the following joint arrangements:

- * **Central Northern Libraries** - Regional agreement with other Councils for the provision of library services. Tamworth City Council manages the agreement.

ATTACHMENT E

- * **Resource Sharing** -.Uralla Shire Council was, until 30 September 2009, a member of the New England Strategic Alliance of Councils (NESAC) with the Councils of Armidale Dumaresq and Guyra together with the New England Weeds Authority. The Alliance provided a combination of shared services and voluntary joint cooperative arrangements whilst still maintaining local decision making capacity and service delivery. The Charter expired on 30 September 2009 and was not renewed.

13. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Section 428 (2) (n) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)

Clause 217 (1) (a9) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

Council had reviewed and adopted an EEO Management Plan in September 2000. The EEO Management Plan was extensively reviewed by the members of the Uralla Shire Council Equal Employment Opportunities Advisory Committee in six meetings from 10 August 2006 to 19 January 2007. The revised and updated E.E.O. Management Plan was adopted by Council at its meeting of Monday 26 February 2007 (Resolution 56/07). This plan was the basis for the Draft E.E.O. Management Plan prepared for the New England Strategic Alliance of Councils dated 20 September 2007.

At the meeting of the Uralla Shire Council Equal Employment Opportunities Advisory Committee held on 20 September 2007 the Committee recommended to Council, and these recommendations were adopted:

- That Council adopt the NESAC Equal Employment Opportunity Policy, and
- That Council agree with the concept of an umbrella Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan and that the Uralla Equal Employment Opportunity Advisory Committee should work with the assimilation of the NESAC Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan and the Uralla Shire Council Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan

Recruitment and retention of staff is carried out in accordance with the Plan and positions are advertised both internally and externally.

13. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (Continued)

Council adopted a Policy of Succession Planning on 30 August 2006 (Resolution 295/06). This policy provides for the mentoring of existing employees to facilitate the transition of management and leadership of the Council, over time. The Policy is driven by the desire that future leaders come from within the organisation, where possible.

Succession Planning is not about targeting particular individuals. It is about building capacity and capability of groups of people, who can then collectively compete on merit for promotion. It aims to overcome the common current experience where younger people leave the organisation after about five years of service. At the same time, Council believes that it is good personnel practice, good for the economy and valuable for the organisation to work with its senior executives and long term employees who are planning on transitioning to retirement.

14. GENERAL MANAGER'S CONTRACT

Section 428 (2) (g) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)
Clause 217 (1) (b) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

The remuneration package of the General Manager at the end of the reporting period was \$151,174.50 compared to \$145,500.00 for the previous period. The remuneration package is as follows:

*	Cash Component	138,692.20
*	Compulsory superannuation contribution	12,482.30
*	Fringe benefits payable by Council on non-cash benefits	0.00
	Total	<u>\$151,174.50</u>

The General Manager's four year contract expires on 10 July 2012.

15. SENIOR STAFF MEMBER REMUNERATION

Section 428 (2) (g) of the Local Government Act 1993 (historical)
Clause 217 (1) (c) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

The only staff member designated as a Senior Staff Member in accordance with the meaning of the Local Government Act 1993 is the General Manager.

16. STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Clause 217 (1) (e) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

Comparison of Performance

	Budget	Actual
Revenue	\$25,480	\$28,781.70
Maintenance (including Administration)	\$27,680	\$40,304.73
Depreciation	\$14,819	\$14,819.26
Total Expenditure	\$42,789	\$55,123.99
Surplus(deficit)	(\$17,309)	(\$26,342.29)

Council has continued to implement strategies to achieve the objectives outlined since the 2007-2008 Management Plan in relation to the management of urban stormwater drainage. Council maintained its current level of routine maintenance of the existing stormwater drainage system (7.134km) at a cost of \$5,650 per km per annum and the construction of 21.2 metres of box culverts. A number of drainage lines have had gross pollutant traps installed to assist in the removal of gravels and litter.

Projects in conjunction with the Biodiversity in High Country Urban Communities (HiCUB) to improve the quality of water flows in Uralla Creek have been undertaken. The projects involved the removal of environmental weeds, stabilisation of banks and creek beds with rock revetments (banks) and groynes (beds). Council also engaged as Arborist, Namoi Tree services, to prepare a management plan for the award winning Alma Park. The tree management plan has been actioned and also combined with the HiCUB projects.

17. COMPLIANCE WITH COMPANION ANIMALS ACT AND REGULATION

Clause 217 (1) (f) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 Companion Animals Act 1998

The Companion Animals Shelter situated off the New England Highway approximately 18km north of Uralla is open to the public for 22 hours each week serving both the Uralla and Armidale Dumaresq Local Government areas.

In 2009-2010, Uralla Shire Council contributed \$12,650 to the running of this facility.

Pound Collection Data:

	2009-2010
Number of animals housed	63
Number of animals reclaimed	47
Number of animals re-housed	0
Number of animals euthanised	16
Number of Companion Animal complaints	78

Companion Animal Complaints Received

Dogs – Barking	Dogs – Aggressive	Dogs - General	Notices Issued
37	17	24	3

18. CONDITION OF PUBLIC WORKS

Section 428 (2) (d) of the Local Government Act 1993 (Historical)

18.1 PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Public buildings and major facilities owned and/or managed by Council include:

- Council offices and chambers
- Works Depots
- Library
- Tourist Information Centre
- Community Centres
- Aged Accommodation Facilities
- Properties owned and let commercially
- Aquatic Centre Facilities
- Buildings and facilities in recreational areas
- Public Toilets

In accordance with the then Department of Local Government requirements, Council buildings were re-valued during 2007/2008 and Council has introduced the practice of incrementally increasing the gross value and accumulated depreciation of all assets that have been previously re-valued.

Council applies a similar methodology, to that applied to Water and Sewer Assets, to maintain a consistent review of the fair value of Council's infrastructure assets; except for plant and equipment, office equipment and furniture and fittings. These annual incremental increases in Valuation and Accumulated Depreciation will reduce the impact of the incremental increases emerging from the full revaluation when undertaken next on the 5 year cycle. Increases in the carrying amounts arising on revaluation are credited to the asset revaluation reserve.

The total estimated cost of bringing public buildings and major facilities to a satisfactory standard is \$257,000 (2009 - \$122,000) with an estimated annual maintenance expense of \$79,000 (2009 - \$87,000) and an actual building maintenance for the 2009/2010 year of \$190,910.86.

18.2 PUBLIC ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE

Council maintains 961kms of roads (530kms of unsealed and 431kms of sealed roads). There are 820kms of local roads (516kms unsealed) and 141kms of regional roads (14kms unsealed). It was estimated that the required funding for re-sheeting of the unsealed road network over a 40 year circle would be \$265,000 (13.25kms) per annum and re-sealing of the sealed road network over a fifteen year circle would be \$718,250 (28.73kms) per annum together with normal maintenance of \$2,709,000 per annum for an annual total of \$3.692m of maintenance, re-sheeting and re-sealing.

Council's bridges were re-valued at 30 June 2010, which will increase the annual depreciation to \$233,534.59 from the 2009/2010 amount of \$182,706.07.

The total estimated cost of bringing public roads and associated structures to a satisfactory standard is \$3,222,000 (2009 - \$2,820,000) with an estimated annual maintenance expense of \$2,709,000 (2009 - \$2,148,000) and an actual road, street and bridges maintenance for the 2009/2010 year (excluding administration charge, re-sheeting and re-sealing) of \$2,124,965.38.

18.3 WATER SUPPLY

Council operates two Water Supply Schemes, one each for the townships of Uralla and Bundarra. Water is sourced from Kentucky Creek Dam for Uralla and from a pumping station located on the Gwydir River for Bundarra. The Dam on Kentucky Creek is subject to blue-green algae and action has been taken to reduce the severity and incidences of algae blooms. The Water network assets are required to be indexed annually between full revaluations in accordance with the latest indices provided by the NSW Office of Water – Rates Reference Manual.

The total estimated cost of bringing water supply infrastructure to a satisfactory standard is \$189,000 (2009 - \$161,000) with an estimated annual maintenance expense of \$107,000 (2009 - \$81,000). The actual expenditure on water infrastructure maintenance (excluding administration charge) for the year ended 30 June 2010 was \$133,934.18.

18.4 SEWERAGE SCHEME

Council operates one sewerage scheme being for the township of Uralla. The Sewer network assets are required to be indexed annually between full revaluations in accordance with the latest indices provided by the NSW Office of Water – Rates Reference Manual

The total estimated cost of bringing sewer reticulation and treatment infrastructure to a satisfactory standard is \$71,000 (2009 - \$72,000) with an estimated annual maintenance expense of \$52,000 (2009 - \$36,000). The actual expenditure on water infrastructure maintenance for the year ended 30 June 2010 (excluding administration charge) was \$84,204.82.

The sewer servicing of the township of Bundarra was the subject of a Public Works Department Investigation Report in 1989. This study offered a number of alternatives including a common effluent scheme. The current estimated costs of \$3 million make it unaffordable unless 100% capital funding is secured.

18.5 DRAINAGE ASSETS

Although the Council's constructed drainage infrastructure is performing within reasonable expectations there were areas of the town of Uralla where the drainage system had been identified as being inadequate. During 2009/2010 an upgraded maintenance programme was undertaken to reduce the amount of asset that was below satisfactory standard. A number of drainage lines have had Gross Pollutant traps installed to remove litter and gravels.

Council's stormwater drainage assets were re-valued at 30 June 2010, which will increase the annual depreciation to \$24,252.53 from the 2009/2010 amount of \$14,818.26.

The total estimated cost of bringing stormwater drainage infrastructure to a satisfactory standard is \$18,000 (2009 - \$2,000) with an estimated annual maintenance expense of \$18,000 (2009 - \$2,000). The actual expenditure on water infrastructure maintenance for the year ended 30 June 2010 (excluding administration charge) was \$34,195.73.

19. MAJOR CONTRACTS AWARDED

Section 428 (2) (h) of the Local Government Act 1993

During the reporting period the following contracts were awarded:

*	Civica Pty Ltd, a five year IT Managed Service Provision Contract from 18 September 2009 commencing at \$16,100 per month	\$144,900.00
*	Microsoft, licence for Authority IT System	\$28,600.00
*	Pitney Bowes Insight, a five year contract for Mapinfo GIS From 1 October 2009 commencing at \$25,080 per annum	\$25,080.00
*	TRIM, a five year contract From 1 October 2009, first year \$34,000 Subsequent years commencing at	\$34,000.00 \$7,480.00
*	Boral Asphalt, two year contract from 1 October 2009. for the supply and spreading of bitumen.	
*	SR Law Appointment, through Local Government Procurement, as Council's debt collection agent.	

*

Work carried out by Contractors during the reporting period either under contracts entered into in previous years, or for significant amounts, for services were:

*	Waegers Maitland Point Bridge Construction	\$536,415.00
*	Campbell's Fuel Petroleum, distillate and oil	\$466,575.01
*	Home Care Service Domestic Assistance to Community Options clients	\$404,268.08
*	S.O.S. Nursing and Home Care (formerly Armidale and District Home Nursing) Home help for Community Options Clients	\$305,470.62
*	Boral Construction Supply and spray bitumen	\$285,461.92
*	Statecover Mutual Workers Compensation Insurance	\$263,263.00
*	EDI Downer Bitumen supplies	\$128,352.84
*	Highland Aggregate (formerly Inverell Aggregate) Aggregate supplies	\$124,628.27
*	Tamworth Regional Council Regional library services	\$87,002.00
*	Jardine Lloyd Thompson Insurance for Assets and Public Liability	\$70,285.60
*	Ward Brothers Gravel royalties	\$52,266.38
*	Hamo's Sand and Gravel Supply of road-making materials	\$34,344.97
*	Forsyths, Chartered Accountants audit services	\$25,685.00
*	Piper Alderman Solicitors Legal Expenses – Investment Recovery	\$5,951.91

20. BUSH FIRE HAZARD REDUCTION

Section 428 (2) (i1) of the Local Government Act 1993

The responsibility for Bush Fire Hazard Reduction activities was passed to the NSW Rural Fire Service on 1 July 2001. This activity and other requirements of the Rural Fire Service Act 1997 are managed through a Service Level Agreement between the Uralla Shire Council and the New South Wales Rural Fire Service.

Council's general roadscape and recreational reserve maintenance activities also assisted in bushfire mitigation. During the year, orders were issued in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993; requiring landowners to clean blocks and thereby suppress fire hazards.

21. MULTICULTURAL SERVICES

Section 428 (2) (j) of the Local Government Act 1993

The 2006 Census revealed that 88.8% of the population of the Shire was born in Australia. Of the 11.2% of the people living in Uralla Shire who were born overseas, the most common languages spoken at home other than English are German, Italian and Chinese. Uralla Shire Council does not have any specific services for people from non-English speaking backgrounds due to lack of demand for such services. Council's Social Plan has identified the need to develop a register of fluent non-English speakers who can be called upon to act as interpreters if needed.

The 2006 Census revealed that 5.8% of the Shire's population are of Aboriginal/Torres Strait Island origin. Council provides a number of services to our local Aboriginal community through its auspice of the Tablelands Community Support Options program. To manage its Aboriginal services projects, this program employs an Aboriginal Case Manager and an Aboriginal Project Officer to deliver services for the aged, people with a disability and their carers in the four Local Government areas of Uralla, Walcha, Guyra and Armidale-Dumaresq. These services are:

1. Community Options Project – Aboriginal: A HACC funded Case Management program which targets the elderly, people with a disability and their carers who have high and complex needs are at risk of premature and inappropriate institutionalisation. Ten Aboriginal specific packages in the Local Government areas of Guyra, Armidale Dumaresq, Uralla and Walcha are available.
2. Community Aged Care Packages – Aboriginal: Funding is received from the Australian Government to provide Community Aged Packages to the ATSI community in the New England area. Community Aged packages provide coordinated and flexible assistance to Aboriginal people aged 45 years plus to remain independent in their own homes. An extra 5 packages were received this year bringing the total number of packages available to the Aboriginal community in New England to twenty five.
3. Narwon Elders Group: This is a HACC funded program to provide a day respite group to the elders in the Aboriginal communities of the New England region.
4. Narrabri/Wee Waa day centres: Council has been requested by Human Service, NSW Ageing Disability and Home Care, on 10 May 2010 to auspice the Aboriginal Elders Group day centres at Narrabri and Wee Waa. Council has agreed and will take over auspicings of the services from early July 2010.

Uralla Shire Council continues to auspice the Kamilaroi Aboriginal Respite Service in Tamworth with the Tablelands Community Support Options Manager providing support to this project and the Aboriginal Elders Group Day Centres for Narrabri and Wee Waa. KADS has offices located in Tamworth, Inverell and Boggabilla.

ATTACHMENT F - (Annual Report of Tablelands Community Support Options for more details)

22. HUMAN RESOURCE ACTIVITIES

Section 428 (2) (m) of the Local Government Act 1993 (Historical)

Council continues to develop staff resources through the provision of training and vocational interaction to ensure that staff have the necessary skills and experience to carry out their duties. Employees are encouraged to attend professional conferences and vocation related regional group meetings. Training through attendance or assistance with the following during the reporting period included:

- * Master of Business Administration (Community Services)
- * Diploma in Community Services (Case Management)
- * Certificate III in Civil Construction, Horticulture, Aged Care, Integrated Care Management (to provide services to the frail and aged)
- * Building Surveying Accreditation
- * Water Treatment, Chainsaw operation and Chemical Spray operations
- * First Aid and Pool lifeguard update
- * Professional conferences, Industry training and Regional vocational group meetings

During the reporting period, Council expended costs of \$142,504.36 (including a wages and salaries component of \$70,874.57) on staff training.

23. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Section 428 (2) (r) of the Local Government Act 1993

The Uralla Shire Council received funding of \$4,148,080.37 during 2009/2010 from State and Federal Agencies for Community Services. This funding is labelled Grants by these agencies and thus treated as such by Council in its financial statements. However, Council has long contended that these funds are more in the nature of "fees and charges" to provide state and federal community services not only to the Uralla Community but also to the New England and North West Region stretching from Caroon in the Liverpool Plains Shire Council (in the south) to Boggabilla in the Moree Plains Shire Council areas (in the north). The contractual arrangements for these services arise from Council being successful in an open competitive bidding process. Council will be taking the matter up with the funding agencies, because of the misinterpretation that the classifying the funds as grants causes to some readers of our financial statements when forming opinions about the long term financial viability of the Uralla Shire Council.

In addition to the above and the additional information on the Triple Bottom Line, provided in Section 2, the historical Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 requested additional information to be provided in Annual Reports. This information will continue to be provided as part of the transitional arrangements by reference to the historical sub-clauses of clause 217 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 that have been rescinded when the Local Government Amendment (Planning and Reporting) Act 2009 which came into effect from 1 October 2009 to facilitate the Integrated Planning and Reporting guidelines. While these transitional arrangements will continue until the first full year of the Uralla Shire Council operating under the Community Strategic Plan from 1 July 2011, some of the items may be retained for historical and comparative purposes into the future.

24. ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

Clause 217 (1) (c) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

The 2006 Census indicates that 1,626 persons were less than 20 years of age. This represents 28.35% of the population. Council has identified that this group as having special needs within the community. Council contributes to the following activities, which are provided for the children of the community:

ACTIVITY	SUPPORT	TARGET AGE GROUP
Uralla Neighbourhood Centre	Promote physical activities and use of Council facilities Youth Week	5 to 19 – 22.3% of population
Library	Provision of facilities and activities	0 to 90 - 100% of population
Uralla Pre-School Inc.	Financial assistance	3 to 5 – 2.77% of population
Skate Park	Provision and maintenance of facilities	5 to 19 22.3% of population
Sporting Complex	Provision and maintenance of facilities	5 to 19 22.3% of population

After several years when Youth Week activities were not organised in the council area the organisation of Youth Week was provided by the Uralla Neighbourhood Centre, with funding from the Uralla Shire Council and the Department of Community Services. Youth Week 2010 activities for Uralla, titled "Live it Now" were arranged not only for the scheduled Youth Week of 11 to 17 April 2010, but for the extended period of 5 to 17 April 2010. The organisation of Youth Week was through Council's auspiced Tablelands Community Transport, utilising its network and expertise with volunteers. The activities commenced with an on-line survey that resulted in establishment of YABBY (Youth are being Brutally Youth) whose terms of reference were negotiated to focus on the development of a Tablelands Youth Week 2010 program. The Uralla Shire Council was a finalist for the 2010 Local Government Youth Week Awards and was awarded the Small Council's Award.

25. ACCESS AND EQUITY ACTIVITIES

Clause 217 (1) (d) (i)

Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

Council endeavours to ensure that all residents and ratepayers are aware of the services provided, their entitlement to information and their rights and obligations. Residents of the Shire who are not able to move within the community because of age, disability or remote locations within the Shire have been identified as requiring special consideration when accessing information from Council.

A Regional Social Plan, in conjunction with other member councils of the New England Strategic Alliance of Councils (NESAC) was prepared through the UNE Centre for Applied Research and Social Science (CARSS) commencing in December 2008 with a completion date of December 2009. The review included widespread Community consultation in the calendar year 2009.

Council has embarked on the following strategies, over and above the requirements of the Local Government Act, for communication with ratepayers to ensure that these target groups are not discriminated against in their access to information:

- Business Papers for Council meetings are available for inspection at seven locations within the Shire, the Council Office, Library, Visitors Information Centre, Bundarra General Store, Kentucky General Store, Kingstown General Store and Invergowrie General Store. These are also available, to residents and ratepayers, free of charge as required by the Act.
- Council Newsletter published monthly and distributed to every household in the Shire.

Uralla Shire Council is the auspicing body for the Tablelands Community Transport program which is a rural non-profit volunteer based organisation providing various levels of transport services to transport disadvantaged passengers in the local government areas of Uralla, Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra and Walcha.

Services include:

- * Fortnightly shopping bus runs to Armidale
- * Monthly outing for men with a disability
- * Monthly social outing for residents of McMaugh Gardens Aged Care facility
- * Transport to Safety service providing transport to Women's Refuges
- * Social outings for children with disabilities
- * Volunteer car driver scheme
- * Provision of an electric scooter available for hire through Crazy Clark's Store (based in Armidale)

ATTACHMENT G (Annual Report of Tablelands Community Transport for more details)

26. CATEGORY 1 BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

Clause 217 (1) (d) (ii), (iv), (v) and (vi)

Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

The Uralla Shire Council has the following Category 1 Business Activities:

- ↳ Uralla Water Supply – for the townships of Uralla and Bundarra.
- ↳ Uralla Sewerage Scheme – for the town of Uralla.

Detailed financial information regarding Business Activities are contained within the Special Purpose Financial Statements attached to this Report. The Water Supply Operation is Special Schedule 3 and the Sewerage Operation is Special Schedule 5.

Statement of Expenses, Revenues and Assets:

ACTIVITY	WATER SUPPLY OPERATION		SEWERAGE OPERATION	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
	\$000s	\$000s	\$000s	\$000s
Revenue excluding grants for acquisition of assets	520	723	349	484
Expenditure including depreciation	653	668	350	325
Surplus (Deficit)	(133)	55	(1)	159
Net Equity	17,985	17,627	7,787	8,019
Notional Return on Capital	(0.74%)	0.31%	(0.01%)	1.98%

26. CATEGORY 1 BUSINESS ACTIVITIES (Continued)

Comparison of Performance

The combined (Uralla and Bundarra) deficit for reporting of the Water Supply operations performance was \$186,987.00 more than budgeted surplus due to the Water Fund's share (\$137,880.92) of the loss on long term investment of \$327,500 when the investment was written down to nil value at 30 June 2010 plus \$78,712.03 reduced income from water usage, due to an above average wet second half of the year and the effect of water conservation practices being adopted more widely with both communities. The water conservation practices are encouraged by higher price per kilolitre and promotion through Council's Monthly Newsletter.

The Sewer operation deficit was \$160,527.32 more than budgeted surplus principally due to the Sewer Fund's share (\$137,417.73) of the loss on long term investment of \$327,500 when the investment was written down to nil value at 30 June 2010 plus \$38,334.62 additional cost of electricity due to retrospective charges for electricity from the previous year and increased electricity cost.

The method of pricing of water services has been established so that there is no cross subsidy between General Fund and the Water and Sewer Funds or between users. This has involved examining the basis for charging of Administration Charges from Corporate Services to the various Council Activities. The Water and Sewerage operations are the only Council Business Undertakings, as specifically provided for in the Guidelines; therefore Council has taken no specific action regarding implementation of competitive neutrality.

27. CATEGORY 2 BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

Clause 217 (1) (d) (iii) and (vi)

Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

McMaugh Gardens Aged Hostel
Private Works Contract Services

Statement of Expenses, Revenues and Assets:

ACTIVITY	PRIVATE WORKS		McMAUGH GARDENS AGED CARE	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
	\$000s	\$000s	\$000s	\$000s
Revenue excluding grants for acquisition of assets	438	723	1,940	1,809
Expenditure including depreciation	398	668	1,854	1,813
Surplus (Deficit)	40	55	86	(4)
Net Equity	n/a	n/a	3,649	3,445
Notional Return on Capital			2.36%	(0.12%)

Competitive neutrality policy aims to ensure that government businesses do not enjoy any competitive advantage over private companies as a result of their public ownership.

The New South Wales Government's response to the applying of competitive neutrality principles in the local government sector is to require businesses that have an annual gross operating income of more than \$2 million to adopt a corporatisation model and apply full cost attribution, while businesses below that income threshold must apply full cost attribution and make subsidies explicit.

The Uralla Shire Council has adopted the procedure of applying full cost attribution of administration and back office costs over all its principal activities and these costs are distributed to the Water and Sewer activities in the same manner and using the same cost drivers as other activities. An appropriate proportion of governance costs are also allocated to Water, Sewer, Domestic and other Waste operations. In addition; Water, Sewer and McMaugh Aged Care Centre are treated as separate funds and accounted within Council's Annual Financial Statements within the Special Purpose Financial Statements, which are subject to audit. The Special Purpose Financial Reports include notes to the accounts on National Competition Policy (Note 1 paragraph 3) and Best Practice Management Disclosures – Water Supply (Note 2) and Sewerage (Note 3).

27. CATEGORY 2 BUSINESS ACTIVITIES (Continued)

The Uralla Shire Council has no business unit with a gross income of \$2 million or greater. Consequently only Council's water and sewerage operations are classified as Category 1 businesses.

28. COMPETITIVE COMPLAINTS HANDLING MECHANISM

Clause 217 (1) (d) (vii)

Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

Council established a complaints handling procedure for competitive neutrality complaints and no complaints have been received in respect to competitive neutrality. Council is not aware of any situation that may give rise to a complaint being lodged.

Set out below are statistics regarding competitive neutrality complaints for the reporting period:

<u>Competitive Neutrality Complaints</u>	Total
Brought Forward From Previous Year	Nil
New Complaints Received	Nil
Total to be processed	Nil
Complaints Completed During Reporting Period	Nil
Unfinished And Carried Forward To Next Reporting Period	Nil

29. RATES AND CHARGES WRITTEN OFF

Regulation 132 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

Pension Rebates granted during the 2008/2009 financial year:

General	\$109,760.63
Water	\$30,579.71
Sewer	\$23,562.65
Domestic Waste Management	\$17,146.57
Total	\$181,049.56

Note: Council receives a subsidy equivalent to 55% of the amount of Pension Rebates.

Bad debts written off and Provision for Doubtful Debts raised

General Fund	
Bad Debts	\$5,271.33
Doubtful Debts	\$11,337.73
Total	\$16,608.06

Council has created a provision for doubtful debts in general rates as a property, with unpaid rates, has been returned to the Crown after balance date.

30. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1989 and REGULATION

Freedom of Information requests processed by Council for the 2009/2010 year were:

<u>FOI Requests</u>	Personal		Other		Total	
	2009/ 2010	2008/ 2009	2009/ 2010	2008/ 2009	2009/ 2010	2008/ 2009
New (Including transferred in)	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	1
Brought forward	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total to be processed	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	1
Completed	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	1
Transferred out	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Withdrawn	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total Processed	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	1
Unfinished (carried forward	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

From 1 July 2010 the Freedom of Information Act 1989 is replaced by the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 No 52. This act is administered by the Office of the Information Commissioner and Council staff have attended information workshops, in Tamworth, at which the Commissioner, Deirdre O'Donnell, outlined the need for government bodies to make as much information as possible freely available to the public.

Council's website is being updated and will provide access to most of Council's documents.

31. PRIVACY AND PERSONAL INFORMATION ACT 1998

Council adopted its Privacy Management Plan in June 2000.

During the period July 2009 to June 2010, Council did not receive any requests for investigations into breaches under the PPIP Act 1998

ATTACHMENTS

NOTE: Attachments are available on the Uralla Shire Council Website if required:

<http://www.uralla.local-e.nsw.gov.au/council/1023.html>

ATTACHMENT A

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A complete set of audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2010 is attached.

http://www.uralla.local-e.nsw.gov.au/files/3650/File/Annual_Financial_Statements_2010.pdf

ATTACHMENT B

AUSTRALASIAN 2009 CORE VALUES AWARDS

The media release announcing the recipients of the Community Engagement Awards for 2009 and the Uralla Shire Council's Highly Commended Award for Public Participation – Enhanced Decision Making from the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Australasia.

ATTACHMENT C

COMPARISON OF PERFORMANCE TO TARGETS

This comparison of Council's actual performance of its principal activities during the year ended 30 June 2010 (measured in accordance with the criteria set out in the 2009/2010 Management Plan) with the Council's projected performance of those activities (as contained in the aforementioned Management Plan), together with statements of reasons for differences.

ATTACHMENT D

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT

State of Environment Report 2009-2010

Compiled for the New England Region of Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra Shire, Uralla Shire and Walcha Councils.

ATTACHMENT E

Central Northern Regional Libraries Annual Report 2009-2010

ATTACHMENT F

Tablelands Community Support Options Annual Report 2009-2010

ATTACHMENT G

Tablelands Community Transport Annual Report 2009-2010

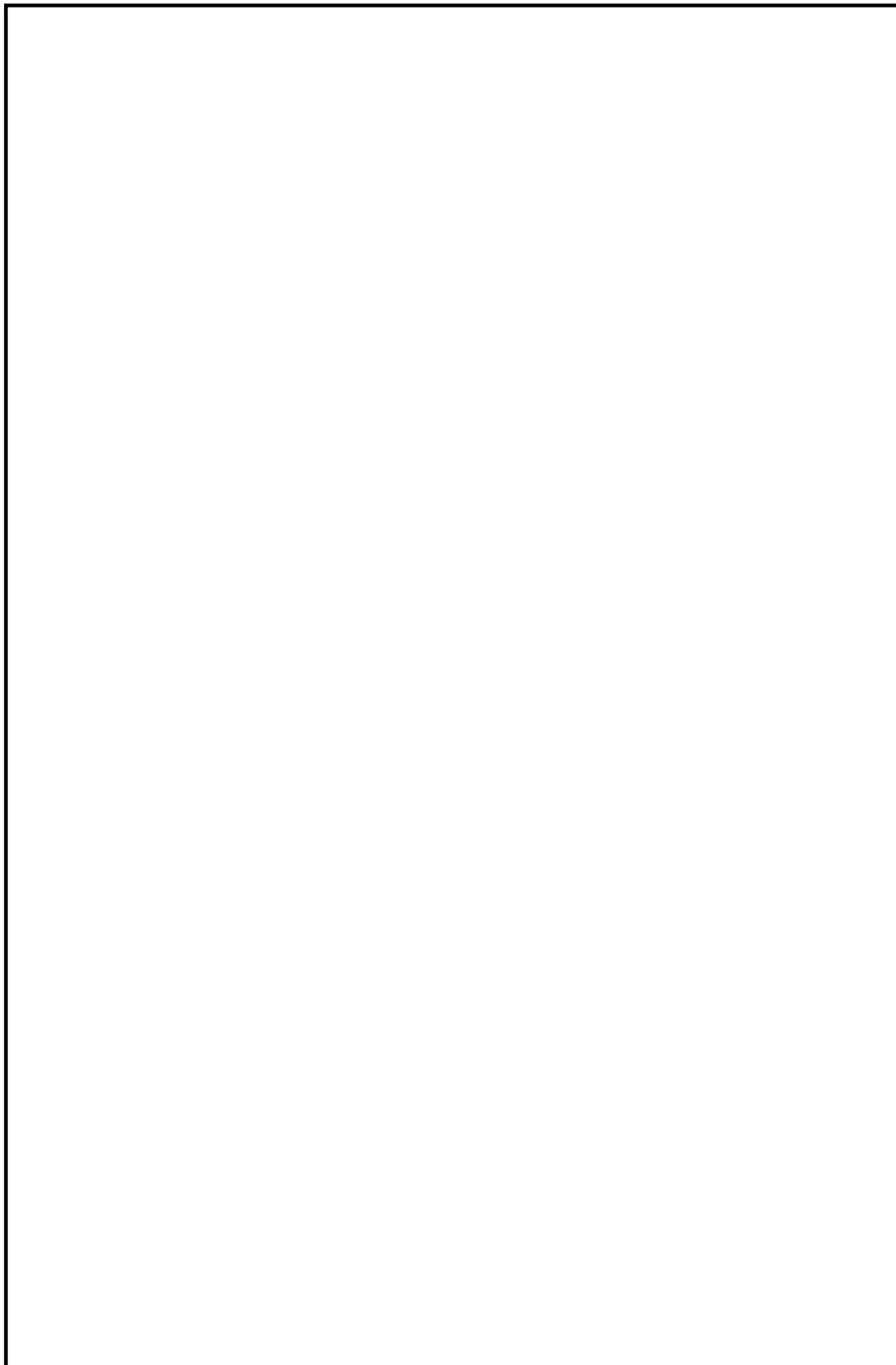
URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

2010

ATTACHMENT A

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

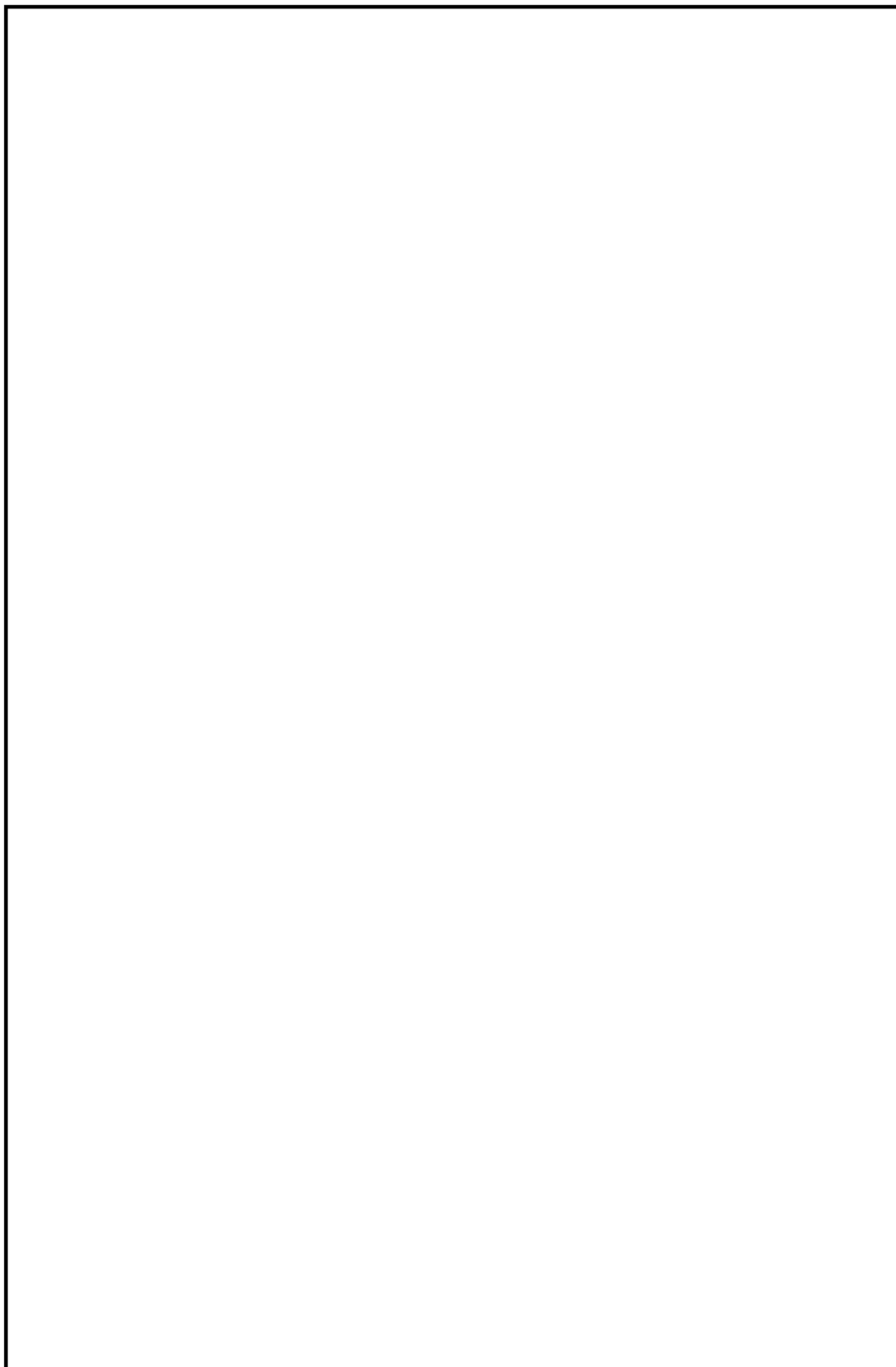




FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

GENERAL PURPOSE REPORTS SPECIAL PURPOSE REPORTS AND SPECIAL SCHEDULES

**YEAR ENDED
30 JUNE 2010**



URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

General Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June 2010

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Council Certificate [s 413 (2)(c)]	1
Principal Financial Statements	
Income Statement	2
Statement of Comprehensive Income	3
Balance Sheet	4
Statement of Changes in Equity	5
Statement of Cash Flow	6
Notes to, and forming part of, the Principal Financial Statements	
Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies	N1
Note 2 - Functions	N14
Note 3 - Income	N16
Note 4 - Expenses	N20
Note 5 - Gain or Loss on Disposal of Assets	N22
Note 6 - Cash and Investment Securities	N23
Note 7 - Receivables	N25
Note 8 - Inventories and Other Assets	N26
Note 9 - Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment	N27
Note 10 - Liabilities	N29
Note 11 - Reconciliation to Statement of Cash Flows	N31
Note 12 - Commitments for Expenditure	N32
Note 13 - Statement of Performance Measures	N33
Note 14 - Investment Property	N34
Note 15 - Financial Risk Management	N35
Note 16 - Material Budget Variations	N38
Note 17 - Statement of Developer Contributions	N41
Note 18 - Contingencies, Assets and Liabilities Not Recognised	N42
Note 19 - Interests in Joint Ventures and Associates	N44
Note 20 - Revaluation Reserves and Retained Earnings	N45
Note 21 - Results by Fund	N46
Note 23 - Events Occurring After Reporting Date	N48
Note 26 - Reinstatement, Rehabilitation and Restoration Liabilities	N49
Auditors Report on the Financial Statements [s 417 (2)]	
Auditors Report on the Conduct of the Audit [s 417 (3)]	

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2010

STATEMENT BY COUNCILLORS AND MANAGEMENT MADE PURSUANT TO SECTION 413 (2)(c) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993 (as amended)

The attached Annual Financial Statements have been drawn up in accordance with

- The Local Government Act 1993 (as amended) and the Regulations made thereunder
- The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting
- The Australian Accounting Standards and professional pronouncements

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these reports

- Present fairly the Council's financial position and operating result for the year, and
- Accord with Council's accounting and other records

We are not aware of any matter that would render the reports false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on Monday 18 October 2010



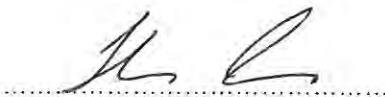
Councillor Kevin Stanley Ward

MAYOR



Councillor Michael Pearce

DEPUTY MAYOR



Mr T. P. O'Connor (Chartered Accountant)

GENERAL MANAGER



Mr T. P. O'Connor (Chartered Accountant)

RESPONSIBLE ACCOUNTING OFFICER

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

INCOME STATEMENT for the year ended 30th June 2010

Budget 2010 \$'000		Notes	Actual 2010 \$'000	Actual 2009 \$'000
INCOME				
Revenue:				
4,702	Rates and Annual Charges	3	4,542	4,243
1,444	User Charges and Fees	3	1,738	1,374
182	Investment Revenues	3	-	197
278	Other Revenues	3	315	346
7,382	Grants and Contributions - Operating	3	7,549	8,230
461	Grants and Contributions - Capital	3	759	1,256
371	Profit from Disposal of Assets	5	128	457
14,820	Total Income from Continuing Operations		15,031	16,103
EXPENSES				
6,134	Employee Costs	4	6,842	6,219
4,616	Materials and Contracts	4	4,370	4,127
120	Borrowing Costs	4	179	153
1,952	Depreciation and Amortisation	4	2,974	1,505
-	Impairment	4	-	-
879	Other Expenses	4	1,153	1,071
-	Interest and investment losses	3	19	-
13,701	Total expenses from Continuing Operations		15,537	13,075
1,119	NET OPERATING RESULT FOR YEAR		(506)	3,028
Attributable to:				
1,119	URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL		(506)	3,028
1,119			\$ (506)	\$ 3,028
658	Net operating result before capital grants and contributions		\$ (1,265)	\$ 1,772

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

for the year ended 30th June 2010

	Notes	Actual 2010 \$'000	Actual 2009 \$'000
Net operating result for year			
from Income Statement		(506)	3,028
Other comprehensive income			
Revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment		19,586	184,941
Total other comprehensive income		<u>19,586</u>	<u>184,941</u>
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		<u>19,080</u>	<u>187,969</u>
Attributable to:			
URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL		<u>19,080</u>	<u>187,969</u>
		<u>\$ 19,080</u>	<u>\$ 187,969</u>

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET as at 30th June 2010

	Notes	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	1,586	1,454
Investments	6	4,500	5,412
Receivables	7	1,123	1,397
Inventories	8	185	187
Other	8	-	106
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		7,394	8,556
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment	9	296,289	276,250
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		296,289	276,250
TOTAL ASSETS		303,683	284,806
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	10	3,203	3,191
Borrowings	10	122	209
Provisions	10	1,219	1,159
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		4,544	4,559
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Borrowings	10	1,694	1,816
Provisions	10	936	1,003
TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES		2,630	2,819
TOTAL LIABILITIES		7,174	7,378
NET ASSETS		\$ 296,509	277,428
EQUITY			
Accumulated Surplus	20	66,037	66,543
Revaluation Reserves	20	230,472	210,886
TOTAL EQUITY		\$ 296,509	277,429

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
for the year ended 30th June 2010

2010

	Retained Earnings	Asset Reval. Reserve	Total
	\$'000		
Balance at end of previous reporting period	66,543	210,886	277,429
Net Operating Result for the year	(506)	-	(506)
Other comprehensive income			
Revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	-	19,586	19,586
Total other comprehensive income	-	19,586	19,586
Balance at end of the reporting period	66,037	230,472	296,509

Note

20

2009

	Retained Earnings	Asset Reval. Reserve	Total
	\$'000		
Balance at end of previous reporting period	77,132	25,945	103,077
Effect of correction of errors in previous years on retained earnings	(13,617)	-	(13,617)
Restated opening balance	63,515	25,945	89,460
Net Operating Result for the year	3,028	-	3,028
Other comprehensive income			
Revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	-	184,941	184,941
Total other comprehensive income	-	184,941	184,941
Balance at end of the reporting period	66,543	210,886	277,429

Note

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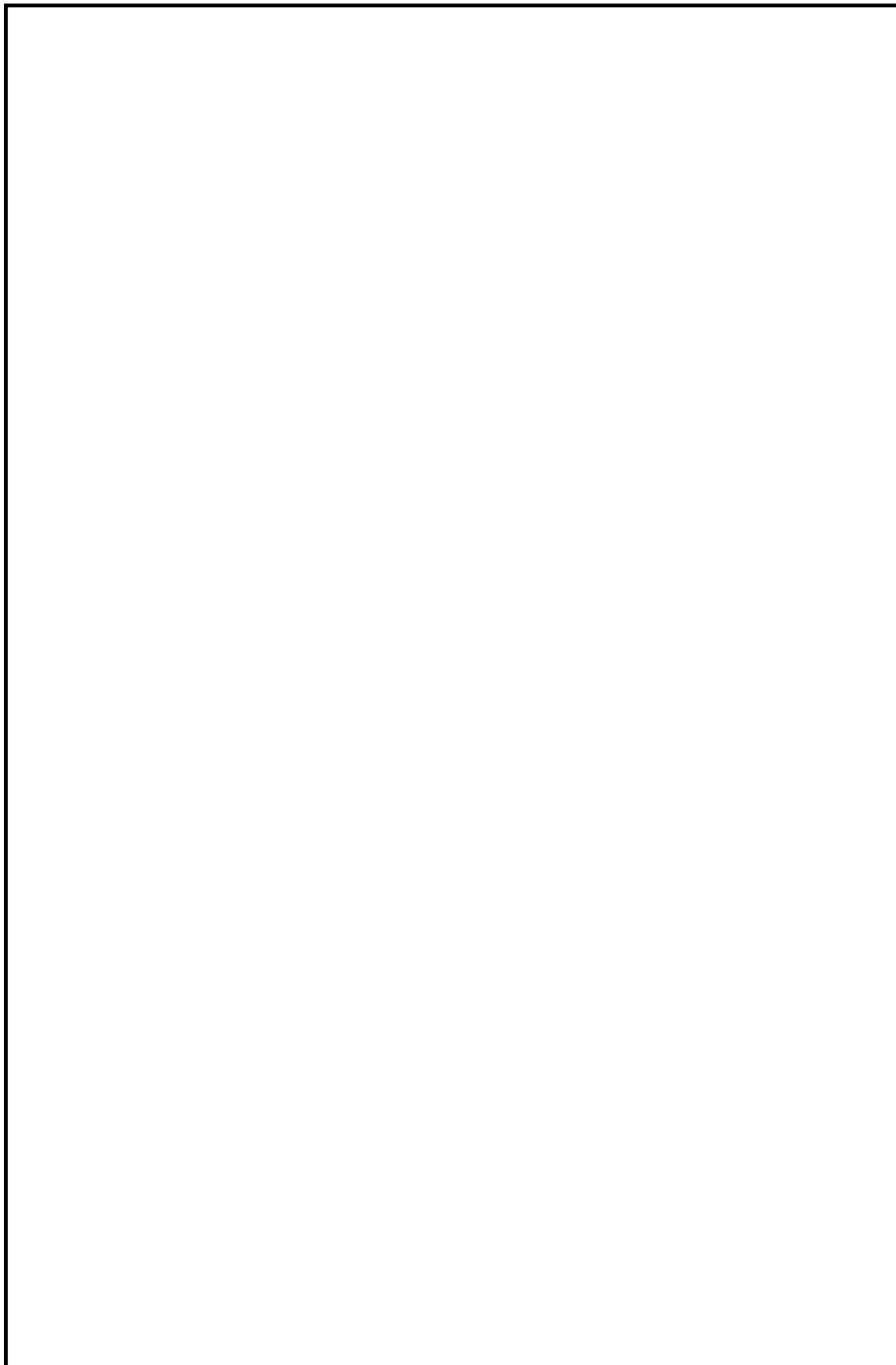
This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW for the year ended 30th June 2010

Budget 2010 \$'000		Actual 2010 \$'000	Actual 2009 \$'000
	CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	Notes	
	<u>Receipts</u>		
4,068	Rates and Annual Charges	4,399	3,805
1,980	User Charges and Fees	2,075	2,150
232	Investments Income	338	228
8,217	Grants and Contributions	8,821	9,854
419	Other operating receipts	760	379
	<u>Payments</u>		
(6,094)	Employee Costs	(6,854)	(6,217)
(5,121)	Materials and Contracts	(5,018)	(3,970)
(120)	Borrowing Costs	(129)	(120)
(1,155)	Other operating payments	(1,534)	(1,628)
2,426	Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities	11 2,858	4,481
	CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
	<u>Receipts</u>		
371	Proceeds from sale of Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment	237	415
327	Proceeds from sale of Investment Securities	1,142	200
	<u>Payments</u>		
(2,914)	Purchase of Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment	(3,536)	(3,562)
(416)	Purchase of Investment Securities	(558)	(2,625)
(2,632)	Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities	(2,715)	(5,572)
	CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
	<u>Receipts</u>		
	Proceeds from Borrowings and Advances	-	310
	Proceeds from Retirement Home Contributions	400	453
	<u>Payments</u>		
(134)	Repayments of Borrowings and Advances	(209)	(177)
	Repayment of Finance Lease Liabilities	-	-
	Repayment of Retirement Home Contributions	(202)	(257)
(134)	Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities	(11)	329
(340)	Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held	132	(762)
1,454	Cash Assets at beginning of reporting period	11 1,454	2,216
	Change in associated entities recognised	1 -	-
1,114	Cash Assets at end of reporting period	11 1,586	1,454

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.



URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1. Basis of Preparation

1.1 *Compliance with Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards*

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, Urgent Issues Group (UIG) interpretations, the Local Government Act (1993) and Regulation and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

1.2 *Historical Cost Convention*

The financial report has been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of available-for-sale financial assets; financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit and loss, infrastructure assets and property that have been re-valued under the staged implementation advised by the Division of Local Government (refer to section 6.4 within this note).

1.3 *Critical Accounting Estimates*

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Council's accounting policies.

In particular, the valuation of collateralised debt obligations (CDOs) is subject to the difficulties set out in Appendix B to the *Review of NSW Local Government Investments* (Cole Inquiry Report). The Uralla Shire Council has determined that their holding of CDOs has no value and the cost of acquiring the financial instruments has now been fully written off because, even though some of the instruments continue to return interest, the likelihood of the principal being returned at maturity dates in the future is remote and there is no reliable current market.

1.3 *Financial statement presentation*

The Uralla Shire Council has applied the revised AASB101 Presentation of Financial Statements which became effective on 1 January 2009. The revised standard requires the separate presentation of a statement of comprehensive income and a statement of changes in equity. All non-owner changes in equity must now be presented in the statement of comprehensive income. As a consequence, Council had to change the presentation of its financial statements. Comparative information has been re-presented so that it is also in conformity with the revised standard.

2. REVENUE RECOGNITION

Council recognises revenue when the amount of revenue can be reliably measured, it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the entity and specific criteria have been met for each of the Council's activities as described herein. Council bases its estimates on historical results, taking into consideration the type of customer, the type of transaction and the specifics of each arrangement.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Revenue is measured on major income categories as follows:

2.1 *Rates, annual charges, grants and contributions*

Rates, annual charges, grants and contributions (including developer contributions) are recognised as revenues when the Council obtains control over the assets comprising these receipts. Developer contributions may only be expended for the purposes for which the contributions were required. However the Council may apply contributions according to the priorities established in work schedules.

Control over assets acquired from rates and annual charges is obtained at the commencement of the rating year as it is an enforceable debt linked to the rateable property or, where earlier, upon the receipt of the rates.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

2. REVENUE RECOGNITION (Continued)

2.1 Rates, annual charges, grants and contributions (Continued)

Control over granted assets is obtained upon early notification that a grant has been secured, receipt of the funds or upon acquittal, whichever is the declared method from the granting authority and are valued at their fair value at the date of transfer. Where grants, contributions and donations recognised as revenues during the reporting period were obtained on the condition that they be expended in a particular manner or used over a particular period, and those conditions were undischarged as at the reporting date, the amounts subject to those undischarged conditions are disclosed in Note 3 (page N19). Also disclosed are the amounts of grants, contributions and receivables recognised as revenues in a previous reporting period which were obtained in respect of the Council's operations for the current reporting period.

Income is recognised when Council obtains control of the contribution, the right to receive the contribution, it is probable that the economic benefits comprising the contribution will flow to the Council and the amount of the contribution can be reliably measured.

A liability is recognised in respect of revenue that is reciprocal in nature to the extent that the requisite service has not been provided at balance date.

2.2 User charges and fees

User charges and fees are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided, the payment received, or when the penalty has been applied, whichever occurs first.

2.3 Sale of plant, property, infrastructure and equipment

The profit or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has irrevocably passed to the buyer.

2.4 Interest and rents

Interest and rents are recognised as revenue on a proportional basis when payments are due, the value of the payment is notified, or the payment is received, whichever occurs first.

3. THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPORTING ENTITY

Uralla Shire Council is incorporated under the NSW Local Government Act 1993 (as amended) and has its principal place of business at 32 Salisbury Street, Uralla, NSW 2358.

3.1 The Consolidated Fund

In accordance with the provisions of Section 409(1) of the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended), all money and property received by Council is held in the Council's Consolidated Fund unless it is required to be held in the Council's Trust Fund. The consolidated fund and other entities through which Council controls resources to carry on its functions have been included in the financial statements forming part of this report.

The following entities have been included as part of the Consolidated Fund

- Uralla Shire Council general purpose operations
- Uralla and Bundarra Joint Water Fund
- Uralla Local Sewer Sewerage Fund
- McMaugh Garden Aged Care

The following Committees, the transactions of which are considered immaterial by either amount or nature, have been excluded:

- Uralla Events Management Committee
- Bundarra School of Arts Hall, Caravan Park and Rural Transaction Centre Management Committee

Total revenues and expenditures of the excluded Committees are as follows:

Total revenues (other than Council contributions)	\$12,000
Total expenditures	\$29,000

Note: For the Bundarra School of Arts Hall, Caravan Park and Rural Transaction Centre Management Committee, where the actual figures are not known, the best estimate has been applied.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

3.2 *The Trust Fund*

In accordance with the provisions of Section 411 of the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended), a separate and distinct Trust Fund is maintained to account for all monies and property received by the Council in trust which must be applied only for the purposes of or in accordance with the trusts relating to these monies. Trust monies and property subject to Council's control have been included in these reports.

Trust monies and property held by Council but subject to the control of other persons have been excluded from these reports. A separate statement of moneys held in the Trust Fund is available for inspection at the Council Office by any person free of charge

3.3 *Joint Ventures, Jointly controlled entities or operations*

The Uralla Shire Council is not involved in any joint ventures, jointly controlled entities or jointly controlled operations, at this time. However, when such activities are entered into; the proportional interests in the assets, liabilities and expenses for the joint venture activity, the equity share for jointly controlled entities, or the share of income and expenditures as well as assets controlled and liabilities incurred by Council for jointly controlled operations; would be incorporated in the financial statements under the appropriate headings.

3.4 *County Council*

The Uralla Shire Council is a member of the New England Noxious Weeds County Council, a body established under the Local Government Act to control weeds in the New England Region. Council; along with its other member councils, Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra Shire and Walcha Shire Councils; neither controls nor significantly influences the County Council. Accordingly, the New England Noxious Weeds County Council has not been consolidated or otherwise included in the financial statements.

4 ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

4.1 *Leases*

Leases of property, plant and equipment where Council, as the lessee, has substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as finance leases. Finance leases are capitalised at the lease's inception at the fair value of the leased property or, if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments. The corresponding rental obligations, net of finance charges, are included in other short term and long term payables. Each lease payment is allocated between the liability and the finance cost.

The Uralla Shire Council does not, as a matter of principle, engage in finance leases, and therefore does not have any finance leases.

Leases in which a significant portion of the risks and rewards of ownership are not transferred to Council as lessee are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases (net of any incentive received from the lessor) are charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Lease income from operating leases where Council is the lessor is recognised as income on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease, as outlined in section 2.4 of this note.

4.2 *Acquisition of assets*

The purchase method of accounting is used to account for all acquisitions of assets. Cost is measured as the fair value of the asset given, plus cost directly attributed to the acquisition

Where settlement of any part of cash consideration is deferred, the amount payable in the future is discounted to their present value as at the date of the exchange. The discount rate used is Council's incremental borrowing rate, being the rate at which a similar borrowing could be obtained from an independent financier under comparable terms and conditions.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

4.3 *Impairment of assets*

Assets are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less cost to sell and value in use. For the purpose of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash inflows, which are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets (cash generating units). Non-financial assets that suffered impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

4.4. *Cash and cash equivalents*

For cash flow statement presentation purposes, cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in the current liabilities on the balance sheet.

4.5 *Receivables*

Receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Receivables are due for settlement within 30 days.

Collectability of receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts which are known to be uncollectible are written off by reducing the carrying amount directly. An allowance account (provision for impairment of receivables) is used when there is objective evidence that Council will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables. Significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation and default or delinquency in payment (more than 30 days overdue) are considered indicators that the receivable is impaired. The amount of the impairment allowance is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of the estimated future cash flows, discounted at the original effective interest rate. Cash flows relating to short-term receivables are not discounted if the effect is immaterial.

The amount of the impairment loss is in the income statement within other expenses. When a receivable for which an impairment allowance had been recognised becomes uncollectable in a subsequent period, it is written off against the allowance account. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against other expenses in the income statement.

Receivables for rates and annual charges are secured over the subject land, and bear interest at rates determined in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended) and the Regulations and Determinations made thereunder. Other receivables are generally unsecured and do not bear interest.

All receivables are reviewed as at the reporting date and adequate allowance made for amounts the receipt of which is considered doubtful.

4.6 *Inventories*

Raw materials and stores, work in progress and finished goods are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost comprises direct materials. Costs are assigned to individual items of inventory on the basis of weighted average costs. Costs of purchased inventory are determined after deducting rebates and discounts. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

4.7 *Payables*

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to Council prior to the end of the financial year, which are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

4.8 Borrowings

Borrowings are initially recognised at fair value, net of transaction cost incurred. Borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Any difference between the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the redemption amount is recognised in the income statement over the period of the borrowings using the effective interest method. Fees paid on the establishment of loan facilities are recognised as transaction costs of the loan to the extent that it is probable that some or all of the facility will be drawn down. In this case, the fee is deferred until the draw down occurs. To the extent there is no evidence that it is probable that some or all of the facility will be drawn down, the fee is capitalised as a prepayment for liquidity services and amortised over the period to which it relates.

Borrowings are removed from the balance sheet when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expired. The difference between the carrying amount of a financial liability that has been extinguished or transferred to another party and the consideration paid, including any non-cash assets transferred or liabilities assumed, is recognised in other income or finance cost.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless Council has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liabilities for at least 12 months after the reporting date.

4.9 Borrowings Costs

Borrowing costs incurred for the construction of any qualifying asset are capitalised during the period of time that is required to complete and prepare the asset for its intended use or sale. Other borrowing costs are expensed

4.10 Provisions - Generally

Provisions are recognised when Council has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation and the amount has been reliably estimated. Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses.

Where there are a number of similar obligations, the likelihood that an outflow will be required in settlement is determined by considering the class of obligations as a whole. A provision is recognised even if the likelihood of an outflow with respect to any one item in the same class of obligation may be small.

Provisions are measured at the present value of management's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date. The discount rate used to determine the present value reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and risks specific with the liability. The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as interest expense.

4.11 Provision for Sick Leave

No accrual, or provision, is made for sick leave, other than an amount to cover those Council employees from pre 15 February 1993 who are entitled to payment of 50% of their unpaid sick leave to a maximum of 4 weeks on their resignation or retirement. Council's experience indicates that, on average, sick leave taken in each reporting period is less than the entitlement accruing in that period, and this experience is expected to recur in future reporting periods

4.12 Provision for the close down and restoration and for environmental clean-up costs – Tips

(i) Restoration

Close down and restoration costs; include the dismantling and demolition of infrastructure, the removal of residual materials and the remediation of disturbed areas. Estimated close down and restoration costs are provided for in the accounting period when the obligation arising from the related disturbance occurs, whether this occurs during the development or during the operation phase, based upon the net present value of the estimated future cost. Provision for close down and restoration costs do not include any additional obligations which may be expected to arise from future disturbances. The costs are estimated on the basis of the anticipated life of the operation under current conditions and a closure plan. The cost estimates are calculated annually to reflect known (and accepted) developments and are subject to regular formal reviews.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

4.12 Provision for the close down and restoration and for environmental clean-up costs – Tips (Continued)

(i) Restoration (Continued)

Close down and restoration costs are the normal consequence of tip and quarry operations. The majority of close down and restoration expenditure is incurred at the end of the life of the operation. However council is negotiating with the Department of the Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW) for a progressive rehabilitation of the disturbed areas of the Uralla landfill site utilising a new process, which could reduce substantially the end of life expenditure and replacing this with smaller annual expenditures. The current provision is based upon rehabilitation and restoration of landfill sites, current engineering studies using current restoration standards and techniques.

The amortisation or “unwinding” of the discount in establishing the net present value of provisions is charged to the income statement in each accounting period. The amortisation of the discount is shown as a borrowing cost.

Other movements in the provision for the close down and restoration costs, including those resulting from new disturbance, updated cost estimates, changes to the estimated life of the operation and revision to discount rates are capitalised within the property carrying amount in Infrastructure, Property Plant and Equipment (IPPE). The costs are then depreciated over the lives of the assets to which they relate.

(ii) Rehabilitation

When rehabilitation begins systematically over the life of the operation, rather than at the closure of the operation, the provision will be made for the estimated outstanding continuous rehabilitation work at each balance sheet date and the cost will be charged to the income statement.

Provision will be made for the estimated present value of the cost of environmental clean up obligations outstanding at the balance date. The costs will be charged to the income statement, reducing the current “unwinding” of the discount in establishing the net present value of provision for Restoration. Movements in the environmental clean up provisions will be an operating cost, except for the reduced “unwinding” of the discount, which will continue to be a borrowing cost.

Remediation procedures generally commence soon after the time of the disturbance, remediation costs therefore are more accurately known, however they works may continue for many years depending upon the nature of the disturbance and the remediation process.

As noted previously, the ultimate cost of environmental remediation is uncertain and cost estimates can vary in response to many factors; including changes to relevant legal requirements, the emergence of new restoration techniques or experience at other locations. The expected timing of expenditure can also change. As a result there could be significant adjustments to the provision for close down and restoration and environmental clean up, which could affect future financial results.

4.13 Payments Received in Advance and Deposits

Amounts received from external parties in advance of service delivery, and security deposits held against possible damage to Council assets, are recognised as liabilities until the service is delivered or damage reinstated, or the amount is refunded as may be the case.

4.14 Allocation between current and non-current assets and liabilities

In the determination of whether an asset or liability is current or non-current, consideration is given to the time when each asset or liability is expected to be settled. The asset or liability is classified as current if it is expected to be settled within the ensuing 12 months, being the Council's operational cycle.

In the case of liabilities where Council does not have the unconditional right to defer settlement beyond 12 months, such as vested long service leave, the liability is classified as current even if not expected to be settled within the next 12 months.

Inventories held for trading are classified as current even if not expected to be realised in the next 12 months.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

4.15 Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the balance sheet.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to the taxation authority, are presented as operating cash flows

4.16 Rounding

In accordance with the Code of Accounting Practice all amounts shown in the financial statements are in Australian currency and unless otherwise indicated, the amounts have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars

5 INVESTMENTS AND OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS.

5.1 Classification

Council classifies its investments in the following categories: financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, loans and receivables, held-to-maturity investments and available-for-sale financial assets. The classification depends on the purpose for which the investments were acquired. Management determines the classification of its investments at initial recognition and, in the case of assets classified as held-to-maturity, re-evaluates this designation at each reporting date.

5.2 Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are financial assets held for trading. A financial asset is classified in this category if acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short term. Derivatives are classified as held for trading unless they are designated as hedges. Assets in this category are classified as current assets.

5.3 Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They are included in current assets, except for those with maturities greater than 12 months after the balance sheet date which are classified as non-current assets. Loans and receivables are included in other receivables (Note 8) and receivables (Note 7) in the balance sheet.

5.4 Held-to-maturity investments

Held-to-maturity investments are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturities that the Council's management has the positive intention and ability to hold to maturity. If Council were to sell other than an insignificant amount of held-to-maturity financial assets, the whole category would be tainted and reclassified as available-for-sale. Held-to-maturity financial assets are included in non-current assets, except for those with maturities less than 12 months from the reporting date, which are classified as current assets.

5.5 Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets are non-derivative that are either designated in this category or not classified in any of the other categories. They are included in non-current assets unless management intends to dispose of the investment within 12 months of the reporting date. Investments are designated as available-for-sale if they do not have fixed maturities and fixed or determinable payments and management intends to hold them for the medium to long term.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

5.6 Financial assets – reclassification

Council may choose to reclassify a non-derivative trading financial asset out of the held-for-trading category if the financial asset is no longer held for the purpose of selling it in the near term.

Financial assets other than loans and receivables are permitted to be reclassified out of the held-for-trading category only in rare circumstances arising from a single event that is unusual and highly unlikely to recur in the near term. In addition, Council may choose to reclassify financial assets that would meet the definition of loans and receivables out of the held-for-trading or available-for-sale categories if it has the intention and ability to hold these financial assets for the foreseeable future or until maturity at the date of reclassification.

Reclassifications are made at fair value as of the reclassification date. Fair value becomes the new cost or amortised cost as applicable, and no reversals of fair value gains or losses recorded before reclassification date are subsequently made. Effective interest rates for financial assets reclassified to loans and receivables and held-to-maturity categories are determined at the reclassification date. Further increases in estimates of cash flows adjust effective interest rates prospectively.

5.7 Recognition and de-recognition

Regular purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on trade-date - the date on which Council commits to purchase or sell the asset. Investments are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs for all financial assets not carried at fair value through profit or loss. Financial assets carried at fair value through profit or loss is initially recognised at fair value and transaction costs are expensed in the income statement.

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or have been transferred and Council has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership.

When securities classified as available-for-sale are sold, the accumulated fair value adjustments recognised in equity are included in the income statement as gains and losses from investment securities.

5.8 Subsequent measure

Loans and receivables and held-to-maturity investments are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Available-for-sale financial assets and financial assets at fair value through profit and loss are subsequently carried at fair value. Gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of the financial assets at fair value through profit or loss category are presented in the income statement within other income or other expenses in the period in which they arise. Dividend income from financial assets at fair value through profit and loss is recognised in the income statement as part of revenue from continuing operations when Council's right to receive payments is established.

Details on how the fair value of financial instruments is determined are disclosed in section 5.11 below.

5.9 Impairment

Council assesses at each balance date whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired. In the case of equity securities classified as available-for-sale, a significant or prolonged decline in the fair value of a security below its cost is considered as an indicator that the securities are impaired. If any such evidence exists for available-for-sale financial assets, the cumulative loss - measured as the difference between the acquisition cost and the current fair value, less any impairment loss on that financial asset previously recognised in profit or loss - is removed from equity and recognised in the income statement. Impairment losses recognised in the income statement on equity instruments classified as available-for-sale are not reversed through the income statement.

If there is evidence of impairment for any of Council's financial assets carried at amortised cost, the loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of the estimated future cash flows, excluding future credit losses that have not been incurred. The cash flows are discounted at the financial assets effective interest rate. The loss is recognised in the income statement.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

5.10 Investment Policy

Council has an approved investment policy complying with Section 625 of the Local Government Act and S212 of the LG (General) Regulations 2005. Council's policy is conservative with a very low risk profile. Investments are placed and managed in accordance with that policy and having particular regard to authorised investments prescribed under the Local Government Investment Order. Council maintains an investment policy that complies with the Act and ensures that it or its representatives exercise care, diligence and skill that a prudent person would exercise in investing Council funds.

Council amended its policy following revisions to the Investment Order arising from the Cole Inquiry recommendations. Certain investments the Council holds are no longer prescribed – for example its Collateralised Debt Obligations (CDOs) – however they have been retained, at no value, under grandfathering provisions of the Order. These will be disposed of when most financially advantageous to Council or on maturity.

5.11 Fair Value Estimation

The fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities must be estimated for recognition and measurement or for disclosure purposes.

The fair value of financial instruments traded in active markets is based on quoted market prices at the balance sheet date.

The fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market is determined using valuation techniques. Council uses a variety of methods and makes assumptions that are based on market conditions existing at each balance date. Quoted market prices or dealer quotes for similar instruments are used for long-term debt instruments held. Other techniques, such as estimated discounted cash flows, are used to determine fair value for the remaining financial instruments.

The nominal value less estimated credit adjustments of trade receivables and payables are assumed to approximate their fair values. The fair value of financial liabilities for disclosure purposes is estimated by discounting the future contractual cash flows at the current market interest rate that is available to the Council for similar financial instruments.

6 INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (IPPE)

6.1 Transitional Provisions

Council has elected not to recognise land under roads acquired before 1 July 2008 in accordance with AASB 1051. Any land under roads that were recognised before 1 July 2008 was de-recognised at 1 July 2008 against the opening balance of retained earnings. Land acquired after 1 July 2008 is recognised in accordance with AASB 116 – Property, Plant and Equipment. Land under roads is land under roadways and road reserves including land under footpaths, nature and median strips.

6.2 Recognition

All non-current assets purchased or constructed are capitalised as the expenditure is incurred and assets are depreciated from the first full year of use.

Crown reserves, and improvements thereon, under Council's care and control are recognised as assets of the Council. While ownership of the reserves remains with the Crown, Council retains operational control of the reserves and is responsible for their maintenance and use in accordance with the specific purposes to which the reserves are dedicated. Improvements on Crown Reserves are also recorded as assets, while maintenance cost incurred by Council and revenues relating to the reserves are recognised with Council's Income Statement. Representations from both State and Local Government are being sought to develop a consistent accounting treatment for Crown Reserves across both tiers of government.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

6.2 Recognition (Continued)

Under Section 119 of the Rural Fire Services Act 1997, "all fire fighting equipment purchased or constructed wholly or from money to the credit of the Fund is to be vested in the council of the area for or on behalf of which the fire fighting equipment has been purchased or constructed". Until such time as discussions on this matter have concluded and the legislation changed, Council will recognise rural fire services assets; including land buildings, plant vehicles and some equipment as a Council asset. Council has title to, and is the registered owner of, 8 rural fire appliances and associated rural fire fighting equipment. These assets are under the management of the Regional Rural Fire Services to enable that Department to provide the bushfire protection defences as set out in their Service Level Agreement with Council. In accordance with normal Rural Fire Service funding arrangements, Council continues to contribute to the costs of maintenance of this equipment

6.3 Materiality

Assets with an economic life in excess of one year are only capitalised where the cost of acquisition exceeds materiality thresholds established by Council for each type of asset. In determining (and in annually reviewing) such thresholds, regard is had to the nature of the asset and its estimated service life. Examples of capitalisation thresholds applied during the year under review are as follows:

Office furniture and equipment	\$250
Plant and equipment	\$300
Park furniture and equipment	\$1,000
New Construction on buildings, Water and Sewer Infrastructure	\$2,000

6.4 Valuation

Council's assets are being progressively re-valued to fair value in accordance with a staged implementation advised by the Division of Local Government. At balance date the following classes of IPPE were stated at their fair value:

Operational Land	External Valuation
Buildings Non Specialised	External Valuation
Buildings specialised (large)	External Valuation
Buildings (other)	External and internal Valuation
Water / Sewer Networks	New England Strategic Alliance of Council staff
Sealed Road Surface, footpaths, Kerb and Guttering and Street Furniture	External Valuation
Unsealed Roads	Internal Valuation
Bulk Earthworks	Internal Valuation
Bridges	Internal Valuation
Stormwater Drainage	Internal Valuation

Other asset classes will be valued to fair value as follows:

Community land and improvements	2010/2011
Other Structures and other assets	2010/2011

Water and Sewer network assets are indexed annually between full revaluations in accordance with the latest indices provided by the NSW Office of Water – Rates Reference Manual. Council applies a similar methodology, to that applied to Water and Sewer Assets for all other assets (that have been previously re-valued), to maintain a consistent review of the fair value of Council's infrastructure assets; except for plant and equipment, office equipment and furniture and fittings. These annual incremental increases in Valuation and Accumulated Depreciation will reduce the impact of the incremental increases emerging from the full revaluation when undertaken next on the 5 year cycle.

Increases in the carrying amounts arising on revaluation are credited to the asset revaluation reserve. To the extent that the increase reverses a decrease previously recognising profit or loss, the increase is first recognised in profit or loss. Decreases that reverse previous increases of the same asset are first charged against revaluation reserves directly in equity to the extent of the remaining reserve attributable to the asset; all other decreases are charged to the Income statement.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the income statement during the financial period in which they are incurred.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

6.5 Depreciation of Non-Current Assets

Land is not depreciated. Depreciation on other assets is calculated using the straight line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

Motor Cars - Sedans	5 years	Dams and Reservoirs	100 years
Trucks and Utilities	5 - 10 years	Water Mains	80 – 100 years
Dozers, Graders, Rollers	10 years	Water Treatment Plant	70 – 100 years
Tractors, Backhoes, Loaders	10 years	Meters and Water Plant	10 years
Office Equipment	5 - 20 years	Sewer Treatment Plant	50 - 100 years
Furniture and Fittings	5 - 20 years	Sewer Mains	70 - 100 years
Library Books	5 years	Sewer Pump Stations	70 - 100 years
Buildings - masonry	50 - 100 years	Unsealed roads formation	6 – 36 years
Buildings – other construction	20 – 40 years	Sealed roads surface	25 - 50 years
Playground equipment	5 - 15 years	Sealed roads base	70 – 80 years
Benches seats	10 – 20 years	Concrete roads surface	60 years
Stormwater Drainage	60 years	Timber Bridges	40 years
Culverts	80 years	Concrete/Steel Bridges	120 years

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed at each balance date. The Council's infrastructure assets are subject to the valuation incremental adjustment, referred to in Section 6.4 above. An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with carrying amount. These, gains and losses are included in the income statement

Land, other than land under roads, is classified as either operational or community in accordance with Part 2 of Chapter 6 of the Local Government Act (1993).

6.6 Investment Property

The Uralla Shire Council does not hold any investment property. Investment property principally comprises of freehold building, including building under construction, held for long term rental yields and not occupied or to be occupied by Council.

7. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

7.1 Short-term Employee Benefit Obligations

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service are recognised in respect of employees' services up to the end of the reporting period and are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. The liability for annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables.

7.2 Other Long-term Employee Benefit Obligations

Liabilities for long service leave and annual leave which is not expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service are recognised in the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by the employees up to the end of the reporting period using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

7.3 Retirement Benefit Obligations

All employees of Council are entitled to benefits on retirement, disability or death. Council contributes to various defined benefit plans and defined contribution plans on behalf of its employees.

A liability or asset in respect to defined benefits superannuation plans would ordinarily be recognised in the balance sheet and measured as the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the reporting date plus unrecognised actuarial gains (less unrecognised actuarial losses) less the fair value of the superannuation fund's assets at that date and any unrecognised past service cost. The present value of the defined benefit obligation is based on expected future payments, which arise from membership of the fund, to the reporting date, calculated annually by independent actuaries using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. However, when this information is not readily available Council accounts for its obligations to defined benefit plans on the same basis as its obligations to defined contribution plans (see below).

The Local Government Superannuation Scheme has advised member councils that, as a result of the global financial crisis, it has a significant deficit of assets over liabilities. As a result, they have asked for significant contributions to recover that deficiency. Council's share of that deficiency cannot be accurately calculated as the Scheme is a mutual arrangement where assets and liabilities are pooled together for all member councils. For this reason no liability for the deficiency has been recognised in Council's accounts. Council has, however, disclosed a contingent liability in Note 18 to reflect the possible obligation that may arise should the Scheme require immediate payment to correct the deficiency.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense as they become payable. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in future payments is available.

8. BUDGET INFORMATION

The Income Statement, Statement of Cash Flows and Note 2 provide budget information of revenues and expenditures by type and for each of the major activities of the Council. Budget figures presented are those approved by Council at the beginning of the financial year and do not include Council approved variations throughout the year. Short explanations of the most significant variations are given in Note 16, and further information of the nature and amount of all variations is available from the Council office upon request

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

9. NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARDS AND URGENT ISSUES GROUP (UIG) INTERPRETATIONS

Certain new accounting standards and UIG interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2010 reporting period. Council's assessment of the impact of these new standards and interpretations is set out below:

AASB 2009-8 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Group Cash-Settled Share-based Payment Transactions [AASB 2] (effective from 1 January 2010)

The amendments made by the AASB to AASB 2 confirm that an entity receiving goods or services in a group share-based payment arrangement must recognise an expense for those goods or services regardless of which entity in the group settles the transaction or whether the transaction is settled in shares or cash. They also clarify how a group share-based payment arrangement should be measured, that is, whether it is measured as an equity- or a cash-settled transaction. **This has no impact on Council.**

AASB 2009-10 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Classification of Rights Issues [AASB 132] (effective from 1 February 2010)

In October 2009 the AASB issued an amendment to AASB 132 *Financial Instruments: Presentation* which addresses the accounting for rights issues that are denominated in a currency other than the functional currency of the issuer. Provided certain conditions are met, such rights issues are now classified as equity regardless of the currency in which the exercise price is denominated. Previously, these issues had to be accounted for as derivative liabilities. The amendment must be applied retrospectively in accordance with AASB 108 *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors*. **This has no impact on Council.**

AASB 9 Financial Instruments and AASB 2009-11: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 (effective from 1 January 2013)

AASB *Financial Instruments* addresses the clarification and measurement of financial assets and is likely to affect Council's accounting for its financial assets. The standard is not applicable until 1 January 2013 but is available for early adoption. **Council is yet to assess its full impact; however, initial indications are that it may affect Council's accounting for its available-for-sale financial assets, since AASB 9 only permits the recognition of fair value gains and losses in other comprehensive income if they relate to equity investments that are not held for trading. Fair value gains and losses on available-for-sale debt investments, for example, will therefore have to be recognised directly in profit or loss.**

AASB 124: Related Party Disclosures and AASB 2009-12: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards (effective from 1 January 2011)

In December 2009 the AASB issued a revised AASB 124 *Related Party Disclosures*. It is effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2011 and must be applied retrospectively. The amendment removes the requirement for government related entities to disclose details of all transactions with the government and other government-related entities and clarifies and simplifies the definition of a related party. **This has no impact on Council.**

AASB Interpretation 19 124: Extinguishing financial liabilities with equity instruments and AASB 2009-13 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from Interpretation 19 (effective from 1 July 2010)

AASB Interpretation 19 clarifies the accounting when an entity renegotiates the term of its debt with the result that a liability is extinguished by the debtor issuing its own equity instrument to the creditor (debt for equity swap). It requires a gain or loss to be recognised in profit or loss which is measured as the difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability and the fair value of the equity instruments issued. **This has no impact on Council.**

AASB 2009 14: Amendments to Australian Interpretation – Prepayments of a Minimum Funding Requirement (effective from 1 January 2011)

In December 2009, the AASB made an amendment to Interpretation 14 the Time Limit on a Defined Benefit Asset, Minimum Funding Requirements and their Interaction. The amendment removes an unintended consequence of the interpretation related to voluntary prepayments when there is a minimum funding requirement in regard to the entity's defined benefit scheme. It permits entities to recognise an asset for a prepayment of contributions made to cover minimum funding requirements. **Council does not make any such payments therefore the amendment is not expected to have any impact on Council.**

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 2 - FUNCTIONS

	REVENUES, EXPENSES AND ASSETS HAVE BEEN DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES												
	Income from continuing operations			Expenses from continuing operations			Operating result from continuing operations			GRANTS INCLUDED IN INCOME		TOTAL ASSETS HELD (CURRENT & NON-CURRENT)	
	ORIGINAL BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ORIGINAL BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ORIGINAL BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL				
	2010 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
GOVERNANCE	-	-	-	418	565	376	(418)	(565)	(376)	-	-	-	-
ADMINISTRATION	478	333	692	52	333	(357)	426	-	1,049	30	23	11,433	18,309
PUBLIC ORDER & SAFETY	178	(7)	127	269	244	256	(91)	(251)	(129)	(13)	116	871	804
HEALTH	6	1	2	76	98	73	(70)	(97)	(71)	-	-	-	-
ENVIRONMENT	956	1,067	-	1,078	1,453	-	(122)	(386)	-	2	-	-	-
COMMUNITY SERVICES & EDUCATION	4,880	5,183	5,181	5,070	4,984	4,885	(190)	199	296	4,238	4,166	8,567	10,647
HOUSING & COMMUNITY AMENITIES	127	127	1,082	386	455	1,369	(259)	(328)	(287)	103	15	4,655	2,380
WATER SUPPLIES	723	520	532	668	653	662	55	(133)	(130)	17	-	18,062	17,631
SEWERAGE SERVICES	484	349	410	325	350	368	159	(1)	42	13	-	8,285	8,078
RECREATION & CULTURE	67	156	258	610	736	569	(543)	(580)	(311)	30	229	5,206	5,047
MINING, MANUFACTURING & CONSTRUCTION	-	-	-	8	2	2	(8)	(2)	(2)	-	-	10	11
TRANSPORT & COMMUNICATION	1,573	1,751	2,211	4,345	5,065	4,238	(2,772)	(3,314)	(2,027)	441	1,159	245,792	221,107
ECONOMIC AFFAIRS	287	464	321	396	599	634	(109)	(135)	(313)	-	-	802	793
TOTALS - FUNCTIONS	9,759	9,944	10,816	13,701	15,537	13,075	(3,942)	(5,593)	(2,259)	4,861	5,708	303,683	284,807
GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUES	5,061	5,087	5,287	-	-	-	5,061	5,087	5,287	2,010	2,491	-	-
TOTALS	14,820	15,031	16,103	13,701	15,537	13,075	1,119	(506)	3,028	6,871	8,199	303,683	284,807

The above functions conform to those used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics and provide a basis for comparison with other Councils.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 2 (cont) - COMPONENTS OF FUNCTIONS

The activities relating to Council functions are as follows:

Administration

Costs relating to Council's role as a component of democratic government, including elections, meetings and associated activities, area representation, and public disclosure and compliance, together with related administration costs, costs not otherwise attributed to functions.

Public Order and Safety

Fire protection, emergency services, animal control, enforcement of local government regulations, other.

Health

Administration and inspection, food control, health centres, other.

Environment

Noxious plants, insect and vermin control, environmental protection, solid waste management, street cleaning, drainage, stormwater management.

Community Services and Education

Administration, Aged Care Centres, Auspiced Aged and Disabled Community (including specifically Aboriginal) Care and Services, family day care, child-care, youth services, other services to families and children, other community services.

Housing and Community Amenities

Building control, public cemeteries, public conveniences, street lighting, town planning, housing, other community amenities.

Water Supplies

Sewerage Services

Recreation and Culture

Public libraries, community centres, public halls, sporting grounds and venues, swimming pool, parks and gardens, other sport and recreation.

Mining, Manufacturing and Construction

Quarries, other.

Transport and Communication

Roads and streets, bridges, footpaths, parking areas, bus shelters and services, water transport, works undertaken for Roads and Transport Authority, other.

Economic Affairs

Caravan parks, camping and fossicking areas, tourism and area promotion, industrial development promotion, private works, other business undertakings.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 3 - INCOME

RATES AND ANNUAL CHARGES	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
<u>Ordinary Rates</u>		
Residential	979	918
Farmland	1,873	1,810
Business	72	30
	<u>2,924</u>	<u>2,758</u>
<u>Annual Charges</u>		
Domestic Waste Management	275	264
Water Supply	367	323
Sewerage Services	429	421
Stormwater Management	29	27
Other Waste Management	518	450
	<u>1,618</u>	<u>1,485</u>
Total Rates and Annual Charges	<u>4,542</u>	<u>4,243</u>
USER CHARGES AND FEES		
<u>User Charges</u>		
Water Supply	242	229
Sewerage Services	20	24
Other Waste Management	71	17
Other	34	3
	<u>367</u>	<u>273</u>
<u>Fees</u>		
Private Works	438	218
Tablelands Community Transport	14	17
Sale of Scrap Metal	43	-
Swimming Pool	20	14
Aged Care	578	546
Town Planning	91	96
Building Services		
Tablelands Community Support Options	151	161
Cemeteries	9	16
Sport Stadium		
Other	27	33
	<u>1,371</u>	<u>1,101</u>
Total User Charges and Fees	<u>1,738</u>	<u>1,374</u>

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 3 - INCOME (continued)

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
INVESTMENT REVENUES		
Interest receivable		
- overdue rates and charges	-	32
- cash and investments	309	448
Fair value adjustments - investments		
- other	(328)	(283)
Gross Investment Revenues	(19)	197
Less: Interest deducted from capitalised borrowing costs	-	-
Total Investment Revenues	(19)	197

Council's net return on investments during both reporting periods has been materially affected by the potential loss in value of certain financial instruments, full details of which have been provided in Note 15.

OTHER REVENUES

Other fines	4	1
Rental income - Investment Property	-	-
- Other property	85	70
Insurance Claims	32	36
Commissions and Agency Fees	6	2
Legal Fees Recovered	1	18
Miscellaneous sales	31	103
Other	156	116
Total Other Revenues	315	346

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 3 - INCOME (continued)

		OPERATING		CAPITAL	
	<u>Notes</u>	2010	2009	2010	2009
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
GRANTS					
General Purpose (Untied)					
Financial Assistance		1,432	1,912	-	-
Individually significant item	see				
- additional Grants Commission payment	below	507	484	-	-
Pensioner Rates Subsidies (General)		71	52	-	-
Specific Purpose				-	-
Pensioner Rates Subsidies				-	-
Water Supplies		17	13	-	-
Sewerage Services		13	19	-	-
Domestic Waste Management		-	11	-	-
Aged Care Facilities		1,265	1,322	-	-
Other Frail Aged and Disabled Services		887	566	-	-
Library		28	28	-	-
Street Lighting		6	-	-	-
Roads and Bridges		-	101	383	1,139
Employment and Training Programs		30	15	-	-
Tablelands Community Support Options		1,739	1,851	-	-
Tablelands Community Transport		257	217	8	-
Community Care		54	47	26	-
Bushfire and Emergency Services		(13)	26	-	90
Other		109	306	52	-
Total Grants and Subsidies		6,402	6,970	469	1,229
Comprising:					
- Commonwealth funding		4,981	4,419	-	-
- State funding		1,421	2,551	469	1,229
		6,402	6,970	469	1,229
Individually significant item					
On 24 June 2010, Council received payment of the first quarter instalment of the 2010/2011 Grant Commission (FAG) grant. This has a relative evening out of the Financial Assistance Grant for 2009/2010, however will have a significant reduction in the 2010/2011 financial year.					
		507	484	-	-
CONTRIBUTIONS AND DONATIONS					
Developer Contributions					
Section 94	17	-	-	15	27
RTA Contributions		1,092	1,050	275	-
Other Councils - Joint Works		-	129	-	-
Other		55	81	-	-
Total Contributions and Donations		1,147	1,260	290	27
TOTAL GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS		7,549	8,230	759	1,256

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 3 - INCOME (continued)

CONDITIONS OVER GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Grants and contributions which were obtained on the condition that they be expended for specified purposes or in a future period, but which are not yet expended in accordance with those conditions, are as follows:

	2010 \$'000		2009 \$'000	
	<u>Grants</u>	<u>Contrib</u>	<u>Grants</u>	<u>Contrib</u>
Unexpended at the close of the previous reporting period	724	225	824	231
Less: expended during the current period from revenues recognised in previous reporting periods				
Section 94/64 Developer Contributions	0	0	0	40
Roads Infrastructure	395	0	338	0
Heritage and Cultural Services	19	0	44	0
Community Care Services	275	0	190	0
Other				
Subtotal	689	0	572	40
Plus: amounts recognised as revenues in this reporting period but not yet expended in accordance with the conditions				
Section 94/64 Developer Contributions	0	15	0	34
Roads Infrastructure	36	0	395	0
Heritage and Cultural Services	149	0	60	0
Community Care Services	0	0	17	0
Subtotal	185	15	472	34
Unexpended at the close of this reporting period and held as restricted assets	220	240	724	225
Net increase (decrease) in restricted assets in the current	-504	15	-100	-6

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 4 - EXPENSES

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
EMPLOYEE COSTS		
Salaries and Wages	5,142	4,942
Travelling	98	27
Employee Leave Entitlements	863	743
Superannuation - defined contribution plan contributions	392	400
Superannuation - defined benefit plan contributions	347	147
Workers' Compensation Insurance	387	169
Fringe Benefits Tax	27	12
Training Costs (excluding Salaries)	58	72
Other	3	43
Less: Capitalised and distributed costs	(475)	(336)
Total Operating Employee Costs	6,842	6,219
 Total Number of Employees	 104	 115
<i>(Full time equivalent at end of reporting period)</i>		
BORROWING COSTS		
Interest on Loans	129	120
Unwinding of present value discounts and premiums	50	33
Total Interest Charges	179	153
 MATERIALS AND CONTRACTS		
Raw materials and consumables	2,972	3,057
Contractor and consultancy costs	1,347	1,010
Auditor's Remuneration		
- Audit Services	18	20
Legal Expenses		
- Planning and Development	-	-
- Other Legal Expenses	33	40
Total Materials and Contracts	4,370	4,127

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 4 - EXPENSES (continued)	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
DEPRECIATION AND AMORTISATION		
Intangible Assets (Note 25)		
Plant and Equipment	684	650
Office Equipment	31	28
Furniture and Fittings	49	50
Buildings	80	76
Other Structures	92	75
Infrastructure		
- roads, bridges and footpaths	2,093	715
- stormwater drainage	15	15
- water supply network not elsewhere included	54	52
- sewerage network not elsewhere included	13	13
Other assets		
- heritage collections	-	1
- other	1	1
Future Reinstatement Costs		
- Tips	10	17
Less: Capitalised and distributed costs	(148)	(188)
Total Depreciation and Amortisation	<u>2,974</u>	<u>1,505</u>
OTHER EXPENSES		
Bad and Doubtful Debts	17	-
Mayoral fee	14	13
Councillors' Fees and Allowances	81	80
Councillors' (including Mayoral) Expenses	17	18
Insurances	311	230
Street Lighting	36	66
Light, Power and Heating	204	240
Telephone and Communications	111	92
Donations and Contributions to Local and Regional Bodies	269	246
Advertising	25	13
Election Expenses	-	16
Subscriptions and Publications	68	57
Total Other Expenses	<u>1,153</u>	<u>1,071</u>

Individually Significant Items

Nil

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 5 - GAIN OR LOSS ON DISPOSAL OF ASSETS

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
DISPOSAL OF INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Proceeds from disposal	237	415
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold	<u>109</u>	<u>150</u>
Gain (Loss) on disposal	<u>128</u>	<u>265</u>
 DISPOSAL OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS		
Proceeds from disposal	1,142	200
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold	<u>1,142</u>	<u>8</u>
Gain (Loss) on disposal	<u>-</u>	<u>192</u>
 TOTAL GAIN (LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OF ASSETS	 <u>128</u>	 <u>457</u>

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 6 - CASH ASSETS AND INVESTMENT SECURITIES

	2010 \$'000		2009 \$'000	
	Current	Non-Current	Current	Non-Current
CASH ASSETS				
Cash on Hand and at Bank	182	-	953	-
Deposits at Call	1,404	-	501	-
Total Cash Assets	1,586	-	1,454	-

Cash Assets comprise short-term, highly liquid investments readily convertible to known amounts of cash that are subject to insignificant risk of changes of value.

INVESTMENT SECURITIES

Summary

Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss - held for trading	-	-	828	-
Held to maturity investments	4,500	-	4,584	-
Total	4,500	-	5,412	-

Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss - held for trading

At beginning of year	828	-	1,119	-
Revaluation to Income Statement	(328)	-	(283)	-
Disposals	(500)	-	(8)	-
At end of year	-	-	828	-
Held for trading:				
- CDOs	-	-	328	-
- FRNs	-	-	500	-
	-	-	828	-

Held to Maturity Investments

At beginning of year	4,584	-	1,959	-
Additions	558	-	5,784	-
Disposals	(642)	-	(3,159)	-
At end of year	4,500	-	4,584	-
Comprising:				
- Term Deposits	4,500	-	4,584	-
	4,500	-	4,584	-

The permitted forms of investment in financial instruments of the Council are defined in an order made by the Minister of Local Government on 31 July 2008, and may broadly be described as "Trustee Securities". Deposits and Bills are with, or have been accepted by, banks and credit unions and bear various rates of interest between 3.35% and 8.30% (2009 - 2% and 6%). CDOs and FRNs are all with organisations with credit ratings that complied with the Minister's Order at the time of acquisition and bear various rates of return between 4.69% and 6.41% (2009 - 4% and 9%).

For further information refer to Note 15.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 6 - CASH ASSETS AND INVESTMENT SECURITIES (continued)

RESTRICTED CASH ASSETS AND INVESTMENT SECURITIES

	2010 \$'000		2009 \$'000	
	Current	Non-Current	Current	Non-Current
Cash and Cash Equivalent Assets	1,586	-	1,454	-
Investment Securities	4,500	-	5,412	-
TOTAL CASH AND INVESTMENT SECURITIES	6,086	-	6,866	-
External Restrictions	2,457	-	3,814	-
Internal Restrictions	2,329	-	1,604	-
Unrestricted	1,300	-	1,448	-
	6,086	-	6,866	-

DETAILS OF MOVEMENTS OF RESTRICTED CASH ASSETS AND INVESTMENT SECURITIES

Notes	Opening Balance 30 June 2009 \$'000	Movements		Closing Balance 30 June 2010 \$'000
		Transfers To Restriction \$'000	Transfers From Restriction \$'000	
EXTERNAL RESTRICTIONS				
Included in liabilities				
Unexpended Loans	300	-	300	-
Aged Care Bonds	1,275	-	1,275	-
McMaugh Gardens Aged Care	129	-	129	-
	1,704	-	1,704	-
Other				
Developer Contributions	225	15	-	240
Unexpended Grants	724	185	689	220
Water Supply funds	408	72	-	480
Sewerage funds	725	39	15	749
Domestic Waste Management	28	-	28	-
McMaugh Gardens Aged Care	-	768	-	768
	2,110	1,079	732	2,457
Total External Restrictions	3,814	1,079	2,436	2,457

External Restrictions arise pursuant to section 409(3) of the Local Government Act, the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and other applicable legislation. Further information relating to Developer Contributions is provided in Note 17 and Unexpended Grants in Note 3. Amounts raised by special rates (Water and Sewer) or for Domestic Waste Management may only be used for those purposes.

INTERNAL RESTRICTIONS

Employee Leave Entitlements	473	27	-	500
Plant replacement	300	-	-	300
Carry-over works	245	72	-	317
FA Grant in advance	484	507	484	507
Strategic Alliance	77	-	77	-
Gravel Pit Restoration	18	-	18	-
Kentucky Hall	4	-	4	-
Arding Hall	3	-	3	-
Accommodation Bond Guarantee	-	705	-	705
Total Internal Restrictions	1,604	1,311	586	2,329

Internal Restrictions arise pursuant to resolutions of Council to set aside reserves of cash resources either relating to liabilities recognised in these reports or to fund future expenditure for the stated purpose. Such reserves are not permitted to exceed the amounts of cash assets and cash investments not otherwise restricted.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 7 - RECEIVABLES

	2010 \$'000		2009 \$'000	
	<u>Current</u>	<u>Non-Current</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Non-Current</u>
Rates and Annual Charges	466	-	322	-
Interest and Extra Charges	26	-	72	-
User Charges and Fees	74	-	156	-
Accrued Revenues	261	-	444	-
Other levels of Government	114	-	165	-
Other	193	-	240	-
Total	<u>1,134</u>	-	<u>1,399</u>	-
Less: Allowance for Doubtful Debts				
Rates and Annual Charges	11	-	-	-
User Charges and Fees	-	-	2	-
	<u>1,123</u>	-	<u>1,397</u>	-

Rates, Annual Charges, Interest & Extra Charges

Overdue rates and annual charges (being amounts not paid on or before the due date determined in accordance with the Local Government Act) are secured over the relevant land and are subject to simple interest at a rate of 9.00% (2009: 10.00%). Although Council is not materially exposed to any individual ratepayer, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council boundaries in the State of New South Wales.

Other levels of Government

Amounts due have been calculated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the respective programs following advice of approvals, and do not bear interest. All amounts are due by Departments and Agencies of the Government of New South Wales and the Government of Australia.

Other Receivables

Amounts due (other than User Charges which are secured over the relevant land) are unsecured and do not bear interest. Although Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries in the State of New South Wales.

RESTRICTED RECEIVABLES

Water Supply	186	-	206	-
Sewerage Services	69	-	59	-
Domestic Waste Management	-	-	42	-
Total Restrictions	<u>255</u>	-	<u>307</u>	-
Unrestricted Receivables	868	-	1,090	-
Total Receivables	<u>1,123</u>	-	<u>1,397</u>	-

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 8 - INVENTORIES AND OTHER ASSETS

	2010 \$'000		2009 \$'000	
	<u>Current</u>	<u>Non-Current</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Non-Current</u>
INVENTORIES				
Stores and Materials	185	-	187	-
Total Inventories	185	-	187	-
<i>Inventories not expected to be realised within the next 12 months.</i>	-	-	-	-
OTHER ASSETS				
Prepayments	-	-	106	-
Total Other Assets	-	-	106	-

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 9 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	2009 \$'000				CARRYING AMOUNT MOVEMENTS DURING YEAR \$'000						2010 \$'000			
	AT COST	AT FAIR VALUE	ACCUM DEPN	CARRYING AMOUNT	Asset Purchases	Asset Disposals	Depreciation	Impairment	Transfers, etc.	Net Revaluation	AT COST	AT FAIR VALUE	ACCUM DEPN	CARRYING AMOUNT
Capital Work-in-progress	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Plant and Equipment	-	7,435	(3,929)	3,506	907	(109)	(684)	-	-	-	-	7,116	(3,496)	3,620
Office Equipment	-	679	(578)	101	41	-	(31)	-	-	-	-	721	(610)	111
Furniture and Fittings	-	883	(603)	280	48	-	(49)	-	-	-	-	931	(652)	279
Leased Plant and Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Land	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Operational Land	-	3,102	-	3,102	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,102	-	3,102
- Community Land	-	666	-	666	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	666	-	666
Land Improvements - non-depreciable	-	17	-	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	-	17
Land Improvements - depreciable	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Buildings - non-specialised	-	15,693	(759)	14,934	292	-	(80)	-	-	499	-	16,435	(790)	15,645
Buildings - specialised	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Structures	-	2,085	(1,157)	928	107	-	(92)	-	-	-	-	2,193	(1,250)	943
Infrastructure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Roads, bridges, footpaths	14,767	84,038	(26,282)	72,523	2,194	-	(2,093)	-	-	10,151	-	109,861	(27,086)	82,775
- Bulk earthworks (non-deprec.)	-	155,933	-	155,933	-	-	-	-	-	6,819	-	162,752	-	162,752
- Stormwater drainage	889	-	(285)	604	2	-	(15)	-	-	1,427	-	2,542	(524)	2,018
- Water Supply Network	-	17,087	(732)	16,355	54	-	(54)	-	-	480	-	17,644	(809)	16,835
- Sewerage Network	-	7,731	(772)	6,959	39	-	(13)	-	-	210	-	8,003	(808)	7,195
Other Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Heritage Collections	35	-	(7)	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	(7)	28
- Library Books	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Other	18	-	(7)	11	-	-	(1)	-	-	-	-	18	(8)	10
Future Reinstatement Costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Tips	456	-	(153)	303	-	-	(10)	-	-	-	-	455	(162)	293
- Quarries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	16,165	295,349	(35,264)	276,250	3,684	(109)	(3,122)	-	-	19,586	-	332,491	(36,202)	296,289

Asset acquisitions were apportioned between:

Building and Infrastructure Renewals	2,376
Building and Infrastructure New Assets	205
Other Assets	1,103

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 9 (cont) - RESTRICTED PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	2010 \$'000				2009 \$'000			
	AT COST	AT VALUATION	ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	CARRYING AMOUNT	AT COST	AT VALUATION	ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION	CARRYING AMOUNT
<u>Water Supply</u>								
Plant and Equipment	9	-	(5)	4	5	-	(5)	-
Land								
- Operational		234		234		234	-	234
- non depreciable land improvements		-				1	-	1
Buildings		345	(26)	319		335	(22)	313
Water Supply Infrastructure		17,644	(809)	16,835		17,088	(732)	16,356
- Other	7	-	(2)	5	7	-	(2)	5
Total Water Supply	16	18,223	(842)	17,397	12	17,658	(761)	16,909
<u>Sewerage Services</u>								
Land								
- Operational		169		169		169	-	169
- non depreciable land improvements		6		6		6	-	6
Buildings		103	(3)	100		100	(2)	98
Other Structures	40	-	(17)	23	40	-	(16)	24
Sewerage Infrastructure		8,003	(808)	7,195		7,731	(772)	6,959
- Roads, bridges, footpaths		44	(5)	39	42	-	(4)	38
Total Sewerage Services	40	8,325	(833)	7,532	82	8,006	(794)	7,294
<u>Domestic Waste Management</u>								
Plant and Equipment		101	(36)	65		101	(3)	98
Land								
- Operational		228		228		228	-	228
Other Structures	147	-	(106)	41	147	-	(100)	47
- Other	25	-	(16)	9	25	-	(16)	9
Total Domestic Waste	172	329	(158)	343	172	329	(119)	382
<u>McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre</u>								
Plant and Equipment	46	-	(44)	2	46	-	(42)	4
Office Equipment	25	-	(23)	2	24	-	(22)	2
Furniture and Fittings	529	-	(342)	187	501	-	(308)	193
Council owned Land (freehold)	-	155	-	155	-	155	-	155
Buildings	-	4,147	(99)	4,048	-	4,027	(84)	3,943
Other Structures	25	-	(15)	10	25	-	(14)	11
Roads, Parking and footpaths	36	-	(3)	33				
Total	661	4,302	(526)	4,437	596	4,182	(470)	4,308
TOTAL RESTRICTIONS	889	31,179	(2,359)	29,709	862	30,175	(2,144)	28,893

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 10 - LIABILITIES

	2010 \$'000		2009 \$'000	
	Current	Non-Current	Current	Non-Current
PAYABLES				
Goods and Services	1,034	-	1,049	-
Payments received in advance	12	-	64	-
Accrued salaries and wages	183	-	115	-
Accrued expenses - other	79	-	186	-
Alliance Private Works	422	-	472	-
Retirement Home Contributions	1,473	-	1,275	-
Deposits, Retentions and Bonds	-	-	30	-
Total Payables	3,203	-	3,191	-

Current payables not expected to be settled within the next 12

1,171

886

BORROWINGS

Loans

- Secured

Total Borrowings

	122	1,694
	122	1,694

	209	1,816
	209	1,816

All interest bearing liabilities are secured over the future revenues of the Council.

PROVISIONS

Employee benefits - annual leave	497	-	595	-
- sick leave	62	-	76	-
- long service leave	633	302	461	419
- other	27	-	27	-
Reinstatement, Remediation, etc. (see also Note 26)	-	634	-	584
Total Provisions	1,219	936	1,159	1,003

Current payables not expected to be settled within the next 12

742

1,033

Movements in Provisions

	Employee Benefits 2010 \$'000	Reinstatement, etc. 2010 \$'000
Opening Balance	1,578	584
Add Additional amounts recognised	863	-
Unwinding of present value discounts	-	50
(Less) Payments	(920)	-
Closing Balance	1,521	634

Provision for Reinstatement, rehabilitation and restoration liabilities

Council is required by law to reinstate/ rehabilitate the areas of waste landfill sites when it ceases to use each facility. Engineering estimates have been made based on current reinstatement standards and discounted to its present value over the estimated remaining life of each facility at the rates applicable to government securities.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

NOTE 10 - LIABILITIES (continued)

	2010		2009	
	\$'000		\$'000	
	<u>Current</u>	<u>Non-Current</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Non-Current</u>
AGGREGATE LIABILITY ARISING FROM EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	1,402	302	1,274	419
LIABILITIES relating to RESTRICTED ASSETS				
<u>Domestic Waste Management</u>				
Payables	-	-	4	-
Subtotal	-	-	4	-
<u>Water Supplies</u>				
Payables	118	-	47	-
Interest Bearing Liabilities	-	-	12	-
Subtotal	118	-	59	-
<u>Sewerage Services</u>				
Payables	116	-	1,275	-
Interest Bearing Liabilities	-	-	3	-
Provisions	-	-	74	-
Subtotal	116	-	1,352	-
<u>McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre</u>				
Payables	1,473	-	1,275	-
Interest Bearing Liabilities	3	80	3	83
Provisions	-	-	74	62
Subtotal	1,476	80	1,352	145
TOTAL	1,710	80	2,767	145

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 11 - RECONCILIATION TO CASH FLOW STATEMENT

(a) Reconciliation of Cash

Cash Assets comprise short-term, highly liquid investments readily convertible to known amounts of cash that are subject to insignificant risk of changes of value. Cash at the end of the reporting period as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Balance Sheet as follows:

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
Total Cash Assets (Note 6)	1,586	1,454
Balances per Statement of Cash Flows	1,586	1,454

(b) Reconciliation of Change in Net Assets to Cash from Operating Activities

Net Operating Result from Income Statement	(506)	3,028
Add: Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	2,974	1,693
Unwinding of present value discounts and premiums	73	33
Investments - impairment and fair value adjustments	328	283
Increase in provision for doubtful debts	9	-
Increase in employee benefits provisions	-	2
Decrease in receivables	265	-
Decrease in inventories	2	-
Decrease in other assets	106	-
Increase in trade creditors and other accruals	-	372
	3,251	5,411
Less: Decrease in employee benefits provisions	80	-
Increase in receivables	-	229
Increase in inventories	-	19
Increase in other assets	-	14
Decrease in trade creditors and other accruals	106	-
Decrease in other payables	79	121
Gain on Sale of Assets	128	457
Non-cash Capital Grants and Contributions	-	90
Net Cash provided by (or used in) operations	2,858	4,481

(c) Non-Cash Financing and Investing Activities

Acquisition of assets by means of:

- Bushfire Grants	-	90
	-	90

(d) Financing Arrangements

Unrestricted access was available at balance date to the following lines of credit:

Bank Overdrafts		
Total Facilities	100	100
Corporate Credit Cards	41	41

The bank overdraft facilities may be drawn at any time and may be terminated by the bank without notice. Interest rates on overdrafts are variable while the rates for loans are fixed for the period of the loan.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 12 - COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
(a) Capital Commitments		
Capital expenditure committed for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:		
Maitland Point Bridge	-	215
	<u>-</u>	<u>215</u>
These expenditures are payable:		
Not later than one year	-	215
	<u>-</u>	<u>215</u>
 (b) Other Expenditure Commitments		
Other expenditure committed for (excluding inventories) at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:		
Audit Services	83	102
Library Services	339	115
Tourism	-	78
Civica IT Managed Service and other IT Services	1,191	-
	<u>1,613</u>	<u>295</u>
These expenditures are payable:		
Not later than one year	339	153
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	1,274	142
	<u>1,613</u>	<u>295</u>
 (e) Remuneration Commitments		
Commitments for the payment of salaries and other remuneration under long-term employment contracts in existence at reporting date but not recognised as liabilities, payable:		
Not later than one year	159	145
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	164	302
	<u>323</u>	<u>447</u>

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 13 - STATEMENT OF PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

INDICATORS - CONSOLIDATED				
		2010	2009	2008
	<u>Amounts</u>	<u>Indicators</u>		
Unrestricted Current Ratio				
<u>Unrestricted Current Assets</u>	\$4,682	5.08:1	3.62:1	1.24:1
Current Liabilities not relating to Restricted Assets	\$921			
Debt Service Ratio				
<u>Net Debt Service Cost</u>	\$338	0.02:1	0.03:1	0.06:1
Operating Revenue	\$14,272			
Rate and Annual Charges Coverage Ratio				
<u>Rates and Annual Charges Revenues</u>	\$4,542	0.3:1	0.23:1	0.26:1
Revenue from continuing operations	\$15,031			
Rates and Annual Charges Outstanding Percentage				
<u>Rates and Annual Charges Outstanding</u>	\$481	9.74%	9.33%	11.19%
Rates and Annual Charges Collectible	\$4,936			
Building and Infrastructure Renewals Ratio				
<u>Asset renewals</u>	\$2,376	1.06:1	1.2:1	0.59:1
Depreciation, Amortisation, Impairment	\$2,244			

INDICATORS - BY FUND

	Current Year Indicators		
	General	Water	Sewer
Unrestricted Current Ratio			
<u>Unrestricted Current Assets</u>	4.66:1	5.64:1	7.05:1
Current Liabilities not relating to Restricted Assets			
Debt Service Ratio			
<u>Net Debt Service Cost</u>	0.02:1	0:1	0.03:1
Operating Revenue			
Rate and Annual Charges Coverage Ratio			
<u>Rates and Annual Charges Revenues</u>	0.25:1	1.17:1	1.23:1
Revenue from continuing operations			
Rates and Annual Charges Outstanding Percentage			
<u>Rates and Annual Charges Outstanding</u>	6.70%	24.79%	16.08%
Rates and Annual Charges Collectible			
Building and Infrastructure Renewals Ratio			
<u>Asset renewals</u>	1.09:1	0:1	0:1
Depreciation, Amortisation, Impairment			

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30th June 2010**

Note 14 - INVESTMENT PROPERTY

THE COUNCIL DOES NOT HOLD INVESTMENT PROPERTIES

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 15 - FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks including price risk, credit risk, liquidity risk and interest rate risk. All financial instruments are denominated in Australian dollars, and hence currency risk does not apply.

Financial risk management is carried out by Finance section in accordance with policies approved by Council and in accordance with statutory requirements, and seeks to maximise revenue while protecting the corpus of the funds invested.

Council held the following financial instruments at balance date:

	Carrying Value		Fair Value	
	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
Financial Assets				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,586	1,454	1,586	1,454
Receivables	1,123	1,397	1,123	1,397
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	-	828	-	828
Available-for-sale financial assets	-	-	-	-
Held-to-maturity investments	4,500	4,584	4,500	4,584
	7,209	8,263	7,209	8,263
Financial Liabilities				
Payables	3,203	3,191	3,203	3,191
Borrowings	1,816	2,025	1,816	2,025
	5,019	5,216	5,019	5,216

Fair value is estimated as follows:

* Cash and equivalents, receivables and payables - due to the short-term nature, face value (carrying value) approximates fair value.

* Held-to-maturity investments and borrowings - anticipated future cash flows discounted by current market interest rates applicable to assets and liabilities with similar risk profiles.

* Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss, and available-for-sale - based on quoted market prices (where a liquid market exists) or independent valuation. Particular difficulties were experienced in assessing fair value of CDOs, and these have been reported in Note 1.

Cash and cash Equivalents

Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss

Available-for-sale financial assets

Held-to-maturity investments

Council's objective is to maximise its return on cash and investments whilst maintaining an adequate level of liquidity and preserving capital.

The investment portfolio is managed in accordance with Council's policy (which complies with the *Local Government Act and Regulations*), and the Minister's Order. The investment policy is reviewed regularly, and a report in accordance with section 625 of the Act provided to Council monthly and also Manex on a weekly basis.

The investment portfolio is managed so as to provide adequate liquidity at all times, particularly during the periods between the quarterly receipt of rates instalments and grants. In addition, Council has access to overdraft facilities set out in Note 12.

Council's portfolio invested in products that are subject to price risk namely Collateralised Debt Obligations (CDOs) are held at no value. Council views the loss in market value - which has been recognised in these and prior reports - as deriving principally from the fact that Lehman Brothers are in liquidation, there is legal action and there is a very high risk of default in each of the financial products. Council has now determined to retain these financial instruments on a long term basis and has reviewed its liquidity projections to confirm that it will be able to do so. With two CDOs ceasing to make interest payments, Council is not able to determine that payments of principal will be received in the future.

The remainder of Council's investment portfolio consists of deposits at fixed and variable interest rates, generally for periods of less than 120 days. Whilst these are subject to interest rate risk, this is minimised by the short term of the financial assets held.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 15 - FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (cont)

Interest Sensitivity Analysis

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
Impact of a 10% movement in price of investments (for assets subject to price risk only)		
- Equity	-	83
- Income Statement	-	83
Impact of a 1% change in interest rates on cash and investments		
- Equity	60	54
- Income Statement	60	54

Receivables

Credit risk on receivables for rates, annual charges and service charges made under section 502 is minimised as these are secured over the subject land. The security extends to interest levied for late payment.

Other receivables are subject to a range of credit risk minimisation procedures as appropriate, varying from credit checks to specific security pledges. Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, and credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council boundaries in the State of New South Wales. There are no material receivables that have been subject to re-negotiation of repayment terms.

Council receives regular summary reports of receivables due, and detailed reports where appropriate.

At reporting date, all amounts receivable were reviewed, and adequate allowance made for amounts considered doubtful.

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
Percentage of Rates and Annual Charges		
- Current	65%	72%
- Overdue	35%	28%

Payables

Borrowings

Payables and borrowings are subject to liquidity risk - the risk that insufficient funds may be on hand to meet payment obligations as they fall due. The investment portfolio is managed so as to provide adequate liquidity at all times, particularly during the periods between the quarterly receipt of rates instalments and grants. In addition, Council has access to overdraft facilities set out in Note 12.

Liquidity Sensitivity Table

The contractual undiscounted cash flows of Council's payables and borrowings are shown below:

	2010 '000	Due			Total Contractual I	Carrying Value
		≤ 1 year	2 - 5 years	> 5 years		
Payables		2,032	1,171	-	3,203	3,203
Borrowings		117	448	1,251	1,816	1,816
		2,149	1,619	1,251	5,019	5,019
	2009 '000	Due			Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Value
		≤ 1 year	2 - 5 years	> 5 years		
Payables		2,305	886	-	3,191	3,191
Borrowings		209	459	1,357	2,025	2,025
		2,514	1,345	1,357	5,216	5,216

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 15 - FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (cont)

Borrowings are also subject to interest rate risk - the risk that changes in interest rates could adversely affect funding costs. Council manages this risk by generally borrowing long term, commonly at rates fixed for the duration of the loan. Bank overdraft and less than 10% of borrowings are at variable rates; the associated interest rate risk is not considered material.

The following interest rates were applicable to Council's borrowings at balance date:

	2010		2009	
	Wtd ave interest rate	Balance	Wtd ave interest rate	Balance
Overdraft	1.25%	-	1.25%	-
Loans - fixed interest rate	7.07%	<u>1,816</u>	6.35%	<u>2,025</u>
		<u>1,816</u>		<u>2,025</u>

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 16 – MATERIAL BUDGET VARIATIONS

Council's original budget comprised part of the Management Plan adopted by Council on Monday 29 June 2009. The original projections on which the budget was based have been affected by decisions and new grant programs initiated by State and Federal Governments, by the weather, and by decisions made by the Council.

This Note sets out the principal variations between the original Budget and Actual results for the Statement of Financial Performance.

Further information of the nature and amount of all variations is available from the Council office upon request.

1 INCOME STATEMENT

1.1 General Overview

The budget set on Monday 29 June 2009 aimed for a surplus from all funds, after capital grants of \$1,119,005. The actual result, after capital grants is a deficit of \$506,517; a variation of \$1,625,522. The three principal reasons for this variation (totalling \$1,624,813) are additional depreciation of \$1,021,979.86 (actual \$2,974,223.86 – budget \$1,952,244), the \$327,500 write down of the carrying amount of CDOs from 1 July 2009 of \$327,500 (face value \$1,150,000) and \$275,333 of operational community services grants from prior years utilised in 2009/2010.

The additional depreciation is entirely due to the revaluation of the road assets at 1 July 2009. This revaluation was not completed until after the budget had been adopted resulting in an actual depreciation for road assets of \$2,111,356.95 against the budget of \$715,958, an additional \$1,395,397.95.

1.2 Employee Costs Unfavourable \$708k 11.5%

The staff costs were estimated in the budget at \$6,134,387 and the actual cost was \$6,840,589.57 an increase of 11.5%. Even though the full time equivalents reduced from 115 at 30 June 2009 to 104 at 30 June 2010, Council had varied its mix of permanent and casual staff during the year to meet the additional community services; notably Tablelands Community Support Options Program and McMaugh Gardens. The problems experienced by Local Government Superannuation with the defined benefits plan contributed to the \$201,787.11 (37.6%) increase in superannuation over budget. Another, although small contributing factor was an increase in training cost of \$41,049.36 over the budget of \$17,230.

1.3 Interest Charges Unfavourable \$59k 49.2%

The unwinding of the net present value of the tip remediation of \$49,540 was not budgeted for in the original budget.

1.4 Depreciation Unfavourable \$1,022k 52.4%

The depreciation in the budget for 2009/2010 was set at \$1,952,244 whereas the actual depreciation when allowing for the re-valued and re-assessed road assets at 30 June 2009 was \$3,221,222.24, less \$147,998.38 capitalised, an additional \$1,021,979.86. The road assets re-valuation was not completed before the 2009/2010 budget was set on 29 June 2009 and the budget was based upon the historical depreciation value of \$715,958 whereas the new depreciation value was \$2,111,356.95 an additional \$1,395,397.95.

1.5 Other Operating Expenses Unfavourable \$274k 31.1%

The budget was significantly affected by increases in the cost of insurance and utilities as follows:

Item	Actual Cost	Budget	Variance
Insurance	\$311,254.38	\$206,230.00	\$105,024.38
Light and Power	\$203,651.76	\$121,760.00	\$81,891.76
Telephone	\$110,722.79	\$77,245.79	\$33,477.00

The total expenditure at \$15,537k is 13.4% above the budget of \$13,701

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 1 – Material Budget Variations (cont)

1.6 User Charges and Fees

Favourable \$294k

20.3%

The increase over budget for user charges and fees is the result of additional private works of \$188,164.69 (actual \$438,164.69 to budget of \$250,000) and \$97,974.69 of McMaugh Aged Care Centre fees (actual \$577,974.69 to budget of \$480,000).

Neither of these two income sources can be reliably predicted as private works is dependent upon demand and availability of resources and the aged care fees is dependent upon the mix of categories of residents in the aged care facility.

1.7 Interest Received

Unfavourable \$207k

113.7%

The budgeted income from investment was \$181,171. This was exceeded by \$127,360.92 due to increased interest rates and longer terms of investments with \$309,360.02 being received for interest.

The unfavourable comparison to budget has emerged from the decision of Council to write off the carrying amount of \$327,500 for the Collateralised Debt Obligations (CDOs) because the future cash flow is uncertain and there is no reliable market for this type of financial instrument.

1.8 Grants and Contributions Received – Operating and Capital

Capital Grants and Contributions

Favourable \$298k

21.7%

Operating Grants and Contributions

Favourable \$167k

2.3%

While budgets are prepared with most of the grants, particularly the Community Services auspiced contracted allocations, known there are some that are not known until well after the budget has been adopted. This is particularly the case with respect to works for the Roads and Traffic Authority in respect to construction and maintenance of regional classified roads. This year Council has received additional contributions from the Roads and Traffic Authority for:

	Actual	Budget	Additional
Capital Contribution	\$275,000.03	\$0.00	\$275,000.03
Operational Contribution	\$1,092,000.05	\$721,000.00	\$371,000.05

2 CASH FLOW STATEMENT

2.1 General Overview

The Budgeted Cash Flow provided for \$2,426k from "Net Cash from Operating Activities". The actual net cash emerging from operating activities was \$2,529k or 4.2% above budget. The cash utilised in investing activities (principally infrastructure spending of \$3,536). The net result for the year was a small increase in cash assets at the end of the year of \$132k compared to the budgeted decrease of \$340k. This \$472k variation is almost entirely due to the unexpected return of the \$500k Forward Rate Note.

2.2 Other Operating Payments

Unfavourable \$379k

32.8%

As noted in the Other Operating Payments, in the Income Statement item 1.5 the costs of insurance and utilities far exceeded the budget estimates

2.3 Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment

Unfavourable \$622k

21.3%

The Maitland Point Bridge Replacement was budgeted for in the 2008/2009 year. However delays in the construction prevented the bridge from being completed in that period so \$315,597 (\$140,597 Timber Bridge Replacement Grant and \$175,000 Road Allocation) were revoted into the 2009/2010 year. During the year, after the new depreciation rates were established, \$366,830 of rehabilitation rather than maintenance work was undertaken

2.4 Proceeds from sale of investment

Favourable \$173k

52.9%

The budget was formed with the cash flow from the return of the \$327,500 Collateralised Debt Obligation principal. These funds were not received, however the \$500,000 Forward Rate Note issued by Elders Rural Bank was returned in March 2010.

The net increase in cash asset at \$131k is a 138.5% improvement over the anticipated reduction in net cash assets of \$340.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 1 – Material Budget Variations (cont)

3 NOTE 2 - FUNCTIONS

3.1 General Overview

As stated in the Income Statement overview, the budget set on Monday 29 June 2009 aimed for a surplus from all activities, after capital grants, of \$1,119,005. The actual result, after capital grants, is a deficit of \$506,517; a variation of \$1,625,522. . The three principal reasons for this variation (totalling \$1,624,813) are additional depreciation of \$1,021,979.86 (actual \$2,974,223.86 – budget \$1,952,244), the \$327,500 write down of the carrying amount of CDOs from 1 July 2009 of \$327,500 (face value \$1,150,000) and \$275,333 of operational community services grants from prior years utilised in 2009/2010.

The additional depreciation is entirely due to the revaluation of the road assets at 1 July 2009, which affects the Transport and Communication Activity. The re-valuation was not completed until after the budget had been adopted resulting in an actual depreciation for road assets of \$2,111,356.95 against the budget of \$715,958, an additional \$1,395,397.95.

The total income for the Principal Activities was \$15,031k which is 1.4% above budget.

The expenditure for the Principal Activities was \$15,537k which is 13.4% above budget.

3.2 Governance

Unfavourable \$147k

35.2%

The cost of Governance has been substantially affected by the Kibble Review of the Alliance and the Minister's Proposal to amalgamate the Uralla Shire Council with Armidale Dumaresq and Guyra Shire Councils.

3.3 Environment

Unfavourable \$375k

34.8%

This is a new Principal Activity for the Uralla Shire Council and costs which previously have been allocated to Housing and Community and to Transport and Communication are now allocated to Environment.

3.4 Transport and Communication

Unfavourable \$720k

16.6%

The depreciation budgeted in Transport and Communication for 2009/2010 was \$716k. Following the re-valuation of the road asset, the depreciation charged to Transport and Communication was \$2,111k an increase of \$1,395k.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 17 - STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTION PLANS

SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS

PURPOSE	OPENING BALANCE	CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED DURING YEAR		INTEREST EARNED DURING YEAR	EXPENDE D DURING YEAR	INTERNAL BORROW- INGS (to)/from	HELD AS RESTR- ICTED ASSET	EST. FUTURE CONTRIBS	EST. WORKS OUT- STANDING	EST. OVER/ (UNDER) FUNDING	BALANCE INTERNAL BORROW- INGS
		CASH	NON-CASH								
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Roads	162	6	0	0	0	0	168		168	0	0
Traffic Facilities	5	4	0	0	0	0	9		9	0	0
Community facilities	42	2	0	0	0	0	44	60	104	0	0
Other	16	3	0	0	0	0	19		19	0	0
Total Contributions	225	15	0	0	0	0	240	60	300	0	0

Note: The above summary of contribution plans represents the total of Council's individual contribution plans. Individual plan details are shown below.

CONTRIBUTION PLAN - DCP ZONE # 1 RURAL INVERGOWRIE

PURPOSE	OPENING BALANCE	CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED DURING YEAR		INTEREST EARNED DURING YEAR	EXPENDE D DURING YEAR	INTERNAL BORROW- INGS (to)/from	HELD AS RESTR- ICTED ASSET	EST. FUTURE CONTRIBS	EST. WORKS OUT- STANDING	EST. OVER/ (UNDER) FUNDING	BALANCE INTERNAL BORROW- INGS
		CASH	NON-CASH								
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Roads	17	6	0	0	0	0	23		23	0	0
Traffic Facilities	5	4	0	0	0	0	9		9	0	0
Community facilities	42	2	0	0	0	0	44	60	104	0	0
Other	11	3	0	0	0	0	14		14	0	0
Total	75	15	0	0	0	0	90	60	150	0	0

CONTRIBUTION PLAN - DCP ZONE #1 - RURAL

PURPOSE	OPENING BALANCE	CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED DURING YEAR		INTEREST EARNED DURING YEAR	EXPENDE D DURING YEAR	INTERNAL BORROW- INGS (to)/from	HELD AS RESTR- ICTED ASSET	EST. FUTURE CONTRIBS	EST. WORKS OUT- STANDING	EST. OVER/ (UNDER) FUNDING	BALANCE INTERNAL BORROW- INGS
		CASH	NON-CASH								
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Other	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	5	0	0
Total	5	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	5	0	0

CONTRIBUTION PLAN - DCP ROAD MAINTENANCE ROYALTIES

PURPOSE	OPENING BALANCE	CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED DURING YEAR		INTEREST EARNED DURING YEAR	EXPENDE D DURING YEAR	INTERNAL BORROW- INGS (to)/from	HELD AS RESTR- ICTED ASSET	EST. FUTURE CONTRIBS	EST. WORKS OUT- STANDING	EST. OVER/ (UNDER) FUNDING	BALANCE INTERNAL BORROW- INGS
		CASH	NON-CASH								
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Roads	145	0	0	0	0	0	145	0	145	0	0
Total	145	0	0	0	0	0	145		145		

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 18 - CONTINGENCIES, ASSETS AND LIABILITIES NOT RECOGNISED IN THE BALANCE SHEET

The following assets and liabilities do not qualify for recognition in the Statement of Financial Position but knowledge of those items is considered relevant to user of the financial report in making and evaluating decisions about the allocation of scarce resources.

1. DEFINED BENEFIT SUPERANNUATION PLAN

Council contributes to the Local Government Superannuation Scheme which has a closed section where a portion of member entitlements are defined as a multiple of salary. Member councils bear the responsibility of ensuring there are sufficient monies available to pay out benefits as these members cease employment.

The Scheme has a deficit of assets over liabilities and its administrators have advised all Councils that they will need to make significantly higher contributions to help reverse this deficit. However, the Trustees may also call upon Councils to make an immediate payment sufficient to offset all or part of this deficit at any time. There is no current indication that such action will be necessary.

As the Scheme is a mutual arrangement where assets and liabilities are pooled together for all member councils, the amount of such a payment is not able to be reliably quantified.

2. POTENTIAL INSURANCE LOSSES

Council is a multi-purpose organisation providing a large range of building, parks infrastructure, playgrounds and other facilities accessible to the public. At any time, it is likely that claims will have been made against Council that remain unsettled.

Council insures against all known insurable risks using a range of insurance policies, each of which is subject to a deductible "insurance excess", the amount of which varies according to the class of insurance.

Council has recognised the potential losses arising from claims known at reporting date based on average historical net cost (including insurance excess) of similar types of claims. Other potential claims not reported to Council may have existed at reporting date.

2.1. Statewide Mutual

Council is a member of Statewide Mutual, an organisation formed for the purchase and management of certain insurances on behalf of its members. Council is liable to contribute its proportionate share of any shortfall arising through the scheme.

Statewide Mutual's Directors report that the scheme has accumulated losses in relation to prior years, but that they are confident of recouping these in future years trading. They also report, however, that it is impossible to predict the long term consequences of certain proposed amendments to the law relating to public liability and professional negligence.

Details of an agreement between the Commonwealth and State Governments for the partial reimbursement of losses incurred were advised on 22 June 2004. Statewide Mutual is complying with the specified procedures but has not yet been advised whether its claim has been accepted.

3. STATECOVER MUTUAL Ltd

Council has been a member of Statecover Mutual Ltd; a corporation formed for the purchase and management of workers compensation insurances on behalf of its members, since 1 July 2001.

Statecover has issued shares with no par value and may make calls on its members to meet trading losses and to comply with prudential requirements. There is no recognised market for the sale of Statecover shares.

Council is of the opinion that there is insufficient certainty of recovery of capital contributed \$30,621.55 (2006: \$30,621.55; 2005: \$20,396.30) to qualify for recognition as an asset. No call has been made in respect of the Council's shares for the current reporting period.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 18 – Contingencies and Assets and Liabilities not Recognised in the Balance Sheet (cont)

4. LEGAL EXPENSES

Council is the planning consent authority for its area under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (as amended). Pursuant to that Act, certain persons aggrieved by a planning decision of the Council may appeal to the Land and Environment Court. It is the Court's normal practice that parties bear their own legal costs. At the date of these reports, Council had no notice of appeals against planning decisions made prior to reporting date. All known costs have been recognised, but the amount of further costs cannot be known until the appeals are determined.

5. RURAL FIRE FIGHTING ASSETS

Council has title to, and is the registered owner of 8 rural fire appliances and associated rural fire fighting equipment. These assets are under the control of the Rural Fire Services to enable that Department to provide the bushfire protection defences set out in their Service Level Agreement with Council, and accordingly have not been recognised in these reports.

In accordance with normal Rural Fire Service funding arrangements, Council continues to contribute to the costs of maintenance of this equipment.

6. FINANCIAL ASSETS – COLLATERAL DEBT OBLIGATIONS (CDOs)

Council, together with a number of other local government authorities, is a party to a legal action funded by litigation funder IMF, against Lehman Brothers, the vendors / promoters of certain CDOs acquired by Council in previous years. These have been written down to a zero carrying values and reported in Notes 6 and 15.

The basis of the action is breach of fiduciary duty by Lehman Brothers directly leading to the losses incurred by Council.

As Lehman Australia has been placed in liquidation, and there are other legal actions pending against the company and its international holding company, the amount of Council's recovery, if any, cannot be estimated.

7. CENTRAL NORTHERN LIBRARIES

The Uralla Shire Council is a member of the Central Northern Libraries Group. This group operates under the Central Northern Library Regional Library Agreement made on 1 July 2005, administered by the Tamworth Regional Council on behalf of the six members, and renewed from Clause 7.1 of the Agreement states "Tamworth Regional Council shall own the assets acquired from Central Northern Regional Library's budget subject to the 'reimbursement rights' held by each of the Delegating Councils as provided by this clause."

Clause 7.3 states "Upon the termination of this agreement, a proportion of the assets identified in the asset register shall be distributed to the Delegating Councils. The method for determining the asset distribution to each Delegating Council is specified in Schedule 4 of this Agreement." Schedule 4 determines that the distribution of the net assets shall be apportioned in the ratio of the contributions made in the three preceding years or the current life of the existing agreement. The net assets of the Central Northern Regional Library at 30 June 2010 were not available. Council expects the net assets of the library to be in line with the previous year's results (\$780,289 – 2009) and the percentage of contribution by the Uralla Shire Council is 6.65%.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 19 - JOINT VENTURES AND ASSOCIATED ENTITIES

COUNCIL DOES NOT HAVE ANY MATERIAL JOINT VENTURES

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 20 - RETAINED EARNINGS AND REVALUATION RESERVES

RETAINED EARNINGS	2010	2009
	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at end of previous reporting period	66,543	77,132
Effect of correction of errors in previous years (see below)	-	(13,617)
Restated opening balance	66,543	63,515
Net operating result for the year	(506)	3,028
Balance at end of the reporting period	66,037	66,543

REVALUATION RESERVES

Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment

Balance at end of previous reporting period	210,886	25,945
Revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	19,586	184,941
Balance at end of reporting period	230,472	210,886

At the end of the reporting period, the amount held in the reserve related to the following asset classes:

Land		
- Operational Land	2,084	2,084
Buildings	12,803	12,304
Infrastructure		
- Roads, bridges, footpaths	201,235	184,264
- Stormwater drainage	1,426	-
- Water Supply Network	9,749	9,269
- Sewerage Network	3,175	2,965
Balance at end of reporting period	230,472	210,886

As at 1 July 2008, Council determined it was of the opinion that it was not possible to reliably measure the fair value of land under roads previously acquired, and that it was impracticable to determine the original cost of acquisition.

In accordance with AASB 1051.9, the carrying value of land under roads previously recognised has been made against the opening balance of retained earnings.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

NOTE 21 - RESULTS BY FUND

Moneys raised pursuant to certain sections of the Local Government Act, and of certain other Acts, may not be used for the general purposes of the Council, or must be held as cash or authorised investments until expended for the purposes they were raised. This Note identifies the operating result and net assets of the general purposes operations of the Council, and of the principal special purpose operations.

Amounts are shown on a gross basis - before consolidation eliminations - and do NOT reconcile to the principal statements, and are shown for the current year only.

	GENERAL FUND \$'000	WATER SUPPLY \$'000	SEWER \$'000
INCOME STATEMENT			
INCOME			
Rates and Annual Charges	3,746	367	429
User Charges and Fees	1,475	243	20
Investment Revenues	201	0	0
Other Revenues	315	0	0
Grants and Contributions - Operating	7,519	17	13
Grants and Contributions - Capital	759	0	0
Profit from Disposal of Assets	128	0	0
Total Income from Continuing Operations	14,143	627	462
EXPENSES			
Employee Costs	6,283	364	195
Materials and Contracts	4,013	233	124
Borrowing Costs	179	0	0
Depreciation and Amortisation	2,902	56	16
Other Expenses	1,138	0	15
Interest and investment losses	0	107	113
Total expenses from Continuing Operations	14,515	760	463
OPERATING RESULT FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS	(372)	(133)	(1)
Operating result from discontinued operations	0	0	0
NET OPERATING RESULT FOR YEAR	(372)	(133)	(1)
<i>Net operating result before capital grants and contributions</i>	<i>(1,131)</i>	<i>(133)</i>	<i>(1)</i>

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 21 - Results by Fund (cont)

	GENERAL FUND	WATER SUPPLY	SEWER
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
BALANCE SHEET			
<i>CURRENT ASSETS</i>			
Cash and cash equivalents	357	480	749
Investments	4,500	0	0
Receivables	868	186	69
Inventories	185	0	0
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	<u>5,910</u>	<u>666</u>	<u>818</u>
<i>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</i>			
Receivables	(40)	40	0
Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment	270,194	17,397	7,531
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	<u>270,154</u>	<u>17,437</u>	<u>7,531</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>276,064</u>	<u>18,103</u>	<u>8,349</u>
<i>CURRENT LIABILITIES</i>			
Payables	2,969	118	116
Borrowings	122	0	0
Provisions	1,219	0	0
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>4,310</u>	<u>118</u>	<u>116</u>
<i>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</i>			
Borrowings	1,694	0	0
Provisions	936	0	0
TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>2,630</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>6,940</u>	<u>118</u>	<u>116</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>269,124</u>	<u>17,985</u>	<u>8,233</u>
<i>EQUITY</i>			
Accumulated Surplus	52,743	8,236	5,058
Revaluation Reserves	216,381	9,749	3,175
TOTAL EQUITY	<u>269,124</u>	<u>17,985</u>	<u>8,233</u>

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 23 - EVENTS OCCURRING AFTER BALANCE DATE

1. THE MINISTER'S FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL FOR THE FORCED AMALGAMATION OF URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL INTO A NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL WITH ARMIDALE DUMARESQUE AND GUYRA SHIRE COUNCILS

On 21 January 2010 the Minister for Local Government, Hon Barbara Perry, announced the appointment of Mrs Gabriele Kibble AO as the facilitator to carry out a review of the delivery of local government services in the New England area, following the collapse of the New England Strategic Alliance of Councils (NESAC); of which the Uralla Shire Council was a foundation member and active participant.

Mrs Kibble was requested under the Terms of Reference to report back to the Minister on the matters in the Terms of Reference by Monday, 31 May 2010. The report, which included a recommendation (Recommendation 1) that *"The existing areas of Armidale Dumaresque, Guyra Shire and Uralla Shire Councils should be amalgamated"*, was delivered to the Minister within the timeframe of the Terms of Reference.

The Report on the "Review of Local Government Service Delivery in the New England Area" became the basis, with changes to the cover page and page (ii) from Mrs. Kibble's "INTRODUCTION" to "DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSAL", became the "PROPOSAL FOR THE CREATION OF A NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL". The proposal which then became the Minister's Proposal was made pursuant to the provisions of sections 218E (1) and 218F (1) of the Local Government Act 1993.

The Minister referred her proposal for the forced amalgamation of the existing local government areas of Armidale Dumaresque, Guyra Shire and Uralla Shire Councils to the Local Government Boundaries Commission on Thursday 10 June 2010. The Boundaries Commission was requested by the Minister to examine the Minister's Proposal and report in accordance with section 263 of the Act, with particular attention to Section 263 (3).

The Local Government Boundaries Commission listed the notice of the inquiry and the calling for submissions on the Local Government Boundaries Commission web-page within the Division of Local Government Website on Friday 16 July 2010 and in an advertisement on page 5 of the Armidale Express on Monday 19 July 2010. Submissions closed on Saturday 14 August 2010. Public hearings were held in Armidale on Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th August 2010. The Commission is still considering the written and verbal submissions provided by the Councils and their community members.

The community and council of the Uralla Shire Council area have strenuously, and with forceful argument, overwhelmingly rejected the proposal and have shown by the numbers turning up to the information night with Mrs. Kibble and the submissions to the Local Government Boundaries Commission that it is not in the best interest of the Uralla Shire Community to lose its autonomous rural based local authority.

The formation of a New England Regional Council, which includes the area of the Uralla Shire Council, would mean that the Uralla Shire Council would cease to exist.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2010

NOTE 26 REINSTATEMENT, REHABILITATION AND RESTORATION LIABILITIES

Tip remediation

Council is required by law to restore the present tip site at Uralla to parkland/farmland at the end of its useful life in 2040, although it is planned to stage the rehabilitation of the current disturbed area over the next 15 years. The projected cost of this restoration at 30 June 2010 is \$634K, based on feasibility and engineering studies and has been discounted to its present value at 4% per annum being the estimated consumer price index.

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
At beginning of year	584	551
Amounts capitalised to Tip asset	-	-
Amortised of discount - expensed to borrowing costs	50	33
At end of year	<u>634</u>	<u>584</u>

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

Report on the general purpose financial statements

To Uralla Shire Council

SCOPE

The financial statements comprises the income statement, statement of comprehensive income, balance sheet, statement of cash flows, statement of changes in equity, accompanying notes to the financial statements, and the Statement by Councillors and Management in the approved form as required by Section 413(2)(C) of the Local Government Act 1993 for Uralla Shire Council (the Council), for the year ended 30th June 2010.

Councils' responsibility for the financial statements

The Council is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations), the Local Government Act 1993 and regulations and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements to the Council based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Audit Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements is free from material misstatement. Our audit responsibility does not extend to the Original Budget figures included in the Income Statement and Cash Flow Statement and the Original Budget disclosures in Notes 2(a) and 16 or to the non-mandatory disclosures in Note 13b and 21 to the financial statements and accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Council's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by Council, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

Knowledge with integrity

Liability limited by a scheme approved under the Professional Standards Legislation

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

INDEPENDENCE

In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

AUDIT OPINION

In our opinion

- (a) The accounting records of the Council have been kept in accordance with the requirements of Division 2 of Part 3 of the Local Government Act, 1993:
- (b) the general purpose financial statements:
 - (i) has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Division 2 of Part 3 of the Local Government Act, 1993;
 - (ii) is consistent with the Council's accounting records; and
 - (iii) presents fairly, in all material respects, the Council's financial position as at 30 June 2010 and the results of its operations for the year then ended; and
- (c) we have been able to obtain all information relevant to the conduct of our audit; and
- (d) no material deficiencies in the records or the financial statements were detected in the course of the audit.

Forsyths

Forsyths Business Services Pty Ltd



Paul Cornall

Principal

31 October 2010

92 Rusden Street Armidale

31 October 2010

The Mayor
Uralla Shire Council
PO Box 106
URALLA 2358

Armidale

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Dear Sir

Forsyth's Business Services Pty Ltd
ABN 66 182 781 401

AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010

We are pleased to report that we have completed the audit of Council's records for the year ended 30th June 2010 and have reported on the general purpose financial statements and special purpose financial statements as required by the provisions of Section 417(2) of the Local Government Act 1993.

Under Section 417(3) of the Local Government Act we are also required to report on the conduct of the audit.

Council's responsibilities

The Council is responsible for preparing a financial statements that give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Council, and that complies with Accounting Standards in Australia, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993. This includes responsibility for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error, and for the accounting policies and accounting estimates inherent in the financial statements.

Audit Objectives

The overall objectives of the audit were to enable us to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the general purpose financial statements:

- were presented fairly in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 and prescribed Regulations and the Australian Accounting Standards; and
- presented a view which was consistent with our understanding of the Council's financial position, the results of its operations and its cash flows.

Scope of the Audit

Audit procedures were primarily aimed at achieving audit objectives and did not seek to confirm for management purposes the effectiveness of all internal controls. The planning of the audit procedures was based on an assessment of the risk of the existence of errors and/or irregularities which could materially affect the financial statements.



We conducted an independent audit of the financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to the Council. Our audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, in order to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. Our audit responsibility does not extend to the Original Budget figures included in the Income Statement, Statement of Cash Flows and the Original Budget disclosures in Notes 2(a) and 16 or to the non-mandatory disclosures in Note 21 and 13(b) to the financial statements and accordingly, we express no opinion on them. The nature of an audit is influenced by factors such as the use of professional judgement, selective testing, the inherent limitations of internal control, and the availability of persuasive rather than conclusive evidence. Therefore, an audit cannot guarantee that all material misstatements have been detected.

We performed procedures to assess whether in all material respects the financial statements present fairly, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia, a view which is consistent with our understanding of the Council's financial position, and its performance as represented by the results of its operations and cash flows.

We formed our audit opinion on the basis of these procedures, which included:

- examining, on a test basis, information to provide evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements; and
- assessing the appropriateness of the accounting policies and disclosures used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Council.

While we considered the effectiveness of management's internal controls over financial reporting when determining the nature and extent of our procedures, our audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

We performed procedures to assess whether the substance of business transactions was accurately reflected in the financial statements. These and other procedures did not include consideration or judgement of the appropriateness or reasonableness of the business plans or strategies adopted by the Council.

We have issued our unqualified audit opinion as required by Section 417(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 on the basis of the foregoing comments.

Matters Relating to the Electronic Presentation of the Audited Financial Statements

This auditor's report relates to the financial statements of Uralla Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2010 included on Council's web site. Council is responsible for the integrity of the Council's web site. We have not been engaged to report on the integrity of the Council's web site. The auditor's report refers only to the statements named above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from these statements. If users of this report are concerned with the inherent risks arising from electronic data communications they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited financial statements to confirm the information included in the audited financial statements presented on this web site.



Additional Reporting Requirements

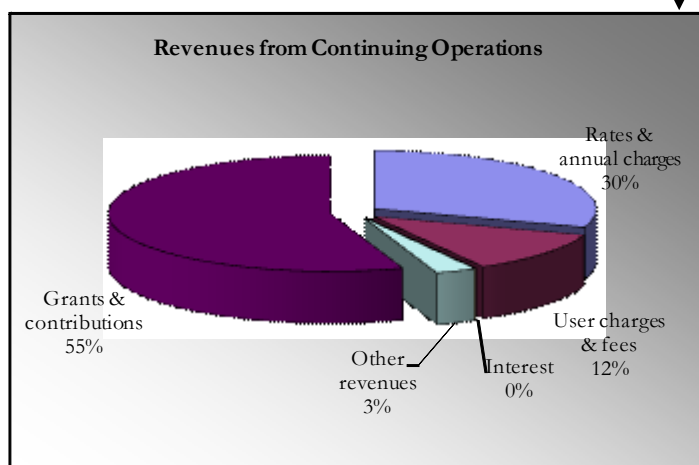
In accordance with Section 417(3) of the Local Government Act we make the following comments in relation to the results and financial trends.

The Income Statement for the year ended 30th June 2010 discloses the following operating result:

INCOME STATEMENT		Budget	Actual	Actual	Variance	
		2010	2010	2009	Actual	Budget
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000		%
INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS						
Rates & annual charges	4,702	4,542	4,243	7.0%	-3.4%	
User charges & fees	1,444	1,738	1,374	26.5%	20.4%	
Interest	182	0	197	0.0%	0.0%	
Other revenues from ordinary activities	278	315	346	-9.0%	13.3%	
Grants & contributions for operating purposes	7,382	7,549	8,230	-8.3%	2.3%	
Grants & contributions For capital purposes	461	759	1,256	-39.6%	64.6%	
Gain from sale of assets	371	128	457	-72.0%	-65.5%	
Total income from continuing operations	14,820	15,031	16,103	-6.7%	1.4%	
EXPENSES FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS						
Employee benefits & oncosts	6,134	6,842	6,219	10.0%	11.5%	
Borrowing costs	120	179	153	17.0%	49.2%	
Materials and contracts	4,616	4,370	4,127	5.9%	-5.3%	
Depreciation & amortisation	1,952	2,974	1,505	7.7%	52.4%	
Other expenses from ordinary activities	879	1,153	1,071	97.6%	31.2%	
Investment losses	0	19	0	0.0%	0.0%	
Total Expenses from continuing operations	13,701	15,537	13,075	18.8%	13.4%	
OPERATING RESULT FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS	1,119	(506)	3,028	-116.7%	-145.2%	
NET OPERATING RESULT BEFORE CAPITAL GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	658	(1,265)	1,772	-171.4%	-292.2%	

Council achieved a deficit **before** capital amounts of \$0.5m compared to the surplus in 2009 of \$3m.

Operating revenue decreased mainly as a result of lower grants and contributions for operating and capital purposes and reduced gains from sale of assets. Grants and contributions have decreased as a result of 2009 including the receipt of five instalments of financial assistance grants compared to four in 2010 as well as higher road and bridge grants for construction in 2009. Sale of assets for 2009 included better returns on the sale of plant and the unexpected return of full value of the Council's FRN investment..



The \$2.5m increase in expenses as a result of higher:

- Materials and contracts costs - increased maintenance activity and additional computer costs with the change-over of accounting software in 2010;
- Depreciation - impact of revaluations of infrastructure assets over the past three years, especially roads in 2009; and
- Employee costs - higher workers compensation insurance due recent claims history, higher superannuation costs (end of LGSS contribution holiday) and change in mix of permanent and casual staff.

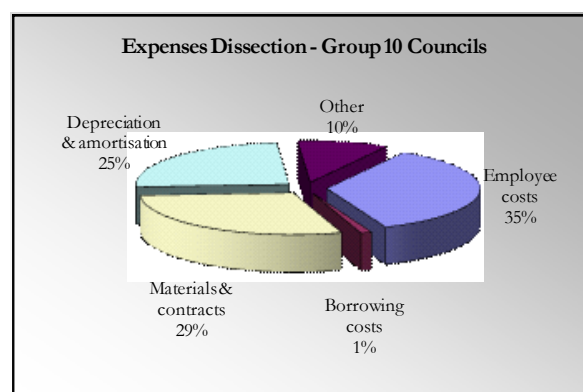
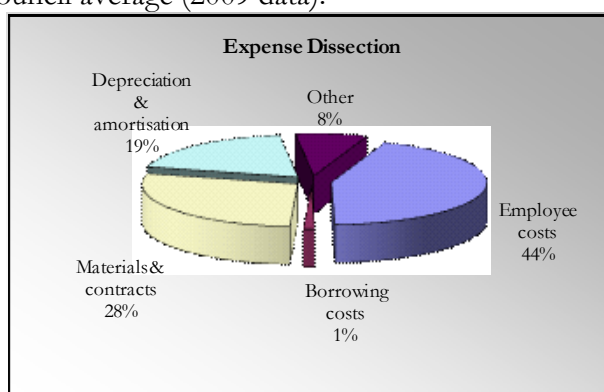
The global credit crisis has continued to have a major impact on credit linked products such as CDO's. Council is expected to hold these investments until maturity but events during the 2010 year (see comments under general section of this report) have ensured the risk of CDO investment default is high, which resulted in the write down in the remaining value of CDO investments of \$0.3m.

The 2009 income statement comparatives have been modified with the main change being the reclassification of waste management fees of \$450 from user charges and fees to rates and annual charges. The net result has remained unchanged.

The budget amounts included above are those adopted in the original budget and exclude re-votes from the previous year and variations to the budget during the year. The actual operating deficit for the year of \$0.5m compares with the original budget surplus of \$1.1m. The major variations between the actual results and the original budget are as follows:

- Investment income – (unfavourable \$0.2m) - as a result of the write down of the remaining CDO investments, see above.
- Grants and contributions capital and operating (favourable \$0.5m) – Council obtained additional RTA contributions for regional roads.
- Employee costs (unfavourable \$0.7m) – Council varied the mix of permanent and casual staff to meet additional community services and LGSS contributions were higher than budget.
- Depreciation and amortisation (unfavourable \$1m) – this is attributable to revaluation of infrastructure assets which has changed the amount of depreciation charged.

Below is a comparison of expense dissections for the Council for 2010 compared to the Group 10 council average (2009 data).

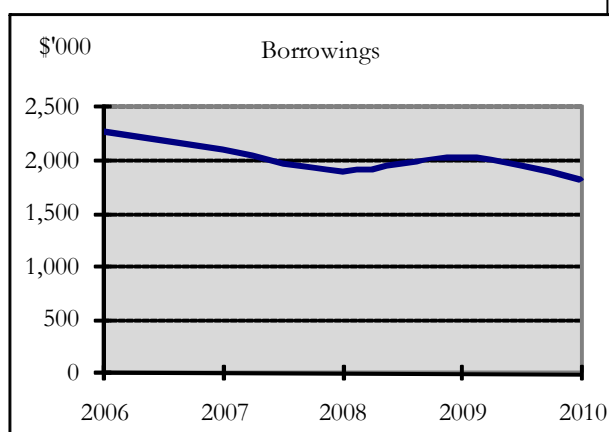
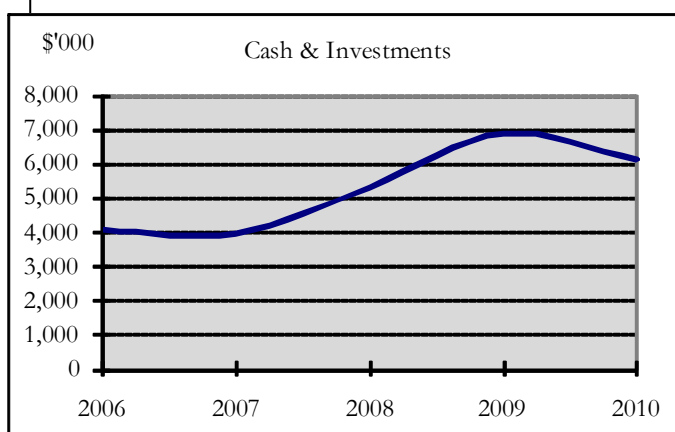


There is a significant variation in the levels of employee costs and depreciation compared to the Group 10 average. We believe this is due to Council having a lower level of depreciation expense than other Councils in the group (as it has a smaller level of infrastructure compared to the other Group 10 Councils) together with the additional employee costs associated with sponsoring Community Service activities, which are labour intensive activities.



The following schedule of assets and liabilities has been extracted from the Balance Sheet as at 30th June 2010. This schedule discloses the consolidated assets and liabilities of all functions.

SCHEDULE OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES		2010	2009	Variance
		\$'000	\$'000	%
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents		1,586	1,454	9.1%
Investments		4,500	5,412	-16.9%
Receivables		1,123	1,397	-19.6%
Inventories		185	187	-1.1%
Other		-	106	0.0%
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		7,394	8,556	-13.6%
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Payables		3,203	3,191	0.4%
Borrowings		122	209	-41.6%
Provisions		1,219	1,159	5.2%
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		4,544	4,559	-0.3%
NET CURRENT ASSETS		2,850	3,997	-28.7%
NON-CURRENT ASSETS				
Infrastructure, Property Plant & Equipment		296,289	276,251	7.3%
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		296,289	276,251	7.3%
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Provisions		936	1,003	-6.7%
Borrowings		1,694	1,816	-6.7%
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		2,630	2,819	-6.7%
NET ASSETS		296,509	277,429	6.9%



Cash and investments at 30th June 2010 were \$6.1m compared to \$6.9m as at 2009. The reduction is a result of the sale of investments and write down on CDO's in 2010.

Borrowings have reduced by \$0.2m due to scheduled repayments.



The increase in infrastructure, property, plant and equipment of \$20m is mainly due to the revaluation of bridges and drainage assets in 2010. The revaluation process ensures that asset condition and replacement values are assessed, which will then improve the depreciation methodology for infrastructure assets in future years. This will provide improved financial reporting regarding Council's ability to fund the deterioration in infrastructure assets reflected by depreciation each year. Council has now revalued a majority of its infrastructure assets, excluding community land and other structures.

NET CURRENT ASSETS

The Net Current Asset position at year end is an important financial indicator as it discloses the working capital available to Council to fund day to day operations and finance infrastructure and new community projects. However, included in Current Assets are assets which are "Restricted" by regulation or other externally imposed requirements and therefore are not available for other than their restricted purpose, as outlined below.

	Water \$'000	Sewerage \$'000	Dom Waste \$'000	McMaugh Gardens	General \$'000	Total \$'000
Current Assets	666	818	-	768	5,142	7,394
Current Liabilities	118	116	-	1,476	2,834	4,544
Net Current Assets	548	702	-	(708)	2,308	2,850
Add Liabilities > 12 Months	-	-	-	1,171	742	1,913
Total Funds before Restrictions	548	702	-	463	3,050	4,763
LESS: Restricted Cash & Investments (Included in Revenue)						
Developer Contributions	-	-	-	-	240	240
Specific Purpose Grants & Contributions	-	-	-	-	220	220
	-	-	-	-	460	460
NET FUNDS AVAILABLE	548	702	-	463	2,590	4,303
LESS Internal Restrictions	-	-	-	-	2,329	2,329
Net Funds After All Restrictions	548	702	-	463	261	1,974

INTERNAL RESTRICTIONS	Opening \$'000	Transfer to \$'000	Transfer from \$'000	Closing \$'000
Employee leave entitlements	473	27	-	500
Plant replacement	300	-	-	300
Carry-over works	245	72	-	317
FAG in advance	484	507	484	507
Strategic Alliance	77	-	77	-
Gravel Pit Restoration	18	-	18	-
Kentucky Hall	4	-	4	-
Arding Hall	3	-	3	-
Accommodation bond guarantee	-	705	-	705
	1,604	1,311	586	2,329

The above table demonstrates that after excluding McMaugh Gardens Hostel, the general function working capital balance is in surplus and able to support the internal restrictions it has created as at 30 June 2010. McMaugh Gardens Aged Care net current assets is in deficit due to accommodation bonds required to be shown as current liabilities. After adjusting for bonds not expected to be repaid in the normal course of operations, McMaugh Gardens Aged Care has sufficient cash reserves.



Council has restricted \$2.3m in cash to partly fund plant replacements, carry-over projects, accommodation bond requirements and employee entitlements provisions. There is a surplus in unrestricted current assets of \$0.3m to fund working capital needs. We believe however, that Council should have a positive unrestricted working funds balance in the general function of at least \$500,000.

The Code of Accounting Practice requires the mandatory disclosure of certain performance indicators. These financial indicators are useful in assessing performance, financial position and the likely financial burden to be placed on ratepayers.

The key financial indicators disclosed in the Financial Statements are:

RATIO	PURPOSE	2010	2009	2008	2007
UNRESTRICTED RATIO	To assess the adequacy of working capital after excluding all restricted assets and liabilities.	5.08	3.62	1.24	0.64
DEBT SERVICE RATIO	To assess the degree to which revenues are committed to the repayment of debt.	2.0%	3.0%	2.0%	3.0%
RATE COVERAGE RATIO	To assess the degree of dependence upon revenues from rates and annual charges.	30.0%	23.0%	26.0%	29.0%
OUTSTANDING RATES %	To assess the impact of uncollected rates and charges on liquidity and the adequacy of recovery efforts.	9.7%	9.3%	11.2%	6.5%
ASSET RENEWALS RATIO	To assess the rate at which assets are being renewed against the rate they are being depreciated	1.06	1.20	0.59	0.74

The unrestricted ratio excludes all current assets and liabilities that are restricted to specific purposes such as water, sewer, aged care, domestic waste management functions and specific purpose unexpended grants & contributions. This ratio is before setting aside cash to fund internal restrictions relative to the general function. An unrestricted ratio of 5.08 indicates that for every \$1 of current liabilities as at 30 June 2010, which is expected to be paid out within the following twelve months, Council has \$5.08 to meet this commitment. As a comparison, Category 10 Councils in 2009 had an average unrestricted ratio of 3.52.

The debt service ratio of 2% is better than the average for Group 10 Councils of 2.3% (2009 data). The low ratio reflects an ability for Council to increase its borrowings to fund infrastructure needs if required.

The rate coverage ratio of 30% exceeds the Group 10 average of 28%. Grants and contributions contribute 55% to council's revenue. We note that half of these grants are "contested" grants and if they were not renewed, Council would correspondingly reduce expenses fully funded by these projects. However, Council is still dependent on various government grants and other funding to provide support to general expenditure overheads.

The outstanding rates ratio increased compared to prior years and is higher than the Group 10 average of 7.7%. We believe a ratio of 5% is where Council should aim as part of its operating targets. It will be important for Council to monitor the level of rates collections given the slower collection trend in the past three years.



The asset renewals ratio was established by the Division of Local Government from the 2007 year. The ratio is designed to assist readers of the financial statements to assess Council's performance with renewing its infrastructure assets against the level of infrastructure asset deterioration (as represented by depreciation expense).

The ratio for 2010 highlights that Council expended the same on renewal of infrastructure assets compared to the estimated asset deterioration in the period. With the significant increase in infrastructure values in the past four years there will be pressure on Council to match capital expenditure compared to depreciation. Council needs in the long term to continue to focus on improving infrastructure to reduce the impacts of "wear and tear" on these assets.

Overall the financial indicators show that Council's financial standing is sound in the short term to medium term.

The decrease in overall cash and investments reflected in the Balance Sheet is also evident in the following table extracted from the Statement of Cash Flows.

CASH MOVEMENTS	Actual 2010	Actual 2009	Variance
	\$'000	\$'000	%
CASH INFLOWS			
Operating Receipts	16,393	16,416	-0.1%
Proceeds from Assets Sales	237	415	-42.9%
Net receipt of retirement home bonds	400	453	-11.7%
Proceeds from investments	1,142	200	471.0%
Proceeds from Borrowings	0	310	0.0%
TOTAL RECEIPTS	18,172	17,794	2.1%
CASH OUTFLOWS			
Operating Payments	13,535	11,935	13.4%
Purchase of investments	558	2,625	-78.7%
Purchase of Assets	3,536	3,562	-0.7%
Repayment of Loans	209	177	18.1%
Net repayment of retirement home bonds	202	257	-21.4%
TOTAL PAYMENTS	18,040	18,556	-2.8%
TOTAL CASH MOVEMENT	132	(762)	-117.3%
Cash and equivalents	1,586	1,454	3.0%
Investments	4,500	5,412	3.0%
Total Cash & Investments on Hand	6,086	6,866	-11.4%

Cash and investments decreased by \$0.8m due to the write off of remaining CDO's of \$0.3m and operating cash surpluses being used to fund asset purchases.

Cash outflows for Purchase of Assets of \$3.5m included road and bridge construction totalling \$2.2m. This compares to the \$2.1m annual rate of depreciation of these assets. In assessing the replacement rate of depreciating assets it is also important to note that Special Schedule No.7, which is an unaudited statement prepared in conjunction with the financial report, discloses that the estimated cost to bring road and bridges to a "satisfactorily" standard is \$3.2m.

The remaining asset purchases included purchases for plant and equipment of \$0.9m and buildings of \$0.3m.



SPECIAL PURPOSE REPORTS

Council is required to report the financial results of identified Business Units in accordance with National Competition Policy guidelines. The reports are known as Special Purpose Financial Reports and are subject to audit. Council has identified Water, Sewerage, private works and McMaugh Gardens Hostel as Category 2 Business Units.

WATER SUPPLY FUNCTION

The Special Purpose Financial Reports disclose that the Water Supply function recorded an operating deficit (before capital funding) of \$133,000 after allowing for depreciation of \$56,000.

The Net Current Asset position records a positive balance of \$548,000. This surplus plus the fact that it has minimal debt, indicates a sound financial position to meet operational requirements given the size of the function and the water infrastructure condition (per unaudited Special Schedule 7) being of "satisfactory" standard.

SEWERAGE SERVICES

This function recorded an operating deficit (before capital funding) of \$1,000 after allowing for depreciation of \$16,000.

The Net Current Assets position show a surplus of \$702,000. Given the size of the operations, the minimal level of debt and the sewer infrastructure condition (per unaudited Special Schedule 7) being of "satisfactory" standard, the sewerage function is in a sound financial position.

MCMAUGH GARDENS HOSTEL

The Special Purpose Financial Reports disclose that McMaugh Gardens Hostel recorded an operating surplus of \$86,000 for the 2010 year compared to \$180,000 in the previous year. This result is after depreciation expense of \$48,000.

The net current asset position is a deficit of \$708,000 after allowing for resident's bonds amounting to \$1,473,000. The deficit is a result of accommodation bonds being required to be shown as current despite usual annual bond repayments. When this is taken into account the Hostel has reserves of \$463,000. Council needs to focus on continued cost control at the Hostel to improve its financial position and reduce its potential impact on Council's general fund.

Please also note that 2009 comparatives have been amended to adjust for errors in recording of infrastructure assets, provisions and cash balances in the accounting ledgers. This has been explained in the notes to the special purpose financial statements.

GENERAL

Investment valuations as at 30 June 2010

In the 2008 and 2009 audit reports we qualified our audit opinion with regard to Collateralised Debt Obligations (CDOs) investments held by Council as we were unable to obtain sufficient audit evidence to verify the market value of these investments at reporting date.



This was due to the global financial credit crisis impacting on financial markets thus leading to a period of high volatility led by events in the US housing market, particularly subprime loans, which has impacted the value, recoverability, liquidity, cash flows and rates of return of many financial assets, especially Collateralised Debt Obligations (CDOs).

Two years on the value of the investments where we have been unable to get sufficient audit evidence to support market values, has been reduced due to a write off the remaining CDO values of \$0.3m and we have removed our qualification.

At 30 June 2010 there is only approximately \$0.3m of terminated CDO monies held in trust by the Bank of New York Mellon that do not have market values which are independently quoted and they are not widely traded. These monies held in trust are also subject to legal action with Lehman Brothers as outlined in Note 18 of the financials statements. The amount of recovery on these monies held in trust is therefore subjected to the uncertainty of the success of this legal action. Therefore, Council has prudently written the values to \$Nil as at 30 June 2010.

Subsequent events disclosure

Note 23 discloses that New England Strategic Alliance of Councils (NESAC) disbanded in the 2010 year and the Division of Local Government has recommended the amalgamation of Guyra, Armidale Dumaresq and Uralla Councils. A decision by the Boundary Commission is pending regarding this recommendation. If amalgamation occurs this will cause the transfer of Uralla Shire Council's operations into a new Council entity in the 2011 financial year.

Reporting obligations under the Local Government Act

We report that Council's systems and records have been well maintained during the year and the audited financial statements will be submitted to the Department of Local Government within the prescribed time provide for in Division 2 of the Local Government Act 1993.

Matters of a technical nature have been documented in a management letter to the General Manager.

We take this opportunity of thanking the General Manager and his staff for their co-operation and assistance during the course of the audit.

Under section 419 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council is required to give public notice of a Council meeting for the purpose of presenting the audited financial statements and the auditor's report. A principal of our firm is available to attend this meeting to address any questions in respect of the audit report or the conduct of the audit.

Yours faithfully

Forsyths Business Services Pty Ltd

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P.R. Cornall'.

Paul R Cornall
Principal

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
Special Purpose Financial Statements
for the year ended 30th June 2010

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
Council Certificate	P1
Statement of Financial Performance	
Water Supply Business Activity	P2
Sewerage Business Activity	P3
Other Business Activities	P4
Statement of Financial Position	
Water Supply Business Activity	P5
Sewerage Business Activity	P6
Other Business Activities	P7
Notes to, and forming part of, the Special Purpose Financial Statements	
Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies	P8
Note 2 - Best Practice Management Disclosures - Water Supply	P12
Note 3 - Best Practice Management Disclosures -Sewerage	P13
Auditors Report	

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2010

STATEMENT BY COUNCILLORS AND MANAGEMENT MADE PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF ACCOUNTING PRACTICE AND FINANCIAL REPORTING

The attached special purpose Financial Statements have been drawn up in accordance with the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting and the

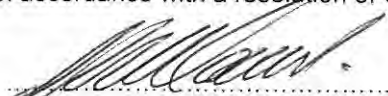
- NSW Government Policy Statement "*Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government*"
- Department of Local Government guidelines "*Pricing & Costing for Council Businesses: A Guide to Competitive Neutrality*".
- The NSW Office of Water, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water "*Best Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage*" guidelines.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these reports

- Present fairly the financial position and operating result for each of Council's declared Business Units for the year, and
- Accord with Council's accounting and other records

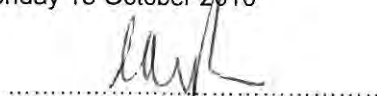
We are not aware of any matter that would render the reports false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on Monday 18 October 2010



Councillor Kevin Stanley Ward

MAYOR



Councillor Michael Pearce

DEPUTY MAYOR



Mr Thomas Patrick O'Connor

GENERAL MANAGER



Mr Thomas Patrick O'Connor

RESPONSIBLE ACCOUNTING OFFICER

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
INCOME STATEMENT
WATER SUPPLY BUSINESS ACTIVITY
for the year ended 30th June 2010

	Notes	2010 '000	2009 '000	2008 '000
INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS				
Access Charges		367	328	313
User Charges		242	231	262
Fees		1	-	-
Interest Received		(107)	15	83
Grants and Contributions - Operating		17	13	13
Gain on Disposal of Assets		-	81	-
TOTAL		520	668	671
EXPENSES FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS				
Employee Costs		364	376	376
Materials and Contracts		233	241	254
Depreciation and Amortisation		56	52	50
Loss on Investments	1	-	-	328
Other Operating Expenses		-	119	-
TOTAL		653	788	1,008
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) BEFORE TAX		(133)	(120)	(337)
Corporate Taxation Equivalent	1	-	-	-
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR YEAR		(133)	(120)	(337)
Add: Accumulated Surplus brought forward		8,369	8,489	8,736
Adjustments for amounts unpaid				
Fair Value Adjustments	1	-	-	86
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS		8,236	8,369	8,489
<i>RATE OF RETURN ON CAPITAL</i>	1	<i>NIL</i>	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Nil</i>
<i>NOTIONAL SUBSIDY FROM COUNCIL</i>	1	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Calculation of Dividend Payable during next financial year</i>				
Surplus after tax		-133	-120	-337
Less: Capital grants and contribs from LWUs		17	13	13
Surplus for dividend calculation purposes		0	0	0
Dividend calculated from surplus		0	0	0

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
INCOME STATEMENT
SEWERAGE BUSINESS ACTIVITY
for the year ended 30th June 2010

	Notes	2010 '000	2009 '000	2008 '000
INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS				
Access Charges		429	423	405
User Charges		17	14	28
Liquid Trade Waste Charges		3	10	12
Interest Received		(113)	4	68
Grants and Contributions - Operating		13	19	19
Gain on Disposal of Assets		-	81	-
TOTAL		349	551	532
EXPENSES FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS				
Employee Costs		195	217	242
Materials and Contracts		124	139	164
Borrowing Costs		-	2	-
Depreciation and Amortisation		16	14	16
Loss on Investments		-	-	327
Other Operating Expenses		15	119	-
TOTAL		350	491	749
Corporate Taxation Equivalent	1	-	18	-
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR YEAR		(1)	42	(217)
Add: Accumulated Profits brought forward		5,059	4,997	5,214
Fair Value Adjustment	1	-	-	-
Debt Guarantee Fee retained		-	-	-
Corporate Tax Equivalent retained		-	18	-
Less: Dividends Paid	1	-	-	-
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS		5,058	5,058	4,997
<i>RATE OF RETURN ON CAPITAL</i>	1	<i>NIL</i>	<i>0.85%</i>	<i>Nil</i>
<i>NOTIONAL SUBSIDY FROM COUNCIL</i>	1	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Calculation of Dividend Payable during next financial year</i>				
Surplus after tax		-1	42	-217
Less: Capital grants and contribs from LWUs		13	19	19
Surplus for dividend calculation purposes		0	23	0
Dividend calculated from surplus		0	12	0

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

INCOME STATEMENT BY BUSINESS ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 30th June 2010

		BUSINESS ACTIVITIES			
		PRIVATE WORKS '000		MCMAUGH GARDENS '000	
	Notes	2010	2009	2010	2009
REVENUE FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS					
User Charges and Fees		438	166	578	556
Interest Received		-	-	28	28
Grants and Contributions - Operating		-	130	1,269	1,387
Gain on Disposal of Assets		-	-	-	27
Other Operating Revenues		-	-	65	30
TOTAL		438	296	1,940	2,028
EXPENSES FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS					
Employee Costs		134	159	1,311	1,282
Materials and Contracts		264	207	389	428
Borrowing Costs		-	-	5	6
Depreciation and Amortisation		-	-	48	44
Other Operating Expenses		-	-	101	88
TOTAL		398	366	1,854	1,848
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) BEFORE TAX		40	(70)	86	180
Corporate Taxation Equivalent	2			26	54
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR YEAR				60	126
Add: Accumulated Profits brought forward				2,367	2,187
Corporate Tax Equivalent	1			26	54
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS				2,453	2,367
RATE OF RETURN ON CAPITAL	2			2.05%	5.26%
NOTIONAL SUBSIDY FROM COUNCIL	2			N/A	N/A

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET

WATER SUPPLY BUSINESS ACTIVITY

As at 30 June 2010

	Notes	2010 '000	2009 '000
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents		480	408
Receivables		186	206
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>666</u>	<u>614</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Receivables		40	109
Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment		17,397	16,908
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		<u>17,437</u>	<u>17,017</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>18,103</u>	<u>17,631</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables		118	4
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>118</u>	<u>4</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>118</u>	<u>4</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>\$ 17,985</u>	<u>17,627</u>
EQUITY			
Accumulated Surplus		8,236	8,367
Asset Revaluation Reserve		9,749	9,260
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>\$ 17,985</u>	<u>17,627</u>

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
BALANCE SHEET
SEWERAGE BUSINESS ACTIVITY
As at 30 June 2010

	Notes	2010 '000	2009 '000
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents		749	725
Receivables		69	59
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		818	784
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment		7,531	7,294
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		7,531	7,294
TOTAL ASSETS		8,349	8,078
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables		116	47
Interest bearing liabilities		-	12
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		116	59
TOTAL LIABILITIES		116	59
NET ASSETS		\$ 8,233	8,019
EQUITY			
Accumulated Surplus		5,058	5,058
Asset Revaluation Reserve		3,175	2,961
TOTAL EQUITY		\$ 8,233	8,019

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET by BUSINESS ACTIVITIES As at 30 June 2010

	Notes	BUSINESS ACTIVITIES			
		PRIVATE WORKS		MCMAUGH GARDENS	
		'000		'000	
		2010	2009	2010	2009
CURRENT ASSETS					
Investments		-	-	768	465
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		-	-	768	465
NON-CURRENT ASSETS					
Property, Plant and Equipment		-	-	4,437	4,341
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		-	-	4,437	4,341
TOTAL ASSETS		-	-	5,205	4,806
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Payables		-	-	1,473	1,275
Interest bearing liabilities		-	-	3	3
Provisions		-	-	-	-
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		-	-	1,476	1,278
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Payables		-	-	-	-
Interest bearing liabilities		-	-	80	83
Provisions		-	-	-	-
TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES		-	-	80	83
TOTAL LIABILITIES		-	-	1,556	1,361
NET ASSETS		\$ -	-	3,649	3,445
EQUITY					
Accumulated Surplus		-	-	2,453	2,367
Asset Revaluation Reserve		-	-	1,196	1,078
TOTAL EQUITY		\$ -	-	3,649	3,445

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1. The Special Purpose Financial Reports

These financial statements are a Special Purpose Financial Report prepared for use by the Council, the Division of Local Government, and the NSW Office of Water, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water. They have been prepared to report the results of business units determined by Council in accordance with the requirements of National Competition Policy guidelines, and the specific requirements relating to Best Practice Management of water and sewer business units.

In preparing these reports, each business unit has been viewed as a separate unit, and accordingly transactions between different business units, and between business units and other Council operations, have not been eliminated.

2. Basis of Accounting

2.1 Compliance

The financial reports comply with the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting, and with the principles of the June 1996 NSW Government Policy Statement *"Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government"*, the Department of Local Government's July 1997 guidelines *"Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses: A Guide to Competitive Neutrality"* and the NSW Office of Water, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water 2007 guidelines *"Best-Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage"*.

Except where directed to the contrary by the above documents, the financial statements also comply with all applicable Australian Accounting Standards and professional pronouncements, and are based on information consistent with that forming the basis of Council's general purpose Annual Financial Statements for the year.

2.2 Basis

The financial report has been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting and, except where specifically indicated in these Notes or in the Notes to the general purpose Annual Financial Statements, in accordance with the historical cost convention.

3. National Competition Policy

In accordance with the framework set out in the June 1996 NSW Government Policy Statement *"Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government"* and other guidelines and documentation in relation to this matter, Council has declared that the following are to be considered as Business Units:

Uralla Shire Council Combined Water Supplies

Comprising the whole of the operations and assets of the water supply systems servicing the towns of Uralla and Bundarra, each of which were established as separate Special Rate Funds (see item 4 below). As the total annual operating revenues are less than \$2,000,000, it is defined as a "Category 2" Business Unit.

Uralla Local Sewerage Fund

Comprising the whole of the operations and assets of the sewerage reticulation and treatment system servicing the town of Uralla which is established as a Special Rate Fund (see item 4 below). As the total annual operating revenues are less than \$2,000,000, it is defined as a "Category 2" Business Unit.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

McMaugh Aged Care Centre

Comprising the whole of the operations and assets of the 36 bed aged care facility in King Street, Uralla titled the "McMaugh Aged Care Centre", and is defined as a "Category 2" Business Unit.

The Division of Local Government's July 1997 guidelines *"Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses: A Guide to Competitive Neutrality"* outline the process for identifying and allocating costs to activities and provide a standard of disclosure requirements. These disclosures are reflected in Council's pricing and/or financial reporting systems and include taxation equivalents, council subsidies, rate of return on investments in business units and dividends paid. The NSW Office of Water, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water's 2007 guidelines *"Best-Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage"* include specific requirements relating to the calculation and payment of "dividends" by water supply and sewerage business units.

3.1 Taxation Equivalent Payments

Council does not pay certain taxes and duties that are paid by equivalent private sector operations, but is liable for others. The Special Purpose Financial Reports disclose the effect of imputing these taxes to the declared business units at the several rates that would have applied to equivalent private sector operations. The NSW Office of Water, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water's guidelines *"Best-Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage"* require that imputed amounts be paid into the general funds of the Council where it may be applied for any permitted purpose of the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended).

Details of the rates of each tax or duty applicable to each different business unit are set out in the table forming item 7 of this Note. The narration "applies" indicates that the tax or duty has in fact been paid to the taxing authority by the Business Unit, and that these costs have been included in actual Operating Expenses, and the narration "various" indicates that Council has based the calculation of imputed tax on the differing rates of tax or duty applicable to different purchases.

3.2 Council Rates, Charges and Fees

Council rates have been *imputed* in relation to all non-rateable land, and *applied* in relation to all rateable land, owned or exclusively used by all business units. Annual and User Charges, and Regulatory and Other Fees, have been *applied* in relation to all services supplied to business units by Council or other business units.

3.3 Loan and Debt Guarantee Fees

The debt guarantee fee is designed to ensure that Council's business units face equivalent commercial borrowing costs to private sector competitors. In order to calculate the debt guarantee fees, Council has determined the average differential between actual and commercial borrowing rates for each business unit.

3.4 Corporate Taxation Equivalent

In accordance with the Code of Local Government Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting, income taxation has been calculated on the Operating Result before Capital Amounts disclosed in the Statements of Financial Performance of the Special Purpose Financial Reports. No allowance has been made for non-deductible items, timing differences or carried forward losses. Australian Accounting Standard AASB 112 "Income Taxes" has not been applied.

3.5 Dividends Paid

In accordance with National Competition Policy guidelines, it is expected that business units will pay dividends to its owner, Council, equivalent to those paid by private sector competitors. In accordance with the Code of Local Government Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting, the rate of dividend paid has been expressed as a percentage of the Change in Net Assets Resulting from Operations after Taxation.

Council is permitted, but not required, to pay a dividend to the general funds of the Council from surpluses generated by water supply and sewerage operations. The maximum amount of such dividend permitted under the *"Best-Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage"* guidelines is set out at the foot of the relevant Statements of Financial Performance. Actual payment of the dividend is subject to compliance with the procedures set out in the guidelines.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2010

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

3.6 Return on Investment (Rate of Return)

The Policy statement states that Category 1 businesses "would be expected to generate a rate of return on capital funds employed that is comparable to rates of return for private businesses operating in a similar field." In accordance with the Code of Accounting Practice, the rate of return on monopoly businesses such as water and sewerage services has been set at an amount sufficient to cover costs and replace assets needed to maintain services. For competitive markets, the rate of return has been set equal to or better than the return on Commonwealth 10 year bonds.

In accordance with the Code of Accounting Practice, the rate of return has been calculated as the Operating Result before Capital Amounts plus Interest Expense expressed as a percentage of the carrying value of Property, Plant and Equipment at the reporting date.

3.7 Notional Subsidy from Council

Government policy requires that subsidies provided to customers and the funding of those subsidies must be explicitly disclosed. Subsidies occur where Council provides services on a less than cost recovery basis, or accepts a lower rate of return on its investment in the business unit than would be acceptable to a private sector competitor. In accordance with the Code of Accounting Practice, this amount has been calculated as the dollar difference between the required and actual rates of return.

4. Special Rate Funds

The Local Government Act 1993 (as amended) requires that moneys raised by way of Special Rates (or for Domestic Waste Management) be used only for those purposes, except for "dividends" payable in accordance with the *"Best-Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage"* guidelines, which also impose limits on the amounts payable. Accordingly, *imputed* amounts in excess of the permitted limits have been retained in those funds, and added back to Accumulated Surplus.

For Business Units not involving Special Rate Funds, *imputed* amounts have been transferred to Council's General Fund and are available to Council for utilisation for other purposes.

All such amounts have been eliminated in the course of preparation of the Council's general purpose Annual Financial Statements.

5. Other Accounting Policies and Notes

Other accounting policies relating to the determination of revenues and expenses, and assets and liabilities, not specifically referred to above are reported in Note 1 to the Council's Annual Financial Statements, and should be read in conjunction with this Note. The Employee Leave Entitlements are charged to the Water, Sewer and McMaugh Gardens Funds as an on-cost of wages and salaries and the liability for unpaid Employee Leave Entitlements is therefore carried as a provision by the General Fund.

6. Fund 4 – McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre

Until 30 June 2009, Council operated the McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre as a business Unit within the Community Services activity of Council. From 1 July 2009 the operations, assets and liabilities of McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre became Fund 4. The comparative figures for 2009 are therefore the opening entry for Fund 4 and vary from the 30 June 2009 balances of the business unit, particularly the Property, Plant and Equipment, which has increased by \$803k, and the Employee Leave Provisions of \$136k. The effect of creating the Fund has been to convert the funds in excess of Accumulated Surplus into the current asset investment. This resulted in a difference between the Accommodation Bonds liability and the investment funds available. This difference is guaranteed by an internal restriction on the General Fund cash and investments in Note 6 of the General Purpose Financial Statements.

7. Rounding

In accordance with the Code of Accounting Practice all amounts shown in these statements are in Australian currency and, other than Notes 2 and 3, have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars; amounts in Notes 2 and 3 are shown in whole dollars to meet the requirements of the Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability.

8. National Competition Policy Notional Payments

The table forming part of this Note immediately follows.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORTS

NOTE 1 Table - NATIONAL COMPETITION POLICY NOTIONAL PAYMENTS
for the year ended 30th June 2010

BUSINESS ACTIVITIES							
WATER		SEWER		PRIVATE WORKS		MCMAUGH GARDENS	
2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009

Category							
----------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

TAXATION EQUIVALENT PAYMENTS

Payroll Tax
Fringe Benefits Tax

Rate Applies Applies	Rate Applies Applies	Rate Applies Applies	Rate Applies Applies	Rate Applies Applies	Rate Applies Applies	Rate Applies Applies	Rate Applies Applies

COUNCIL RATES, CHARGES & FEES

See Note 1, Item 3.2

LOAN & DEBT GUARANTEE FEES

3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	30.00%
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CORPORATE TAXATION EQUIVALENT

30%	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

DIVIDENDS PAID

0.00%	N/A	0.00%	0.00%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
-------	-----	-------	-------	-----	-----	-----	-----

RATE OF RETURN ON CAPITAL

Required Rate of Return
Actual Rate of Return

NIL	Nil	0.19%	0.85%	Nil	NIL	2.07%	5.26%
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URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE SPECIAL PURPOSE STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 2 - BEST PRACTICE MANAGEMENT DISCLOSURES - WATER SUPPLY

2010

*Values shown in this Note are expressed in WHOLE DOLLARS***Calculation and Payment of Tax-Equivalents**

(i)	Calculated Tax Equivalents	\$0
(ii)	No of assessments multiplied by \$3/assessment	\$4,158
(iii)	Amounts payable for Tax Equivalents	\$0
(iv)	Tax Equivalents paid	\$0

Dividend from Surplus

(i)	50% of Surplus before Dividends	\$0
	<i>(Calculated in accordance with Best Practice Management for Water Supply and Sewerage guidelines.)</i>	
(ii)	No of assessments multiplied by \$30/assessment, less tax equivalent charges/assessment	\$41,580
(iii)	Cumulative Surplus before Dividends for 3 years to 30 June 2010, less cumulative dividends paid for 2 years to 30 June 2009	
(iv)	Maximum Dividend from Surplus	
	(least of (i), (ii) and (iii))	\$0
(v)	Dividend paid from Surplus	

Required Outcomes for 6 Criteria

(i)	Completion of Strategic Business Plan (including Financial Plan)	No
(ii)	Pricing with full cost-recovery, without significant cross subsidies	No
	(Item 2(a) in Table 1 on page 22 of Best Practice guidelines)	
	Complying charges (Item 2(b) in Table 1)	Yes
	DSP with Commercial Developer Charges (Item 2(e) in Table 1)	No
	If Dual Water Supplies, Complying Charges (Item 2(g) in Table 1)	Yes
(iii)	Sound Water Conservation and Demand Management Implemented	Yes
(iv)	Sound Drought Management implemented	Yes
(v)	Complete Performance Reporting Form (by 15 September each year)	Yes
(vi)	Complete Integrated Water Cycle Management Evaluation	No
(vii)	Complete and implement Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy	No

National Water Initiative (NWI) Financial Performance Indicators

NWI F1 Total Revenue (Water)	\$'000	\$627
NWI F4 Residential Revenue from Usage Charges (Water)	%	39.74%
NWI F9 Written Down Replacement Cost of Fixed Assets (Water)	\$'000	\$16,835
NWI F11 Operating Cost (OMA) (Water)	\$'000	\$597
NWI F14 Capital Expenditure (Water)	\$'000	\$57
NWI F17 Economic Real Rate of Return (Water)	%	-0.15%
NWI F20 Capital Works Grants (Water)	\$'000	\$0

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE SPECIAL PURPOSE STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2010

Note 3 - BEST PRACTICE MANAGEMENT DISCLOSURES - SEWERAGE

2010

Values shown in this Note are expressed in WHOLE DOLLARS

Calculation and Payment of Tax-Equivalents

(i)	Calculated Tax Equivalents	
(ii)	No of assessments multiplied by \$3/assessment	\$3,252
(iii)	Amounts payable for Tax Equivalents	\$3,252
	(lesser of (i) and (ii))	
(iv)	Tax Equivalents paid	\$3,252

Dividend from Surplus

(i)	50% of Surplus before Dividends	\$5
	(Calculated in accordance with Best Practice Management for Water Supply and Sewerage guidelines.)	
(ii)	No of assessments multiplied by \$30/assessment, less tax equivalent charges/assessment	\$29,268
(iii)	Cumulative Surplus before Dividends for 3 years to 30 June 2010, less cumulative dividends paid for 2 years to 30 June 2009	\$0
(iv)	Maximum Dividend from Surplus	\$0
	(least of (i), (ii) and (iii))	
(v)	Dividend paid from Surplus	\$0

Required Outcomes for 4 Criteria

(i)	Complete current Strategic Business Plan (including Financial Plan)	No
(ii)	Pricing with full cost-recovery, without significant cross subsidies	No
	(Item 2(a) in Table 1 on page 18 of Best practice guidelines)	
	Complying charges (a) Residential (Item 2(c) in Table 1)	Yes
	(b) Non-Residential (Item 2(c) in Table 1)	Yes
	(c) Trade Waste (Item 2(d) in Table 1)	Yes
	DSP with Commercial Developer Charges (Item 2(e) in Table 1)	No
	Liquid Trade Waste Approvals and Policy (Item 2(f) in Table 1)	No
(iii)	Complete Performance Reporting Form (by 15 September each year)	Yes
(iv) a.	Complete Integrated Water Cycle Management Evaluation	No
(iv) b.	Complete and implement Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy	No

National Water Initiative (NWI) Financial Performance Indicators

NWI F2 Total Revenue (Sewerage)	\$'000	\$462
NWI F1C Written Down Replacement Cost of Fixed Assets (Sewerage)	\$'000	\$7,195
NWI F12 Operating Cost (Sewerage)	\$'000	\$319
NWI F15 Capital Expenditure (Sewerage)	\$'000	\$39
NWI F18 Economic Real Rate of Return (Sewerage)	%	1.69%
NWI F27 Capital Works Grants (Sewer)	\$'000	\$0
NWI F3 Total Income (Water and Sewerage)	\$'000	\$1,089
NWI F5 Revenue from Community Service Obligations (Water and Sewerage)	%	2.75%
NWI F16 Capital Expenditure (Water and Sewerage)	\$'000	\$96
NWI F19 Economic Real Rate of Return (Water and Sewerage)	%	0.41%
NWI F2C Dividend (Water and Sewerage)	\$'000	\$0
NWI F21 Dividend Payout Ratio (Water and Sewerage)	%	0.00%
NWI F22 Net Debt to Equity (Water and Sewerage)	%	-4.74%
NWI F23 Interest Cover (Water and Sewerage)	times	0
NWI F24 Net Profit after Tax (Water and Sewerage)	\$'000	-\$122
NWI F25 Community Service Obligations (Water and Sewerage)	\$'000	\$30

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Forsyth's Business Services Pty Ltd
ABN 66 182 781 401

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT
Report on the special purpose financial statements

To Uralla Shire Council

SCOPE

We have audited the special purpose financial statements of Uralla Shire Council for the year ended 30th June 2010 comprising the Statement by Councillors and Management, Income Statement of Business Activities, Balance Sheet by Business Activities, and Note 1 to the Accounts. The financial statements include the accounts of the business activities of the Council and the entities it controlled at the year's end or from time to time during the year.

Councils' responsibility for the financial statements

The Council is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial statements, are appropriate to meet the requirements of the Department of Local Government and Council. The Councils' responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the Council or the Department of Local Government. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Council's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Council, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

Knowledge with integrity

Liability limited by a scheme approved under the Professional Standards Legislation

The special purpose financial statements have been prepared for distribution to the Council and the Department of Local Government for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of National Competition Policy reporting. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial statements to which it relates to any person other than the Council or the Department of Local Government or for any purpose other than for which the report was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

INDEPENDENCE

In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

AUDIT OPINION

In our opinion, the Special Purpose Financial Statements of the Uralla Shire Council for the year ended 30th June 2010 are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the requirements of those applicable Accounting Standards detailed in Note 1 and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

Forsyths

Forsyths Business Services Pty Ltd

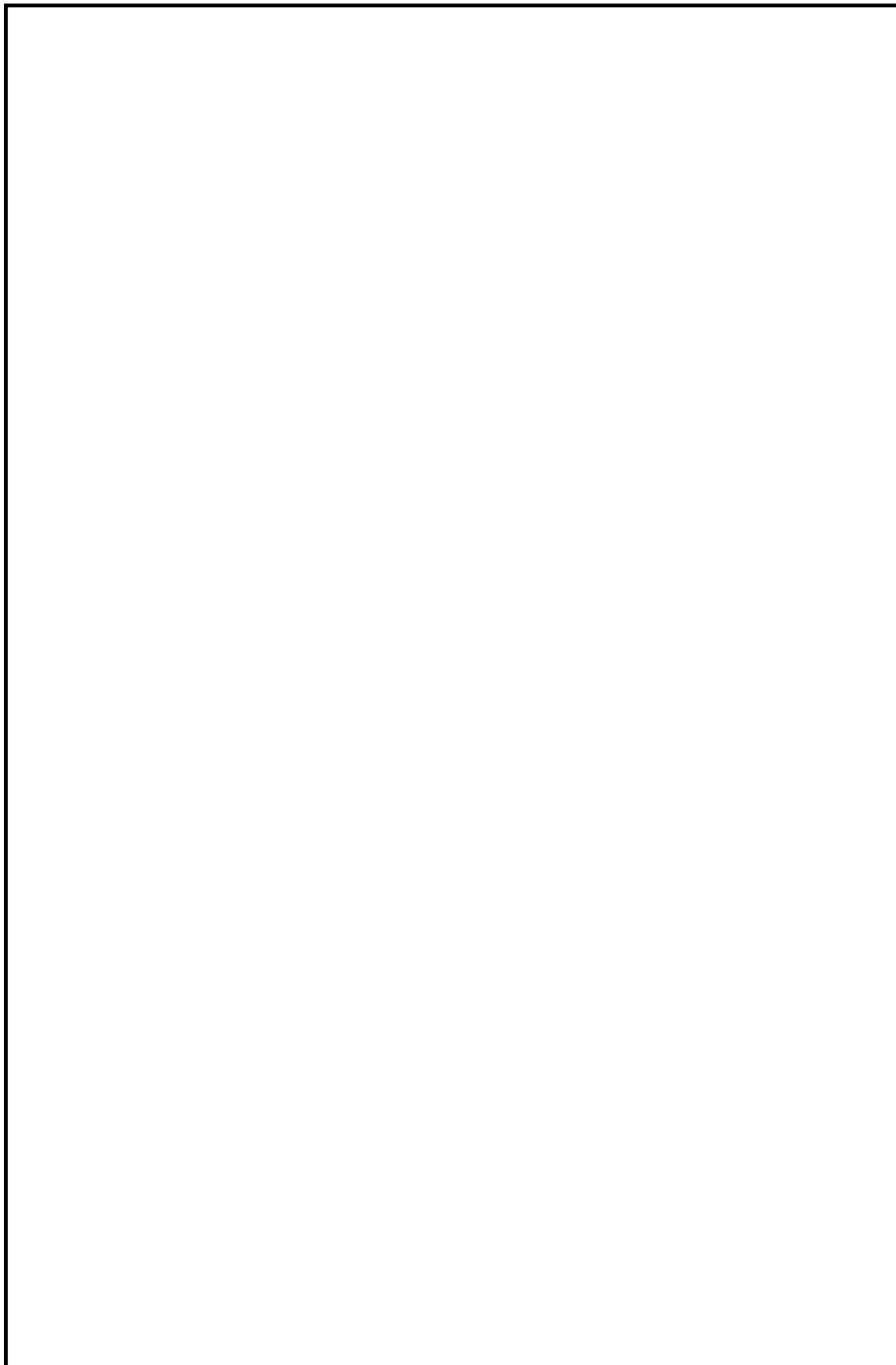
P.R. Cornall

Paul Cornall

Principal

31 October 2010

92 Rusden Street Armidale



URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

Special Schedules

for the year ended 30th June 2010

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
SPECIAL SCHEDULES (<i>not Audited</i>)	
Special Schedule 1 - Net Cost of Services	S1
Special Schedule 2(1) - Statement of Long Tern Debt (All Purpose)	S3
Special Schedule 2(2) - Statement of Internal Loans	S4
Special Schedule 3 - Water Supply Operations	S5
Special Schedule 4 - Water Supply - Net Assets Committed	S7
Special Schedule 5 - Sewerage Services Operations	S8
Special Schedule 6 - Sewerage Services - Net Assets Committed	S10
Special Schedule 7 - Condition of Public Works	S11
Special Schedule 8 - Financial Projections	S14

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 1

NET COST OF SERVICES

for the year ended 30th June 2010

\$'000

Function or Activity	Expenses from continuing operations	Income from continuing operations (non-capital)	Income from continuing operations (capital)	NET COST OF SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION	898	333	-	565
PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY				
Fire Service Levy, Fire Protection, Emergency Services	217	(13)	-	230
Enforcement of Local Govt Regulations	-	-	-	-
Animal Control	27	6	-	21
Total Public Order and Safety	244	(7)	-	251
HEALTH	98	1	-	97
ENVIRONMENT				
Noxious Plants and Insect / Vermin Control	67	-	-	67
Other Environmental Protection	163	9	-	154
Solid Waste Management	1,092	1,029	-	63
Street Cleaning	76	-	-	76
Stormwater Management	55	29	-	26
Total Environment	1,453	1,067	-	386
COMMUNITY SERVICES AND EDUCATION				
Social Protection (welfare)	941	1,089	-	(148)
Aged Persons and Disabled	3,993	4,058	8	(73)
Childrens Services	50	2	26	22
Total Community Services and Education	4,984	5,149	34	(199)
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AMENITIES				
Public Cemeteries	41	14	-	27
Public Conveniences	76	-	-	76
Street Lighting	43	6	-	37
Town Planning	284	89	-	195
Other Community Amenities	11	3	15	(7)
Total Housing and Community Amenities	455	112	15	328
WATER SUPPLIES	653	520	-	133
SEWERAGE SERVICES	350	349	-	1

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 1 - NET COST OF SERVICES (cont) for the year ended 30th June 2010

\$'000

Function or Activity	Expenses from continuing operations	Income from continuing operations (non-capital)	Income from continuing operations (capital)	NET COST OF SERVICES
RECREATION AND CULTURE				
Public Libraries	235	28	2	205
Community Centres and Halls	79	37	13	29
Sporting Grounds	21	-	-	21
Swimming Pools	154	31	8	115
Parks and Gardens, Lakes	211	3	29	179
Other Sport and Recreation	36	5	-	31
Total Recreation and Culture	736	104	52	580
MINING, MANUFACTURING AND CONSTRUCTION				
Other Mining Manufacturing and Construction	2	-	-	2
Total Mining Manufacturing and Construction	2	-	-	2
TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION				
Urban Roads: Local	160	-	-	160
Urban Roads: Regional	19	-	-	19
Sealed Rural Roads: Local	1,192	1,031	420	(259)
Sealed Rural Roads: Regional	1,572	-	-	1,572
Unsealed Rural Roads: Local	1,256	-	-	1,256
Unsealed Rural Roads: Regional	74	20	-	54
Bridges - Sealed Rural Roads: Local	471	6	238	227
Parking Areas	42	-	-	42
Footpaths	95	-	-	95
Other Transport and Communication	184	36	-	148
Total Transport and Communication	5,065	1,093	658	3,314
ECONOMIC AFFAIRS				
Camping Areas and Caravan Parks	4	11	-	(7)
Other Economic Affairs	595	453	-	142
Total Economic Affairs	599	464	-	135
TOTALS - FUNCTIONS	15,537	9,185	759	5,593
General Purpose Revenues				5,087
Equity accounted income (loss)				-
				5,087
NET OPERATING RESULT FOR YEAR				(506)

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 2 (1)

STATEMENT OF LONG TERM DEBT (ALL PURPOSE)

for the year ended 30th June 2010

\$'000

Classification of Debt	Principal Outstanding at beginning of year			New Loans Raised	Debt Redemption		Tfrs to Sinking Funds	Interest applicable for year	Principal outstanding at end of year		
	Current	Non-Current	Total		From Revenue	Sinking Funds			Current	Non-Current	Total
LOANS (by source)											
Commonwealth Government			-								-
Treasury Corporation			-								-
Other State Government			-								-
Public Subscription			-								-
Financial Institutions	142	1,816	1,958		142			129	122	1,694	1,816
Other	67		67		67						-
Total Loans	209	1,816	2,025	-	209	-	-	129	122	1,694	1,816
OTHER LONG TERM DEBT											
Ratepayers' Advances			-								-
Government Advances			-								-
Finance Leases			-								-
Deferred Payment			-								-
Other			-								-
Total Other Long Term Debt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL LONG TERM DEBT	209	1,816	2,025	-	209	-	-	129	122	1,694	1,816

This Schedule excludes Internal Loans and refinancing of existing borrowings.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 2 (2)

STATEMENT OF INTERNAL LOANS

for the year ended 30th June 2010

\$'000

SUMMARY OF INTERNAL LOANS

Borrower (by purpose)	Amount Originally Raised	Total Repaid During Year Principal and Interest	Principal Outstanding at End of Year
General	282	41	76
Water			
Sewerage			
Domestic Waste Management			
Gas			
Other			
Totals	282	41	76

The above summary of internal loans represents the total of Council's internal loans categorised according to the purpose of the borrower. Details of individual internal loans are set out below.

Borrower (by purpose)	Lender (by purpose)	Date of Minister's Approval	Date Raised	Term (years)	Maturity Date	Rate of Interest	Amount Originally Raised	Paid During Year - Princ and Interest	Principal Outstanding End of Year
General Fund (Loan 162)	Water	13/09/2001	30/09/2001	10	13/09/2011	6.46%	48	7	8
General Fund (Loan 170)	Water	4/10/2002	30/06/2003	12	30/06/2015	6.50%	88	11	45
General Fund (Loan 174)	Water	4/10/2002	30/06/2003	8	30/06/2011	6.50%	102	16	16
General Fund (Loan 175)	Water	4/10/2002	30/06/2003	8	30/06/2011	6.50%	44	7	7
Totals							282	41	76

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 3 **WATER SUPPLY OPERATIONS** **(Gross including Internal Transactions)** **for the year ended 30th June 2010**

<u>A. EXPENSES AND REVENUES</u>	2010	2009
<u>EXPENSES</u>	\$'000	\$'000
1.a. Management - Administration	139	126
b. - Engineering and Supervision	69	76
2 Operations		
a. - Dams and Weirs - Operation Expenses		
b. - Maintenance Expenses	35	7
c. - Mains - Operation Expenses		
d. -Maintenance Expenses	93	86
e. - Reservoirs - Operation Expenses		
f. - Maintenance Expenses	5	11
g. - Pumping Stations - Operation Expenses		
h. - Energy Costs	24	5
i. - Maintenance Expenses		8
j. - Treatment - Operation Expenses		
k. - Chemical Costs	80	54
l. - Maintenance Expenses	152	238
m. - Other - Operation Expenses		
n. - Maintenance Expenses	-	6
o. - Purchase of Water		
3.a. Depreciation - System Assets	56	52
b. - Plant and Equipment		
4.a. Miscellaneous - Interest		
b. - Revaluation decrements	-	119
c. - Other	-	
c. - NCP Tax and Other Equivalents	-	
5 Total Expenses	653	788
<u>REVENUE</u>		
6 Residential Charges		
a. - Access (including rates)	367	328
b. - User Charges	242	231
7 Non-Residential Charges		
a. - Access (including rates)		
b. - User Charges		
8 Extra Charges		6
9 Interest	(107)	9
10 Other Income	1	
11.a. Grants - Acquisition of Assets		
b. - Pensioner Rebates	17	13
c. - Other		
12.a. Contributions - Developer Charges		
b. - Developer Provided Assets		
c. - Other Contributions		
13 Total Revenues	520	587
14 Gain (Loss) on Disposal of Assets		81
15 OPERATING RESULT	(133)	(120)
15a. Operating Result before Grants for Acquisition of Assets	(133)	(120)

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 3 - WATER SUPPLY OPERATIONS (cont)

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
<u>B. CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS</u>		
<u>Non - Operating Expenditure</u>		
16 Acquisition of Fixed Assets		
a. - Subsidised Scheme		
b. - Other New System Assets	57	30
c. - Renewals		
d. - Plant and Equipment		
17 Repayment of Debt		
a. - Loans		
b. - Advances		
c. - Finance Leases		
18 Transfers to Sinking Funds		
19 Total Non-Operating Expenditure	<u>57</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>Non-Operating Funds Employed</u>		
20 Proceeds from Disposal of Assets		
21 Borrowings Utilised		
a. - Loans		
b. - Advances		
c. - Finance Leases		
22 Transfers from Sinking Funds		
23 Total Non-Operating Funds Employed	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>C. RATES and CHARGES</u>		
24 Number of Assessments		
a. - Residential (occupied)	1139	
b. - Residential (unoccupied - vacant land)	225	
c. - Non-Residential (occupied)	16	
d. - Non -Residential (unoccupied - vacant land)	6	
25 Number of ETs for which Developer Charges were received	Nil ET	
26 Total Amount of Pensioner Rebates in \$'000	\$31	
<u>D. BEST PRACTICE ANNUAL CHARGES AND DEVELOPER CHARGES</u>		
27 Annual Charges		
a Does Council have best-practice water supply annual charges and usage charges? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES		
If Yes, go to 28a.		
If No, has Council removed <u>land value</u> from access charges (i.e. rates) <input type="checkbox"/>		
b Cross subsidy <u>from</u> residential customers using less than allowance		
c Cross subsidy <u>to</u> non-residential customers		
d Cross subsidy <u>to</u> large connections in unmetered supplies		
28 Developer Charges		
a Has Council completed a water supply Development Servicing Plan? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		
b Total cross-subsidy in water supply developer charges		\$0
29 TOTAL OF CROSS SUBSIDIES		<u>\$0</u>

Councils which have not yet implemented best practice water supply pricing should disclose cross subsidies in items 27b, 27c and 27d above. However, disclosure of cross-subsidies is **not** required where a Council has implemented best practice pricing and is phasing in such pricing over a period of 3 years.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 4 **WATER SUPPLY - NET ASSETS COMMITTED** (Gross including Internal Transactions) for the year ended 30th June 2010

	<u>Current</u> \$'000	<u>Non-Current</u> \$'000	<u>Total</u> \$'000
<u>ASSETS</u>			
30 Cash and Investments			
f. - Other	480	-	480
31 Receivables			
b. - Rates & Availability Charges	151	-	151
c. - Other	35	40	75
32 Inventories			-
a. - System Assets	-	16,835	16,835
b. - Plant & Equipment	-	562	562
34 Other			-
35 Total Assets	<u>666</u>	<u>17,437</u>	<u>18,103</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>			
36 Bank Overdraft	-	-	-
37 Creditors	118	-	118
40 Total Liabilities	<u>118</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>118</u>
41 NET ASSETS COMMITTED	<u>548</u>	<u>17,437</u>	<u>17,985</u>
<u>EQUITY</u>			
42 Accumulated Surplus			8,236
43 Asset Revaluation Reserve			<u>9,749</u>
44 Total Equity			<u>17,985</u>
45 Current Replacement Cost of System Assets			17,644
46 Accumulated Current Cost Depreciation of System Assets			809
47 Written Down Current Cost of System Assets			<u>16,835</u>

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 5 **SEWERAGE SERVICE OPERATIONS** (Gross including Internal Transactions) for the year ended 30th June 2010

<u>A. EXPENSES AND REVENUES</u>	2010	2009
<u>EXPENSES</u>	\$'000	\$'000
1.a. Management - Administration	48	124
b. - Engineering and Supervision	62	3
2 Operations and Maintenance Expenses		
a. -Mains - Operation Expenses		
b. -Maintenance Expenses	37	30
c. - Pumping Stations - Operation Expenses		
d. - Energy Costs	6	2
e. - Maintenance Expenses	13	8
f. - Treatment - Operation Expenses		
g. - Chemical Costs	-	11
h. - Energy Costs	35	41
i. - Effluent Management		
j. - Biosolids Management	84	19
k. - Maintenance Expenses	34	118
l. - Other - Operation Expenses		
m. - Maintenance Expenses	-	-
3.a. Depreciation - System Assets	13	14
b. - Plant and Equipment	3	
4.a. Miscellaneous - Interest	-	2
b. - Revaluation decrements	-	119
5 Total Expenses	350	491
 <u>REVENUE</u>		
6 Residential Charges (including rates)	429	423
7 Non-Residential Charges		
b User Charges	17	14
8 Trade Waste Charges		
b User Charges	3	10
9 Extra Charges	-	4
10 Interest	(113)	-
11 Other Income	-	-
12.a. Grants - Acquisition of Assets		
b. - Pensioner Rebates	13	19
14 Total Revenues	349	470
15 Gain (Loss) on Disposal of Assets	-	81
16 OPERATING RESULT	(1)	60
16.a. Operating Result before Grants for Acquisition of Assets	(1)	60

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 5 - SEWERAGE SERVICE OPERATIONS (cont)

	2010 \$'000	2009 \$'000
<u>B. CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS</u>		
<u>Non - Operating Expenditure</u>		
17 Acquisition of Fixed Assets		
b. - Other New System Assets	39	51
18 Repayment of Debt		
a. - Loans	12	1
20 Total Non-Operating Expenditure	51	52
<u>Non-Operating Funds Employed</u>		
21 Proceeds of Disposal of Assets	-	-
22 Borrowings Utilised		
a. - Loans	-	-
b. - Advances	-	-
c. - Finance Leases	-	-
23 Transfers from Sinking Funds	-	-
24 Total Non-Operating Funds Employed	-	-
<u>C. RATES AND CHARGES</u>		
25 Number of Assessments		
a. - Residential (occupied)	915	
b. - Residential (unoccupied - vacant land)	59	
c. - Non-Residential (occupied)	98	
d. - Non-Residential (unoccupied - vacant land)	12	
26 Number of ETs for which Developer Charges were	Nil ET	
27 Total Amount of Pensioner Rebates	24 \$'000	
<u>D. BEST PRACTICE ANNUAL CHARGES AND DEVELOPER CHARGES</u>		
28 Annual Charges		
a Does Council have best-practice sewerage annual charges, usage charges and trade waste fees and charges?	<input type="text" value="YES"/>	
If Yes, go to 29a.		
If No, has Council removed land value from access charges (i.e. rates)	<input type="text"/>	
b Cross subsidy to non-residential customers		
c Cross subsidy to trade waste dischargers		
29 Developer Charges		
a Has Council completed a sewerage Development Servicing Plan?	<input type="text" value="No"/>	
b Total cross-subsidy in sewerage developer charges		\$0
30 TOTAL OF CROSS SUBSIDIES		\$0
Councils which have not yet implemented best practice sewerage pricing and trade waste pricing should disclose cross subsidies in items 28b and 28c above. However, disclosure of cross-subsidies is NOT required where a Council has implemented best practice sewerage and liquid trade waste pricing and is phasing in such pricing over a period of 3 years.		

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 6 **SEWERAGE SERVICES - NET ASSETS COMMITTED** (Gross including Internal Transactions) for the year ended 30th June 2010

	<u>Current</u> \$'000	<u>Non-Current</u> \$'000	<u>Total</u> \$'000
<u>ASSETS</u>			
31 Cash and Investments			
f. - Other	749	-	749
32 Receivables			
b. - Rates & Availability Charges	69	-	69
33 Inventories	-	-	-
34 Property, Plant & Equipment			
a. - System Assets	-	7,194	7,194
b. - Plant & Equipment	-	337	337
35 Other	-	-	-
36 Total Assets	<u>818</u>	<u>7,531</u>	<u>8,349</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>			
38 Creditors	<u>116</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>116</u>
41 Total Liabilities	<u>116</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>116</u>
42 NET ASSETS COMMITTED	<u>702</u>	<u>7,531</u>	<u>8,233</u>
<u>EQUITY</u>			
43 Accumulated Surplus			5,058
44 Asset Revaluation Reserve			<u>3,175</u>
45 Total Equity			<u>8,233</u>
46 Current Replacement Cost of System Assets			8,003
47 Accumulated Current Cost Depreciation of System Assets			808
48 Written Down Current Cost of System Assets			<u>7,195</u>

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 7

CONDITION OF PUBLIC WORKS

as at 30th June 2010

Asset Class	Asset Category	Depreciation Rate (%)	Depreciation Expense	Cost	Valuation	Accumulated Depreciation	Carrying Value	Asset Condition (see Notes attached)	Estimated Cost to bring to a Satisfactory Standard	Estimated Annual Maintenance Expense	Program Maintenance Works for current year
			'000	'000	'000	'000	'000		'000	'000	'000
<i>References</i>		<i>Note 9</i>	<i>Note 4</i>	<i>Note 9</i>				<i>Local Govt. Act 1993, Section 428 (2d)</i>			
Public Buildings	Council Offices	1%	8		1,186	79	1,107	3	37	6	37
	Works Depot	2%	12		1,766	186	1,580	3	31	10	10
	Halls	1%	8		1,291	76	1,215	4	10	10	10
	Aged Accom	2%	24		5,979	170	5,809	2	150	21	150
	Community Centr	1%	4		738	25	713	3	4	4	4
	Recreation/VIC	1%	3		635	55	580	3	5	5	5
	Water/Sewer	1%	2		345	26	319	3	2	2	2
	Other	1%	11		2,700	105	2,595	3	5	5	5
	Library	3%	6		1,001	40	961	1	-	3	3
	RFS buildings	1%	1		375	9	366	3	5	5	5
	Amenities/Toilets	1%	1		419	19	400	2	8	8	8
Subtotal			80	-	16,435	790	15,645		257	79	239
Public Roads	Sealed Roads	1%	1,510		153,576	13,811	139,765	4	1,140	1,580	1,580
	Unsealed Roads	1%	337		93,699	8,625	85,074	4	390	946	946
	Sealed Roads Structure	1%					-				
	Bridges	1%	182		20,831	2,999	17,832	4	1,545	92	315
	Footpaths	1%	15		918	264	654	4	35	25	25
	Kerb & Gutter	1%	47		3,455	1,340	2,115	3	65	35	35
	Road Furniture	1%	2		134	47	87	4	47	31	31
Subtotal			2,093	-	272,613	27,086	245,527		3,222	2,709	2,932

This Schedule is to be read in conjunction with the explanatory notes following.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 7 - CONDITION OF PUBLIC WORKS (cont) as at 30th June 2010

Asset Class	Asset Category	Depreciation Rate (%)	Depreciation Expense	Cost	Valuation	Accumulated Depreciation	Carrying Value	Asset Condition (see Notes attached)	Estimated Cost to bring to a Satisfactory Standard	Estimated Annual Maintenance Expense	Program Maintenance Works for current year
			'000	'000	'000	'000	'000		'000	'000	'000
<i>References</i>		<i>Note 9</i>	<i>Note 4</i>	<i>Note 9</i>				<i>Local Govt. Act 1993, Section 428 (2d)</i>			
Water	Treatment Plants	4%	44		6,269	634	5,635	2	45	30	30
	Reservoirs	1%	7		2,017	103	1,914	2	10	10	10
	Dams	1%	1		2,699	2	2,697	3	5	6	6
	Pipelines	1%	1		5,847	13	5,834	4	121	56	56
	Pump Stations	1%	1		811	57	754	3	8	5	8
	Subtotal		54	-	17,643	809	16,834		189	107	110
Sewerage	Pump Stations	1%	2		1,193	98	1,095	3	25	6	6
	Pipelines	1%	4		3,261	67	3,194	4	41	41	41
	Treatment Works	3%	7		3,549	643	2,906	2	5	5	5
	Subtotal		13	-	8,003	808	7,195		71	52	52
Drainage Works	Pipes, Retention	5%	15		2,394	376	2,018	3	18	18	18
	Subtotal		15	-	2,394	376	2,018		18	18	18
Total Classes - All Assets			2,255	-	317,088	29,869	287,219		3,757	2,965	3,351

This Schedule is to be read in conjunction with the explanatory notes following.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 7 - CONDITION OF PUBLIC WORKS (cont) as at 30th June 2010

"SATISFACTORY" CONDITION OF PUBLIC ASSETS

In assessing the condition of Public Assets Council has had regard to the condition, function and location of each asset, based on the original design standard. Changes in standards or proposed or potential enhancements to the existing asset design standard have been ignored. Assets within each Asset Category have been assessed on an overall basis, recognising that an average standard of "satisfactory" may be achieved even though certain assets may be above or below that standard on an individual basis.

Council recognises that the standard that it considers to be "satisfactory" may be different from that adopted by other Councils.

The information contained in this Schedule comprises accounting estimates formulated in accordance with the NSW Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting. Nothing contained within this Schedule may be taken to be an admission of any liability to any person under any circumstance.

ASSET CONDITION

The following condition codes have been used in this Schedule.

- | | |
|----------|---|
| 1 | Newly constructed |
| 2 | Over 5 years old but fully maintained in "as new" condition |
| 3 | Good condition |
| 4 | Average condition |
| 5 | Partly worn - beyond 50% of economic life. |
| 6 | Worn but serviceable |
| 7 | Poor - replacement required |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 8 - FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS **as at 30th June 2010**

	2010 \$'m	2011 \$'m	2012 \$'m	2013 \$'m	2014 \$'m	2015 \$'m	2016 \$'m	2017 \$'m	2018 \$'m	2019 \$'m	2020 \$'m
Recurrent Budget											
Income from continuing operations	15	15	15	15	16	17	17	17	18	18	19
Expenses from continuing operations	16	15	15	15	16	16	17	17	18	18	19
Operating result from continuing operations	(1)	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Budget											
New Works		1		1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1
Replacement of existing assets	4	4	5	4	4	4	3	4	4	5	5
	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	6
<i>Funded by</i>											
- Asset Sales											
- Grants/Contributions	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
- Other (non cash item - Depreciation)	3	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5
	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	6

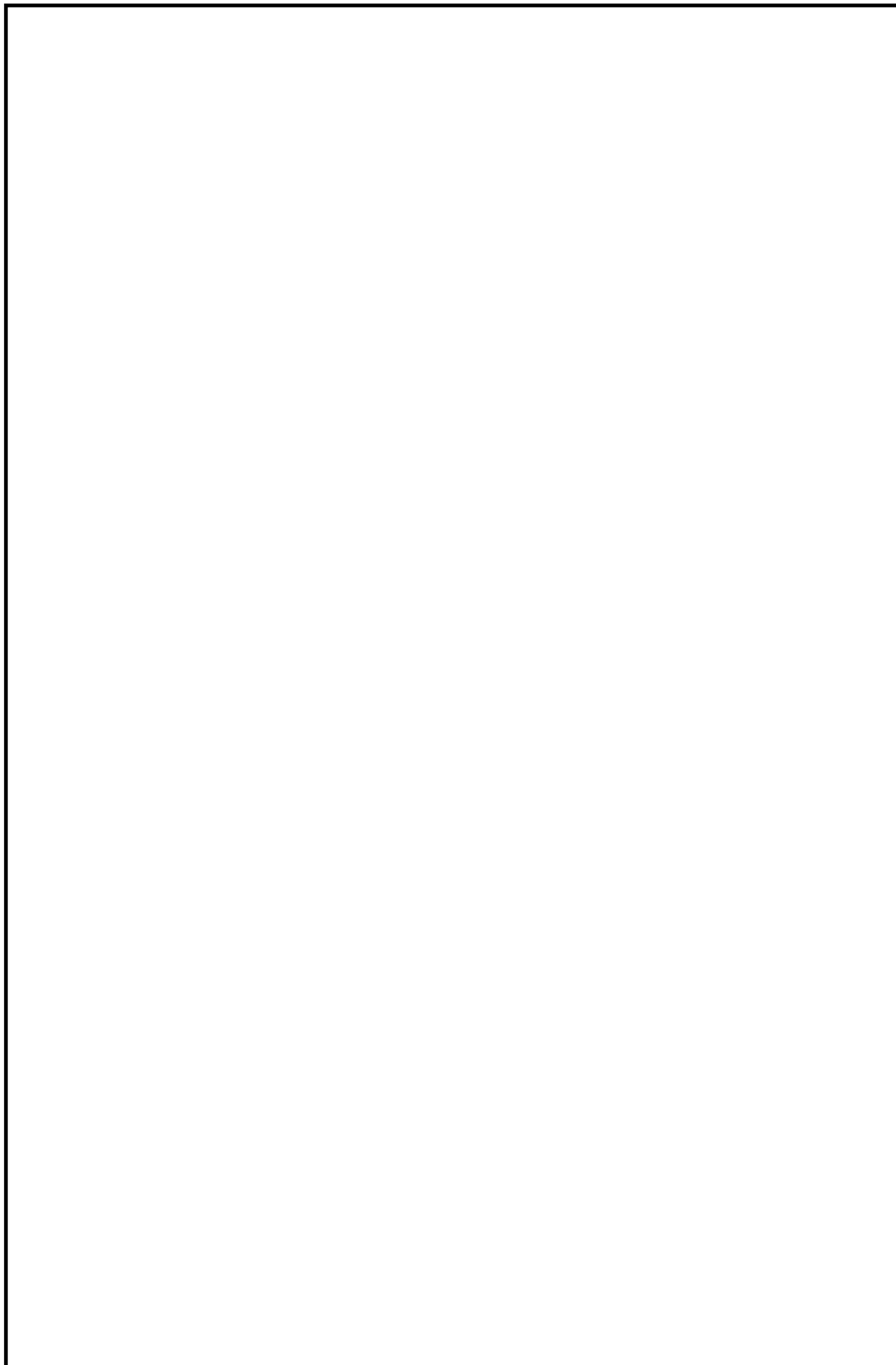
URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

2010

ATTACHMENT B

AUSTRALASIAN 2009 CORE VALUE AWARDS





International Association
for Public Participation
AUSTRALASIA

AUSTRALASIAN 2009 CORE VALUES AWARDS

IAP2 Australasia is proud to present

Uralla Shire Council

with the

HIGHLY COMMENDED AWARD FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ENHANCED DECISION MAKING

This award is presented in recognition of an outstanding project that demonstrated how public participation strengthened decision making in a transparent manner.

*The IAP2 Australasia 2009 Core Values Awards are proudly
sponsored by JTA Australia*





International Association
for Public Participation
AUSTRALASIA

MEDIA RELEASE

29 October 2009

Australian policy shaped by everyday Aussies

Everyday Australians are playing a bigger role in shaping Australian policy and infrastructure than ever before, with government projects sweeping the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Core Values Awards this week.

Queensland, which is Australia's fastest growing state and witnessing a period of intense planning and infrastructure investment, received three of the five Australasian awards for its long-term planning.

Queensland-based Urban Land Development Authority, communication consultancy BBS and the Gold Coast City Council received awards for excellence in robust process, enhanced decision making and as a leading decision maker respectively.

The Victorian Department of Planning and Community Development was recognised for its outstanding community engagement policy framework.

Meanwhile, the newDemocracy Foundation received the innovation award for its landmark Australian Citizens' Parliament (organised with the Australian National University, the University of Sydney, Curtin University and the University of Washington) in which the country's first Parliament sitting of randomly selected citizens was held to put forward ideas for political reform.

Australasian IAP2 president Anne Pattillo praised the entrants, saying they exemplified excellence in the way in which they engaged the community in decision making around key issues affecting the community.

"Community engagement has become a well-recognised profession, which brings decision makers and the community together to find practical, reasonable and acceptable solutions to the problems we face in our communities," she said.

"By asking the community what they want, and by seeking all members of a community to get involved, we tend to make better, lasting decisions.

"As communities increasingly demand to be heard, to be involved and to be understood, both the public and private sector have had to respond. This year's winners demonstrate the effort that is being put into community engagement.

"This year's entries also reveal a growing sense of ownership among Australians to create communities that are socially, economically and environmentally sustainable, with a particular focus on climate change."

Ms Pattillo said community engagement had also become more inclusive, now reaching traditionally forgotten communities such as Indigenous communities, homeless people and youth.

"Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management was highly commended for their approach to recognising the impact of climate change on Australia's Aboriginal population, a particularly vulnerable community because of geographical isolation – in terms of both environment and engagement."

The Australasian IAP2 Core Value Awards started in 2005 to reward and recognise excellence in community engagement in Australia and New Zealand.

IAP2 is the worldwide non-profit industry body for community engagement practitioners, with the Australasian chapter the fastest growing affiliate in the world.

The 2009 Core Value Winners, sponsored by JTA Australia, are:

Award for Public Participation Enhanced Decision Making

- Winner: *BBS – Northshore Hamilton Urban Development Area*
- Highly Commended: *Uralla Shire Council –Uralla Climate Change Consensus Project*

Award for Robust Public Participation Process

- Winner: *Urban Land Development Authority – Northshore Hamilton Urban Development Area*
- Highly Commended: *Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management – Assessing the Vulnerability of Aboriginal communities on Eyre Peninsula to climate change*

Award for Best Public Participation Policy Framework

- Winner: *Department of Planning and Community Development, Victoria – Community Engagement Strategy Project*

Award for Public Participation Innovation (new award)

- Winner: *newDemocracy – Australian Citizens' Parliament*
- Highly Commended: *Nature Conservation Council of NSW – NSW Climate Consensus Project*

Award for Public Participation for Decision Makers (new award)

- Winner: *Gold Coast City Council – Bold Future*

ENDS

For further information contact:

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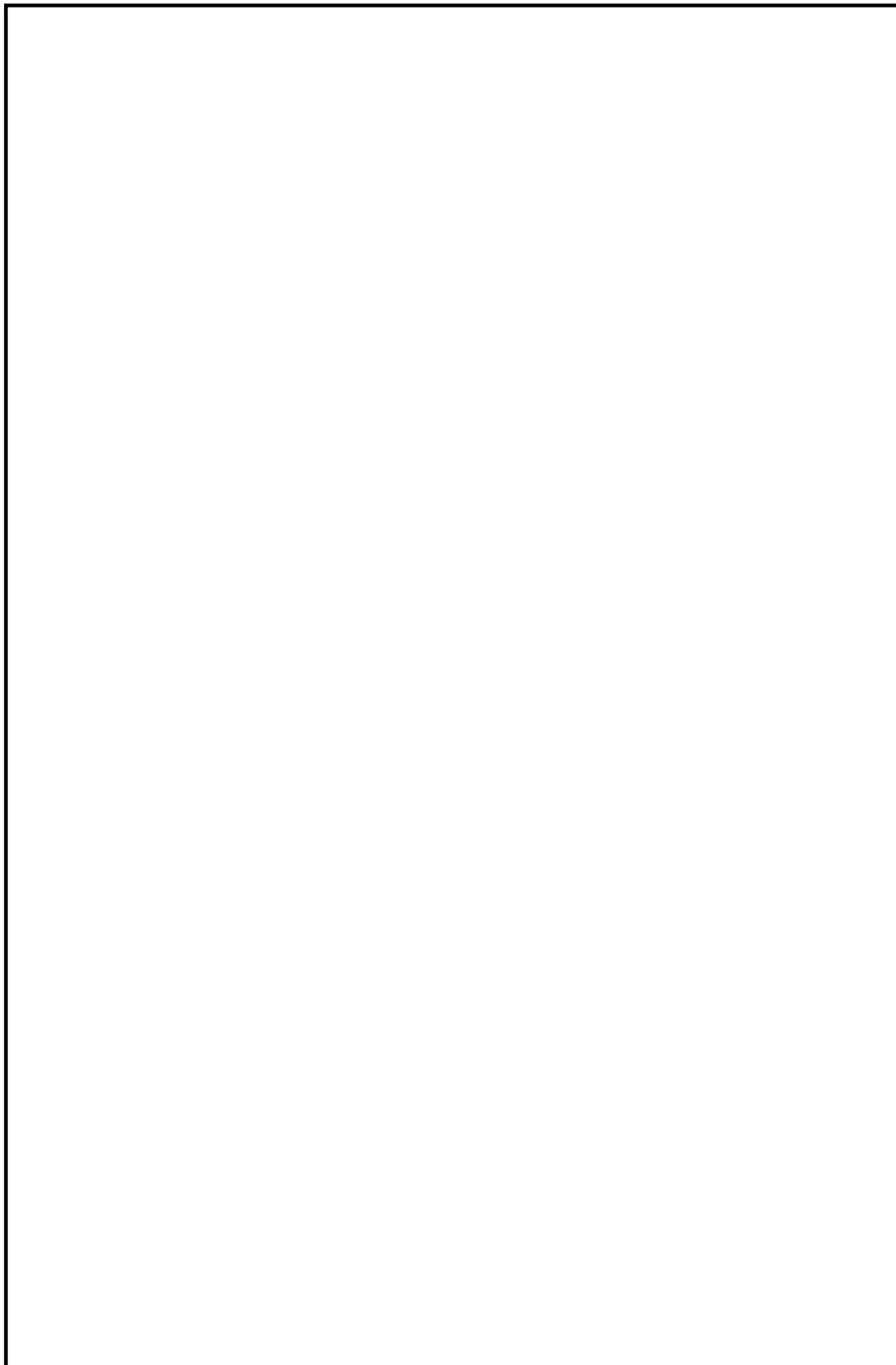
URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

2010

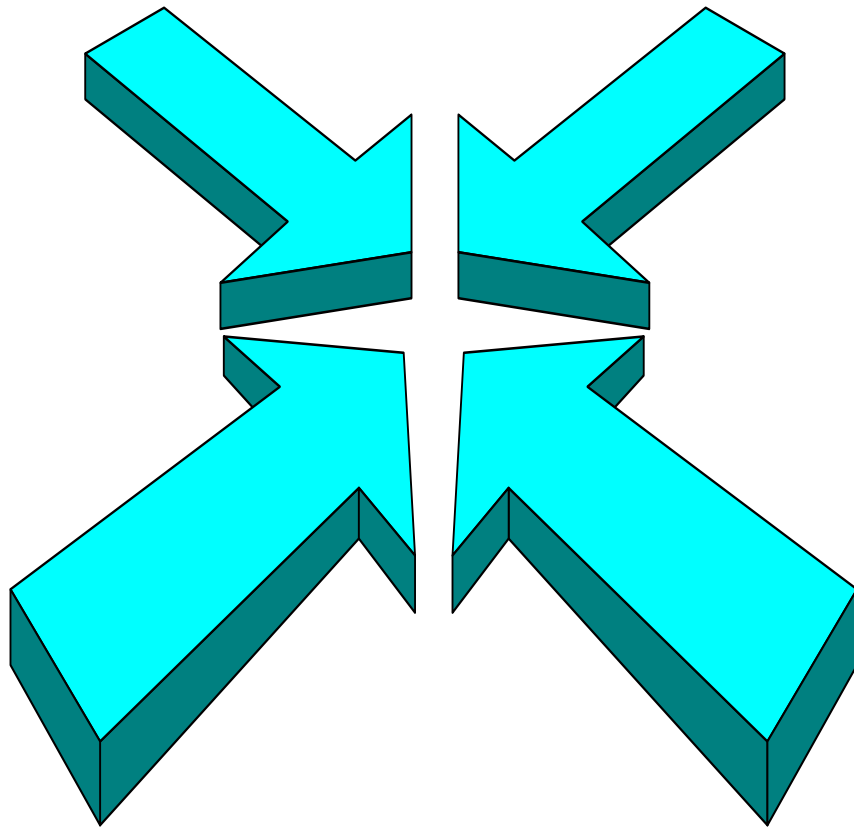
ATTACHMENT C

COMPARISON OF PERFORMANCE TO TARGETS

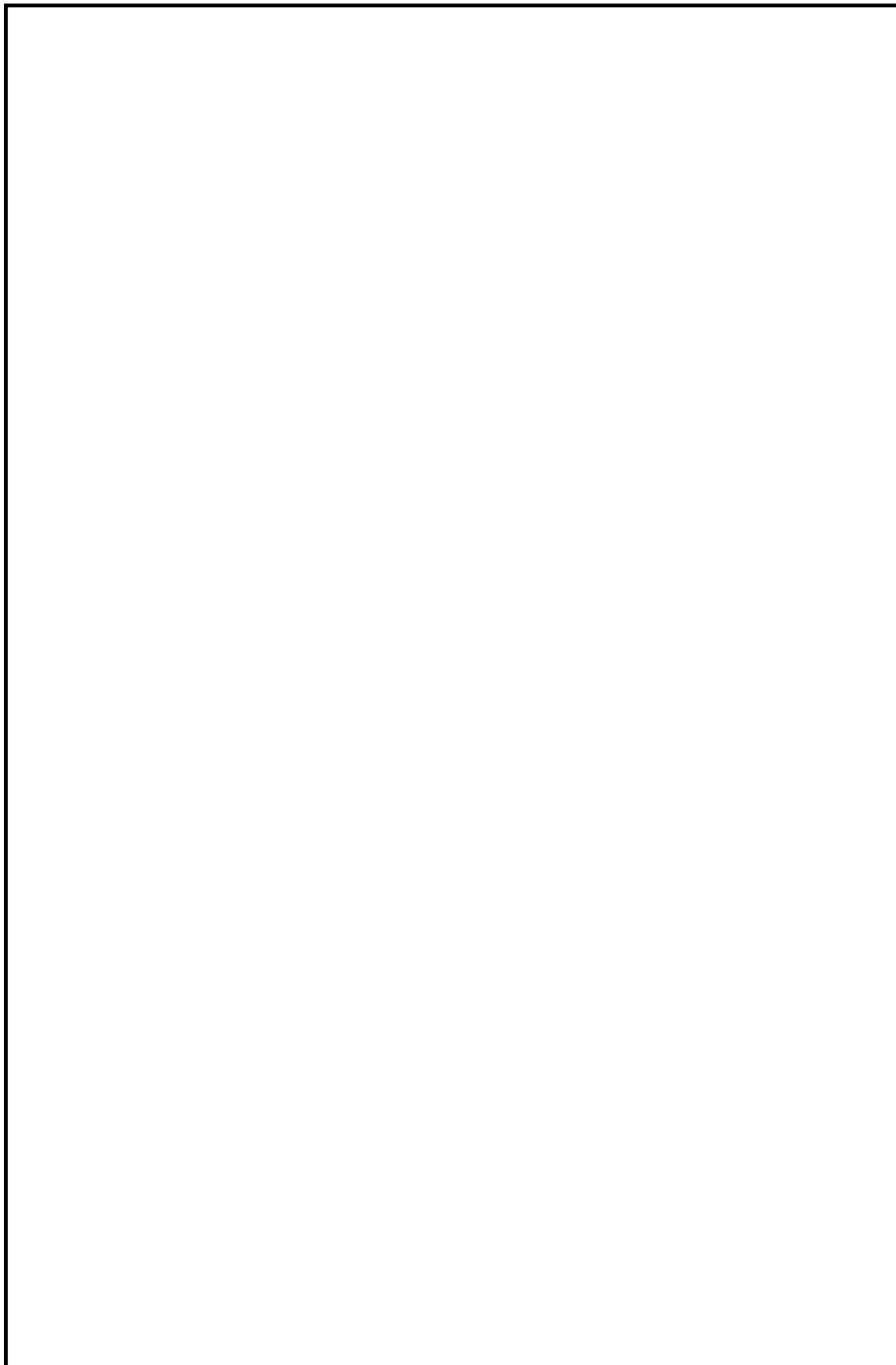




2009/2010 MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW



Review of Strategic Objective, Objectives and Performance
Targets, Statement of Means and Performance Assessment



**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010
INDEX**

Governance	Page 1
Administration	
Corporate Support Services	2
Plant Services	5
Public Order and Safety	
Fire Protection	7
Animal and Abandoned Articles Control	7
Emergency Services	8
Health	
Inspection Services	9
Noxious Plant Control	9
Community Services and Education	
Youth Services and Education	10
Aged Units	11
Aged Care Centres	11
Community Support Options Programs	13
Tablelands Community Transport	13
Community Centre	14
Bundarra Neighbour Aid Service	15
Other Community Services	15
Housing and Community Amenities	
Urban and Rural Planning and Assessment	16
Garbage Collection and Disposal	17
Streetscape (Street Cleaning)	18
Urban Stormwater Drainage	19
Public Cemeteries	21
Environmental Management	22
Other Conveniences	23
Water Supplies	
Uralla	23
Bundarra	25
Rural	26
Sewerage Services	
Uralla	26
Bundarra	28
Rural	29
Recreation and Culture	
Public Libraries	29
Public Halls	30
Swimming Facilities	31
Sporting Grounds and Facilities	33
Parks, Gardens and Reserves	33
Other Recreation and Culture	34

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010
INDEX**

Mining Manufacturing and Construction	
Quarries and Pits	34
Transport and Communication	
Urban Roads	35
Sealed Rural Roads	36
Unsealed Rural Roads	38
Bridges	39
Footpaths	41
Parking Areas	41
Miscellaneous Transport	42
Economic Affairs	
Camping and Caravan Areas	43
Tourism	44
Economic Development	45
Private Works	46
Other Business	46

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity:

1. Administration

Service:

1.1 Governance

Strategic Objective:

To provide appropriate opportunity for residents to attend Council Meetings, to advertise its proposals openly, to ensure convenient access to its management plans and associated reports and to encourage the democratic process.

Principal Responsibility:

Mayor and General Manager

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 2, 4

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. Council meetings held monthly.	1. Meetings held monthly on the fourth Monday of the month.	1. Twelve meetings a year, one per month.	GM	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
2. Distribute Business Papers prior to meeting.	2. Reports for Business Paper close 10 working days prior to ordinary meeting.	2. Business Paper distributed 5 days prior to meeting.	EA	Not Achieved	Not Achieved	Not Achieved
3. No complaints received each quarter about inconvenient meeting times.	3. Council to set meeting times at times which suit residents.	3. No complaints received about inconvenient meeting times.	EA	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
4. Minutes of meeting prepared and distributed.	4. Preparation of the minutes given top priority following meeting.	4. Minutes prepared and distributed within 5 working days of meeting.	EA	Not Achieved	Not Achieved	Not Achieved
5. Council activities publicised.	5. Staff to prepare a one-page monthly <i>Newsletter</i> distributed to all postal addresses in the Shire.	5. (a) 12 issues per year of Council's <i>Newsletter</i> produced. (b) No more than 1 complaint per issue received.	EA AA	Achieving Achieving	Achieving Achieving	Achieved Achieved
6. Improve the efficiency of communication to Councillors by meeting work related e-mail expenses and connecting Councillors to an ISP where relevant.	6. Funds in the budget and the current policy amended.	6. All Councillors using this e-mail facility.	GM	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 1. Administration
Service: 1.1 Governance

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
7. Comply with statutory requirements of the Local Government and other Acts.	7. Utilise the Strategic Tasks for Council's Checklist prepared by the Department of Local Government.	7. All items on the Strategic Tasks for Council's Checklist completed within statutory timeframes.	GM	Not Achieved	Achieving	Not Achieved
8. Participate in the New England Strategic Alliance, develop best practice and utilise service delivery and co-operative arrangements for the provision of services.	8. Use of shared services.	8. New service delivery methods i) Implemented ii) Operating.	GM GM	Achieved Withdrawn	Achieved Withdrawn	Achieved Withdrawn

The Governance service is funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$418,451 (2008/2009 - \$435,046) recurrent expenditure and \$ Nil (2008/2009 – Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 1. Administration
Service: 1.2 Corporate Support Services

Strategic Objective: To provide the optimum level of staff and equipment to enable Council to operate as a corporate body in an efficient and cost effective manner so that Council is properly funded and professionally managed in accordance with appropriate Acts and Regulations for the good of all residents of the Shire.

Principal Responsibility: Director Administrative Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, and 10

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To consult widely in the preparation of Council's Management Plan.	1. Press releases, advertising in Newsletter, available at the public library and other convenient access points.	1. At least 5 copies of the Management Plan are distributed to individuals and organisations and 3 comments on Plan received	GM	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010

Principal Activity:
Service:

1. Administration (Continued)
1.2 Corporate Support Services (Continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
2. To participate in the New England Strategic Alliance, develop best practice and utilise service delivery and co-operative arrangements for the provision of services	2. Shared Services for Finance, Revenue, Customer Services, Human Resources, I.T., Plant and Fleet and Works Operation.	2. New service level agreements i) Signed ii) Operating	GM/DES GM/DES	Achieved Withdrawn	Achieved Withdrawn	Achieved Withdrawn
3. To ensure the individual rate burden on the Shire is reasonable.	3. Council to set rate levels each year.	3. Rate per capita (General Fund) in comparison to the Group 10 Councils in DLG Comparative Information is no higher than 6 th highest for residential, and 20 th highest for business.	GM	Not assessed	Achieved	Achieved
4. To ensure financial stability by ensuring that the ratio of rates revenue to total revenue does not fall below 28%.	4. Council to set rate levels each year.	4. Budgeted ratio achieved. (General Fund).	GM	Not assessed	Achieved	Achieved
5. Maintain a Strategic Alliance wide IT platform and joint shared software.	5. Strategic Alliance focus groups to implement recommended option.	5. New service level agreements i) Signed ii) Operating	NESAC Finance	Achieved Withdrawn	Achieved Withdrawn	Achieved Withdrawn
6. Have in place and operating a best practice management accounting reporting system.	6. Continued development of Council's management accounting format.	6. Monthly reports to users on 1 st working day and to Finance Committee on 2 nd Monday of month.	DAS	Not Achieved	Not Achieved	Not Achieved
7. Within Local Government guidelines and Council's policies invest funds to the best advantage of Council.	7. Utilise the Strategic Alliance capacity to achieve the highest rate or most suitable terms within Council's policy.	7. (a) Interest earned on investment for all funds to be \$210,000 for year. (b) Average return rate to be 0.5% higher than bank rate.	DAS NESAC Treasury	Achieving Not assessed	Achieving Achieving	Achieved Achieved
8. To assess the degree to which revenues are committed to the repayment of debt in the General Fund.	8. Analysis of Annual Financial Statements.	8. The underlying debt service ratio (not including debt redemption) to be less than 4%.	GM/DAS	Achieved	Not assessed	Achieved

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010

Principal Activity:

1. Administration (Continued)

Service:

1.2 Corporate Support Services (Continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
9. To ensure the receipt of monies due to Council.	9. Strict and constant Debtor Control.	9. Ratio of over three months overdue amounts to be less than 7.5% of outstanding debtors.	NESAC Revenue	Not assessed	Not Achieved	Not Achieved
10. To maintain a high level of Rate Debtor collection to provide the funds to resource the Council's activities.	10. (a) To ensure that, as far as possible, all general rates are paid within the prescribed period by instituting a sound follow-up system.	10. (a) Report percentage of rates collected quarterly as a % of levy and total due. * First quarter 30% * Second quarter 53% * Third quarter 77% * Fourth quarter 97%.	NESAC Revenue	Not Assessed	Not Achieved	<i>Achieved</i> <i>Not assessed</i> <i>Not assessed</i> Not Achieved
	(b) Maintain staff expertise and communications skills, through rates training and seminars.	(b) Two training session attended per annum.	NESAC Revenue	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
11. Invest adequate resources into training staff to maintain necessary skill levels.	11. Develop Training Plan through Consultative Committee and allocate funds in Budget.	11. Percentage of staff training budget to salaries and wages costs to be no less than 2%.				
12. To continue to provide safe and comfortable working conditions at Uralla and Bundarra offices and Works Depots.	12. Provide upgrade fuel distribution systems.	12. Works completed and OH and S issues cleared.	DES	Not assessed	Achieving	Achieved
			DES/ MHBES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
13. To maintain effective control over stock on hand with minimal stock write-off.	13. (a) Ensure that a sound stock control system is being maintained with spot check conducted by nominated staff.	13. (a) Value of stock written off is less than \$2,500 per annum.	NESAC Works	Achieved	Achieving	Achieved
	(b) Ensure an adequate skill level is maintained by the supervising storemen.	(b) Storeman attends 1 training course or seminar per year.	DES	Not assessed	Achieved	Achieved

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010

Principal Activity:

1. Administration (Continued)

Service:

1.2 Corporate Support Services (Continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
14. To lose no work days to industrial disputes.	14. Effective operation of the Consultative Committee.	14. No days lost to industrial disputes of a local nature.	NESAC HR	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
15. To maintain a low rate of occupational injuries.	15. Effective operation of the Safety Committee.	15. Workplace injury claims to be below 5 injuries per 100 workers.	NESAC HR	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

The Corporate Support (including Engineering and Depot) service is funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$2,455,249 (2008/2009 - \$2,344,524) recurrent expenditure and \$14,825 (2008/2009 - \$20,000) capital expenditure.

The net recurrent costs of Administration, after allowing for income of \$106,800, totalling \$1,616,801 (2008/2009 \$281,117 and total of \$1,151,450) are distributed over all other Principal Activities in proportion to the recurrent costs of those activities less debt servicing and depreciation per schedule attached at the end of Volume 4 Part B. Similarly, after allowing for income of \$5,000 an amount of \$1,063,607 is distributed to engineering projects (2008/2009 \$3,000 and total of \$891,202). It is intended to move progressively towards direct charging of engineering costs to projects rather than an allocation based on expenditure.

Principal Activity:

1. Administration

Service:

1.3 Plant Services

Strategic Objective

To own and operate a modern plant fleet, of appropriate size and composition, effectively and efficiently, in order to carry out the provision of services for the benefit of the Shire's residents.

Principal Responsibility:

Director Engineering Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 3, 5

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Staff	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To ensure that equipment and vehicles are maintained in a serviceable condition at all times.	1. Maintain a Service Register of all major equipment and ensure that staff and skill levels are maintained to achieve full servicing.	1. Report number of major breakdowns/or accidents due to faulty plant.	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 1. Administration (Continued)
Service: 1.3 Plant Services (Continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Staff	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
2. To ensure Council's operators and workshop staff are adequately skilled and appropriately licensed and have access to modern tools and equipment.	2. (a) Send staff to appropriate training courses which are to be included in Council's training plan. (b) Keep staff records of all licences needed and held. (c) Small plant and tools maintained.	2 (a) All staff with appropriate licences. (b) Records maintained up to date. (c) Small plant and tools up-dated.	DES DES DES	Achieving Achieving Achieving	Achieving Achieving Achieving	Achieved Achieved Achieved
3. To achieve no less than 1000 operating hours per year for major plant items and 1500 operating hours for key machines such as graders.	3. (a) Start and finish crews on the job when working at sites more than 30km from the depot. (b) Review work practices to take advantage of good weather conditions.	3. (a) All Graders, other than Bundarra Grader, operate for 1,500 hrs per annum. Report reasons for any plant items not meeting the targets hours. (b) Work practices reviewed.	DES DES	Achieving Not assessed	Achieving Achieved	Achieved Achieved
4. To set plant hire rates which will cover plant operating costs.	4. Rates set by staff using historical records.	4. Profit on plant operation.	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
5. Replace – Plant to be determined by the April Works Committee meeting.	5. By tender or quotation in conjunction with the Strategic Alliance.	5. Purchases completed by March 2010.	NESAC Works	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
6. Maintain a five year Plant Replacement Program.	6. Plant utilisation and Service Register for data.	6. Five year Plan updated for Budget 2010/2011.	DES	Not assessed	Achieved	Achieved

The Plant service is funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$295,154, after distribution of costs of \$1,465,000 (2008/2009 - \$15, after distribution of costs of \$1,375,000) net recurrent expenditure and \$699,000 (2008/2009 - \$786,000) net capital expenditure.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010

Principal Activity: 2. Public Order and Safety
Service: 2.1 Fire Protection
Strategic Objective: To provide effective, cost-efficient fire protection for the residents of Uralla Shire.
Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To facilitate an effective Bush Fire protection through a mutually agreed Service Level Agreement with the Rural Fire Service.	1. Service Level Agreement with the Rural Fire Service and the DES.	1. SLA reviewed annually in November and reported to Council.	DES	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
2. To facilitate an effective Urban Fire protection through a mutually agreed Service Level Agreement with the Board of Fire Commissioners.	2. Liaison with the Zone Commander of the NSW Fire Brigade.	2. Annual attendance and report to Council by the Zone Commander of the NSW Fire Brigade held.	DES	Not Assessed	Not Assessed	Not Achieved

The Fire Protection service is funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$234,102 (2008/2009 -\$204,484) recurrent expenditure and \$114,000 (2008/2009 -\$ Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 2. Public Health and Safety
Service: 2.2 Animal and Abandoned Articles Control
Strategic Objective: To ensure the residents of Uralla Council are protected from animal nuisance and that safety and amenity is enhanced by removal of stock and abandoned articles from public areas
Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To protect the residents of the Shire from animal nuisance and reduce number of associated complaints.	1. Provide adequate numbers of authorised impounding staff, through the Strategic Alliance, and provide an education program for animal owners.	1. The number of complaints per <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 registered dogs • 100 registered cats • other total complaints reduced by 5% from 2005/2006 base. 	NESAC Rangers	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
2. Provide an efficient and effective pound facility.	2. Regional dog and cat pound, shared services and local rangers.	2. Average cost of operating the joint facility per dogs and cats impounded less than prior year.	MHBS	Not Assessed	Not Assessed	Achieved

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 2. Public Health and Safety (Continued)
Service: 2.2 Animal and Abandoned Articles Control (Continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
3. To have abandoned articles and vehicles removed from public areas.	3. Shared Services rangers.	3. All complaints actioned within 3 working days.	MHBS	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

The Animal and Abandoned Articles Control service is funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$30,336 (2008/2009 - \$25,568) recurrent expenditure and \$4,861 (2008/2009 - \$4,176) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 2. Public Order and Safety

Service: 2.3 Emergency Services

Strategic Objective: To provide a management structure for the efficient operation and coordination of Emergency Services, welfare support and rehabilitation in the event of an emergency occurring.
To aid in the protection of the community through cooperation with local policing authority.

Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 5

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To ensure currency of the DISPLAN.	1. Annual review of the joint DISPLAN with Armidale Dumaresq Council, Guyra and Walcha Shire Councils.	1. Report to Council of currency of the DISPLAN by March 2010.	DES	Not Assessed	Achieved	Achieved
2. To ensure an effective SES service is provided.	2. Appointment of SES Co-ordinator and appropriate accommodation.	2. The number of incidents attended by the SES reported to Council.	DES	Not Assessed	Not Assessed	Not Achievable
3. Ensure that the local Community Safety Committee is operating and effective.	3. Facilitate meetings of the Community Safety Committee.	3. Regular meetings of the Safety Committee held.	DES	Not Achieved	Not Achievable	Not Achievable

The Emergency Services are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$5,160 (2008/2009 - \$5,091) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2008/2009 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010

Principal Activity: 3. Health
Service: 3.1 Inspection Services
Strategic Objective: To assist in the maintenance and improvement of the general overall health of all residents of, and visitors to, the Shire of Uralla.
Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To ensure that effective Health Inspection services are conducted in accordance with the appropriate Acts, regulations and local policies that result in an annual improvement in premises that do not meet satisfactory standards.	1. (a) MHBS to ensure that: (i) Health related inspections are conducted as required and (ii) that inspections are carried out following any complaint or request. (b) MHBS to ensure the issuing or serving of orders, where necessary.	1 (a) (i) MHBS to report on the number of complaints received. (ii) All inspections from complaints or requests are carried out immediately for food and within 2 working days for other complaints. (b) Orders issued promptly.	MHBS MHBS MHBS	Not Assessed Achieving Achieving	Achieving Achieving Achieving	Achieved Achieved Achieved
2. To ensure that inspections are carried out at less than full net cost to the general community and are partially on a "user pays" basis.	2. Set fees and charges in Annual Budget.	2. Fees for inspection services set to recover costs less 25% CSO.	MHBS	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved

The Inspection Services are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$76,485 (2008/2009 - \$73,847) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2008/2009 - \$ Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 3. Health
Service: 3.2 Noxious Plant Control
Strategic Objective: To contribute to the overall control of noxious weeds in the Council area to protect the natural environment
Principal Responsibility: Director Administrative Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 6

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To support membership of the New England Tablelands (Noxious Weeds) County Council at previous year's level plus rate pegging increase.	1. Pay contribution to NET(NW)CC.	1. Contribution made.	GM	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 3. Health (Continued)
Service: 3.2 Noxious Plant Control (Continued)

The Noxious Weed Control service is funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$68,192 (2008/2009 - \$65,592) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2008/2009 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 4. Community Services and Education
Service: 4.1 Youth Services and Education

Strategic Objective: To support the providers of services aimed at enhancing the quality of life for the Shire's youth, particularly where these services result in people continuing to live in the Shire or moving to the Shire.

Principal Responsibility: Director Administrative Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 8

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To meet all costs of transporting the Life Education Van into and around the Shire on its annual visit to the schools in the Shire.	1. Plant and works personnel to move Life Education van.	1. Van moved when requested.	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
2. To facilitate the provision of recreational and leisure opportunities and support programs for youth.	2. Financial assistance to private clubs and other organisations that provide services for youth.	2. Financial assistance provided.	GM	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
3. To maintain Council's education facilities.	3. Maintenance of the outside of the Uralla Pre-School building.	3. No work outstanding.	MHBS	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
4. Support Youth Week Activities	4. Provide matching funding to grant funds to Uralla Neighbourhood Centre	4. Successful Youth Week Activities	GM/DAS	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved

The Youth Services and Education is funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$9,051 (2008/2009 - \$12,234) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2008/2009 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity:

Service:

Strategic Objective:

4. Community Services and Education

4.2.1. Aged and Disabled Services (Aged Units)

To support the providers of services aimed at enhancing the quality of life of the Shire's aged and disabled people particularly where these services result in those people continuing to live in the Shire or the region.

Principal Responsibility:

Director Administrative Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 5

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To continue to provide accommodation for the aged in self-contained units in Uralla at no net cost to the community.	1 (a) Renting of the four Hill Street Units.	1 (a) Rental income exceeds expenditure with a return on Capital invested.	GM	Not assessed	Achieving	Achieved
2. To research the methods and funding sources to provide additional units in Hill Street.	(b) carry out improvements. 2. Review of funding sources and survey of potential residents.	(b) Work completed. 2. Report to Council in March 2010.	MHBS GM/MHBS	Not Assessed Not Achieved	Achieving Not Achieved	Achieved Not Achieved

The Aged and Disabled Services (Aged Units) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$16,406 (2008/2009 - \$14,919) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2008/2009 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity:

Service:

Strategic Objective:

Principal Responsibility:

4. Community Services and Education

4.2.2. Aged and Disabled Services (Aged Care Centres)

(as above).

Director Administrative Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 5

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To operate the McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre through an Advisory Committees of Council, with Council representation on the Committee.	1. Delegation under Section 355 of the Local Government Act, with Council representatives and GM to attend Committee meetings as necessary.	1. Meetings held, attended by Director Administrative Services and Council's representatives.	GM/DAS	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
2. To operate the Grace Munro Centre Aged Care Facility through a management agreement with McLean Retirement Village.	2. Management agreement operating at cost to council; debt servicing of \$35,883 (\$49,536) and building operation costs of \$29,004 (\$36,012).	2. New Management Agreement signed. Best option available recommended to Council	GM GM	Achieved Achieved	Achieved Achieved	Achieved Achieved

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity:

4. Community Services and Education (Continued)

Service:

4.2.2. Aged and Disabled Services (Aged Care Centres) (Continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
3. To assist McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre by operating their accounts providing advice and other financial, administrative services to Management and the Committees so that they can operate as an autonomous viable unit.	3. Council administration staff to provide service (at a fee) and DAS to advise Centre Manager as necessary.	3. (a) Administration charge made. (b) McMaugh Gardens management confirms satisfaction with advice and service.	GM McM Manager	Not Assessed Not Assessed	Achieved Achieving	Achieved Achieved
4. To operate McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre as a viable autonomous unit.	4. Centre Management and staff.	4. Centre operates with income in excess of expenditure.	McM Manager	Not Assessed	Achieving	Achieved

The Aged and Disabled Services (Aged Care Centres) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$1,812,755 (2008/2009 - \$1,665,595) recurrent expenditure and \$2,627 (2008/2009 - \$49,713) capital expenditure.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010

Principal Activity:

Service:

Strategic Objective:

4. Community Services and Education

4.2 3 Aged and Disabled Services (Community Support Options Programs)

To support the providers of services aimed at enhancing the quality of life of the Shire's aged and disabled people particularly where these services result in those people continuing to live in the Shire or the region.

Principal Responsibility:

Director Administrative Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 5

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To auspice the Tablelands Community Support Options Project, on a 100% grant funding basis through an Advisory Committee as a Committee of Council.	1. Two Advisory Committee with delegation under Section 355 of the LG Act. (i) Tablelands Community Support Options Advisory Committee, (ii) Kamilaroi Ageing and Disabilities Services Advisory Committee.	1. Meetings held.	TSCOP Manager	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
2. To auspice the Tablelands Community Support Options Project and Kamilaroi Ageing and Disabilities Services on a 100% grant funding basis employing the staff, operating the project accounts and providing office accommodation.	2. Council staff and resources to operate accounts on a fee-for-service basis and rental for accommodation with the NESAC Finance Accountant advising the Project Manager on financial matters.	2. (a) Service fee charged (b) Rental fee charged (c) Program income plus carry over exceeds expenditure.	TSCOP Manager TSCOP Manager TSCOP Manager	Not Assessed Not Assessed Not Assessed	Achieved Achieved Achieving	Achieved Achieved Achieved

The Aged and Disabled Services (Community Options Programs) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$2,703,177 (2008/2009 - \$2,618,589) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2008/2009 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity:

Service:

Strategic Objective:

Principal Responsibility:

4. Community Services and Education

4.2 4 Aged and Disabled Services (Tablelands Community Transport)

(as above)

Director Administrative Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 5

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To auspice the Tablelands Community Transport, on a 100% grant funding basis through an Advisory Ctee.	1. Advisory Committee with delegation under Section 355 of the LG Act.	1. Meetings held.	TCT Manager	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 4. Community Services and Education (Continued)
Service: 4.2 4 Aged and Disabled Services (Tablelands Community Transport) (Continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
2. To auspice the Tablelands Community Transport, on a 100% grant funding basis employing the staff, operating the project accounts and providing office accommodation.	2. Council staff and resources to operate accounts on a fee-for-service basis and rental for accommodation with the DAS advising the Project Manager on financial matters.	2. (a) Administration fee charged	GM/DAS	Not assessed	Achieved	Achieved
		(b) Program income plus carry over exceeds expenditure.	DAS	Not assessed	Achieving	Achieved
		(c) Rental fee charged	DAS	Not assessed	Achieved	Achieved

The Aged and Disabled Services (Tablelands Community Transport) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$229,838 (2008/2009 - \$226,366) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2008/2009 - \$ Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 4. Community Services and Education
Service: 4.2 5 Aged and Disabled Services (Community Centre)

Strategic Objective: To support the providers of services aimed at enhancing the quality of life of the Shire's aged and disabled people particularly where these services result in those people continuing to live in the Shire or the region.

Principal Responsibility: Director Administrative Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 5

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. Operate the Community Centre in Uralla at minimal net cost to the community.	1. Set rents to cover operating costs.	1. Income plus 25% CSO exceeds the expenses.	MHBS	Not assessed	Achieving	Achieved
	2. Maintain the building to a set maintenance schedule.	2. Works completed.	MHBS	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
	3. Advertising the facilities to the Community through the Newsletter and other media.	3. Additional use of the Centre over the base year of 2005/2006.	GM	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

The Aged and Disabled Services (Community Centre) is funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$68,720 (2008/2009 - \$61,195) recurrent expenditure and \$3,838 (2008/2009 - \$ Nil) capital expenditure.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010

Principal Activity: 4. Community Services and Education
Service: 4.2 6 Aged and Disabled Services (Bundarra Neighbour Aid)
Strategic Objective: (as above).

Principal Responsibility: Director Administrative Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 5

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To auspice the Bundarra Neighbour Aid, on a 100% grant funding basis through an Advisory Committee as a Committee of Council.	1. Advisory Committee with delegation under Section 355 of the LG Act.	1. (a) Meetings held. (b) Bundarra Neighbour Aid management confirms satisfaction with advice and service.	GM BNAS Manager	Achieving Not assessed	Achieving Achieving	Achieved Achieved
2. To auspice the Bundarra Neighbour Aid, on a 100% grant funding basis employing the staff, operating the project accounts and providing office accommodation.	2. Council staff and resources to operate accounts on a fee-for-service basis and rental for accommodation with NESAC Finance advising the Project Manager on financial matters.	2. (a) Service fee charged. (b) Rental fee charged.	GM NESAC Finance	Not assessed Not assessed	Achieved Achieved	Achieved Achieved

The Aged and Disabled Services (Bundarra Neighbour Aid) is funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$57,957 (2008/2009 - \$54,807) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2008/2009 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 4. Community Services and Education
Service: 4.2 7 Aged and Disabled Services (Other Community Services)

Strategic Objective: To support the providers of services aimed at enhancing the quality of life of the Shire's aged and disabled people particularly where these services result in those people continuing to live in the Shire or the region.

Principal Responsibility: Director Administrative Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 5

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To monitor Mclean Village \$100,000 interest free loan to Council.	1. Interest free loan for 5 years with repayments, after two years from share of profits.	1. Loan repaid on 31 August 2009.	GM	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity:

4. Community Services and Education (Continued)

Service:

4.2 7 Aged and Disabled Services (Other Community Services) (Continued)

The Aged and Disabled Services (Other Community Services) is funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$101,741 recurrent expenditure, consisting of \$53,161 of absorbed administration costs for McMaugh Gardens and \$48,580 for other state and Federal Funded Programs. No individual budget item appeared for this commitment of Council in the 2008/2009 budget.

Principal Activity:

5. Housing and Community Amenities

Service:

5.1 Urban and Rural Planning and Development Assessment

Strategic Objective:

To manage and control development and service provision within the Shire to ensure that it is balanced and environmentally sensitive, that the overall aesthetic value of the Shire is maintained and that services are provided to match the needs of the Shire's residents.
To ensure that Council consciously adopts a fully ecologically sustainable development focus.

Principal Responsibility:

Director Engineering Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 2, 4, 6, and 7

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. Community to be satisfied with land use control.	1. Consulting with the public on proposed amendments to planning instruments and major developments.	1. Report number and type of objections received from Shire residents to decisions of Council.	MP	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
2. To ensure that DAs and land use enquiries are dealt with as expeditiously as possible.	2. (a) Utilising trained staff and having the DAU meet as required to deal with applications in an efficient manner.	2. (a) To meet the following process times: DAs.: less than 25 days Construction. Certificates: less than 15 days.	MP	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
	(b) By delegations of authority where appropriate.	(b) Delegation of authority used as appropriate.	MP	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
	(c) By reviewing Council's local approvals and orders policies regularly.	(c) Number of appeals that go to the Land and Environment Court are lost.	GM	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
3. Review Council's adopted Community and Social Plan.	3. Social, Cultural and disability Action Plans undertaken on a Regional Basis through the Strategic Alliance and UNE.	3. Ongoing review in line with Council resolution 503/04 to keep the Plan under constant review.	MP	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
			MP/GM	Achieving	Achieved	Achieved

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 5. Housing and Community Amenities (Continued)
Service: 5.1 Urban and Rural Planning and Development Assessment (Continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
4. A Regional Local Environmental Plan prepared through the Strategic Alliance to incorporate the Local Environmental Plan.	4 Consultants with funding provided in 2005/2006 of \$100,000 from DIPNR and \$25,000 from Council (matched by other councils in the Alliance).	4. New England Development Strategy approved by the DoP by December 2009.	MP	Not Achieved	Not Achievable	Not Achievable
		Work commenced on Regional LEP by July 2009	MP	Not Achieved	Not Achievable	Not Achievable
5. To access appropriate Heritage advice and guidance.	5. Engage a Heritage Advisor	5. Council and staff refer items to Heritage advisor	MP	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

The Housing and Community Amenities (Urban and Rural Planning and Development Assessment) is funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$237,157 (2008/2009 - \$170,662) recurrent expenditure and \$NIL (2008/2009 - \$9,000) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 5. Housing and Community Amenities
Service: 5.2 Garbage Collection and Disposal Services
Strategic Objective: To provide an efficient, cost-effective and environmentally responsible waste collection, recycling and/or disposal service, for all ratepayers of the Uralla Shire.

Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3 5

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To ensure an efficient and effective waste collection service in Uralla, Bundarra, Invergowrie and Kelly Plains with a contract operation for Walcha.	1. By Council single person collection truck.	1. Number of complaints concerning missed collections less than 12 per quarter.	MHBS	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
2. To ensure an efficient and effective weekly recycling service in Uralla and Invergowrie.	2. By Council day labour.	2. Mass of material recycled. KCA recyclables - 85kgs. KCA domestic waste – 100 kgs.	Technical Services Assistant	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
				Not Assessed	Not Achieved	Not Achieved
3. Operate the Uralla landfill site as a separate viable operation.	3. By Council day labour.	3. Landfill site operates within budget and maximises recycling inc.	MHBS	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 5. Housing and Community Amenities (Continued)
Service: 5.2 Garbage Collection and Disposal Services (Continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
4. Comply with EPA Licence Conditions at Waste Disposal Tips.	4. By monitoring of operation at landfill site and manning the Bundarra landfill site.	4. Non compliance limited to 4 per year.	MHBS	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
5. Prepare for the timely rehabilitation of all Council's landfill sites.	5. Bringing clay and suitable materials in from Council works.	5. All available material brought onto site and stockpiled mulch.	DES/MHBS	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

The Housing and Community Amenities (Garbage Collection and Disposal) is funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$409,696 for collections and \$474,606 for landfill operations (2008/2009 - \$439,777 for collections and \$476,183 for landfill operations) recurrent expenditure and \$48,000 (2008/2009 - \$28,032) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 5. Housing and Community Amenities
Service: 5.3 Streetscape (formerly called Street Cleaning)
Strategic Objective: To sweep and rinse gutters and empty street garbage bins to provide a clean and pleasant streetscape in Uralla and Bundarra towns.
Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. In Uralla, (a) to sweep gutters on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. (b) empty bins daily in the CBD that is: Bridge Street, from the Coachwood and Cedar Hotel to the Tourist Information Centre, and in Hill Street from the Post Office to Bridge Street. (c) provide 25 hours per week of cleaning of the CBD, footpath, blisters and gutters.	1. (a) Council day labour - by hand. (b) Council day labour - by hand. (c) Council day labour - by hand.	1. (a) No more than 3 complaints per quarter about dirty gutters or overflowing or smelly bins. (b) No missed collection days. (c) no more than 1 complaint per quarter about dirty footpaths or untidy blisters.	DES DES DES	Achieved Achieving Achieved	Achieved Achieving Achieved	Achieved Achieved Achieved

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 5. Housing and Community Amenities (Continued)
Service: 5.3 Streetscape (formerly called Street Cleaning) (Continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
2. In Bundarra, to empty street bins on Mondays.	2. Council day labour - by hand.	2. (a) No days missed. (b) No more than 1 complaint per quarter about overflowing or smelly bins.	DES DES	Achieved Achieving	Achieved Achieving	Achieved Achieved
3. In Invergowrie, to slash public areas around Fire Shed.	3. Council day labour.	3. Cleared at least twice a year.	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

The Housing and Community Amenities (Streetscapes) is funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$69,403 (2008/2009 - \$70,532) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2008/2009 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 5. Housing and Community Amenities
Service: 5.4 Urban Stormwater Drainage

Strategic Objective: To plan, design, construct and manage new and additional stormwater drainage systems and catchment areas, to collect, transport and discharge stormwater runoff effectively, efficiently and economically to reduce flooding, soil erosion, pollution and improve water quality.

Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9 and 10

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. Continue current level of routine maintenance of existing storm water drainage system (5.6km).	1. Council day labour.	1. (a) No more than 1 complaint per quarter about drainage problems. (b) Cost of maintenance per km of existing stormwater pipe at \$1,000 per km per annum.	DES DES	Achieved Not Assessed	Achieved Achieving	Achieved Achieved

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 5. Housing and Community Amenities (Continued)
Service: 5.4 Urban Stormwater Drainage (continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
2. Improve quality of water flow at Shanahan's Bridge, Uralla Creek, and clean up of environmental weeds along the surrounding Uralla Creek.	2. Council day labour.	2. (a) Installation of gross pollutant trap.	DES	Withdrawn	Withdrawn	Withdrawn
		(b) Removal of environmental weeds and replanting with appropriate vegetation in defined area.	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
3. Monitor the effectiveness of gross pollution traps.	3. Council day labour.	3. Report to Council on the annual volume of gross pollutants recovered from traps	DES	Not Assessed	Achieved	Achieved
4. Maintain the retention basins.	4. Council day labour.	4. maintenance completed within budget and retention basins clean.	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
5. Involvement in the NESAC and Walcha Biodiversity in High Places Urban Areas project.	5. SNELCC, Project Director Uralla Shire Council GM chair of the Steering Committee.	5. Creek-land improvements per submission actioned.	GM	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
6. Community consultation and involvement with Council Stormwater Management Projects and additional revenue for projects sourced.	6. Meeting between relevant community groups, Catchment Management Authority, General Manager Project Manager. Council to pursue any additional funding possibilities.	6. All opportunities for additional funding taken.	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
		All offers of non-council assistance with stormwater management projects taken.	GM	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

The Housing and Community Amenities (Urban Stormwater Drainage) is funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$42,789 (2008/2009 - \$33,403) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2008/2009 - \$26,125) capital expenditure.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010

Principal Activity: 5. Housing and Community Amenities

Service: 5.5 Public Cemeteries

Strategic Objective: To provide cemetery facilities for the public, which are attractive, efficient, cost-effective and are adequately maintained and that preserve the history of the area.

Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 5

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To keep an accurate perpetual record of details of all interment.	1. Record all details on a permanent register.	1. No more than 3 enquiries per quarter that were not satisfied because of inadequate records, for records of interments after 1968.	Technical Services Assistant	Achieved	Achieving	Achieved
2. To ensure that all cemeteries are adequately and attractively maintained.	2. (a) Ensure that regular inspections are carried out on all cemeteries. (b) Repair any damage to fencing. (c) Seek heritage funding for the planned restoration of the old cemetery in Uralla.	2. (a) Number of complaints received in respect of maintenance of cemeteries and cemetery facilities. (b) Repairs completed. (c) Heritage funding application lodged	Technical Services Assistant MHBS GM/PO	Achieving Not Assessed Achieved	Achieving Achieving Achieved	Achieved Achieved Achieved
3. To aim that eventually all cemetery facilities and services are provided at no net direct cost to Council.	3. Set fees and charges to recover no less than 50% (2008/2009 45%) of operating costs. (which is 50% CSO).	3. Fees and chares at 50% or more of operating costs.	GM	Not assessed	Achieved	Achieved

The Housing and Community Amenities (Public Cemeteries) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$34,272 (2008/2009 - \$37,709) recurrent expenditure and \$NIL (2008/2009 - \$3,000) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 5. Housing and Community Amenities

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Service: 5.6 Environmental Management

Strategic Objective: To implement programs aimed at protecting and enhancing the environment of the Shire to ensure the health and well being of its residents.

Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 2, 4, and 6

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. Review and update the State of Environment Report annually and use it to identify specific environmental programs.	1. Strategic Alliance with in-house staff.	1. (a) Report completed.	MP	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
		(b) Programs identified in the SOE report incorporated into the next budget.	MP	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
2. Utilising the Climate Consensus Project outcomes and recommendations.	2. Recommendations set out in Volume 3 pages 5 to 18)	2. Agreement completed with Alliance.	GM/MHBS Project Officer	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
3. Extend Council's Environmental Projects to improve the Gwydir River catchment within the Shire.	3. Council's Project Officer and the NESAC and Walcha Biodiversity in High Places Urban Areas Project Director.	3. Grants obtained and project developed for Council's approval.	MHBS Project Officer	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

The Housing and Community Amenities (Environmental Management) is funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with \$83,453 (2008/2009 - \$102,613) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2008/2009 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010

Principal Activity: 5. Housing and Community Amenities
Service: 5.7 Other Conveniences
Strategic Objective: To provide community amenities for the general convenience of residents of and visitors to the Shire.
Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 4

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. Clean, maintain and repair public toilets to a satisfactory condition.	1. (a) Council day labour to clean and maintain facilities with at least one service weekday and once on weekends. (b) Random inspection of public toilets.	1. (a) No more than 6 complaints per quarter regarding unsatisfactory toilet conditions. (b) Inspections find public privies to be well maintained.	Technical Services Assistant MHBS	Achieved Achieving	Achieved Achieving	Achieved Achieved
2. To provide a community asset in the form of a taxi shelter and street store facilities.	2. Council providing funding for the renting of the street store from donation of \$8,100 by Governance.	2. Street stall used at least 12 weekends per quarter.	GM/Technical Services Assistant	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

The Housing and Community Amenities (Other Conveniences) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$54,887 for Public Privies and \$3,384 (plus \$8,100 of Street Store cost) for Urban Facilities (2008/2009 - \$51,801 and \$12,390 respectively) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2008/2009 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 6. Water Supplies
Service: 6.1 Uralla Water Supply
Strategic Objective: To provide safe, cost effective and affordable water supply facilities complying with statutory requirements, for the benefit of both present and future residents of the town of Uralla.
Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, and 10

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To comply with current drinking water guidelines and improve the quality of water delivered to the reticulation system by best practice methodology.	1. (a) Operate the Treatment Plant effectively and regularly test raw and treated water.	1. (a) No samples of treated water samples which do not comply with the Drinking Water Guidelines.	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To comply with current drinking water guidelines and improve the quality of water delivered to the reticulation system by best practice methodology.	1. (b) DES to maintain staff skill levels to effectively carry out these duties.	1. (b) Water operator and back up operator have Level III training in plant operation.	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
2. Aim of an average annual residential consumption rate of not more than 200 KI per connection in Uralla	2. User pays principles under best practice pricing to control consumption.	2. Report to Council on the annual water consumption per connection in June.	DES	Not Assessed	Achieved	Achieved
3. Provide water main to boundary of the Industrial development.	3. Council day labour and carry over funds from 2008/2009.	3. Mains provided when development confirmed.	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
4. Progressively replace old mains on a planned basis.	4. Council day labour.	4. all necessary replacements, extensions and connections made	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
5. Maintain reservoir condition.	5. Council day labour funded by a budget allocation of \$10,000.	5. 100 metres of main replaced.	DES	Not Assessed	Achieved	Achieved
6. Replace meters, extend mains, make connections as required	6. Council day labour	6. Upgrade completed	DES	Not Assessed	Achieving	Achieved

The Water Supplies (Uralla) is funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$511,257 (2008/2009 \$629,596) recurrent expenditure and \$130,731 (2008/2009 \$194,500) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity:

6. Water Supplies

Service:

6.2 Bundarra Water Supply

Strategic Objective:

To provide safe, cost-effective and affordable water supply facilities complying with statutory requirements, for the benefit of both present and future residents of the village of Bundarra.

Principal Responsibility:

Director Engineering Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, and 10

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To comply with current drinking water guidelines and improve the quality of water delivered to the reticulation system by best practice methodology.	1. Operate the treatment plant effectively and regularly test raw and treated water.	1. No samples of treated water samples which do not comply with the Drinking Water Guidelines.	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
2. Aim of an average annual residential consumption rate of not more than 150 Kl per connection in Bundarra.	2. User pays principles under best practice pricing to control consumption.	2. Report to Council on the annual water consumption per connection in June.	DES	Not Assessed	Achieved	Achieved
3. Maintain reservoir condition.	3. Council day labour funded by a budget allocation of \$10,000.	3. Upgrade completed.	DES	Not Assessed	Not Achieved	Not Achieved
4. Replace meters, extend mains, make connections as required	4. Council day labour	4. all necessary replacements, extensions and connections made	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

The Water Supplies (Bundarra) is funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$156,462 (2008/2009 - \$176,799) recurrent expenditure and \$15,298 (2008/2009 - \$20,250) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 6. Water Supply
Service: 6.3 Rural Water Supplies
Strategic Objective: To control water storage capacity on rural residential blocks, provide advice on water storage and quality to rural residents and to provide a water quality testing service
Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 10

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To ensure that rural residential dwellings have adequate available water supplies.	1. DES to apply the provisions of DCP No 2 in respect of quantities of water available to rural residential residents.	1. Report to management on the volume of water sold from Uralla and Bundarra water supplies.	DES	Not Assessed	Achieved	Achieved
2. To provide advice on the quality of water to rural residents and monitor the quality of that water.	2. (a) MHBS to provide a water testing service for rural residents on a fee for service basis. (b) MHBS to monitor and record requests for results of tests and from where the water was drawn.	2. Report to management on (a) The number of tests requested. (b) The number and percentage of tests that pass and do not pass.	MHBS MHBS	Achieving Achieving	Achieving Achieving	Achieved Achieved

The Water Supplies (Rural) requires no separate funding through the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B).

Principal Activity: 7. Sewerage Services
Service: 7.1 Uralla Sewerage
Strategic Objective: To provide safe, cost-effective and affordable sewerage facilities complying with statutory requirements, for the benefit of both present and future residents of the village of Uralla, without creating significant pollution problems in the disposal of the wastewater.
Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, and 10

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To maintain a net debt ratio for the fund of less than 2%.	1. No new borrowings until at least 2010.	1. Net debt service ratio less than 2%.	GM	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010

Principal Activity: 7. Sewerage Services (Continued)
Service: 7.1 Uralla Sewerage (Continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
2. To comply with the licensing requirements of the EPA in relation to quality of effluent discharged to Rocky Creek and noise levels on and near the site.	2. (a) Operate the plant effectively and regularly test effluent quality. (b) Monitor noise levels.	2. (a) No samples of treated effluent water samples which do not comply with EPA licence. (b) Compliance with noise level limits.	DES DES	Achieving Achieving	Achieving Achieving	Achieved Achieved
3. To extend the hours of operation of the waste water treatment plant to give higher quality discharge.	3. Hours extended during daylight saving days and aeration method modified to improve aeration and reduce noise.	3. Nitrate levels maintained below EPA limits	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
4. Upgrade the sewer pipe system to cater for growth and increased flows.	4. Operate “black box” flow recorder in the pipe network to monitor flows and rainfall.	4. Report to Council of current likely expected upgrading requirements and timeframes each Jan.	DES	Not Achieved	Not Achieved	Not Achieved
5. Provide sewer main to boundary of the Industrial development.	5. Council day labour.	5. Mains provided when development confirmed.	DES	Not Assessed	Not Achieved Not Achievable	Not Achieved Not Achievable
6. Extend sewer main to Leece Road.	6. Council day labour.	6. Extension completed and operating.	DES	Not Assessed	Not Achieved	Not Achieved

The Sewer Services (Uralla) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$508,284 (2008/2009 - \$508,284) recurrent expenditure and \$293,060 (2008/2009 - \$62,480) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 7. Sewerage Services

Service: 7.2 Bundarra Sewerage

Strategic Objective: To introduce a safe, cost-effective and affordable sewerage facilities complying with statutory requirements, for the benefit of both present and future residents of the village of Bundarra, without creating significant pollution problems in the disposal of wastewater.

Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, and 10

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. The community and Council have recognised the need to replace the septic tank and absorption trench method of disposing of wastewater, particularly south of the Gwydir River and that a sewerage/common effluent scheme may not be affordable for the residents of Bundarra based on current government subsidy rates of 50% or less of capital cost.	1. Council, on behalf of the community, continue to pursue the full funding eligibility of such works for both Federal and State Government Funding by using the DPWS Report No SR 103 dated November 1989 in submissions and delegations to DEUAS, State and Federal Politicians.	1. a) All opportunities for funding taken. b) With a fully funded scheme, the Bundarra Community would have a water and sewer access charge of approximately \$1,060 (\$532 for water and \$528 for sewer based on a \$120,000 operating cost for a sewer scheme) compared to that of the Uralla users 2009/2010 total of \$673.00. A joint water and sewer scheme would cost in the order of \$750.	GM	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
2. When funding has been achieved to proceed with the works in stages.	2. Responding to any written offer made.	2. All offers responded to in a timely manner.	GM/DES	Not assessed Not Assessed	Not assessed Not Assessed	Achieved Achieved

The Sewer Services (Bundarra) has no specific funding in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) at this time and all preliminary funding application costs are carried by the Governance and Corporate Support Services functions of Council. Council was unsuccessful in obtaining funding for the Bundarra Sewerage Scheme through its application for funding (Resolution 448/08; 15 December 2008 meeting) to the Federal Government Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 7. Sewerage Services
Service: 7.3 Rural Waste Water
Strategic Objective: To ensure that the health of rural residents and the quality of groundwater and surface waters is not threatened by wastewater disposal in areas where sewerage is not available.
Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 10

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To ensure that installed aerated waste treatment plants are regularly serviced by qualified people.	1. DES to raise a register of dates of services to plants installed.	1. Register maintained and manufacturers advised when services are overdue.	Technical Services Assistant	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
2. Carry out necessary registration and inspection of Sewage Treatment Devices.	2. In-house staff.	2. (a) No less than 100 devices inspected per annum. (b) Register of the Number of devices maintained.	MHBS Technical Services Assistant	Not Achieving Achieving	Not Achieving Achieving	Not Achieved Achieved

The Sewer Services (Rural Waste Water) requires no separate funding through the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B).

Principal Activity: 8. Recreation and Culture
Service: 8.1 Public Libraries – Uralla
Strategic Objective: To provide a service to assist and support the community's cultural, educational and recreational needs.
Principal Responsibility: Director Administrative Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 5, and 8

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To maintain the number of member borrowers at 1,490 or more (1,400 at Uralla and 90 at Bundarra) and the annual number of books borrowed at 28,000.	1. (a) Continue the opening hours of 30h/week in new Library. (b) Increase the type and number of books available. (c) Publicise access for member borrowers to use Armidale and Inverell Libraries.	1. (a) Library operating 30 hours per week. (b) Number of member borrowers at or above 1,490. (c) Books borrowed. * First quarter 5,000 * Second quarter 15,000 * Third quarter 22,000 * Fourth quarter 28,000	GM Librarian Librarian	Achieving Achieving Achieving	Achieving Achieving Achieving	Achieved Achieved Achieved

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 8. Recreation and Culture (Continued)
Service: 8.1 Public Libraries – Uralla (Continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
2. To increase the ratio of books borrowed to number of books in stock to 3.5:1 and to member borrowers to 19:1.	2. Librarian to use CNL to increase stock replacement rate, weed out unpopular material, and increase the number of popular categories of stock.	2. Annual Ratio of 3.5:1 for issues to stock and 19:1 for issues to members.	Librarian	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
3. To operate the new Library as a branch library of a regional library system.	3. Through Tamworth Regional Council until 30 June 2010.	3. New agreement with TRC formalised.	GM	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

The Recreation and Culture Services (Public Libraries) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$295,024 (2008/2009 - \$221,752) recurrent expenditure and \$17,851 (2008/2009 - \$16,617) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 8. Recreation and Culture
Service: 8.2 Public Halls

Strategic Objective: To maintain the School of Arts Hall at Bundarra and the Uralla Memorial Hall as the centres of focus for the local community so that provision is made for recreational, educational, cultural and sporting activities.

Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 5, and 8

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To ensure that the halls are adequately maintained and are available for public use at minimal net cost to the community.	1.	1.	MHBS	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
	(a) By delegation to Management Committees for Bundarra, by lease of Uralla Hall to Uralla Neighbourhood Centre and by Council staff.	(a) The halls are used for activities on at least 150 days per annum for the Uralla Hall and 50 days per year for the Bundarra School of Arts Hall.				
	(b) MBHS to inspect the halls annually and report to Council.	(b) Report to management on the condition of the halls each quarter.	MHBS	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
	(c) Halls to be provided at a CSO contribution of 45% including depreciation.	(c) Income to be 75% of operating cost without depreciation.	GM	Not assessed	Achieving	Achieved

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010

Principal Activity: 8. Recreation and Culture
Service: 8.2 Public Halls (Continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
2. Advertise the availability of the halls for hire and use at every possible occasion.	2. Newsletter and other media sources.	2. Increased use of the facilities with new users.	MHBS	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

The Recreation and Culture Services (Public Halls) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$17,562 (2008/2009 - \$29,936) recurrent expenditure and \$ Nil (2008/2009 - \$15,000) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 8. Recreation and Culture
Service: 8.3 Swimming Facilities
Strategic Objective: To provide economical recreational and sporting water facilities for present and future residents of the Shire
Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 5, and 8

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To provide an adequate number of appropriately trained staff to manage the Uralla Swimming Pool.	1. Manage the pool by Council day labour and to be open for 7 days per week.	1. Pool appropriately staffed for 7-day weeks during the pool season.	MHBS	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
2. To aim that attendance at the Uralla Pool be 10,000 people in a good year.	2. Pool to operate 7-day weeks for a pool season of 20 weeks (20 weeks in 2008/2009).	2. Annual pool attendance to be no less than 10,000 when average temperature at 3.00 pm is more than 23 degrees.	MHBS	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
3. Ensure that at all times the water quality is within the Water Quality Guidelines.	3. Water tests to be carried out regularly and appropriate action taken to correct anomalies.	3. Chlorine levels and pH to be checked at least three times daily, bacteriological tests to be taken at least weekly and full chemical analysis every six weeks.	MHBS	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010

Principal Activity: 8. Recreation and Culture
Service: 8.3 Swimming Facilities (Continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
4. While acknowledging that currently each pool user is subsidised at a rate of at least \$5.00 per attendance (on average) the community acknowledges that to increase pool entry fees to the maximum level is more than the market will bear without discouraging attendance.	4. All Season tickets to be discontinued and sale of books of multiples of 10 tickets at discounts per Revenue Policy (page 15) introduced.	4. (a) Report to Council in May 2010 of the cost per head of use of the CSO for the operation of the swimming pool. (b) Report to Manex regularly, during the season, on attendance of ticket holders, early morning swimmers and gate payers. (c) Report to Council in August regarding staffing or contract operation of the facility.	GM GM MHBS	Not assessed Achieving Achieved	Achieved Achieved Achieved	Achieved Achieved Achieved
5. Continue to upgrade and improve the facility and operation of the Uralla Swimming Pool Complex.	5. Recommendations from the Uralla Swimming Pool Advisory Committee and Council staff funded by grants received in 2008/2009 of \$101,409.	5. Works completed by September 2009.	DES/MHBS	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
6. Support the use of the swimming facility by Aquafit Uralla to improve the provision of services to patrons of the Aquatic Centre	6. Facility plus Council day labour together with cooperation with the Aquafit Uralla personnel.	6. Aquafit running successful programmes at the Uralla Aquatic Centre	MHBS	Not Achievable	Not Achievable	Not Achievable

The Recreation and Culture Services (Swimming Facilities) are funded in the Draft Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$94,159 (2008/2009 - \$98,425) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2008/2009 - \$Nil) capital expenditure (There will be \$101,409 of carry over funds from 2008/2009 for capital expenditure).

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 8. Recreation and Culture
Service: 8.4 Sporting Grounds and Facilities
Strategic Objective: To provide suitable sporting facilities for the present and future residents of Uralla and the Shire.
Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, and 8

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To maintain the existing grounds, fields and facilities to the community's satisfaction.	1. Council day labour.	1. No more than 2 complaints per quarter received about unsatisfactory conditions.	Technical Services Assistant	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved

The Recreation and Culture Services (Sporting Grounds and Facilities) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$35,846 (2008/2009 - \$45,480) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2008/2009 - \$5,000) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 8. Recreation and Culture
Service: 8.5 Parks, Gardens and Reserves
Strategic Objective: To maintain and improve parks, gardens and reserves and, over time, upgrade facilities for the benefit of all present and future users.
Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, and 8

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To maintain the existing parks, gardens and reserves to the community's satisfaction.	1. Council day labour and Landcare groups.	1. No more than 2 complaints per quarter received about unsatisfactory conditions.	Technical Services Assistant	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
2. Improve the amenities at Council's passive parks and gardens on a regular basis.	2. Provision of additional playground equipment.	2. Additional playground equipment installed.	DES	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
3. Continue the four stage development of the Mt Mutton Walking Trail.	3. Development of stage 2 of the program.	3. Work commenced on project.	DES	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved

The Recreation and Culture Services (Parks, Gardens and Reserves) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$140,915 (2008/2009 - \$161,127) recurrent expenditure and \$15,024 (2008/2009 - \$22,641) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 8. Recreation and Culture
Service: 8.6 Other Recreation and Culture
Strategic Objective: To continue to develop cultural and historical activities to the benefit of the Shire's residents.
Principal Responsibility: Director Corporate and Community Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 8

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. Encourage the continued work of the Uralla Arts Council in promoting cultural activities and concentrate on local activities.	1. Funding the employment of the Regional Arts Development Officer (RADO).	1. UAC continues and community activities resumed.	GM	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
2. Encourage the continued operation of the Uralla Historical Society.	2. Continue to make the Thunderbolt Paintings available to the Society for display in McCrossin's Mill.	2. (a) Annual income from the display of the paintings. (b) UHS continues.	GM GM	Not assessed Achieving	Achieved Achieving	Achieved Achieved

The Recreation and Culture Services (Other Recreation and Culture) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$19,956 (2008/2009 - \$21,882) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2008/2009 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 9. Mining, Manufacturing and Construction
Service: 9.1 Quarries and Pits
Strategic Objective: To manage, operate and control gravel pits and quarries in the Shire, in an economical and environmentally appropriate manner.
Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, 6, and 9

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To operate and access material from pits and quarries to support the Council's Works Program.	1. Council day labour and contract.	1. DES to report total volume of material won by Council from its pits.	DES	Not assessed	Achieved	Achieved
2. Ensure that use of sand and gravel won from gravel pits in the Shire is used for the benefit of Uralla Shire residents or, if used outside the Shire, road usage costs are charged.	2. Reconciling annually costs and charges imposed in development consents (Section 94 Contributions charges) relating to material used outside the Shire.	2. Income and expenditure from Section 94 charges reconciled quarterly.	DAS	Not Achieved	Achieved	Not Achieved

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 9. Mining, Manufacturing and Construction (Continued)

Service: 9.1 Quarries and Pits (Continued)

The Mining, Manufacturing and Construction Services are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$8,055 (2008/2009 - \$7,908) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2008/2009 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications

Service: 10.1 Urban Roads

Strategic Objective: To manage, maintain and develop the system of urban roads in the Shire effectively and efficiently

Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To seal all the streets in the Uralla village area by the Year 2014.	1. Plan the future sealing of the remaining unsealed roads in Uralla.	1. No sealing of urban roads in Uralla until 2010/2011.	DES	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
2. To seal streets in Bundarra by the Year 2014.	2. Plan the future sealing of the remaining unsealed roads in Bundarra.	2. No sealing of urban roads in Bundarra until 2010/2011	DES	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
3. To grade all unsealed roads on average once per year, efficiently and effectively.	3. Council day labour and Council's grading crews.	3. 1.4 kms of unsealed urban roads graded.	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
4. To reseal all sealed pavements on average once every 12 years.	4. (a) Program works to budget allocation. (b) Work carried out by combination of Council day labour, contract and Strategic Alliance.	4. (a) Budget allocation made up to 7.5% of sealed road length. (b) 1,700 metres of road resealed this year.	GM DES	Achieved Achieved	Achieved Achieved	Achieved Achieved
5. To kerb and gutter all urban streets on a progressive basis.	5. (a) Program works to budget allocation. (b) Council day labour and contract. (b) Ratepayer 50% contribution (\$50.00 per metre).	5. (a) Kerb and Guttering program completed.	DES	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications
Service: 10.1 Urban Roads (Continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
6. To complete agreed Village Improvement Project Works.	6. (a) projects developed.	6. (a) Budget allocation made.	GM	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
	(b) Program works to budget allocation. (c) Contract and Council day labour.	(b) First entry statement erected at northern end of Uralla.	DES	Not assessed	Achieved	Achieved

The Transport and Communication Services (Urban Roads) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$202,114 (2008/2009 - \$192,623) and \$27,862 kerb and gutter (2008/2009 - \$18,616) recurrent expenditure plus capital expenditure of \$11,120 (2008/2009 - \$20,000) for Urban Roads and \$30,120 (2008/2009 - \$22,900) for Kerb and Guttering.

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications
Service: 10.2 Sealed Rural Roads
Strategic Objective: To manage, maintain and develop the system of sealed rural roads effectively and efficiently.
Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
A. Local Roads - [256km]						
1. To reseal all sealed pavements on average once every 12 years.	a) Program works to budget allocation.	1. (a) Budget allocation made up to 8.33% (21,300 metres) of sealed road length.	GM	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
	b) Work carried out by combination of Council day labour, contract and Strategic Alliance.	(b) 21,300 metres of road resealed this year (at 12 years reseal).	DES	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
2. Mow road shoulders on average twice/year.	2. Combination of Council day labour and contract.	2. 320 kms of shoulder mowed twice per year.	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
3. Grade ungrassed road shoulders on average once every two years.	3. Council's grading crews.	3. 100 kms of shoulder of un-sealed, ungrassed shoulder graded.	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010

Principal Activity:
Service:

10. Transport and Communications
10.2 Sealed Rural Roads (Continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
A. Local Roads - [256km] 4. Undertake Roads to Recovery projects	4. Program works to budget allocation by a combination of Council day labour and contract	4. Works as recommended by the works committee and approved by Council completed.	DES	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
B Regional Roads [127.4 km] 1. Maintain a reseal program based on a once every 12-year average resealing target.	1. a) RTA Block Grant. b) Work carried out by combination of Council day labour, contract and Strategic Alliance.	1. a) Block Grant received and Budget allocation made up to 7.5% (10,100 metres) of sealed road length. b) 10,100 metres of road resealed this year.	GM DES	Achieved Not Achieved	Achieved Not Achieved	Achieved Not Achieved
2. Mow road shoulders on average twice/year.	2. Combination of Council day labour and contract.	2. 200 kms of shoulder mowed twice per year.	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
3. Grade un-grassed road shoulders on average once every two years.	3. Council's grading crews.	3. 5 kms of shoulder of ungrassed shoulder graded.	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
4. Continue the Construction of new road alignment over the Pinnacles on Bundarra Road - MR 124 (three year project)	4. Combination of Council day labour and contract.	4. Construction completed on time and within budget.	DES	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved

The Transport and Communication Services (Rural Roads) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$2,171,621 (2008/2009 - \$1,459,118) recurrent expenditure and \$938,200 (2008/2009 - \$899,000) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications

Service: 10.3 Unsealed Rural Roads

Strategic Objective: To manage, maintain and develop the system of unsealed rural roads effectively and efficiently and only plan to seal them when economically justified

Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
A Local Roads [512km]						
1. To grade all roads on average of once per year and the busier collector roads at least twice per year, thereby grading 312km once per year and 200km twice per year being a total grading length of 712 km p.a.	1. a) Council's three grading crews assisted by its one construction grader, plus local contractors and Strategic Alliance. b) Crews to start and finish on the job whenever working at sites located greater than 30km from the depot.	1 (a) 712 kms of road graded in the year. (b) Report to Council twice per year on the roads that have not been graded for more than 12 months.	DES DES	Achieving Not Achieved	Achieving Not Achieved	Achieved Not Achieved
2. Sealing of gravel roads which have traffic volumes (AADT) in excess of 150 vehicles per day and to determine priorities for such work based on * AADT * accident history, deferred until no earlier than 2009/1010.	2. Council's allocation for sealing converted to resheeting programs in 3 below.	2. No budget allocation for sealing in 2009/2010	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
3. To gravel resheet 20km of pavement every year.	3. Work carried out by combination of Council day labour, contract and Strategic Alliance.	3. 20 kms of road resheeted with gravel per year.	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications (Continued)
Service: 10.3 Unsealed Rural Roads (Continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
B. <u>Regional Roads [13.7 km]</u>						
1. To grade the roads on average of three times per year.	1. Funded by the RTA Block Grant (a) Council's three grading crews assisted by its one construction grader, plus local contractors and Strategic Alliance from time to time. (b) Crews to start and finish on the job whenever working at sites located greater than 30km from the depot.	1. (a) 42 kms of road graded in the year. (b) Report to Council twice per year on the roads that have not been graded for more than eight months.	DES DES	Achieving Not Achieved	Achieving Not Achieved	Achieved Not Achieved

The Transport and Communication Services (Unsealed Rural Roads) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$1,208,898 (2008/2009 - \$1,196,638) recurrent expenditure and \$21,160 (2008/2009 - \$217,000) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications

Service: 10.4 Bridges

Strategic Objective: To manage, maintain and develop the system of bridges effectively and efficiently for:

(A) **Local Roads:** 12 timber, two steel and 17 concrete and steel bridges and culverts.

(B) **Regional Roads:** 2 timber, one steel and 23 concrete and steel bridges and culverts.

Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
A. <u>Local Roads</u>						
1. Continue program of test boring timber bridges and replacing unserviceable components as necessary.	1. Council day labour.	1. Report to Council on the number of bridges assessed to be in poor condition.	DES	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
2. Repaint all steel elements of bridges on average of once every ten years.	2. Council day labour.	2. Report to Council on the number of bridges not painted for more than 10 years.	DES	Not assessed	Achieved	Achieved

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications (Continued)
Service: 10.4 Bridges (Continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
A. Local Roads						
3. Investigate means of funding the replacement of local wooden bridges (Salisbury Waters bridge on the Enmore Road – shared with ADC in 2010/2011)	3. Funding from within Council's operating expenditure.	3. Report to Council on options and procedure	GM	Not Assessed	Achieved	Achieved
4. Replace the wooden bridge at Westbury	4. Council day labour.	4. Bridge constructed.	DES	Not Assessed	Achieved	Achieved
B. Regional Roads						
1. Continue program of test boring timber bridges and replacing unserviceable components as necessary.	1. Council day labour.	1. Report to Council on the number of bridges assessed to be in poor condition.	DES	Not Assessed	Achieved	Achieved
2. Repaint all steel elements of bridges on average of once every ten years.	2. Council day labour.	2. Report to Council on the number of bridges not painted for more than 10 years.	DES	Not Assessed	Achieved	Achieved
3. Prepare a timber replacement program for bridges on regional roads.	3. 50:50 funding from RTA deferred.	3. Program prepared ready for when funding resumes.	DES	Not Assessed	Not Assessed	Achieved
4. Complete the replacement of the timber bridge at Maitland Point with a concrete bridge.	4. Contractors and Council day labour funded by carry over funds from 2008/2009.	4. Bridge constructed by August 2009	DES	Not Achieved	Achieved	Achieved

The Transport and Communication Services (Bridges) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$369,285 (2008/2009 - \$469,179) recurrent expenditure and \$207,994 (2008/2009 - \$1,211,732) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications
Service: 10.5 Footpaths
Strategic Objective: To manage, maintain and develop the system of footpaths in the urban centres in the Shire efficiently and effectively
Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To maintain existing paved surfaces at their current levels.	1. Council day labour.	1. Number of complaints received on condition of paved surfaces.	Technical Services Assistant	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
2. To slash unpaved footpaths in Uralla, Bundarra, Kingstown and Kentucky regularly.	2. Council day labour.	2. Unpaved footpaths mowed three times per year.	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
3. Construction of 200 metres of new concrete path per annum.	3. Council day labour and NESAC plant.	3. Work completed.	DES	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved

The Transport and Communication Services (Footpaths) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$100,967 (2008/2009 - \$92,091) recurrent expenditure and \$30,320 (2008/2009 - \$15,000) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications
Service: 10.6 Parking Areas
Strategic Objective: To maintain the off-street car park in Bridge Street, Uralla to the community's satisfaction and to encourage increased usage.
Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. Have no complaints about the condition of the car park.	1. Council day labour maintenance.	1. Number of complaints received.	Technical Services Assistant	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
2. Increased patronage of the rear of CBD car park.	2. Regular surveys	2. Report to Council on usage of rear car park.	DES	Not assessed	Achieved	Achieved

The Transport and Communication Services (Parking Areas) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$20,382 (2008/2009 - \$17,646) recurrent expenditure and \$51,786 for loan repayments (2008/2009 - \$57,414).

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications

Service: 10.7 Miscellaneous

Strategic Objective: To protect the road system from damage, enhance and beautify it, to provide safe road conditions and to provide suitable signposting.

Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. Develop and extend the current street lighting system as development occurs in urban areas.	1 With funds provided by the Street lighting subsidy, developer contributions and Council with Council providing additional streetlights when required with work carried out by Country Energy.	1. a) Street lighting to at least minimum standard. b) Approved additional streetlights installed when requested.	DES DES	Achieving Achieving	Achieving Achieving	Achieved Achieved
2. To maintain road centreline markings where they are currently used and repaint other surface markings at least once per year.	2. With Council and RTA Block Grant funds maintain and provide by contract.	2. Programmed works undertaken	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
3. To ensure all roads are adequately signposted with nameplates and that direction and warning signposting is adequate for the needs of road users.	3. Supplied by contract and erected by day labour with funds from the RTA Block Grant and Council.	3. a) Programmed works undertaken. b) Report to Council on the number of complaints about inadequate signposting quarterly.	DES Technical Services Assistant	Achieving Not Achieved	Achieving Not Achieved	Achieved Not Achieved
4. To prevent unnecessary damage to road pavements caused by overloaded vehicles.	4. Retain membership of Mid-North Weight of Loads Group.	4. (a) Membership retained. (b) Report to management on the number of vehicles weighed and breaches issued	DES DES	Achieved Not Assessed	Achieved Achieved	Achieved Achieved
5. To maintain and replace damaged and dead street trees within the urban areas of the Shire.	5. Council day labour.	5. Number of replaced trees reported to management.	DES	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications (Continued)
Service: 10.7 Miscellaneous (Continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
6. Repay loans raised to construct Cycle-ways	6. Council general revenue	6. Loans paid	DAS	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

The Transport and Communication Services (Miscellaneous) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with allocations of \$77,973 for Road Safety, \$65,796 for Street Lighting and \$6,315 for Cycle-ways (2008/2009 - \$102,671, \$61,864 and \$7,514 respectively) recurrent expenditure and capital expenditure of \$5,976 for Cycle-ways (2008/2009 - \$5,605).

Principal Activity: 11. Economic Affairs
Service: 11.1 Camping and Caravan Areas

Strategic Objective To extend Alma Park by ensuring the removal, or relocation, of the Caravan Park and not to be directly involved in the provision of camping and caravan areas.

Principal Responsibility: Director Corporate and Community Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 5, and 7

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. To work with the new lessees of the Caravan Park to maintain the Tourist Park to the two and a half star rating.	1. Work by Caravan Park lessees, supported by Council.	1. Report annually to Council in August on the operation of the lease.	GM	Not achieved	Not achieved	Not achieved
2. To work with the managers of the Bundarra Caravan Park Bundarra Economic Development, Tourism and Caravan Park Committee to provide comfortable overnight facility.	2. Council workforce during week days and Committee on weekends.	2. Report annually to Council in August on the operation of the park.	GM	Not achieved	Not achieved	Not achieved

Economic Affairs Services (Camping and Caravan Areas) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$30,778 (2008/2009 - \$10,299) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2008/2009 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity:

Service:

Strategic Objective:

11. Economic Affairs

11.2 Tourism and Social and Economic Development

To promote tourism and social and economic development services; which are efficient, cost effective and readily available so that the whole Shire community may benefit financially.

Principal Responsibility:

Director Corporate and Community Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 5, 7, and 8

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
A. Tourism						
1. To progressively increase the number of visitors to the Uralla Shire and number of internet hits to the Uralla Tourism website on tourism matters and to satisfy those enquiries.	1. Continue to engage a contractor on the basis of a 5 Day opening of the V.I.C to provide tourism services and fund the Monday opening with a Council employee.	1. (a) Monthly report to Council by Visitor Information Manager on visitor numbers. (b) Report to Council quarterly by the V.I.C. Manager.	GM Tourism Manager	Achieving Not achieved	Achieving Not achieved	Achieved Not achieved
2. Participate in Regional Tourism Organisations.	2. Financial contribution to NENWRTO (Big Sky Country), ART and regional projects and campaigns.	2. Numbers through the VIC stabilised and web site hits continue to grow.	GM	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
3. To provide financial support to Thunderbolt Country Fair	3. Financial contribution to Uralla Events Committee (Council's Section 355 Committee.	3. Payment made.	GM	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
4. To provide hosting and general promotion of the Shire area.	4. Hosting visits and receptions for visitors	4. Functions held with positive outcomes	GM	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

Economic Affairs Services (Tourism) is funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$111,844 (2008/2009 - \$95,712) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2008/2009 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010

Principal Activity:

11. Economic Affairs (Continued)

Service:

11.2 Tourism and Social and Economic Development (Continued)

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
B. Economic Development						
1. To achieve new developments or expand existing developments in the Shire and the region.	1. The Council's General Manager supported by the Planning Manager.	1. (a) Funding received. (b) Monthly reports by EDO to Council.	GM GM	Withdrawn Withdrawn	Withdrawn Withdrawn	Withdrawn Withdrawn
2. Uralla Shire Development Advisory Committee to advise Council on Development priorities	2. Section 355 Committee Raising of loan to purchase industrial land, as a first priority, when the opportunity arises.	2. (a) Meetings held. (b) Industrial land purchase opportunity taken.	GM GM	Achieving Not Assessed	Achieving Not Achievable	Achieved Not Achievable
3. Auspice a Rural Transaction Centre in Bundarra within the Top Store.	3. A Section 355 Committee and facility operated by NECU. Council to encourage the Committee to incorporation.	3. (a) RTC operating at no net cost to the community. (b) RTC Committee has incorporated.	GM GM	Achieving Withdrawn	Achieving Withdrawn	Achieved Withdrawn
4. Operate TV retransmission facility in Uralla.	4. Council day labour	4. Facility operating	GM	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

Economic Affairs Services (Economic Development) is funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) through Governance and Planning with no separate allocation (2008/2009 - \$137,833) other than \$6,394 (2008/2009 - \$6,781) for the Bundarra Rural Transaction Centre and \$20,277 (2008/2009 - \$11,464) for the TV Transmission facility recurrent expenditures and there is \$Nil capital expenditure (2008/2009 - \$Nil).

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2009/2010**

Principal Activity: 11. Economic Affairs

Service: 11.3 Private Works

Strategic Objective: To carry out private works to assist local residents but without adversely affecting local private contractors.

Principal Responsibility: Director Engineering Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, 7

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
1. Actively seek and carry out works in accordance with Competition Policy at a small profit.	1. Council day labour as and when requested.	1. a) Income exceeds the cost of operation.	DES	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved
	2. Advertise availability of the service through the Council Newsletter	b) Number of customers.	DES	Achieved	Achieved	Achieved

Economic Affairs Services (Private Works) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$212,483 (2008/2009 - \$207,739) recurrent expenditure; providing a surplus of \$35,517 (15%) and \$Nil (2008/2009 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 11. Economic Affairs

Service: 11.4 Other Business

Strategic Objective: To ensure a profit is returned on commercial ventures of an entrepreneurial nature.

Principal Responsibility: Director Corporate and Community Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 5, and 7

Objectives and Performance Targets	Statement of Means	Performance Assessment	Responsible Officer.	Previous Report	Current Quarter	Year to 30 June 2010
Old Court House Building						
1. Rent the office and Court Room sections of the Courthouse building at prevailing commercial rates.	1. Leased to appropriate organisations servicing the community.	1. a) Rental at commercial rates. b) Income exceeds expenditure including depreciation.	GM GM	Achieving Not Assessed	Achieving Achieved	Achieved Achieved
Visitor Information Building						
2. To continue to rent the café portion of the VIC at prevailing commercial rates.	2. Leased at commercial rates adjusted for CSO activities, cleaning toilets.	2. a) Rental charged and up to date.	GM	Achieving	Achieving	Achieved

Economic Affairs Services (Other Business) are funded in the 2009/2010 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$17,334 (2008/2009 - \$9,544) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2008/2009 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

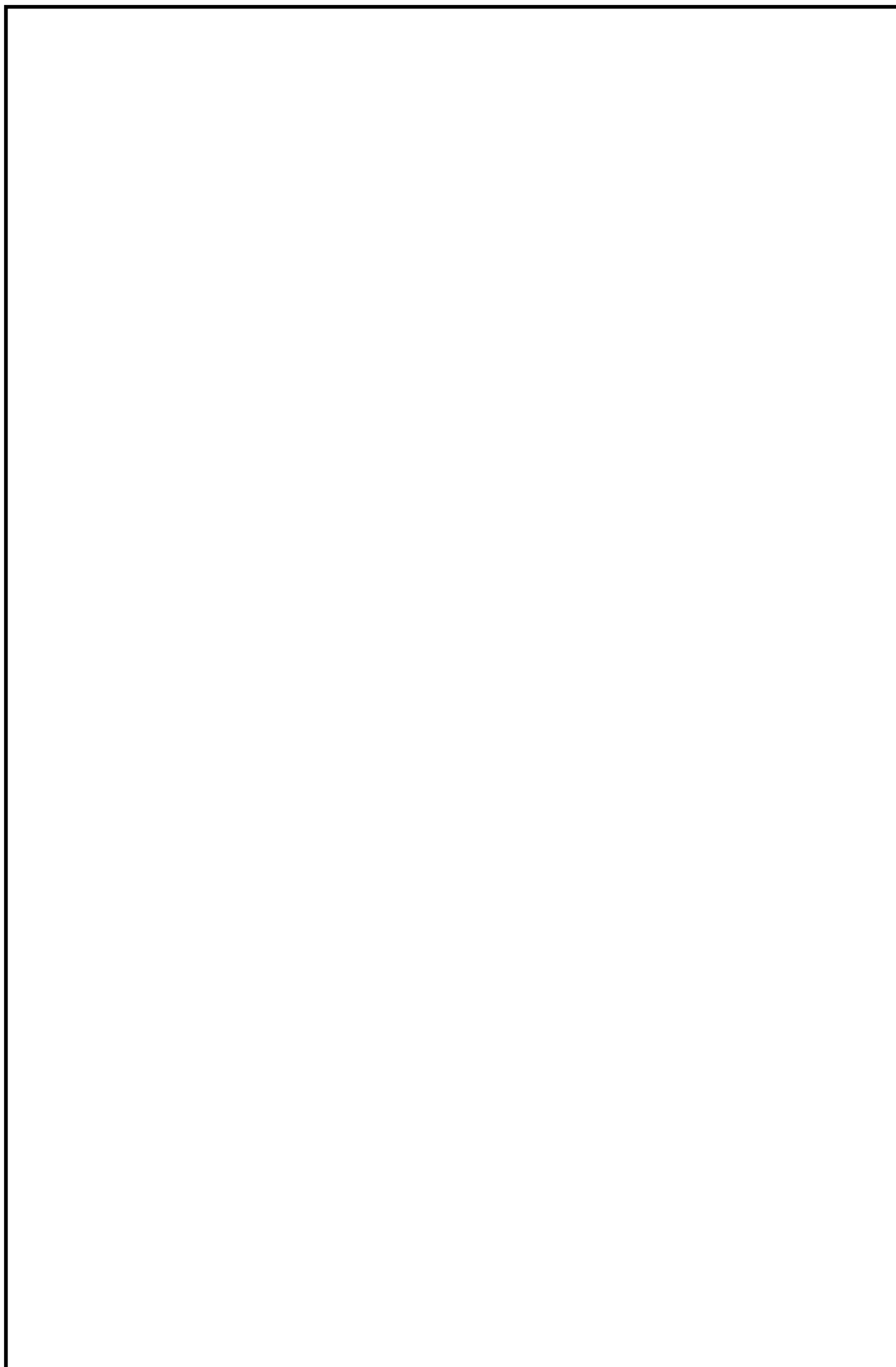
URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

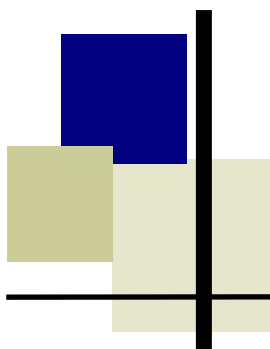
ANNUAL REPORT

2010

ATTACHMENT D

**SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND
SUPPLEMENTARY STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT
REPORT
2009/2010**





SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND SUPPLEMENTARY STATE OF ENVIRONMENT REPORT 2009 – 2010



**Incorporating the local government areas of
Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra, Uralla and Walcha**



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary

1. **Introduction**
2. **Southern New England Region Profile**
3. **Land**
4. **Air and Climate Change**
5. **Water**
6. **Biodiversity**
7. **Waste and Resource Recovery**
8. **Noise**
9. **Heritage**

FIGURES:

- Cover Page: Dumaresq Dam
- Figure 1: Location of the Southern New England Region within NSW
- Figure 2: LGA and CMA Boundaries for the Southern New England Region
- Figure 3: Average Temperatures – Southern New England Region
- Figure 4: Average Annual Rainfall – Southern New England Region
- Figure 5: NSW Drought Declared Areas – December 2009 and June 2010
- Figure 6: Property Vegetation Plans (PVP) Notified to Councils within the Southern New England Region
- Figure 7: Development Approval Summary Data – Armidale Dumaresq Council
- Figure 8: Development Approval Summary Data – Guyra Shire Council
- Figure 9: Development Approval Summary Data – Uralla Shire Council
- Figure 10: Development Approval Summary Data – Walcha Council
- Figure 11: Mining Leases and Production Titles
- Figure 12: Air Quality Complaints Received By Councils in the Southern New England Region
- Figure 13: Number of Registered Vehicles by LGA
- Figure 14: Average monthly concentration of PM2.5 particles
- Figure 15: Armidale Dumaresq Council Energy Consumption, Charges and Greenhouse Gas Emissions (excluding street lighting)
- Figure 16: Comparative Data for Energy Consumption, Charges and Greenhouse Gas Emissions (excluding street lighting)
- Figure 17: Armidale Dumaresq Council Street Lighting Energy Consumption and Greenhouse Gas Emissions (excluding street lighting)
- Figure 18: Summary Graph of Malpas Dam Blue-Green Algae Counts (surface only)
- Figure 19: Apsley River pH levels

Figure 20:	Apsley River Total Suspended Solid levels
Figure 21:	Apsley River Biological Oxygen Demand
Figure 22:	Apsley River Total Nitrogen levels
Figure 23:	Apsley River Phosphorus levels
Figure 24:	Average Water Consumption per Connection per Day
Figure 25:	Number of Recorded Threatened Species by LGA
Figure 26:	Domestic Waste per Capita (2000-2001 to 2009-2010)
Figure 27:	Recyclables per Capita (2000-2001 to 2009-2010)
Figure 28:	Noise Complaints Received by LGA
Figure 29:	Percentage of Total Noise Complaints by Source

TABLES:

Table 1:	Population Summary for Southern New England Region
Table 2:	Age Summary for Southern New England Region (2006)
Table 3:	Stock Numbers in the Southern New England Region
Table 4:	Area Covered by Mining Production Titles in 2009-2010
Table 5:	Current Exploration Licences
Table 6:	Current Notices for Contaminated Land
Table 7:	Compliance with Environment Protection Licence Conditions Relating to Air Quality
Table 8:	Number of Air Complaints by Type by LGA
Table 9:	Road Sealing (km) per LGA by Year
Table 10:	Uptake of NSW Government Rebates to 30 June 2010
Table 11:	Water Monitoring Results for Dumaresq Creek at Armidale
Table 12:	Environment Protection Licences - Water
Table 13:	Uptake of NSW Government Rebates
Table 14:	Control of Companion Animals
Table 15:	Number and Types of Waste Collection Services by LGA
Table 16:	Total Waste to Landfill
Table 17:	Recyclables Collected (2009-2010)
Table 18:	Recyclables by Type in 2009-2010 (approximate % values)
Table 19:	Environment Protection Licences - Noise
Table 20:	Sites Recorded on AHIMS by LGA
Table 21:	Council Heritage Advisor Activities
Table 22:	Visitor Numbers to Museums in the Southern New England Region

APPENDICIES:

Appendix 1	Department of Environment and Climate Change climate change projections for the New England / North-West
Appendix 2	Uralla Shire Council - Climate Consensus Project Recommendations
Appendix 3	Map of regional sustainability initiatives
Appendix 4	New England Sustainability Strategy project Progress Report
Appendix 5	Citizens Wildlife Corridors Newsletter 41 (Winter 2010)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Southern New England Supplementary State of Environment Report 2009-2010 has been prepared in accordance with reporting requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993* for the four local government areas of Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra, Uralla and Walcha.

The *Local Government Amendment (Planning and Reporting) Act 2009*, which commenced on 1 October 2009, established new requirements in relation to State of Environment Reporting. However, these requirements do not apply to a council until such time as that council commences under the new Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework. As none of the four (4) Southern New England Region councils had commenced under the new framework for the 2009-10 year, all previous legislative requirements remain applicable.

This Report follows a similar format to the comprehensive State of Environment Reports of 2003-2004 and 2008-2009 prepared for the four (4) councils of the region. The 2009-2010 report provides up-dated data for the environmental indicators identified for the eight key environmental sectors within the natural and built environment.

A summary of the main issues / activities for the separate environmental sectors discussed in the Report are outlined below:

LAND

- The Draft New England Development Strategy, which will guide future development in the region for the next 25 years and provide a planning context for the preparation of a single local environmental plan, was adopted by each of the four (4) Councils in April / May 2009 and the Final Strategy was endorsed by the Department of Planning on 16 March 2010. Since this time planners from the four Councils have been meeting regularly to undertake preparation of the Draft local environmental plan(s).
- There was a significant increase in the area of land burnt by fire across the Region during 2009-2010, primarily due to major fires in December 2009 and a general increase in the amount of hazard reduction burning.
- Work is continuing across the four (4) Councils on the Hi-CUB (High Country Urban Biodiversity) project which aims to confront the degradation of riparian and urban bushland and the fragmented network of responses by institutional and community players.

AIR AND CLIMATE CHANGE

- In October 2009 the four (4) Councils of the Southern New England Region were successful in obtaining a grant of \$50,000 from the NSW Environmental Trust for a project titled "Extension and Integration of the New England Sustainability Strategy". The project known as NESS2 has continued to progress during 2010 with positive feedback being received from the NSW Environmental Trust following the submission of a Progress Report towards the end of the reporting period. The project, which will form an overarching framework for sustainability initiatives in the region, is due to be finalised by February 2011.

- Although the number of air quality complaints received during 2009-2010 remained relatively consistent with the previous year, wood smoke pollution in Armidale continued to generate the greatest number of resident complaints. Armidale Dumaresq Council has continued with its programs to reduce wood smoke, including additional education, continuation of the wood fire replacement subsidy and encouraging the use of new technologies such as the SmartBurnTM device.
- While Armidale Dumaresq Council has continued to monitor its energy use through Plant Footprint, both Guyra and Uralla Shire Councils have taken similar steps to undertake monitoring of their energy use in the future.
- Home owners across the region have continued to take advantage of various government rebates during 2009-2010 to improve the environmental performance of their dwellings, such as rebates for installation of ceiling insulation and installation of solar hot water systems. The uptake of Government rebates by home owners for these schemes has risen significantly during 2009-2010.
- Armidale Dumaresq Council, through its Domestic Energy Committee, adopted a new Policy for Sustainable Domestic Energy Use and Air Quality (POL134) in June 2010.

WATER

- Water quality in Malpas Dam, which is Armidale's principal water supply storage, has been better in 2009-2010 than previous years with comparatively lower levels of 'blue-green' algae (BGA) present.
 - As in previous years, water quality monitoring of Dumaresq Creek has shown the results upstream and downstream of the Armidale urban area to be superior to the urban area. With exception of the Niagara St site, coliforms are down on the previous year and turbidity is also reduced. Dissolved Oxygen levels are similar to historical levels.
 - Walcha Council has continued quarterly water quality monitoring at two sites along the Apsley River, one upstream and the other downstream of Walcha township. During 2009-2010 spikes were recorded in upstream pH and BOD (biological oxygen demand), and downstream total nitrogen and phosphorus, before returning generally to longer term trends.
 - The 12 month 'defects liability' testing of Armidale Dumaresq Council's new \$4.5M ozonation plant finished in April 2010. The plant is effectively treating taste and odour issues with few teething problems encountered.
 - Home owners across the region have continued to take advantage of various government rebates during 2009-2010 to improve the environmental performance of their dwellings, including rebates for installation of rain water tanks, water efficient washing machines and dual flush toilets. The uptake of Government rebates by home owners for these schemes has risen significantly during 2009-2010.
 - Uralla Shire Council has continued with implementation of projects under its Uralla Sub-Catchment Management Plan during 2009-2010, while all Councils in the Region
-

have continued to work with Catchment Management Authorities and Landcare groups to implement on-ground works to improve the health of waterways.

BIODIVERSITY

- Details provided by Namoi CMA and New England Weeds Authority both indicate the presence of new weed incursions within the region. This trend is consistent with the potential 'high risk' for weed infestation as a consequence of predicted climate change, as identified under last year's Local Adaptation Pathway Program.
- Community groups have again highlighted concerns regarding firewood collection and illegal felling of trees along roadsides and travelling stock routes.
- The number of threatened flora and fauna species recorded in the Southern New England Region has again increased during 2009-2010 with one additional threatened flora species being recorded in Armidale Dumaresq and the number of threatened fauna species recorded in all LGAs increasing.
- Guyra Shire Council has seen positive results in relation to companion animal registrations, a reduction in complaints and reduced feral cat numbers following the appointment of a new Impounding Officer/Ranger in October 2009.
- Work on the HiCUB (High Country Urban Biodiversity) project has continued to gain momentum during 2009-2010 with the establishment of a project team and the commencement of various on-ground rehabilitation works across the Region.

WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY

- All Councils are actively involved in the Northern Inland Regional Waste Group and have undertaken programs to encourage greater recycling and improve waste management efficiencies.
- There has been an overall reduction in the amount of waste going to landfill across the region (with the exception of Guyra) despite the amount of domestic waste per capita increasing slightly in Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra and Walcha LGAs.
- The amount of recycling (kg) per capita has generally increased across the region over the 2009-2010 reporting period compared to the previous year.
- An Environmental Assessment was prepared for the proposed regional landfill facility east of Armidale in 2009-2010 to provide detailed information about the project and analysis of its potential environmental impacts in order to provide sufficient information for the Minister of Planning to make a determination on the project. The Environmental Assessment was placed on exhibition for 60 days during April/May 2010 during which time submissions were invited from stakeholders and members of the public.

NOISE

- The number of noise complaints received by Armidale Dumaresq Council, Guyra Shire Council and Uralla Shire Council fell in 2009-2010 compared to 2008-2009, while

Walcha Council's numbers of noise complaints increased, albeit for a low number of complaints overall.

- Barking dogs continued to be the major source of noise complaints across the Southern New England Region during 2009-2010, contributing 59% of all noise complaints received by Councils compared to 71% in 2008-2009. Complaints regarding noise from other sources remained relatively low and generally consistent with last year.

HERITAGE (ABORIGINAL AND EUROPEAN)

- The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water advised that during 2009-2010, 12 sites were added to their Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) across the Southern New England Region.
 - One (1) new item, being the Yooroonah Tank Barrier near Ebor, was added to the NSW State Heritage Register in November 2009.
 - During 2009-2010, Armidale Dumaresq Council prepared a draft amendment to its Development Control Plan 2007 – Chapter C5 – Development Involving Places of Heritage Significance. The draft Plan was adopted by Council for public exhibition and exhibited during June 2010. Included in the main amendments to Chapter C5 were:
 - re-structuring and updating the Chapter with the introduction of suggested planning controls in addition to the existing guidelines in Parts 3 and 4 of the document. New sections include the placement of solar energy systems on places of heritage significance, fencing controls and the potential under Council's Local Environmental Plan to exempt certain minor works from the need for Development Consent.
 - the introduction of a new Part 5 in the Chapter which outlines Aboriginal Heritage assessment requirements, based on work undertaken with Council last year by the NSW Aboriginal Heritage Office.
 - In February 2010 Armidale Dumaresq Council initiated a major community and industry education program in relation to the installation of solar hot water systems and photovoltaic cells, particularly roof installations which can have a significant visual impact on heritage items and in heritage conservation areas.
-

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORTING – OVERVIEW

The NSW *Local Government Act 1993* requires all Councils to produce a State of Environment Report as part of their annual reporting requirements. Comprehensive reports must be prepared for the year ending after election of councillors for the area. Local Government elections were held in September 2008, and as such, the four Councils of Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra Shire, Uralla Shire and Walcha agreed to prepare a regionally based comprehensive state of the environment report for 2008-2009. The 2009-2010 State of Environment Report is a Supplementary Report which provides up-dated data in relation to the environmental indicators established under the former comprehensive report.

State of the Environment reporting is intended to provide timely and accurate information on the condition of the local environment and an outline of activities and their resulting impacts on the environment of the region. The information contained in this State of the Environment Report should contribute to the management activities and decision making processes of Council across all sectors of activity, and enable planning to avoid or mitigate adverse impacts.

The *Local Government Amendment (Planning and Reporting) Act 2009*, which commenced on 1 October 2009, establishes new requirements in relation to State of Environment Reporting. However, these requirements do not apply to a council until such time as that council commences under the new Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework. As none of the four (4) Southern New England Region councils had commenced under the new framework for the 2009-10 year, all previous legislative requirements remain applicable.

1.2 ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The role of NSW local government in the implementation of ecologically sustainable development (ESD) principles has been formally recognised by incorporating the principles of ESD in the NSW *Local Government Act 1993* and by requiring councils to manage their regulatory and service functions in an ecologically sustainable manner (Department of Local Government, *Environmental Guidelines – State of Environment Reporting by Local Government* – December 1999).

Ecologically sustainable development means an approach to using, conserving and enhancing natural resources so that ecological processes, on which all life depends, are maintained, and the total quality of life, now and in the future, is improved (COAG, 1992).

State of the environment reporting is recognised as a key mechanism for identifying and evaluating sustainability issues for local government, assessing progress towards sustainability and informing the decision making process and management activities of Council.

The following State of the Environment Report includes data that examines the effectiveness of the Councils' environmental management strategies and allows the performance of those strategies to be reviewed to determine gaps in the planning, delivery and management of services.

1.3 REPORTING FRAMEWORK

Pressure – State – Response Model

The Southern New England State of the Environment Report adopts the pressure – state – response model consistent with Commonwealth, State and Territory reporting. The pressure – state – response model is based on the concept of causality, i.e. human activities exert pressures on the environment which change its state, or condition. Society then responds to this change of state by developing and implementing policies and/or actions, which complete the cycle and influence the activities that exert pressure on the environment.

In the context of the Southern New England State of the Environment Report, the pressure – state – response model enables reporting on:

- the pressures that human activities place on the environment – positive or negative effects;
- the state or condition of the environment – identifying changes or trends in the environment, quantifying the impact of activities and the effectiveness of responses; and
- the response of councils, government agencies, business and the community to the pressures on, and state of, the environment.

It should be noted that the pressure – state – response model does have some shortcomings. The implied cycle of cause and effect is simplistic and often there is not clear evidence linking pressures with changes in environmental state. It is not always easy to categorise indicators, as they may reflect aspects of state, pressure or response, depending on the way the issue is approached. (Department of Local Government, *Environmental Guidelines – State of Environment Reporting by Local Government* – December 1999).

Environmental Themes

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires State of the Environment Reports to:

- (a) establish relevant environmental indicators for each environmental objective; and
- (b) report on, and update trends in, each such environmental indicator; and
- (c) identify all major environmental impacts (being events and activities that have a major impact on environmental objectives).

The Southern New England Supplementary State of the Environment Report 2009-2010 examines data and trends for various environmental indicators based on the following broad environmental themes:

- land
- air
- water
- biodiversity
- waste
- noise
- aboriginal heritage
- non-aboriginal heritage

These environmental themes are consistent with those that have been reported in previous state of environment reports for the region and allow for comparison of information over time.

Environmental Indicators

The Pressure-State-Response model involves the measurement of a number of environmental conditions (indicators) to provide a picture of the environment. The criteria adopted in choosing these indicators are as follows:

- relevance - usefulness for users
- reliability - level of completeness, consistency, and accuracy of data
- timeliness - availability of data at a time suitable for reporting purposes
- sensitivity - able to show trends over time
- reproducible - well founded technically and able to take into account availability of resources
- policy linkage - linked to strategic goals
- utility - ability to be reproduced, over time, nationally and regionally.

The indicators identified in the Report are intended to be consistent with National, State and Regional indicators and be consistent over time. This intends to allow for monitoring results from national and state-based authorities to be included within the report (where relevant or available), ensure the report's relevance to national and state reporting processes and allow for environmental trends to be identified with greater reliability.

1.4 AIMS

The aims of the 2009-2010 Southern New England Supplementary State of the Environment Report are to:

- compile and present data on the current state of the environment for previously identified environmental indicators across the four local government areas of Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra, Uralla and Walcha;
- identify trends and report on changes in the environment from previous reports;
- satisfy the reporting requirements of the Local Government Act 1993;
- identify new or emerging issues within the Region;
- provide a basis for informing future Council Management Plans.

1.5 METHODOLOGY

The 2009-2010 Southern New England Supplementary State of the Environment Report examines several environmental indicators grouped into eight key environmental themes, as outlined above.

Data for each of the environmental indicators has been obtained from the four Councils of Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra Shire, Uralla Shire and Walcha, relevant State Government agencies, local community based organisations, local environmental groups and members of the public. Searches of the Internet were also conducted to collect relevant information.

Data gaps are identified within the report and are generally the result of an absence of any data, an inability of the relevant organisations to provide data within the period available, a lack of response or the relevant environmental indicator being a new or emerging issue.

Information presented in this report is generally defined by the boundaries of the respective local government areas. In some cases the local government boundaries do not correspond with Government agency boundaries (e.g. Catchment Management Authority boundaries) or other significant environmental areas. References are provided, where appropriate, to outline the relevance of information to the respective Council areas.

Where possible, data is presented to illustrate:

- the current state of the environment, with regard to particular environmental indicators, within each local government area during 2009-2010; and
- trends and changes that have occurred in relation to the respective environmental indicators within each local government area and across the broader region over time.

1.6 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND IDENTIFICATION OF ISSUES

Community consultation for the 2009-2010 Southern New England Supplementary State of the Environment Report was undertaken by placing advertisements in locally circulating newspapers and Council newsletters, and notices on the Council's web site, inviting members of the public to make submissions for inclusion in the State of the Environment Report.

Letters were also written to key local community organisations and local environmental groups inviting their submissions. These community organisations and local environmental groups were also invited to provide details of any activities or projects they had undertaken during 2009-2010 in relation to the local environment or heritage, details of any environmental monitoring conducted during 2009-2010 and outlining any new or emerging issues affecting the local environment that they were aware of.

2. SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND REGION PROFILE

2.1 SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND REGION

For the purpose of this Report, the Southern New England Region consists of the local government areas of Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra, Uralla and Walcha. The Southern New England Region covers approximately 18,127 km² and includes the four main urban centres of Armidale, Guyra, Uralla and Walcha.

The Southern New England Region straddles the Great Diving Range and is part of the New England Tableland Bioregion comprising a stepped plateau of hills and plains with elevations between 600m and 1500m ASL. Rainfall, temperature and soils change with topography and vegetation is very diverse with a high degree of endemism (www.decc.nsw.gov.au). Eastern parts of the Region are home to areas of the Central Eastern Rainforest Reserves World Heritage Area.

The Southern New England Region also contains numerous rivers and tributaries, draining into the Clarence River, Namoi River, Gwydir River and Macleay River catchments. These catchments are managed respectively by the Northern Rivers CMA, Namoi CMA, Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA and Hunter – Central Rivers CMA.

The Southern New England Region is also known for its high quality wool production and as a major production area for both lamb and beef cattle. Other significant industries in the area include forestry, mining and tourism.

Non-indigenous settlers first arrived in the Southern New England Region during the early 1800's, attracted by initial growth in agriculture and mining. Development onwards from this period has left many items of historical importance which exist alongside a rich Aboriginal culture in this unique natural environment.

Figure 1: Location of the Southern New England Region within NSW

Source: www.bom.gov.au

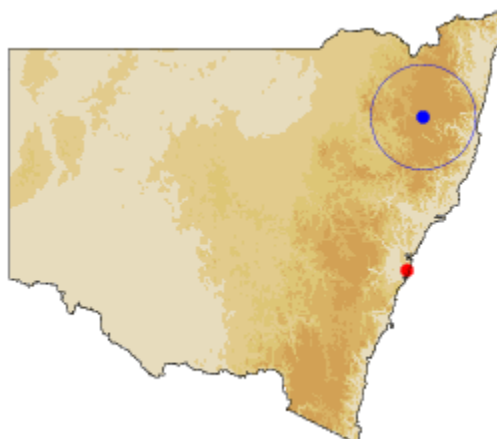
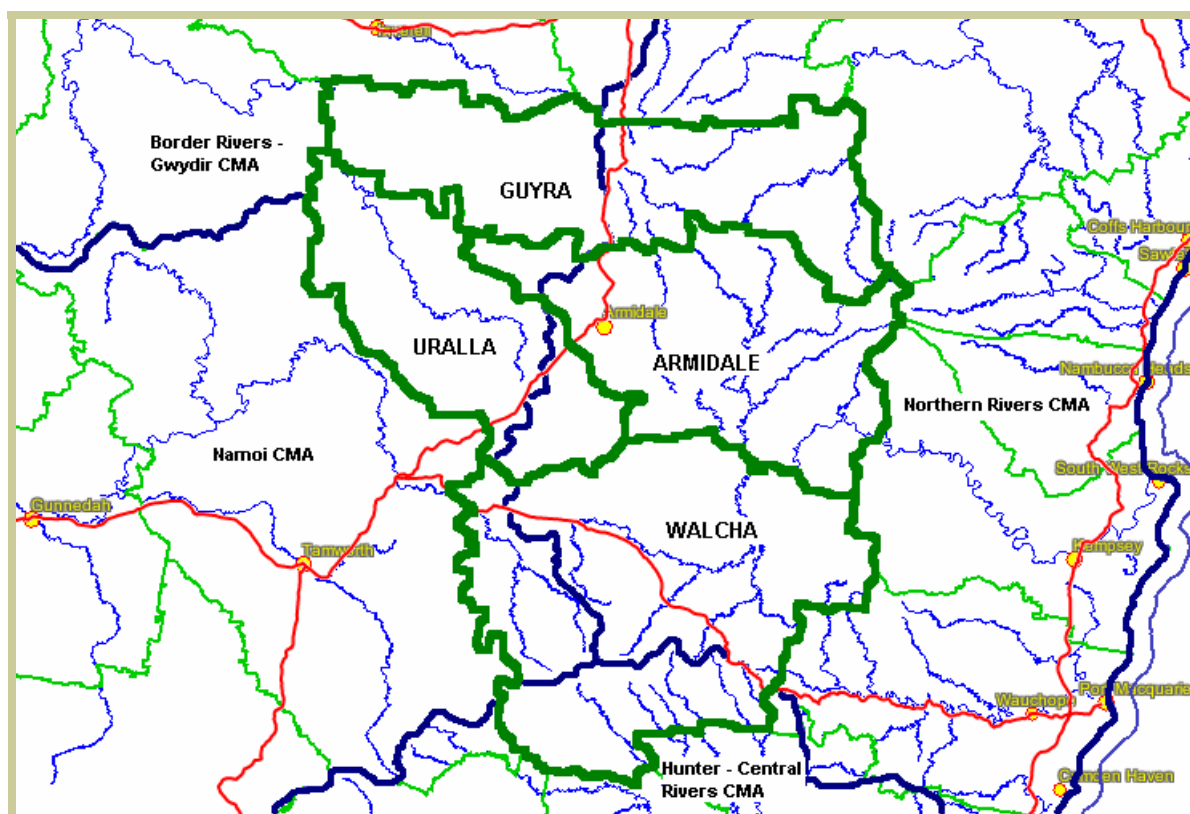


Figure 2: LGA and CMA Boundaries for the Southern New England Region

Regional Map created with the NSW Natural Resource Atlas – www.nratlas.nsw.gov.au (August, 2010). Copyright © 2010 New South Wales Government. Map has been compiled from various sources and may contain errors or omissions. No representation is made as to its accuracy or suitability.

2.2 POPULATION

After a number of years of declining population, trends appear to be reversing with the total estimated regional population at 30 June 2009 reaching 39,741, representing a 3.6% increase from 2006. Walcha was the only LGA that experienced a slight decrease in population between 2006 and 2009. Armidale remains the largest population centre, accounting for 64.6% of the Region's population.

Table 1: Population Summary for Southern New England Region

LGA	1991	1996	2001	2006	2009*	Pop. % (2009)	Area (km ²)
ADC	26,071	25,198	24,807	24,607	25,696	64.6	4,235
GSC	4,927	4,474	4,475	4,416	4,521	11.4	4,395
USC	6,183	6,048	6,099	6,007	6,238	15.7	3,230
WC	3,711	3,363	3,307	3,321	3,286	8.3	6,267
Region Total	40,892	39,083	38,688	38,351	39,741	100	18,127

* estimated resident population at 30 June 2009

Source: 3218.0 Regional Population Growth, Australia, Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2010

Armidale also has a distinctly different demographic characteristic to other settlements (such as age structure and mobility) due to the presence of the student population associated with the University of New England and boarding schools.

Table 2: Age Summary for Southern New England Region (2006)

Age Group	% of Population				
	ADC	GSC	USC	WC	Australia
0-4 years	5.8	7.2	6.0	6.0	6.3
5-14 years	14.1	15.7	15.2	15.0	13.5
15-24 years	21.2	10.7	11.2	9.6	13.6
25-54 years	35.8	36.6	39.5	37.5	42.2
55-64 years	10.3	13.7	14.3	14.9	11.0
65+ years	12.8	16.1	13.7	17.0	13.3
Median Age	34	39	41	42	37

2.3 CLIMATE

The climate of the Southern New England Region varies markedly between seasons and between locations throughout the Region. Topography is the most important factor that determines local rainfall, temperature and wind patterns. Altitude is closely related to maximum and minimum temperatures, with higher elevations experiencing longer periods between first and last frost and more extremes of cold during winter.

The Southern New England Region is dominated by cool, dry, west to south-westerly air supplied from the continental interior or from the southern oceans during winter, whereas summer months are predominantly easterly flows originating from the Tasman Sea. These airflows are then primarily responsible for the temperature and rainfall that is experienced in the region.

Airflows influence temperatures across the Region. Cold fronts that sweep across the region from the continental interior and southern oceans are responsible for the low temperatures that occur during the winter months, and conversely, the easterly airflow during summer months brings warmer conditions to the region.

Average minimum and maximum temperatures experienced in the region during summer months range between 12°C and 27°C, whereas the average winter minimum and maximum temperatures are -1°C to 12°C. Frosts are common during the colder months, occurring on an average 100 days per year, the first of which typically occur around Anzac Day (25th April). There are one to three months of the year with an average temperature greater than 18°C.

The Southern New England Region also lies within a zone of transition from the dominantly summer maximum rainfall areas of northern Australia to the dominantly winter maximum rainfall areas of the south. As such, the area is classified as having a maximum summer rainfall with numerous convectional thunderstorm events occurring as the cool maritime air flows from the east up onto the warmer escarpment causing atmospheric instability. Sixty to seventy percent of the total annual rainfall occurs during the summer months.

Higher rainfall peaks occur around the higher elevations toward the eastern edge of the escarpment and decrease toward the western areas of the region. Average annual rainfalls on the eastern edge of the region are in the order of 2000mm, decreasing to 700mm in the western region. Snow may often be associated with rainfall during the winter months, but is mainly confined to the higher regions along the eastern edge of the escarpment with an elevation generally in excess of 900m.

Figure 3: Average Temperatures – Southern New England Region

Source: Bureau of Meteorology (www.bom.gov.au)

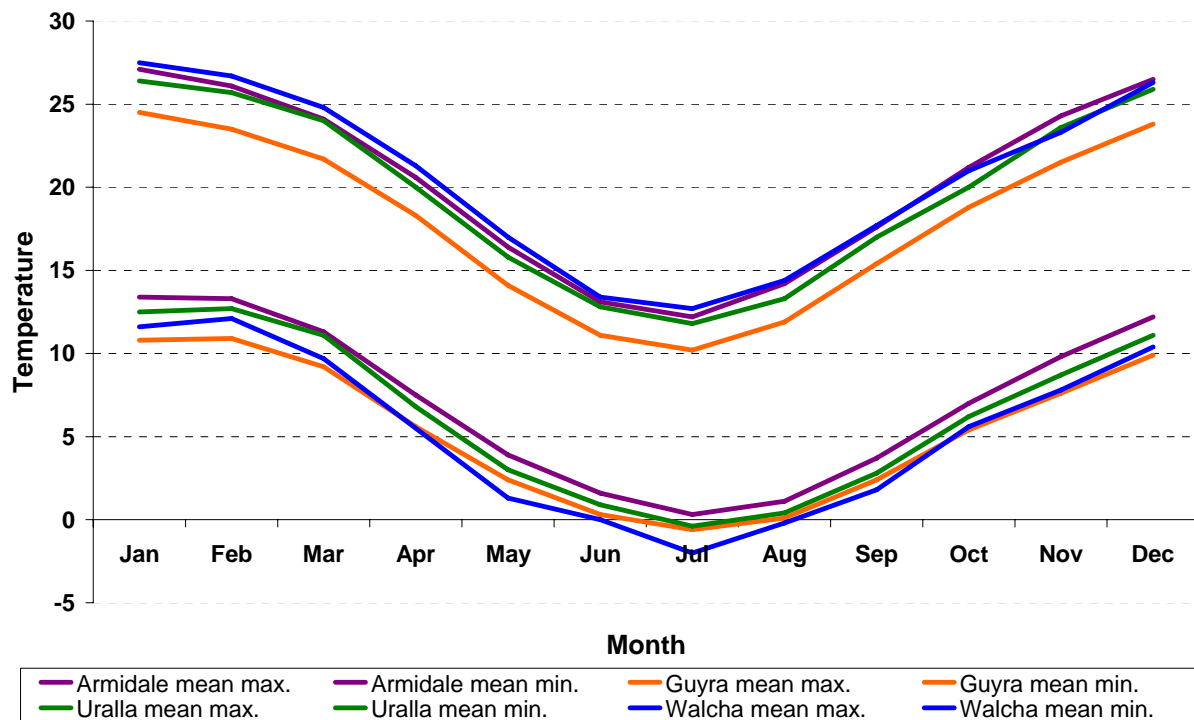
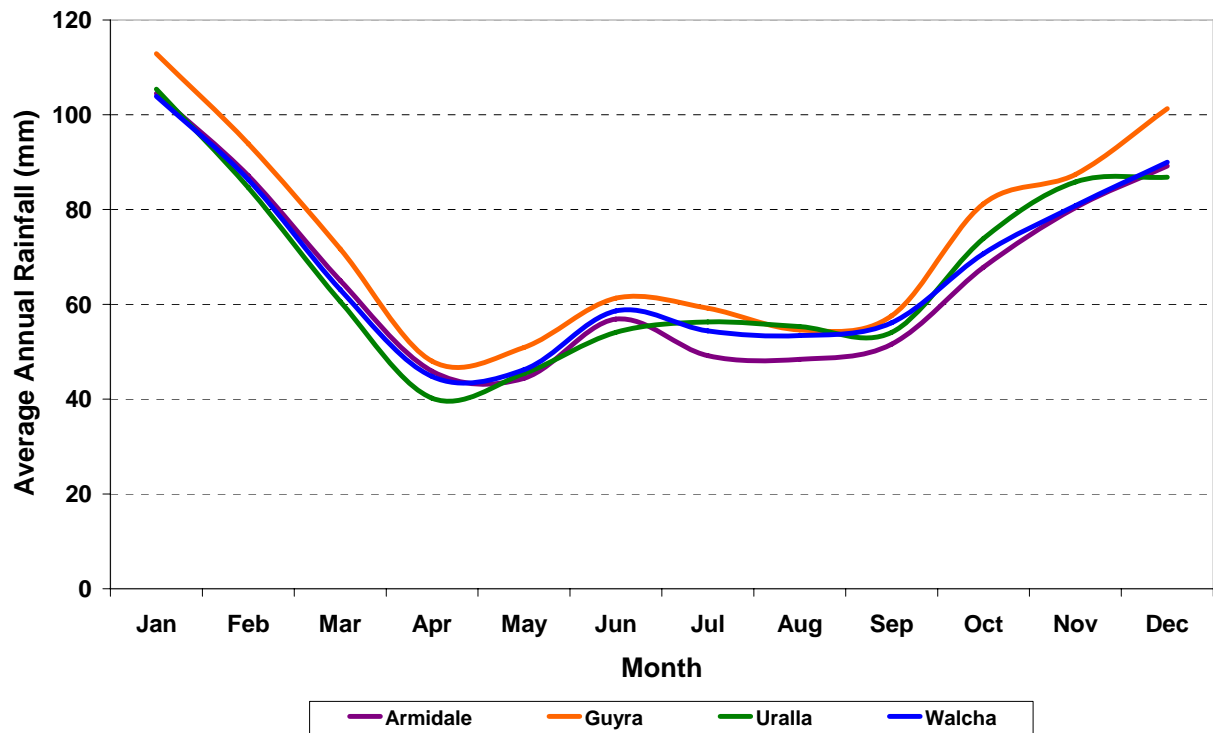


Figure 4: Average Annual Rainfall – Southern New England Region

Source: Bureau of Meteorology (www.bom.gov.au)



3. LAND

3.1 INTRODUCTION

The Southern New England Region covers an area of 18,127 km² with approximately 80% privately owned and 20% in public ownership. Privately owned land within the Region is primarily used for agricultural purposes of wool and beef cattle production, with less than 5% of agricultural land under crops and minimal irrigated agriculture.

The approximately 20% of land that is publicly owned includes uses such as National Parks, Forestry and travelling stock routes.

Land zoned for urban purposes, including residential, villages, industrial, commercial, open space and special uses, accounts for less than 0.3% of the land area within the Region.

3.2 LAND USE PRESSURES

Activities and issues that have previously been identified as creating pressure on land resources in the Southern New England Region include:

- use and management of rural land
- urban development
- drought
- weeds (see Part 6 – Biodiversity)
- bushfire
- extractive industry
- contaminated land

3.3 CONDITION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

The environmental indicators outlined below have been identified to assess and monitor the state, or condition of the environment with respect to land use and its management. This section provides up-dated data for the respective environmental indicators for 2009-2010.

3.3.1 Land Use and Management – Rural

Agricultural Stocking Rates

The stocking rate or carrying capacity of rural properties is a function of many factors including farm management techniques, seasonal variations and land capability. Stock carrying capacity can be used as a measure to indicate the effectiveness of land management techniques, but has limitations due to external influences such as drought.

Details in Table 3 are representative of the Armidale Rural Lands Protection Board (RLPB), which was replaced in January 2009 by New England Livestock Health and Pest Authority (LHPA). No figures have been provided since 2005-2006.

Table 3: Stock Numbers in the Southern New England Region

Stock	Number of Head						
	02/03	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10
Beef Cattle	309,027	322,877	357,320	<< DATA GAP >> No details provided by RLPB or LHPA			
Dairy Cattle	1,140	4,253	1,719				
Sheep	2,180,364	1,990,247	1,904,483				
Horses	3,726	4,383	3,862				
Goats	8,507	10,444	8,879				
Deer	213	303	152				
Pig	8,228	6,306	484				
Region DSE / ha	3.9	3.9	4.0				



Drought

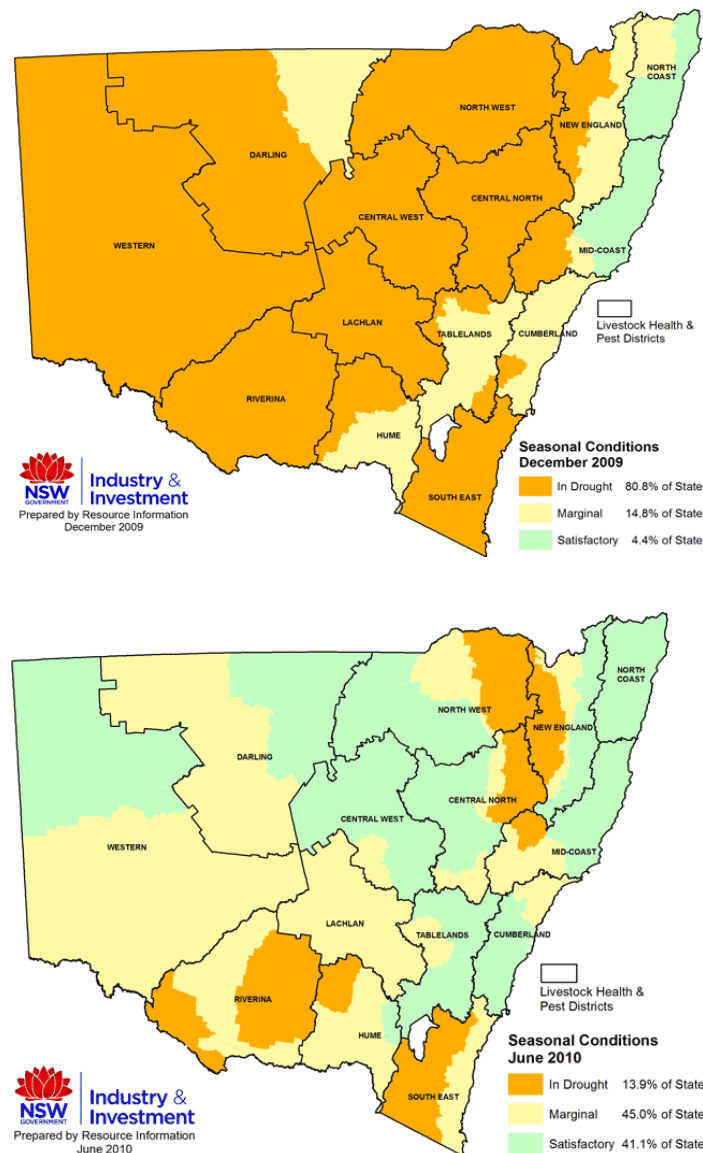
Drought and the incident or prevalence of drought conditions has a particularly strong influence on rural land use. The following maps produced by the NSW Department of Primary Industries show the extent of the Region that has been drought affected during 2009-20010. The maps show that varying parts of the Southern New England Region that have been identified as being either “in drought”, “marginal” or “satisfactory” as at December 2009 and June 2010.

Drought classification of an area takes into account the following factors:

- a review of historic rainfall records for the area;
- pasture availability;
- climatic events such as frosts; and
- seasonal factors such as pasture growing seasons.

Figure 5: NSW Drought Declared Areas – December 2009 and June 2010

Source: NSW Industry & Investment – Primary Industries (Agriculture)



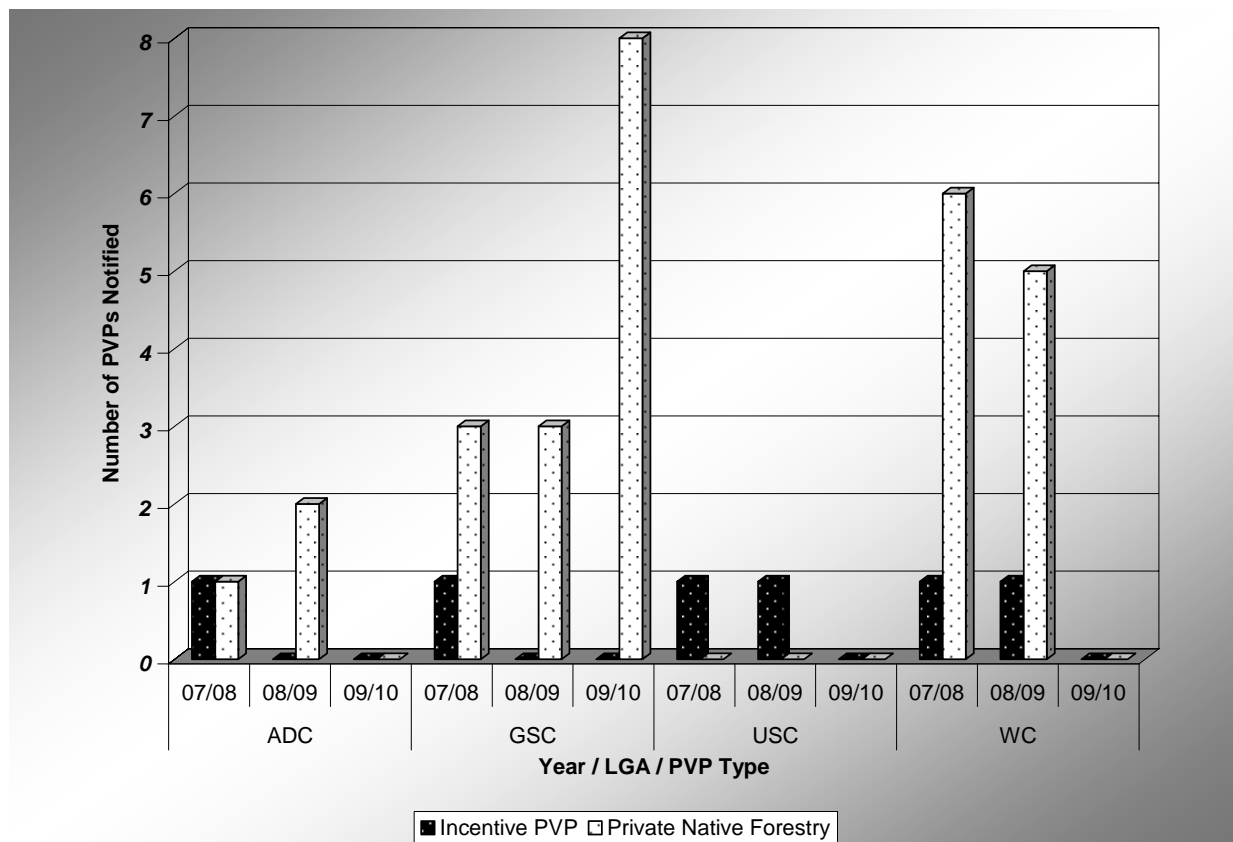
Land Clearing

The Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority (CMA) and Namoi CMA did not approve or refuse any applications to clear native vegetation during 2009-2010. Border Rivers – Gwydir CMA received 2 applications for clearing during 2009-2010 which were still under assessment at the end of the reporting period.

Property Vegetation Plans

Figure 6 shows the number of Property Vegetation Plans that have been notified to the respective Councils during 2007-2008, 2008-2009 and 2009-2010.

Figure 6: Property Vegetation Plans (PVP) Notified to Councils within the Southern New England Region



Management of Travelling Stock Routes

<<DATA GAP>> Information requested from the New England Livestock Health and Pest Authority (formerly Rural Lands Protection Board) regarding travelling stock route use and management, including total area (ha), frequency of use and number of stock using TSR has not been provided since 2007-2008.

3.3.2 Land Use and Management - Urban

The use and management of land for urban purposes has been identified as a form of pressure on land resources, particularly prime crop and pasture land.

Development Approvals

The following development approval statistics show the level of construction activity for the past five (5) years and provide an indication of development trends for the respective local government areas.

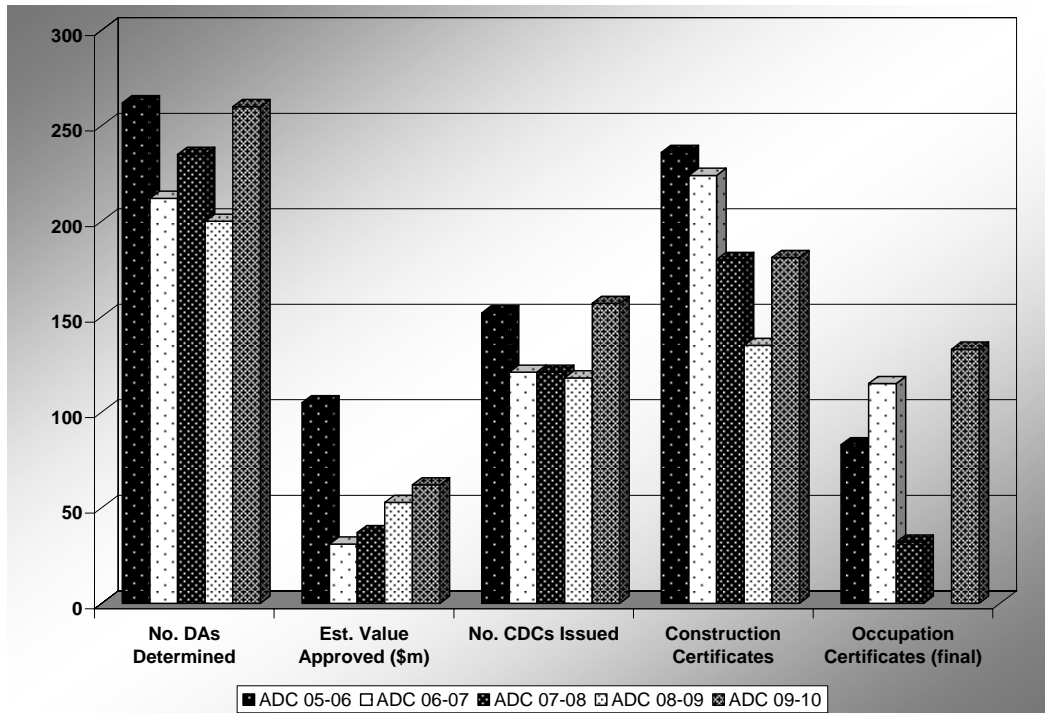
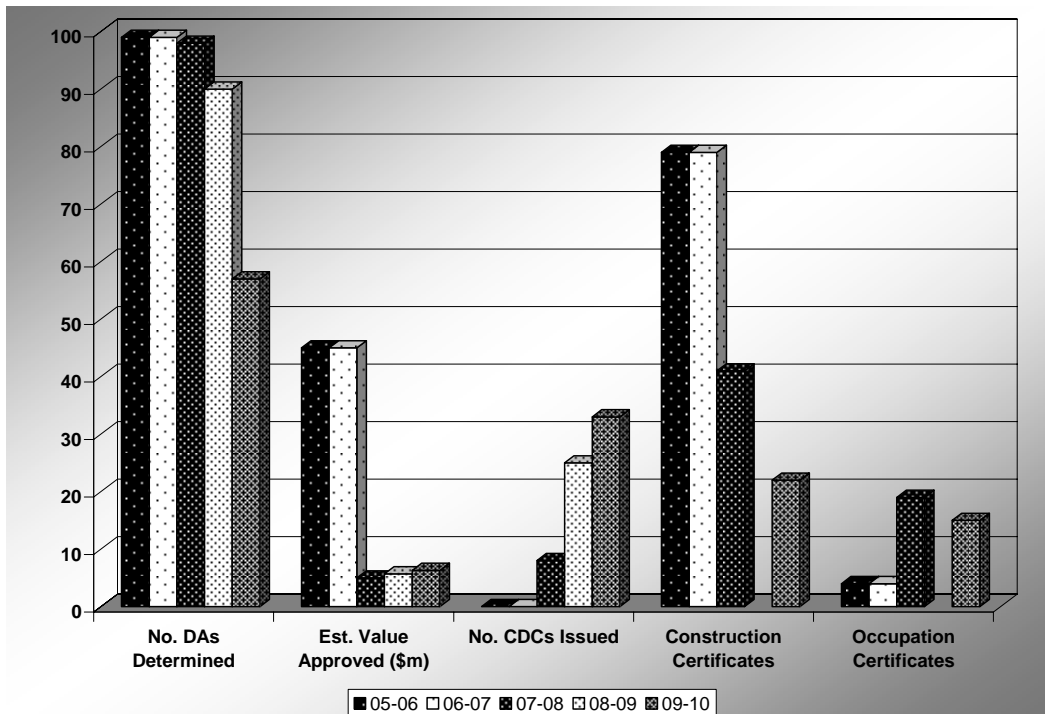
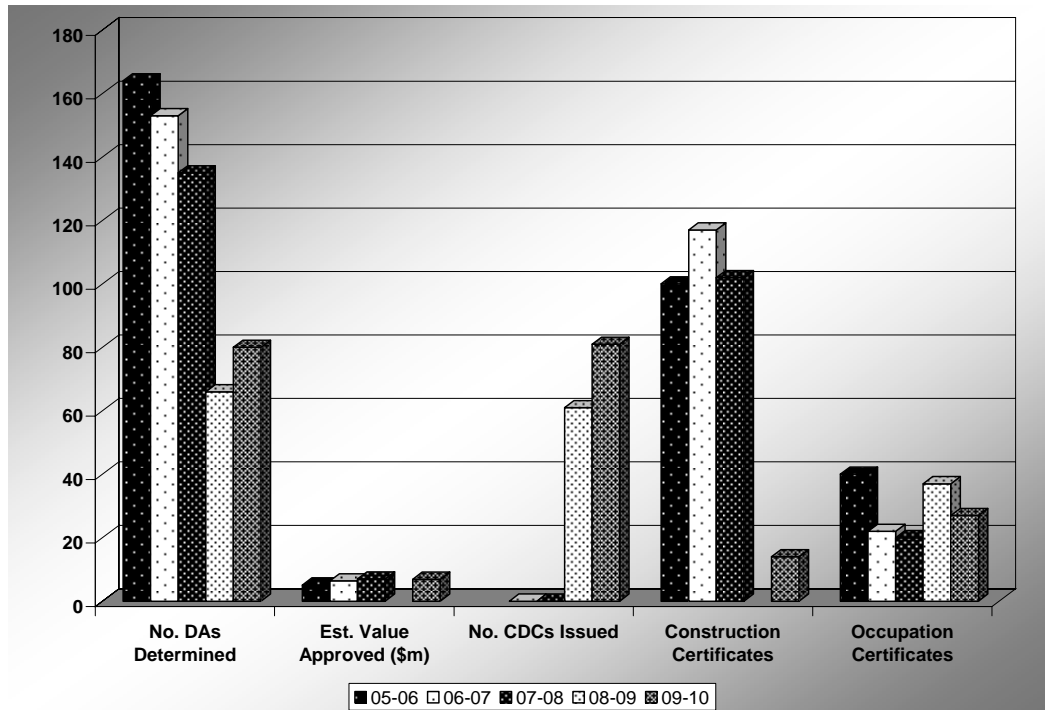
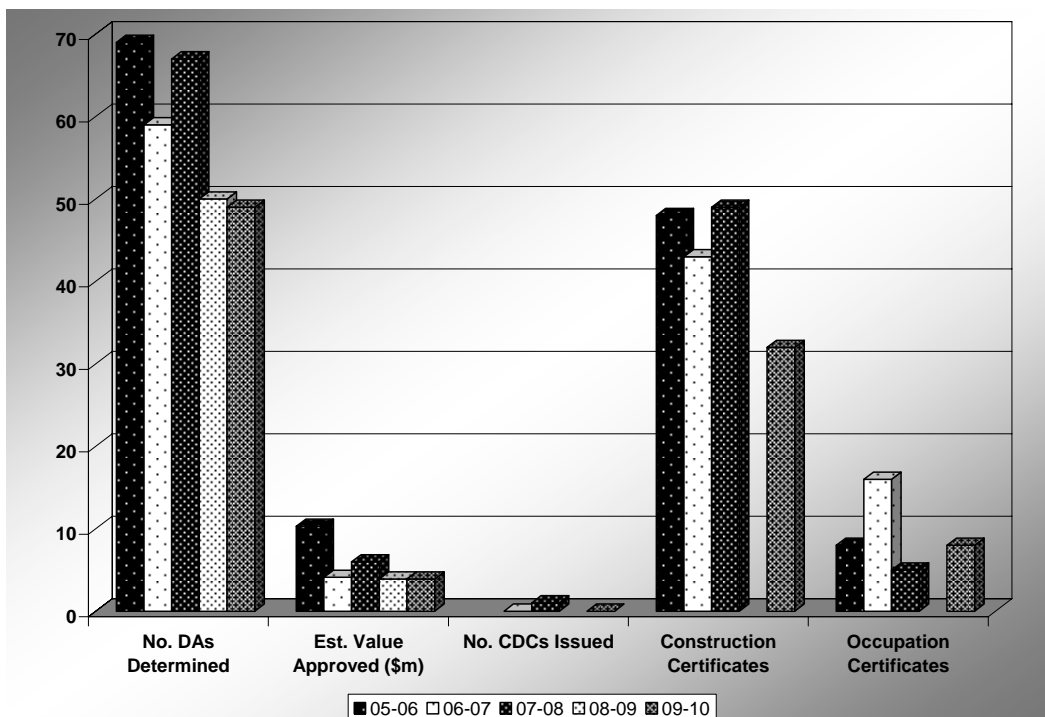
Figure 7: Development Approval Summary Data – Armidale Dumaresq Council**Figure 8: Development Approval Summary Data – Guyra Shire Council**

Figure 9: Development Approval Summary Data – Uralla Shire Council**Figure 10: Development Approval Summary Data – Walcha Council**

3.3.3 Bush Fire

Bush fires are recognised as a natural and recurring phenomenon that influence the environment and play a potentially significant role in the evolution and maintenance of both natural and cultural heritage values. Fires can also pose a significant threat to human life, property and the environment. Uncontrolled high intensity fires and a high frequency of fires have the greatest potential to harm the environment.

Bush fire management in rural areas of the Southern New England Region is carried out by the NSW Rural Fire Service – New England Zone (RFS). The National Parks and Wildlife Service and NSW Forests also carry out bushfire management on land under their control. Following is a summary of bush fire activity and management by the RFS in the New England Zone during 2009-2010, with comparative data for previous years where available.

Incidents / Fires Attended

During 2009-2010 the RFS responded to 317 incidents of which 213 (67%) were classified as fire/explosion. The number of incident responses was greater in 2009-2010 than the previous two years where the RFS responded to 271 incidents in 2008-2009 and 266 incidents in 2007-2008, of which 159 (59%) and 149 (56%) respectively were classified as fire/explosion. Some of the other incidents types contributing to the total number of incidents in 2009-2010 included false alarms (3), good intent calls (38), hazardous conditions (1) and motor vehicle accidents/rescue/emergency (53).

Area Burnt

The total area burnt by bushfires across the Southern New England Region during 2009-2010 was greater than 70,000ha, which is a significant increase from approximately 3000ha in 2008-2009 and 39,274ha burnt in 2007-2008.



Fire Permits

A total of 1083 fire permits were issued across the Southern New England Region during the 2009-2010 bush fire danger period, compared to 1213 in 2008-2009 and 1219 in 2007-2008.

Hazard Reduction

Approximately 14,393ha of land was subject to hazard reduction activities in 2009-2010 compared to 4,900ha in 2008-2009.

Community Education

During 2009-2010 the RFS conducted 22 community education programs aimed at increasing community awareness and preparedness for bush fires. A similar number of programs were conducted in 2008-2009 and 2007-2008.

Volunteer Numbers

The NSW Rural Fire Service – New England Zone had 1025 volunteer members during 2009-2010.

3.3.4 Extractive Industries

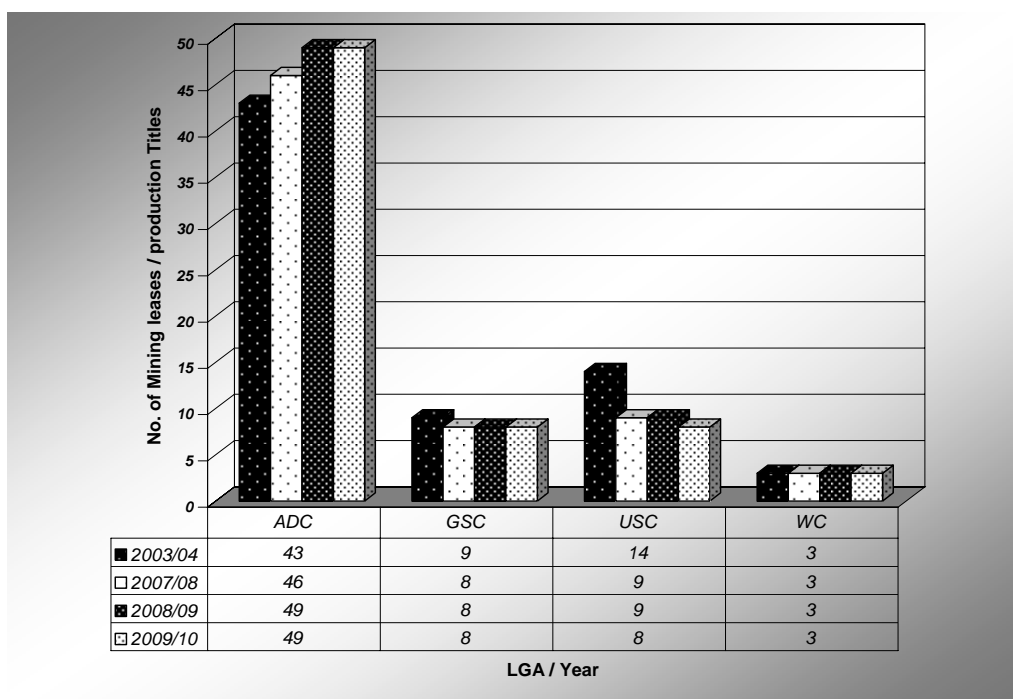
Mineral Claims, Mining Leases and Production Titles

As at 30 June 2010 there were a total of 68 current mining Production Titles across the Region, compared to 69 production titles in operation during 2008-2009, 66 mining leases or mineral claims in 2007-2008 and 69 in 2003-2004. No new Titles were granted during 2009-2010.

Figure 11 below provides a summary of mining activity in terms of the number of active mining leases or production titles by local government area over this period.

‘Production titles’ cover a number of titles, one of which is a mining lease. Other types of titles potentially include dredging leases, gold leases, private mining leases, coal mining leases etc.

Figure 11: Mining Leases and Production Titles



Of the 49 production titles active in the Armidale Dumaresq LGA during 2008-2009, 48 were held by Straits (Hillgrove) Gold Pty Ltd or Hillgrove Mining Pty Limited. Similarly in the Guyra LGA, all of the current production titles were held by Cluff Resources Pacific NL or Conrad Silver Mines Pty Ltd, and in Walcha LGA all current titles were held by O.T. Warden. Titles held in Uralla LGA were noticeably different in nature, with the 8 titles being held by 5 separate parties.

The total area covered by all Production Titles in the Southern New England Region during 2009-2010 was 2462ha, compared to 2703ha in 2008-2009 and 2466ha in 2007-2008. The total area of Mineral Claims for 2009-2010 was 1.9ha. No figures are available on the area covered by mineral claims or mining leases in previous years.

Table 4 below shows the area covered by production titles in the Southern New England Region by local government area for 2009-2010.

Table 4: Area Covered by Mining Production Titles in 2009-2010

LGA	No. of Production Titles	Area Covered by Production Titles (hectares)
ADC	49	1508.69
GSC	8	590.55
USC	8	1.98
WC	3	361.13

Exploration Licences

A total of 50 exploration licenses were current across the Southern New England Region during 2009-2010, compared to 43 in 2008-2009, 41 in 2007-2008 and 19 in 2003-2004. All four local government areas have experienced an increase in the number of exploration licenses current in their respective areas since 2003-2004.

Table 5: Current Exploration Licences

Exploration Licences*	Armidale Dumaresq	Guyra	Uralla	Walcha
2003-2004	9	7	2	1
2007-2008	17 (4)	20 (5)	7 (5)	8 (2)
2008-2009	18 (8)	17 (6)	7 (4)	12 (3)
2009-2010	25 (15)	21 (9)	11 (9)	15 (5)

* Figures above indicate the total number of licenses located fully or partly within the respective local government areas, while the number of licenses that cross LGA boundaries are shown in brackets.

Extractive Industries

No new extractive industries / quarries were registered across the Southern New England Region during 2009-2010.

3.3.5 Contaminated Land

Sites Subject to Notices or Orders

Table 6 lists sites within the Southern New England Region that are currently subject to notices relating to land contamination. The notices are issued by the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (incorporating former Environment Protection Authority). No new notices were issued during 2009-2010.

Table 6: Current Notices for Contaminated Land

Source: Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water

LGA	Site	Occupier	Notice Type	Issue Date
Uralla	Walcha Road, Uralla	Koppers Australia Pty Ltd	Remediation Order	September 1992
Armidale Dumaresq	Armidale Gas Works	Armidale Dumaresq Council	Notice of agreed Voluntary Remediation Proposal	December 2002

Armidale Gasworks

Remediation of the Armidale Gas Works site commenced in 2005-2006 and was completed towards the end of that period. During 2006-2007, validation of the remediation work was carried out by an accredited site auditor and a site validation report was completed.

Since this time, the site has been the subject of ongoing monitoring in accordance with a Post Construction Site Environmental Management Plan (PCSEMP). In April 2010 an Environmental Assessment Report was prepared for Council to evaluate the ongoing efficacy of the gasworks remediation measures, to validate the performance of the remediation measures or identify whether a requirement for contingency actions has been triggered. In summary, the report concluded that *the vertical barrier wall appears to be functioning as demonstrated by both physical and chemical groundwater monitoring results. However, ground water concentrations outside of the wall still exceed the compliance targets for protection of Dumaresq Creek. In accordance with the PCSEMP, this triggers further evaluation comprising a quantitative risk assessment. Apart from this action, routine compliance monitoring needs to continue at least for another year.*

3.3.6 Salinity

No specific details or mapping of areas affected by salinity or rising water tables are currently available for the Southern New England Region. However, it is recognised that parts of the Region are affected by salinity. No specific activities relating to salinity have been undertaken during the current reporting period.

3.4 RESPONDING TO LAND USE PRESSURES

Land Use / Management

All Councils

- In recent years the four Councils of the Southern New England Region have been participating in a project to prepare a Development Strategy and Local Environmental Plan (LEP) based on the Standard LEP template introduced by the State Government.

Following a period of public exhibition and consideration of submissions, the Draft New England Development Strategy was adopted by each of the Councils in April / May 2009 and the Final Strategy was endorsed by the Department of Planning on 16 March 2010. Planners from the four Councils have been meeting regularly since May 2010 to undertake preparation of the Draft LEP(s).

- Work is continuing across the four Councils on the Hi-CUB (High Country Urban Biodiversity) project which aims to confront the degradation of riparian and urban bushland and the fragmented network of responses by institutional and community players, and urban use of waste, water and energy. Further details are outlined in Part 6 – Biodiversity.

Armidale Dumaresq Council

Council has prepared a number of amendments to the Armidale Dumaresq LEP 2008 (LEP) during 2009-2010, including:

- LEP Amendment No.2

Draft Amendment No.2 and the related Armidale Dumaresq DCP 2007 Draft Amendment No.3 relate to exempt and complying development. In May 2010 Council resolved to withdraw LEP Amendment No.2 and repeal DCP Amendment No.3 due to ongoing changes by the NSW Government to the State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008.

- LEP Amendment No 3

In December 2009 Council resolved to prepare Draft Amendment No.3 which originally comprised the following components:

- (a) increase minimum lot sizes (MLS) for subdivisions in Residential 2(a) zone from 400m² to 500m², introduce a limit on the number of lots with an area less than 600m² within any new subdivision that creates 10 or more lots, and remove the MLS requirements for attached and detached dual occupancy developments in Residential 2(a) zone.
- (b) increase permitted retail floor area for neighbourhood shops
- (c) rezoning part 15-57 Crest Road, Armidale, to Residential 2(a).

A Gateway Determination from the Department of Planning accepted components (b) and (c) but substantially rejected component (a) such that the only proposed change was to remove the MLS requirement for attached dual occupancy developments. Council considered the Final Planning Proposal at its meeting on 28 June 2010 and resolved to refer it to the Department of Planning with a request that the Minister make the amendment.

- LEP Amendment No.4

Draft Amendment No 4 involved typographical corrections to three property descriptions in Schedule 2: Heritage Items and a correction to a drafting error in a sunset provision relating to dwelling entitlements on certain land in the Rural Living 1(b) zone. The amendment to Schedule 2 was dealt with under section 73A of the EP&A Act 1979 and subsequently came into effect when it was published on the NSW legislation website on 19 March 2010. The matter relating to dwelling entitlements in Rural Living 1(b) zone was considered under LEP Amendment No.5.

- LEP Amendment No.5

Draft Amendment No 5 seeks to correct a drafting error in order to remove a sunset provision relating to dwelling entitlements on certain land within the Rural Living 1(b) zone. Council was advised on 22 June 2010 that the Minister's delegate had made the plan and that it will come into effect until published on NSW Government's legislation website.

- LEP Amendment No.6

The Planning Proposal for Draft Amendment No 6 comprises:

- (a) removal of staged release of land in Rural Fringe 1(c) zone; and
- (b) extend the sunset period for historical dwelling entitlements in Rural 1(a) and 1(b) zones.

The Planning Proposals were endorsed by Council at its meeting on 28 June 2010 for forwarding to the Department of Planning for a Gateway Determination.

In addition to the above LEP amendments, Council has also undertaken the following land use planning actions during 2009-2010.

- during February 2010, Council prepared and distributed media, guidelines, local industry letters, etc advising of planning requirements for solar panels and solar hot water systems. A reduced application fee of \$50 for domestic solar system installations was adopted by Council at its meeting on 29 March 2010 for instances where Council approval is necessary.
- Council adopted the Armidale Bulky Goods Retail and Industrial Lands Study in May 2010.
- In May 2010, Council resolved to place on public exhibition a draft amendment to Armidale Dumaesq DCP 2007 – Chapter C5 – Development Involving Places of Heritage Significance. The amendment includes changes to European heritage provisions, as recommended by Council's Heritage Advisor, and incorporation of requirements relating to Aboriginal Heritage.
- In June 2010, Council resolved to place on public exhibition a draft Public Art Policy
- Council entered into a Planning Agreement with Regional Land Pty Ltd and Hardies Armidale Pty Limited in relation the provision of infrastructure and public open space for a 120 lot residential subdivision on Link Rd, Armidale. The Planning Agreement was executed in July 2010.

Bushfire

Refer to Part 3.3.3 for details of activities undertaken by the NSW Rural Fire Service New England Zone during 2009-2010.

Armidale Dumaresq

- identification of grass hazards on unformed road reserves at the urban-rural interface and undertaking hazard reduction mowing during the bushfire season.
- hazard reduction mowing around key Council infrastructure items such as waste management facility and sewer treatment plant

Guyra Shire Council

- slashing of high risk / hazard areas covering approx. 65ha on a recurring basis.

Uralla Shire Council

- hazard reduction activities over approx. 14ha, including Racecourse Lagoon in 2009 as part of the Lagoon's Plan of Management and perimeter asset protection zones at Uralla, Bundarra and Kingstown landfills.

Walcha Council

- ongoing slashing of road reserves and hazard reduction around landfill sites

Extractive Industry***Guyra Shire Council***

During the reporting period, Council undertook embankment shaping and restoration over approx. 500m² at Youman's Pit as part of an ongoing rehabilitation plan.

Contaminated Land***Armidale Dumaresq Council***

- Water sampling and ground water depth monitoring to measure the performance of a containment cell at the Armidale Gasworks site is ongoing.
- In May 2010, Armidale Dumaresq Council hosted and participated in a Contaminated Land Workshop for Council officers conducted by the Department of Environment Climate Change and Water and the Local Government and Shires Association.
- During 2009-2010 Armidale Dumaresq Council undertook a desktop investigation of potentially contaminated sites in its rural area (former Dumaresq Shire). As a result, a number of sites were added to Council's Potentially Contaminated Land Information System including 13 extractive industry sites, 15 former orchard sites, 3 service station sites, 2 sheep dips, a piggery, fertiliser storage facility, depot and scrap yard. Due to the sensitive nature of details relating to potential site contamination, specific details of the properties involved are not included in this report.

Uralla Shire Council

Water sampling to investigate potential contamination levels at the closed Kentucky Landfill commenced in June 2010 under funding from the Border Rivers Gwydir CMA. Water sampling will continue into late 2010 and a final report will be prepared at the conclusion of this program.

4. AIR AND CLIMATE CHANGE

4.1 INTRODUCTION

The Southern New England Region generally experiences a high level of air quality and relatively low occurrences of atmospheric pollution, due mainly to limited urban development and the presence of few polluting industries. However, despite this isolated air quality issues still exist, such as wood smoke pollution in Armidale, which are discussed below.

4.2 AIR QUALITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES

The primary issues and activities affecting air quality in the Southern New England Region are broadly identified as:

- particulate matter (e.g. wood smoke, bushfires, dust)
- odour
- greenhouse gas emissions

Activities affecting or creating additional pressure with respect to climate change are many and varied and extend beyond the boundaries of the Southern New England Region. Notwithstanding the complexity of climate change issues, Council and community groups are continuing to proactively educate and campaign for change.

4.3 CONDITION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

The following indicators have been established to monitor activities in the Southern New England Region that contribute to the condition of air quality and potential impacts on climate change. This section provides an up-date on the indicators for 2009-2010.

4.3.1 Environment Protection Licences

There are twelve (12) premises in the Southern New England Region that have environment protection licences issued under Section 55 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* with conditions relating to air discharge or air quality. The following Table identifies the premises with licence conditions relating to air and any incidents of non-compliance with licence conditions for annual licence returns submitted during 2009-2010. Details obtained from POEO Public Register on DECCW web site.

Table 7: Compliance with Environment Protection Licence Conditions Relating to Air Quality

Licence No.	Activity (Licensee)	Compliance with Licence Conditions
Armidale Dumaresq LGA		
5860	Waste Management Facility (Armidale Dumaresq Council)	complied
1722	Sewage Treatment Plant (Armidale Dumaresq Council)	details not yet published
921	Hillgrove Mine (Straits (Hillgrove) Gold Pty Ltd)	complied
12481	Metz Quarry (Boral Resources)	complied
3556	Wardlaw Piggery (Ross Wardlaw)	details not yet published
Guyra LGA		
11792	Guyra Quarry (Inverell Aggregate Supplies)	details not yet published
1671	Guyra Waste Water Treatment Plant (Guyra Shire Council)	complied
Uralla LGA		
5899	Landfill (Uralla Shire Council)	complied
1626	Uralla Sewage Treatment Plant (Uralla Shire Council)	complied
Walcha LGA		
6120	Waste Depot (Walcha Council)	complied
5572	Boral Timber Mill (Allen Taylor & Company Pty Ltd)	complied
2613	Walcha Sewage Treatment Plant (Walcha Council)	complied

From the information available, there were no reported incidences of non-compliance with air quality conditions in relation to annual returns for environmental protection licences in force across the Southern New England Region during 2009-2010.

4.3.2 Complaints Register

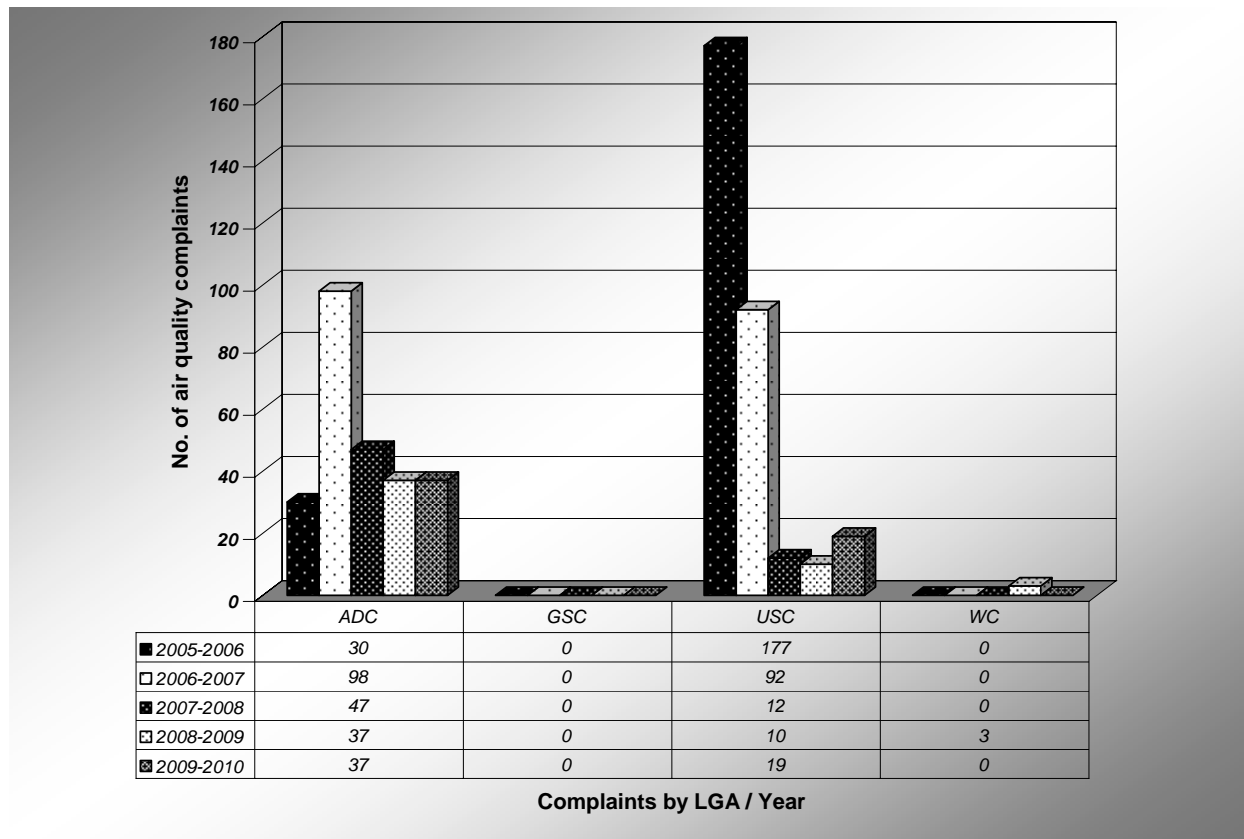
During 2009-2010 Armidale Dumaresq Council received thirty-seven (37) air quality complaints. Complaints regarding smoke from domestic wood heaters or odour were the source of most complaints, accounting for a total of thirty-one (31) complaints, while five (5) complaints were received in relation to dust. One (1) complaint was received in relation to dust. The level of recorded complaints received in 2009-2010 is similar to 2008-2009 as shown below in Figure 12 and Table 8.

Wood smoke pollution in Armidale continues to generate the greatest number of resident complaints. Further details relating to wood smoke, including monitoring and actions undertaken by Council, are outlined below.

Guyra Shire Council has not received any complaints relating to air quality or air pollution over the past five (5) reporting periods. Walcha Council has only received three (3) dust complaints (2008-2009) over the same period.

Uralla Shire Council received nine (16) odour complaints and one (3) dust complaint during 2009-2010.

Figure 12: Air Quality Complaints Received By Councils in the Southern New England Region



The following Table indicates the nature of complaints and the corresponding number of complaints that were received by the respective Councils over the last four (4) reporting periods.

Table 8: Number of Air Complaints by Type by LGA

Type of Complaint	Local Government Area / Year											
	ADC				GSC	USC				WC		
	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	06-10	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	06-08	08-09	09-10
odour	3	9	17	12	nil	89	12	9	16	nil	-	-
smoke	95	31	17	19		3	-	-	3		-	-
dust	-	6	3	5		-	-	1	-		3	-
other	-	1*	-	1		-	-	-	-		-	-

*complaint related to asbestos

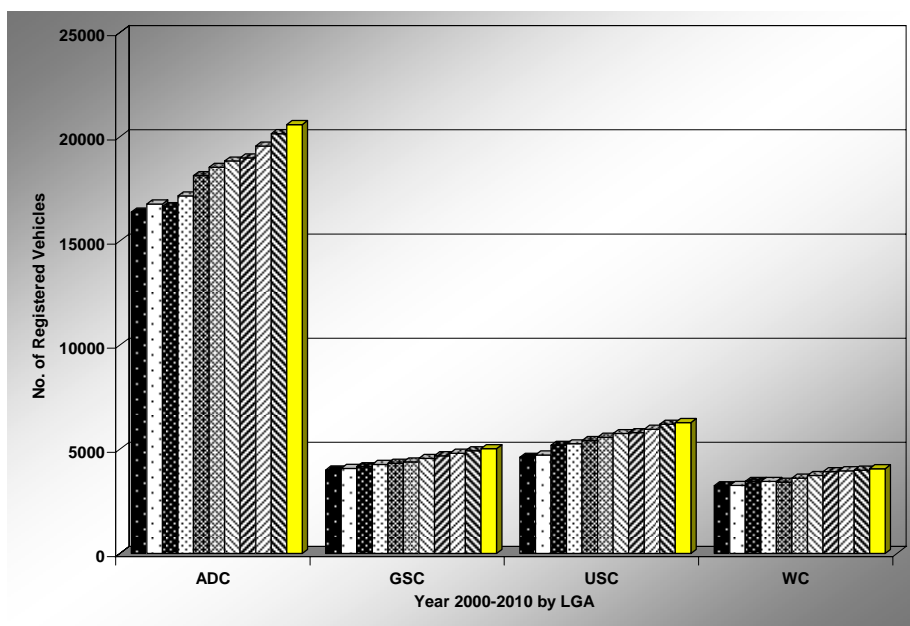
4.3.3 Transport

Motor vehicles remain the primary mode of transport within the Southern New England Region due to factors such as distance between urban centres and limited public transport.

The number of registered vehicles in the Region continues to increase annually, as shown below in Figure 13. For the 12 month period to 30 June 2010, there were 690 more registered vehicles across the Region area than the previous 12 month period. The increase in registered vehicles during 2009-2010 is less than the previous two years which saw 983 additional registered vehicles in 2008-2009 and 905 during 2007-2008. Although no figures on pollutants associated with or emitted by motor vehicles are available, the trend of increasing vehicle numbers suggests that resulting air pollution and emissions would also be increasing.

Figure 13: Number of Registered Vehicles by LGA

Source: NSW Roads and Traffic Authority (www.rta.nsw.gov.au)



Statistics available from the RTA for the 12 month period to 30 June 2010 show the number of LPG and petrol hybrid vehicles registered. Of a total of 14033 registered passenger vehicles across the Southern New England Region, 169 (1.2%) are LPG or petrol hybrid vehicles. The number of light trucks registered across the Region is 7488 with 132 (2.8%) being LPG or petrol hybrid.

While no comparative figures are available for previous years, these baseline statistics should enable trends in the use of more fuel efficient vehicles to be measured over time.

4.3.4 Road Sealing Program

Unsealed roads have the potential to contribute to air pollution through dust generated by vehicles using these roads. Council road sealing programs help to reduce dust generation. Table 9 outlines the number of kilometres of roads that have been sealed across the Southern New England Region by local government area from 2005-2006 to 2009-2010.

Table 9: Road Sealing (km) per LGA by Year

	ADC	GSC	USC	WC	Region (total km)
2005-2006					10.91
2006-2007	0.31	-	3.85	3.24	7.4
2007-2008	2.4	1.58	4.1	-	8.08
2008-2009	2.2	0.14	0.9	2.2	5.44
2009-2010	-	-	3.1	4.3	7.4

4.3.5 Council Vehicle Fleet

Armidale Dumaresq Council

Council's existing passenger vehicle fleet consists of 26 vehicles which in 2009-2010 travelled an average of 20,604km each and consumed a total of 63,024 litres of fuel.

Council's light commercial vehicle fleet consists of 24 vehicles which in 2009-2010 travelled an average of 19,364km each and consumed a total of 58,092 litres of fuel.

4.3.6 Air Quality Monitoring

Guyra Shire Council and Walcha Council did not undertake any air quality monitoring during the 2009-2010 reporting period.

Uralla Shire Council responded to two complaints, being an odour complaint at which staff were unable to detect the offending odour and a smoke complaint relating to the illegal burning a green waste material. In the latter instance, warnings were issued to the party involved.

The absence of air quality monitoring by Guyra Shire Council and Walcha Council is consistent with the low number of complaints received by the Councils relating to air quality or air pollution issues.

Air quality monitoring has been undertaken by Armidale Dumaresq Council during 2009-2010 in relation to wood smoke pollution from domestic wood heaters. Further details relating specifically to wood smoke issues in Armidale are discussed below.

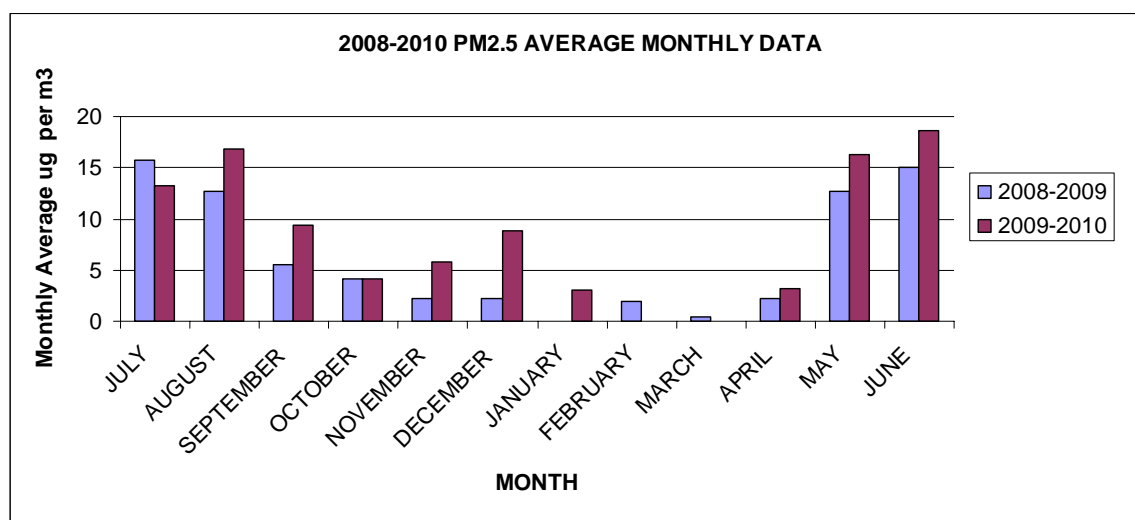
4.3.7 Monitoring of Wood Smoke in Armidale

Air quality monitoring is undertaken by Armidale Dumaresq Council using a portable DustTrak™ Aerosol Monitor (model 8520) to record PM2.5 (2.5 micron) particulate matter concentrations in the city's atmosphere. Results of this monitoring are presented on Council's website and in local print media each week. The DustTrak™ Monitor provides indicative measures of particulate level concentrations. Actual concentrations require measurement using expensive scientific equipment. Council provides the indicative measurements for the purpose of community awareness and environmental performance measurement.

Council's DustTrak™ has been collecting data every five minutes since June 2008, using the factory set calibration. Recently the DustTrak™ has been recalibrated using the services of the Tasmania Scientific and Technical Branch EPA Division. The results of the calibration show the DustTrak™ 8520 monitor has been overestimating the particulate concentrations. This has been accounted for in the following presentation of monthly averages of PM2.5 particulate concentrations.

The following graph shows monitoring results for 2009-2010 financial year along with results from the previous reporting period (Note: no data for January 2008-2009 and no data for February / March 2009-2010 due to DustTrak™ servicing).

Figure 14: Average monthly concentration of PM2.5 particles (calibrated)



4.3.8 Energy Consumption and Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Armidale Dumaresq Council

Council has engaged Planet Footprint Pty Ltd to provide reports on the performance of Council's operations in terms of energy and water usage.

Energy reports from Planet Footprint Pty Ltd provide details of electricity usage for overall Council operations (excluding street lighting) and street lighting separately. The following Figures are taken from the Planet Footprint reports for 2009-2010 and provide a summary of energy use and corresponding greenhouse gas emissions for Armidale Dumaresq Council.

Figure 15: Armidale Dumaresq Council Energy Consumption, Charges and Greenhouse Gas Emissions (excluding street lighting)

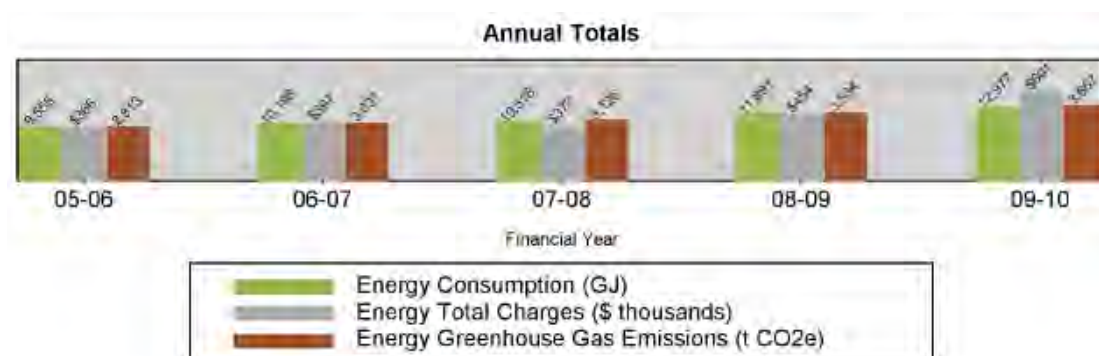


Figure 16: Comparative Data for Energy Consumption, Charges and Greenhouse Gas Emissions (excluding street lighting)

				Financial Quarter 4, 2009-2010			
				Best	Median	Mean	Armidale Dumaresq Council
	Energy consumption per resident per day	MJ/resident/day	32	0.60	1.95	2.00	1.27
	Energy total charges per resident per day	cents/resident/day	32	3.60	8.30	8.91	5.95
	Greenhouse gas per resident per day	kg CO ₂ /resident/day	32	0.055	0.527	0.529	0.378

Figure 17: Armidale Dumaresq Council Street Lighting Energy Consumption and Greenhouse Gas Emissions (excluding street lighting)



Guyra Shire Council

Council has recently contracted Planet Footprint to monitor energy usage and identify areas for improvement. A check of the electricity used has revealed that during 2009-2010 Council used 5.6% more electricity than in the previous year.

Uralla Shire Council

Uralla Shire Council engaged Planet Footprint to start energy use data collection in July 2010. Further information will be available for future reports.

4.3.9 Potential Impacts of Climate Change

Details regarding the forecast impacts of climate change have been developed by NSW government agencies and the University of NSW, and published by the NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change. A copy of the Department's climate change projections for the New England / North-West are reproduced in Appendix 1. The main points of the executive summary are reproduced below.

- By 2050, the climate is virtually certain to be hotter. Rainfall is likely to increase in all seasons except winter
- Run-off and stream flow are likely to increase in summer and autumn and decrease in spring and winter
- Sheet, rill and gully erosion are likely to worsen on the western slopes and plains but gully erosion on the tablelands is likely to ease on the most vulnerable soils. Soil acidification problems are likely to ameliorate on the tablelands and slopes
- Floods are likely to increase in frequency and intensity, particularly along smaller streams. Levees are likely to be less effective at protecting towns
- Widespread changes to natural ecosystems are likely. Highly vulnerable ecosystems include higher altitude ecosystems, inland wetlands and highly fragmented ecosystems. Plant cover is likely to decline on the drier central western slopes and plains but to increase on the warmer tablelands. Changes in the fire regime are likely to have widespread impacts.

4.4 RESPONDING TO AIR QUALITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES**Particulate Matter*****Armidale Dumaresq Council***

During 2009-2010 the former Domestic Energy Working Party of Council became a recognized full Committee of Council, being the Domestic Energy Committee. A major milestone for the Committee was Council's adoption of the new Policy for Sustainable Domestic Energy Use and Air Quality (POL134) in June 2010. The Policy was adopted following an unprecedented consultation process including a dedicated Industry Forum and Public Forum and a 42 day exhibition period. There was an enthusiastic response from the community with 86 "Have your Say" responses and a further 32 detailed submissions on the draft Policy. The new Policy, replacing Council's Ambient Air Policy, is more detailed and wide scoping. The most salient features of the Policy are as follows:

- increased focus on the education of the community for domestic energy and wood heater use
- broadened attention given to domestic energy use as opposed to wood heater use

- recognition of the importance for research and development, especially with the University of New England
- recognition for continued funding to support Council resources in dealing with air quality issues
- more sophisticated and enhanced reporting of air quality data
- the inclusion of a Local Approvals Policy for Solid Fuel Heaters which lowers the allowable emission levels of any heater installed in both residential and non-residential areas post February 2011
- greater emphasis to be given for heater installations to be approved by Council as a legislative requirement
- an efficient process in Council to support approvals at a low cost to residents
- a clear protocol for the enforcement of clean air regulations where excessive smoke is produced

In addition to Council's new Policy, the following measures were also undertaken in response to wood smoke issues:

- education campaigns to address wood smoke:

Targeted education using Wood heater Information kits containing DVD, fridge magnet and wood heating information delivered to residences identified as producing excessive smoke (smoke patrols by Council / complaints). Council Officer's check wood heating practices and offer advice at this time if residents present.

The University of New England (UNE) has an active research project aimed at identifying the effects of education and/or technology (SmartBurn™) on Armidale resident's wood heating practices. 400 homes within the Armidale city area have been selected to receive one of four 'treatments'; no intervention, education material, SmartBurn™ device, or both education material and a SmartBurn™ device.

- wood fire replacement program:

During 2009-2010 Council offered a \$700 rebate (\$750 for pensioners and healthcare card holders) to replace wood heaters with a suitable alternative. Council issued 10 wood fire replacement rebates for the 2009-2010 period, which was down on the 2008-2009 financial years total of 14.

- other actions to address wood smoke:

Education, media, incentives (cash), use of technology (SmartBurn™), research into behavioural change (UNE), compliance and responding to complaints. Targeted education for wood heater retailers and fitters

At this stage the results of broader wood smoke levels across the city are inconclusive as only two (2) years of data are available. But initial results from UNE research show a significant observable reduction in wood-smoke emissions from those 400 households taking part in the research program using SmartBurn™ or educative intervention.

- responding to complaints

Complaints are investigated / assessed by Council Officers who offer education material and advice, and provide an outline of legislative requirements.

Transport

Armidale Dumaresq Council

Council generally changes vehicles over within 3 years or 60,000 / 70,000km. Where there is an opportunity to do so, Council purchases LPG / 4 cylinder turbo charged passenger vehicles.

Uralla Shire Council

In early 2010 Council purchased a 4 cylinder diesel passenger vehicle with fuel consumption based on 5.9 litres per 100km. This vehicle purchase is a trial to obtain greater fuel efficiencies and ascertain comparative changeover values.

Council has also agreed to use part of its Federal Government stimulus package funding to create a cycle / pedestrian path of approx. 2.6km around Mt Mutton.

Energy Consumption

Uralla Shire Council

Council installed a 2.2Kw solar system on the Uralla Library. The system is averaging around 50Kw of energy generation per week.

Councils Visitor Information Centre has had an evacuated tube solar hot water system installed when the existing electric system failed. It is estimated that the system will pay for itself within 5 years.

Climate Change Adaptation

A Climate Change Adaptation Plan was prepared for the former New England Strategic Alliance of Councils by consultants Sinclair Knight Merz under the Commonwealth Local Adaptation Pathways Program (LAPP). All of the Southern New England Councils have adopted the plan.

The adopted plan contains a wide range of recommendations for short, medium and long term action by the Councils to undertake adaptation actions for expected climate change in our region in their own right, collectively, and in conjunction with other agencies.

In the intervening period since adoption of the plan the former Alliance has collapsed. Thus the implementation process for the recommendations from this joint LAPP project has become somewhat problematic, for the time being at least.

The creation of a Sustainability Officer position for Region had been discussed while more recently, links between the four Councils and the New England Sustainability Strategy (NESS) have been formalised through a current Environmental Trust funded project to foster governance arrangements which will reinforce sustainability outcomes. However

coordinated project management arrangements still need to be put in place if expectations arising from this important initiative are to be realised.

With the new integrated planning and reporting framework for Councils, there is the potential within a future local government organisation for a multi-disciplinary strategy/policy group to be formed and resourced. This will be pursued in connection with the outcome of the current NSW Government review of local government in the former NESAC area.

Climate Consensus Project

Uralla Shire Council

In December 2008, Uralla Shire Council resolved to integrate local recommendations from the Climate Consensus Project into its Management Plan. Details of the project, which was run in conjunction with the Nature Conservation Council of NSW, are summarised in Appendix 2, including the full list of forty local recommendations and the actions that Council has taken on these recommendations up to 30 April 2010.

New England Sustainability Strategy

In October 2009 the four Councils of the Southern New England Region were successful in obtaining a grant of \$50,000 from the NSW Environmental Trust for a project titled “Extension and Integration of the New England Sustainability Strategy”.

The New England Sustainability Strategy (NESS) is a whole-of-region governance model and approach to sustainability, bringing together a wide array of stakeholders from across the community to foster their shared vision for a sustainable New England, to identify the strategies and initiatives to achieve this vision and develop measures to assess performance and progress.

The project objectives are to:

- i. extend and complete the collaborative development of NESS;
- ii. develop a replicable model for the integration of NESS and other similar initiatives, such as the Local Adaptation Pathways and Climate Consensus Projects, into local government planning, management and reporting systems; and
- iii. finalise the governance structure for the New England Sustainability Strategy Executive (NESSiE).

Activities undertaken during the reporting period as part of the NESS project included:

- conducting Bundarra and Uralla Community Sustainability Forums;
- conducting a “LGA Bridge” Workshop. A map of regional sustainability initiatives developed as part of the LGA Bridge workshop is included in Appendix 3;
- development of a media and communications strategy (as part of an alliance with HiCUB);
- Legal Briefing submitted to LegalMinds to initiate work on the governance structure for NESSiE;
- regular media, stakeholder and community communication throughout project, including regular updates to the DotNESS website (www.ness.wikidot.com);
- briefings and meetings held with NESSiE and LGA Steering Committee; and

- thorough documentation of activities, records and outcomes.

Further details of these activities and an outline of the remaining aspects of the project are outlined in a Progress Report submitted to the NSW Environmental Trust in August 2010 (copy attached as Appendix 4).

The project is due to be finalised with a final report submitted to the NSW Environmental Trust by February 2011.

Community Actions

Solar Power Installations

Data from Country Energy indicates that the number of premises (within Post Code areas 2350, 2351, 2354, 2358, 2359 and 2365) with solar installations has been increasing from 45 installations in 2008 to 106 in 2009 and 319 in 2010.

Sustainable Living Armidale

Sustainable Living Armidale (SLA) is a vibrant local community group (started in May 2007 and Incorporated in July 2009) that undertakes community education and action on peak oil and climate change. It hosts a monthly Open Forum, and has semi-autonomous 'action groups': Energy, Transport, Local Food, Heart & Soul, and Awareness/Education.

SLA is now playing a modest but significant role in the community in education and social change in areas such as water use, waste & recycling, and biodiversity, plus an advocacy and networking role via participation in other local strategies conducted by various bodies, including Council, HiCUB and NESS.

During 2009-2010 SLA conducted a number of activities including:

- Tuesday Forums - SLA held 11 monthly public forums with speakers or films related to various aspects of sustainability. Attendances varied from 25 to 70 people.

2009:

July	Economics – Judy McNeill on money & economic growth and Kevin Dupe NECU on mutual finance Followed by Inaugural AGM of SLA Inc.
August	Sustainable Backyard planning for SLEX 09 and Film (<i>Fed Up</i>)
September	Gardening without Effort – film & discussion
October	Visioning exercise – Helen Webb & Joc Coventry
November	Electric Vehicles (on display) Peak Oil - Iain MacKay
December	Film: <i>The Story of Oil</i>

2010

February	Local Food Production – Past & Future
March	Film: <i>Australia Pumping Empty</i>
April	Dr Darren Ryder - A Healthy Future for Dumaresq Creek
May	The Future of Energy Distribution (Country Energy)
June	Dr Robyn Gunning - The Climate Project

- PV Panels on public buildings - the SLA Energy Group worked with Council to pursue the installation of photovoltaic panels on public buildings. Panels have now been installed on the Visitor Centre.
- Home-grown Garden Tour 7-8 March - organised by Armidale Local Food (ALF). An estimated 250 people toured 10 local productive gardens (96 car tickets sold, plus 28 bikes). The gardens presented a range of features including vegetable and fruit growing, chooks, bees, water use, energy use, composting, and preserving/drying.
- Participation in SLEX 2009 - a full-size sustainable backyard was created on the SLEX site at the Armidale Showground, with vegetable beds, chickens, compost, worm farm, cold frames, a greenhouse etc.
- Monthly Information Stall in Mall Markets - each month the SLA stall featured a different aspect of sustainability (e.g. solar hot water, bottled water, green loans, peak oil).

Sustainable Living Guide

The Armidale Dumaresq Sustainable Living Guide has been developed in conjunction with The Natural Strategies Group. The web based guide is designed to help Armidale Dumaresq residents take action to live more sustainably at home and in the community. The guide is packed with ideas, tips and inspiration about how small easy changes can have positive impacts on the environment, your health and wellbeing, and save you money. The guide can be found at www.sustainablearmidale.com.au.

Government Rebates

The following rebates have been available through the NSW State Government to improve the environmental sustainability of dwellings:

- hot water system rebate - \$300 to switch from electric to solar, heat pump or gas hot water systems
- ceiling insulation rebate - the NSW rebate finished on 30 June 2009

The uptake of rebates by LGA for the period of the schemes up to 30 June, 2010 is outlined below in Table 10.

Table 10: Uptake of NSW Government Rebates to 30 June 2010

Source: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/rebates/10879LGAREbateStats.pdf>

Note: number of rebates up to 30 June 2009 shown in brackets

LGA	Uptake (number) of Rebates by Type	
	hot water system	ceiling insulation
ADC	570 (73)	73 (54)
GSC	70 (15)	9 (7)
USC	171 (29)	17 (11)
WC	77 (7)	4 (2)

5. WATER

5.1 INTRODUCTION

The Southern New England Region straddles the watershed of the Great Dividing Range and includes parts of five major river catchments. The Clarence River, Macleay River and Manning River catchments drain to the east and the Gwydir River and Namoi River catchments drain to the west. The disparity between local government area (LGA) boundaries and catchment management authority (CMA) boundaries within the Region is the primary reason that the Councils of Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra, Uralla and Walcha continue to prepare their State of Environment Reports based on LGA boundaries rather than CMA boundaries.

The main issues for surface water within the Region relate to water quality and river health in the streams that pass through urban centres or provide drinking water. These streams include Dumaresq Creek, Uralla Creek, Gara River and the Apsley River.

5.2 WATER QUALITY ISSUES

The issues and activities identified in previous State of Environment Reports as impacting on water and water quality within the Southern New England Region are:

- urban storm water pollution
- land and waterway management (e.g. riparian areas, point source pollution)
- industry, infrastructure and development
- management of potable water supplies (e.g. blue-green algae blooms, water treatment methods)
- water quantity
- availability of information and resources (lack of community education, specialist technical staff and funding)

The potential for climate change to impact on water and water quality was highlighted in 2008-2009 through projects such as Local Adaptation Pathway Program and Climate Consensus Project. The Local Adaptation Pathway Program identified the following extreme or high risks relating to water and water quality due to potential climate change in the Region:

- changes in water table
- increased algal bloom in water supply
- reduction in non-reticulated water supply for rural / domestic use
- reduction in surface water available for agricultural use
- reduced health of waterways due to sedimentation and eutrophication
- increased flooding in low lying developed areas/extended flood range
- loss of aquatic ecosystem service/value
- increased risk of dam failure
- inadequate stormwater infrastructure capacity resulting in larger floods
- increased potential for water borne diseases

5.3 WATER IN THE REGION

The environmental indicators outlined below have been used to assess and monitor the state, or condition of the environment with respect to water in previous State of Environment Reports.

Periodic monitoring of water quality is one of the main measures used for determining the state of water resources within the Southern New England Region. The following section provides up-dated data for the respective environmental indicators for 2009-2010, including a summary of key water quality monitoring results from testing undertaken by Councils for Dumaresq Creek, Malpas Dam and the Apsley River.

5.3.1 Water Quality Monitoring (ADC)

Armidale Dumaresq Council continues to monitor fortnightly water quality in Dumaresq Creek within the Armidale urban area along with operational monitoring of water quality at Malpas Dam and at Puddledock, Dumaresq and Gara Dams.

Dumaresq Creek

As in previous years, the water quality upstream and downstream of the Armidale urban area (Dumaresq Dam and Cookes Road) is superior to the urban area, as measured by coliforms, turbidity and dissolved oxygen. With exception of the Niagara St site, coliforms are down on the previous year and turbidity is also reduced. Dissolved Oxygen levels are similar to historical levels.

Table 11: Water Monitoring Results for Dumaresq Creek at Armidale

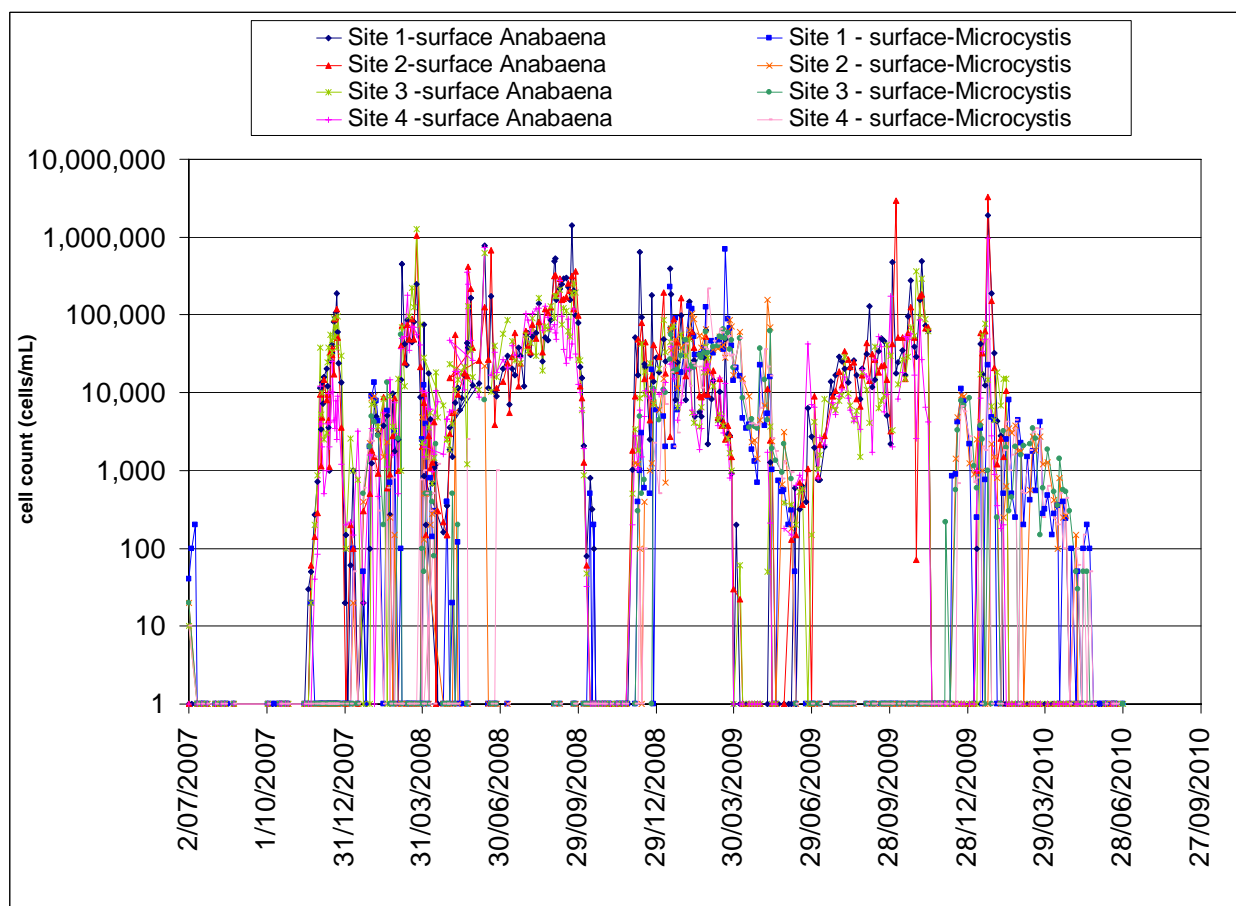
Site	Period	Colour	Turbidity (NTU)	pH	Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)	Temperature (C)	Thermotolerant coliforms (cfu/100mls)
Dumaresq Dam	Average (Jan 2005-June 2008)	62.4	7.6	8.2	7.6	18.1	51.2
	Average (July 2008-June 2009)	66.5	3.3	8.1	7.3	18.1	27.3
	Average (July 2009-June 2010)	49.2	2.0	8.3	7.4	17.6	19.2
Niagara St crossing	Average (Jan 2005-June 2008)	136.2	13.5	7.3	2.8	14.8	137.1
	Average (July 2008-June 2009)	110.3	12.3	7.4	3.8	15.8	121.0
	Average (July 2009-June 2010)	143.9	8.7	7.3	2.9	15.0	122.5
Upstream of Stephens Bridge	Average (Jan 2005-June 2008)	126.0	10.6	7.6	4.5	15.9	180.8
	Average (July 2008-June 2009)	104.8	7.2	7.7	5.1	15.2	135.5
	Average (July 2009-June 2010)	101.0	6.9	7.6	4.6	15.1	100.7
Downstream of Stephens Bridge	Average (Jan 2005-June 2008)	133.6	11.0	7.6	4.3	16.0	212.7
	Average (July 2008-June 2009)	100.4	7.1	7.7	5.4	15.1	178.6
	Average (July 2009-June 2010)	86.5	5.5	7.6	4.5	15.4	85.0
Taylor St crossing	Average (Jan 2005-June 2008)	136.8	11.3	7.9	4.6	17.2	215.2
	Average (July 2008-June 2009)	106.6	8.0	7.7	5.4	14.7	149.2
	Average (July 2009-June 2010)	86.7	5.6	7.7	4.5	15.3	95.0
Cookes Road crossing	Average (Jan 2005-June 2008)	82.8	6.6	7.8	5.6	16.3	131.2
	Average (July 2008-June 2009)	83.3	5.7	8.0	6.1	14.9	94.8
	Average (July 2009-June 2010)	43.8	2.8	7.9	5.4	15.6	51.8

Malpas Dam

Water quality in Malpas Dam, which is Armidale's principal water supply storage, has been better in 2009-2010 than previous years with comparatively lower levels of 'blue-green' algae (BGA) present. Blooms of *Anabaena circinalis* and *Microcystis aeruginosa* were again present in the dam. Surface BGA levels peaked in the hundreds of thousands in November 2009 but then collapsed and disappeared entirely for a month. A new bloom commenced in December 2009 and peaked in late January 2010 before tapering off to low counts of algal in autumn. Algae have been absent from the dam since the end of May 2010 but are expected to return with spring and summer.

Council has not attempted to apply algacides to control the algae due to the high cost and low effectiveness and also because Council's new ozonation facility at the Water Treatment Plant is effective in destroying taste and odour compounds and algal toxins. Figure 18 outlines a summary graph of blue-green algae counts (surface only)

Figure 18: Summary Graph of Malpas Dam Blue-Green Algae Counts (surface only)
Note: log scale



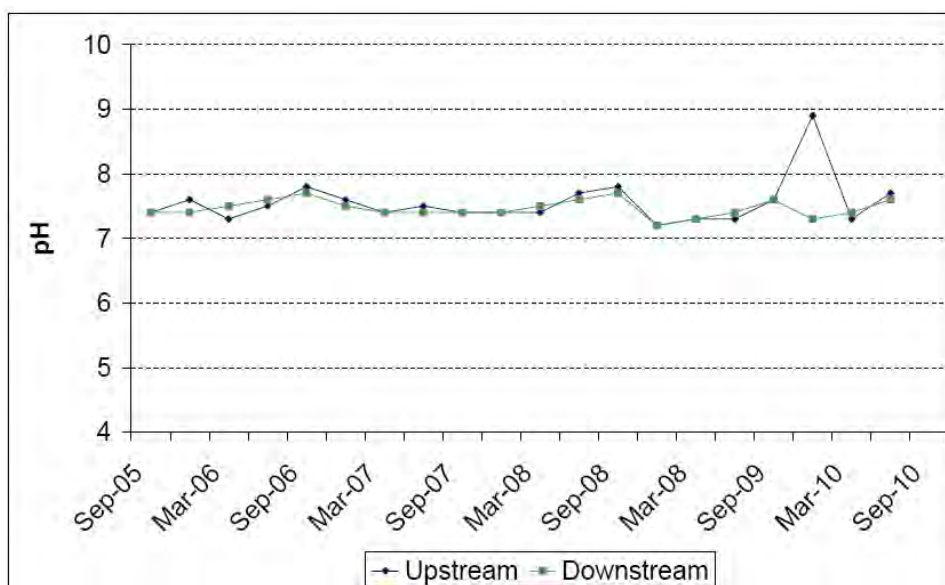
5.3.2 Water Quality Monitoring (WC)

Apsley River

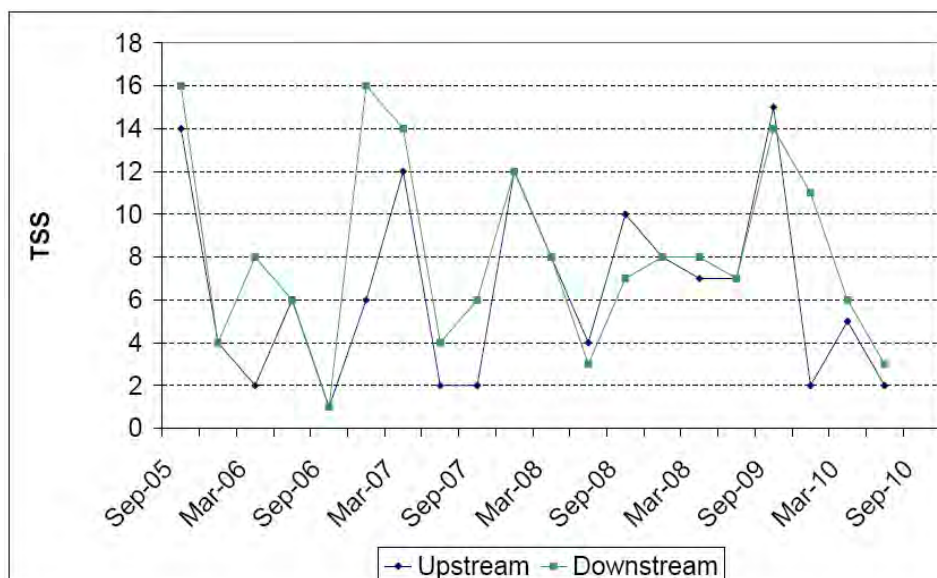
Walcha Council undertakes quarterly water quality monitoring at two sites along the Apsley River. One site is located upstream and the other downstream of Walcha township in order to determine the type and level of pollution, if any, that may be generated from the Walcha urban area.

pH

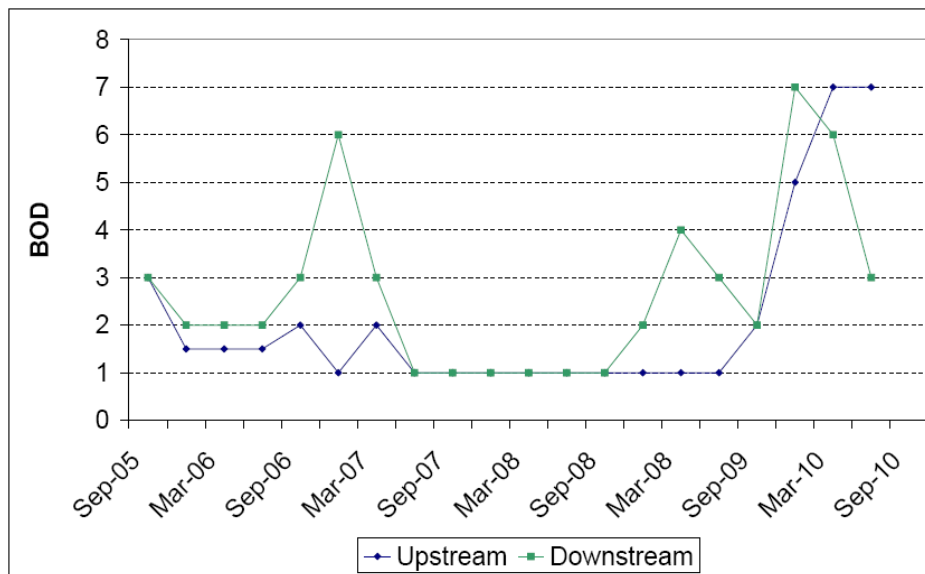
Optimal pH levels for aquatic organisms should be maintained within the range of 6.5 to 8.2. The pH levels within the Apsley River, both up-stream and down-stream of Walcha have been consistently within this range for the last four reporting periods, except for a spike in early 2010, as shown below in Figure 19.

Figure 19: Apsley River pH levels**Total Suspended Solids**

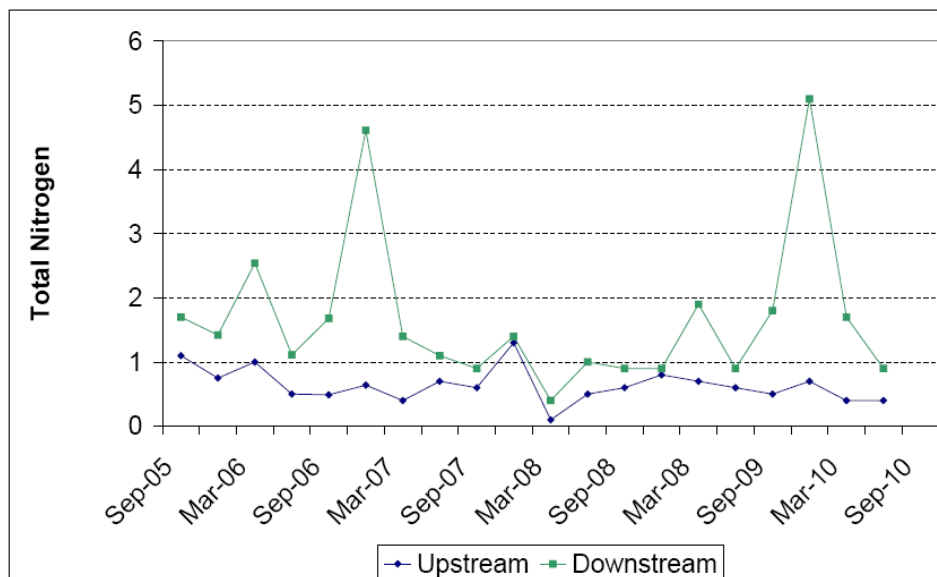
Total suspended solids (TSS) have remained at relatively low levels (below 20mg/l) for the reporting periods from 2005-2006 to 2009-2010. Samples up-stream and down-stream tend to follow a similar trend, however downstream measurements are generally slightly elevated. This may indicate that the Walcha urban area contributes to increased TSS levels in the Apsley River.

Figure 20: Apsley River Total Suspended Solid levels**Biological Oxygen Demand**

Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) levels (mg/l) in the Apsley River up-stream of Walcha had an unusually high peak during the current reporting period in comparison to previous years. BOD levels down-stream of Walcha spiked again during the summer months, similarly to previous years.

Figure 21: Apsley River Biological Oxygen Demand**Total Nitrogen**

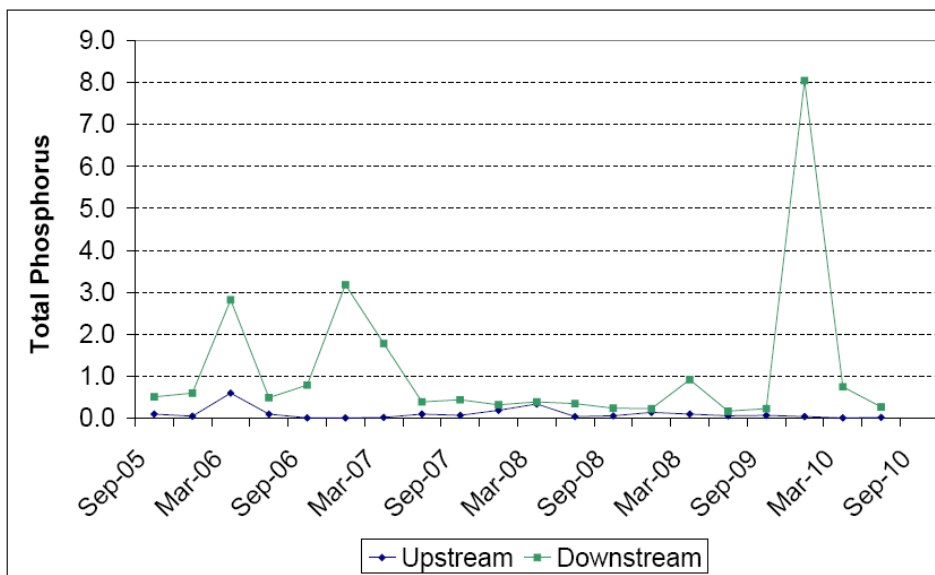
Another peak in total Nitrogen levels in the Apsley River occurred downstream of Walcha during the current reporting period, similar to December 2007. Similarly to previous years, downstream Total Nitrogen levels tend to be higher than upstream levels, suggesting that Walcha township may be contributing to increased nitrogen levels in the Apsley River.

Figure 22: Apsley River Total Nitrogen levels**Phosphorus**

Total Phosphorus levels in the Apsley River have followed a similar trend to other water quality measures outlined above by being higher down-stream of Walcha compared to upstream levels, again suggesting that the township impacts on water quality within the river. Total Phosphorus levels down-stream of Walcha spiked during the 2009-2010 reporting

period, as in previous years, however returned closer to trend by the end of the reporting period.

Figure 23: Apsley River Phosphorus levels



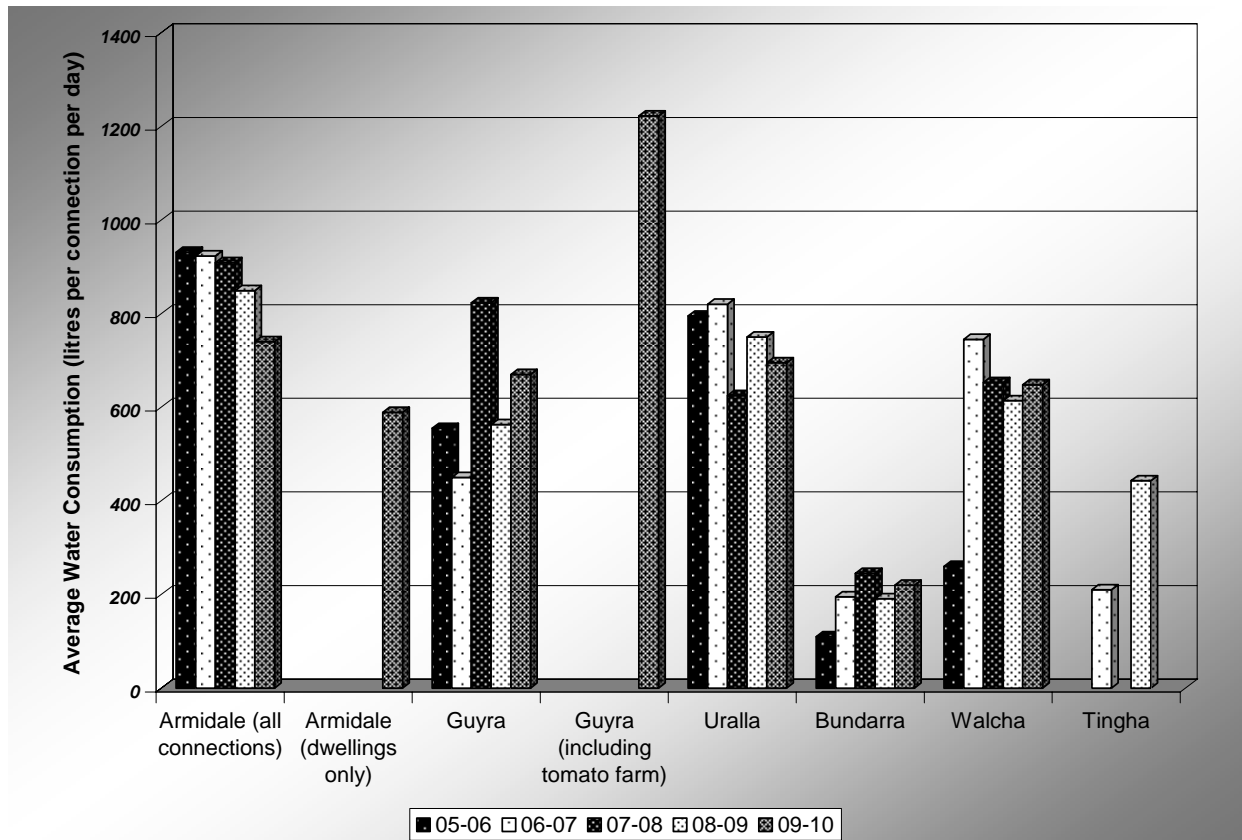
5.3.3 Water Consumption

The consumption of water within the urban environment provides an indication of water conservation and water management practices. It is estimated that the average Australian household uses 650 litres of water per day, with the main use being for watering the garden and other outside uses (35%), flushing toilets (20%, 5-10 litres per flush), showers/bathroom (20%, 200 litres per shower) and washing clothes (15%, 150 litres per load).

Figure 24 shows the average water consumption per connection per day for urban centres within the Southern New England Region. New figures are included this year to show water consumption for Armidale residences compared to all connections, and water consumption in Guyra including / excluding the Guyra Tomato Farm.

Average water consumption per connection per day has decreased during 2009-2010 in Armidale and Uralla, while increasing slightly in Guyra, Walcha and Bundarra.



Figure 24: Average Water Consumption per Connection per Day

5.3.4 New Water Connections

Armidale Dumaresq Council

136 new residential connections

9 new commercial connections

Guyra Shire Council

5 new connections

Uralla Shire Council

34 new connections

Walcha Council

8 new connections

5.3.5 Environment Protection Licences

There are sixteen (16) premises in the Southern New England Region that have environment protection licences issued under Section 55 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* with conditions relating to water.

The following Table outlines the premises with licence conditions relating to water and any incidents of non-compliance with licence conditions for annual licence returns submitted during 2009-2010.

Table 12: Environment Protection Licences - WaterSource: www.environment.nsw.gov.au

License Number	Activity / Licensee	Compliance with License Conditions
Armidale Dumaresq LGA		
1722	Sewage Treatment Plant (Armidale Dumaresq Council)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> load of total suspended solids released from Monitoring point 1 into Commissioners Waters exceeded the load limit of 12584 by 578kg due to algae in final pond for the samples collected in July and August 2009, high TSS values related to very high algal population within water body (80mg/L in July and 100mg/L in August). Returned to <10mg/L in September.
5860	Waste Management Facility (Armidale Dumaresq Council)	complied
921	Hillgrove Gold Mine (Straits (Hillgrove) Gold Pty Ltd)	exceedance of volume/mass limit due to ingress of groundwater
2821	Water Treatment Plant (Armidale Dumaresq Council)	complied
2251	Ebor Trout Hatchery (NSW Department of Primary Industries)	complied
10811	Armidale Saleyards (Armidale Livestock Selling Agents)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> overflow of waste water retention pit during very heavy storm on 27/12/09. Storm blew capacitor on pump. bore sampling pump stuck in bore so 1 sample not able to be taken in August 2009 from bore 2.
5907	Armidale Aquatic Centre (Armidale Dumaresq Council)	complied
3556	Wardlaw Piggery (Ross Wardlaw)	details not yet published
Guyra LGA		
5231	Malpas Dam (Armidale Dumaresq Council)	complied
1671	Guyra Waste Water Treatment Plant (Guyra Shire Council)	Ammonia-N monitored 2/6/09, sample reanalysed, final result 20.2 mg/L resulting in 90th percentile above limit of 5 mg/L. No known cause as all aspects of STP operation were normal.

Uralla LGA		
1629	Uralla Water Treatment Plant (Uralla Shire Council)	details not yet published
1626	Uralla Sewage Treatment Plant (Uralla Shire Council)	Two high total Nitrogen readings at Discharge Point 1 due to Operational problems. A grid wide power outage occurred preventing any treatment process. New UV Lamps fitted and Monitor Lamp fitted.
Walcha LGA		
5572	Boral Timber Mill (Allen Taylor & Company Pty Ltd)	complied
2613	Sewage Treatment Works (Walcha Council)	TSS value of 33 exceeded licence limit of 30.
6120	Walcha Waste Depot (Walcha Council)	complied
2508	Water Treatment Plant (Walcha Council)	complied

5.4 RESPONDING TO WATER ISSUES

Urban Storm Water

Armidale Dumaresq Council

Council is continuing its programme of installing gross pollutant traps in the urban area to prevent rubbish, leaf litter and sediment carried in the stormwater pipe system from entering the creek.

During 2009-2010 tenders were called for the supply of one new gross pollutant trap for the Jessie Street catchment to complete the programme of litter collection traps on the southern side of the Central Business District. The gross pollutant trap will be installed during 2010.

Council also completed Stage One of the Glass Street stormwater drainage upgrade which carried into 2009-2010. The purpose of the upgrade is to reduce the frequency of urban property flooding on the low side of Glass Street due to insufficient capacity in the existing underground and above-ground drainage system.

In addition to the Glass Street project, minor property protection projects were also undertaken in Galloway Street, Baker Place and Garibaldi Street to contain stormwater in the street drainage system. Design investigation also commenced in Bishop Crescent. These sites were identified following high intensity storms in December 2009.

Land and Waterway Management

All Councils

All four Southern New England Region Councils are participating in and benefiting from activities emanating from the HiCUB (High Country Urban Biodiversity) project, funded

through the NSW Environmental Trust. Further details of HiCUB activities, including riparian restoration works, are outlined in Part 6 – Biodiversity.

Armidale Dumaresq Council

Council continued to support the Armidale Urban Rivercare Group with in-kind support (e.g. free mulch, absorbing cost of collection and transportation of removed woody weeds from Dumaresq Creek to Armidale Waste management Facility) for removal of woody weeds and replanting of native species along Dumaresq Creek (removing mid-stream willows to improve environmental flows and reduce anaerobic conditions from autumn leaf fall.). Survival rates for plantings appear to be very high and support will continue in 2010-2011.

Uralla Shire Council

Uralla's Sub-Catchment Management Plan works, including weed removal, are ongoing. One of the most discernable outcomes is the re-planting of riparian zones to ensure weed re-growth is inhibited.

Infrastructure and Development

Armidale Dumaresq Council

The 12 month 'defects liability' testing of the Council's new \$4.5M ozonation plant finished in April 2010. The plant is effectively treating taste and odour issues with few teething problems encountered.

During 2009-2010 Council also completed a clean water diversion dam on the effluent reuse farm to direct an existing stream around the effluent irrigation area so runoff would not pickup residual nutrients from effluent reuse.

Potable Water Supply

Armidale Dumaresq Council

Actions to minimise water consumption - although primarily implemented to increase revenue, a 50% increase in usage tariff from 2008-2009 price to 2009-2010 price reinforced the 'user pays' message on water supply and saw consumption level out at the same consumption as 2008-2009 despite 1% increase in water connections.

On-Site Waste Water Management Systems

Armidale Dumaresq Council

Council approved the installation / registration of forty-two (42) new on-site waste water management systems during 2009-2010. Monitoring and inspection of systems was limited due to resource limitations. However limited inspections were carried out upon request for conveyancing purposes and as a result of complaints.

Guyra Shire Council

Council approved the installation / registration of three (3) new on-site waste water management systems during 2009-2010.

Pollution

Armidale Dumaresq Council

Council had one (1) notifiable sewer overflow during 2009-2010 in Black Gully, in an isolated area about 1km upstream of confluence with Dumaresq Creek due to tree root intrusion. Clean up of the incident commenced immediately and the Department of Environment was informed. The creek was flushed with potable water to dilute sewage and water quality testing was undertaken downstream following the incident. In-pipe water level monitoring technology is now being investigated as a means to early detection/warning of sewer blockages. No Penalty Infringement Notice was issued due to Council's prompt and comprehensive response immediately on identification of the overflow.

During 2009-2010, eleven (11) other pollution incidences were detected, including:

- 2 relating to turbid water. Verbal clean-up notice issued;
- 2 relating to oil from food outlets washed into stormwater. Verbal clean-up notice issued;
- 1 hydraulic fluid in creek. Notified EPA as a Council excavator was involved. Site contained/cleaned-up;
- 1 raw sewage in road kerb. Verbal clean-up notice issued;
- 1 tyres in creek. Council clean-up;
- 2 relating to newspaper/pamphlets. Meetings with distributors and verbal warnings;
- 1 concrete slurry into stormwater. PIN issued and verbal clean-up notice issued; and
- 1 lack of sediment control at potentially contaminated site. Clean-up notice issued.

Government Incentives

During 2009-2010 the following water saving rebates were available through the NSW State Government:

- rainwater tank rebate - up to \$1500 for rainwater tanks connected to toilets and washing machines.
- washing machine rebate - \$150 cash back on any 5 star or higher water efficient washing machine (this rebate ended June 30, 2010).
- dual flush toilet rebate - \$200 for buying a 4 star dual flush toilet suite.

The uptake of rebates by LGA for the period of the schemes up to 30 June, 2010 is outlined in Table 13.

Table 13: Uptake of NSW Government Rebates

Source: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au>

Note: number of rebates up to 30 June 2009 shown in brackets

LGA	Uptake (number) of Rebates by Type		
	rainwater tank	washing machine	dual flush toilet
ADC	214 (96)	240 (63)	31
GSC	143 (66)	28 (10)	1
USC	219 (143)	68 (22)	8
WC	76 (40)	18 (9)	2

6. BIODIVERSITY

‘Biological diversity’ or ‘biodiversity’ is the diversity of all life on earth and consists of the following three components:

- genetic diversity – the variety of genes (or units of heredity) in any population
- species diversity – the variety of species
- ecosystem diversity – the variety of communities or ecosystems.

Biodiversity encompasses the complete range of life forms from the most obvious (such as birds, mammals and flowering plants) to the least obvious (such as soil micro-organisms), many of which remain unknown to science.

Ecosystems are formed by the interaction of species with their environment, including such vital components as soil, water and nutrients.

The quality of life of present and future generations is dependent on conserving biological diversity and using natural resources sustainably. Biodiversity is important both for its intrinsic value and the ecosystem services it provides to society.

(DECCW, 2008 – Biodiversity Strategy for NSW – Discussion Paper)

6.1 INTRODUCTION

The Southern New England Region supports a unique biodiversity as a result of the varied topography, climate, soil type and land use. The Region contains two areas of international significance, being the Little Llangothlin Nature Reserve (Guyra LGA) which is a RAMSAR site, and the Oxley Wild Rivers National Park (Armidale Dumaresq and Walcha LGA) which is a World Heritage Site.

The Southern New England Region lies largely within the area defined as the New England Tableland Bioregion. A description of the bioregion can be found in the Comprehensive Southern New England State of the Environment Report 2008-2009.

6.2 PRESSURE ON BIODIVERSITY

Activities and issues that have been identified as impacting or creating pressure on biodiversity in the Southern New England Region include:

- weeds
- feral animals – predation, competition and disease transmission
- removal and loss of habitat / vegetation
- collection of fire wood from roadsides and travelling stock routes (TSR)
- bush fires
- low level of, and access to, knowledge and awareness
- disease and infection (e.g. mistletoe and *Phytophthora cinnamomi* – a fungus that causes dieback in trees)

- management of travelling stock routes
- degradation of aquatic habitats / riparian areas and altered water regimes
- climate change

Climate change in particular has the potential to significantly impact on the Region's biodiversity, as was highlighted through the Local Adaptation Pathway Program in 2008-2009. Extreme or high risks due to potential climate change in the Region include:

- changes in water table – impacts on water quality
- increased algal bloom in water supply
- reduced health of waterways due to sedimentation and eutrophication
- loss of aquatic ecosystem service / value
- loss of biodiversity
- increased weed infestation
- loss of non-urban vegetation
- change in species composition of local environment

In their response for 2009-2010, the Namoi CMA have indicated that anecdotal evidence suggests that new aquatic weed species entering the top of the Namoi Catchment from neighbouring catchments is emerging as a new issue.

Similarly, the New England Weeds Authority has identified a new incursion of Green Cestrum on Gostwyck Road.

A submission from National Parks Association of NSW - Armidale Branch (Armidale NPA) and Birds Australia – Northern NSW Group (BANN) has identified the following issues in relation to biodiversity and suggested various strategies to address these issues.

- the site of proposed new landfill facility near Gara River, 4km upstream of Oxley Wild Rivers National Park.

Armidale NPA strongly opposes this project at this site because of likely impacts on the World Heritage values along the Macleay River in the National Park and on the Blue Hole local recreation area.

- firewood collection and illegal felling of trees for fence posts

NPANSW - Armidale Branch continues to note the impact of firewood collection and illegal felling of trees on remnant native vegetation values of roadsides and travelling stock routes and reserves.

“We suggest that this issue of local uncontrolled and unsustainable firewood supply should be addressed in the draft policy POL134 - Regulatory: Sustainable Domestic Energy Use and Local Air Quality. The use of wood heaters in Armidale is a problem not only for local air quality, but also for sustainability of local bushland remnants and biodiversity.

Uncontrolled firewood collection threatens endangered species and endangered ecological communities as well as other species that are declining, especially if it happens in Mugga Ironbark patches (core habitat for endangered Regent Honeyeater) or the Box-Gum and Ribbon/Mountain

Gum woodlands (EEC's common on roadsides and TSRs, but often altered irreparably in adjoining properties). Felling of standing dead trees reduces the standing tree hollows needed by many bird and bat species to nest or roost (standing dead trees as well as maturing live trees can be very valuable). Removal of fallen dead wood reduces the vertebrates and invertebrates associated with large woody debris that are essential food for many declining bird species."

Suggested actions include:

- that firewood collection on sensitive roadside and TSR ecosystems is unsustainable and should be reduced and controlled
- that measures are required to discourage wood heating in towns and villages for this reason rather than just for smoke reduction to reduce air pollution. It is not enough just to encourage people to dry their firewood to reduce smoke pollution, as in Armidale City.
- that projects to set up plantations for sustainable firewood supply should be strongly supported
- renewed commitments to effective roadside environmental management plans, including:
 - instructions to all Council staff to avoid all unnecessary felling of trees during routine road maintenance or reconstruction practices, ensuring absolutely minimum damage to, or felling of trees in known significant areas such as Mugga Ironbark patches.
 - education workshops be conducted for road maintenance staff on recognition of environmental values of roadside vegetation, and sustainable management of those values
 - roadsides should be re-surveyed to update maps of significant roadside vegetation and associated management information and signage provided
 - Livestock Health and Pest Authority being contacted to ask for an MOU or collaboration in promoting and implementing the above measures.
 - ecological/biodiversity values should be listed and explained in roadside signage and in Council notices to ratepayers, noting that:
 - i. tree-felling is illegal on all Crown land, roadsides and TSRs, and penalties apply for offences.
 - ii. areas of significant roadside communities such as Mugga Ironbark patches and known Endangered Ecological Communities (EECs) are identified, in which all plants are protected and firewood collection not permitted.

6.3 STATE OF BIODIVERSITY

The environmental indicators outlined below have been used in previous state of environment reporting across the Region to monitor the state, or condition, of the environment with respect to biodiversity.

Following is up-dated data for the respective environmental indicators for 2009 - 2010.

6.3.1 National Parks

In 2006-2007 it was reported that there were 318,823 hectares of land protected under National Park Estate within the Southern New England region. Up-dated data could not be obtained for 2009-2010.

6.3.2 Forestry

Forests NSW currently manage 73,480ha of forests in the Southern New England Region. Approximately 71% of this area is in the Walcha LGA, 26% in the Armidale Dumaresq LGA and the remaining 3% in the Guyra LGA. Of the total area, 90% is native forest and 10% is planted forest (softwood and hardwood).

6.3.4 Flora and Fauna

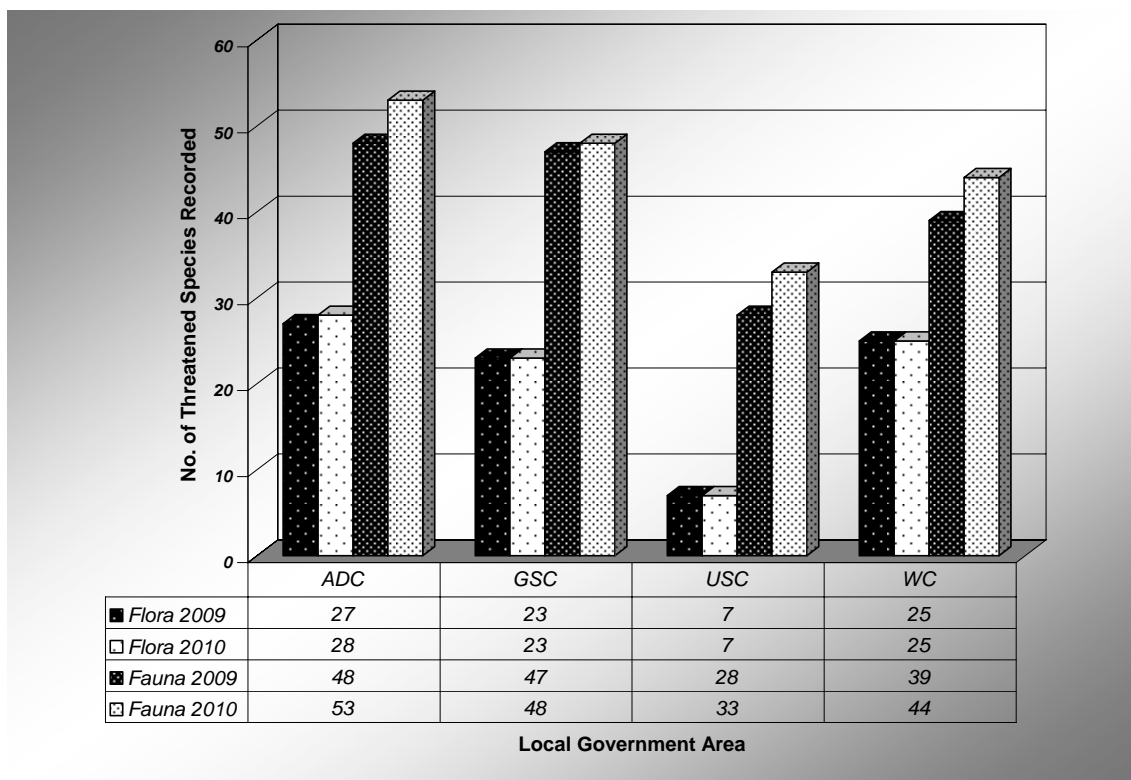
Threatened Species

The Atlas of NSW Wildlife lists threatened plant, mammal, bird, reptile, amphibian and invertebrate species that have been recorded or are known to occur in the region. Figure 25 shows the total number of threatened species that have been recorded on the Atlas of NSW Wildlife for the respective local government areas in the Southern New England Region, as at April 2010. Comparative data for 2009 is also shown.

While the number of recorded threatened flora species has increased by one additional species in the Armidale Dumaresq LGA, the number of recorded threatened fauna species has increased in all LGAs.

Figure 25: Number of Recorded Threatened Species by LGA

Source: Wildlife Atlas, National Parks and Wildlife Service, 2010
(www.wildlifeatlas.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au)



6.3.5 Feral and Companion Animals

Feral Animals

Feral animal control within the Southern New England Region is largely undertaken by the New England Livestock Health and Pest Authority (formerly Rural Lands Protection Board), National Parks and Wildlife Service and private land holders. <<DATA GAP>> No information has been provided for feral animal control activities undertaken during 2009-2010.

Companion Animals

Councils are responsible for the control of companion animals (e.g. cats and dogs) under the *Companion Animals Act 1998*. Table 14 outlines the number of stray animals impounded, surrendered, housed and/or destroyed for each LGA during 2009-2010.

Table 14: Control of Companion Animals

LGA	animal type	impounded / surrendered		released, sold or returned		housed for RSPCA		destroyed	
		08-09	09-10	08-09	09-10	08-09	09-10	08-09	09-10
ADC	dogs / cats	524	520	418	402	-	1	106	107
	stock	11	16	11	16	-	-	-	-
GSC	dogs / cats	59	51	24	12	-	3	35	36
	stock	55	-	55	-	-	-	-	-
USC	dogs / cats	46	63	28	47	5	-	13	16
	stock	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WC	dogs / cats	38	56	10	18	-	-	28	38
	stock	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

6.3.6 Weeds

Weed control activities across the Southern New England Region are primarily undertaken by the New England Weeds Authority (NEWA). The potential for increased weed infestation as a result of anticipated climate change was identified as an extreme risk under the New England Climate Change Adaptation Action Plan prepared during 2008-2009.

Control of CC4 (Control Class 4) noxious weeds under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 require that:

“the growth and spread of the plant must be controlled according to the measures specified in a management plan published by the local [council] control authority. Some CC4 plants cannot be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed.”

NEWA has approved Management Plans for 15 CC4 noxious weeds. Following a review of Class 4 weeds during 2009-2010, no changes were made.

During 2009-2010 NEWA carried out inspections of 693 properties in the Armidale urban area and 480 others in the Armidale Dumaresq LGA, 260 property inspections in Uralla LGA, 270 in Guyra LGA and 190 in Walcha LGA.

6.3 RESPONDING TO BIODIVERSITY ISSUES

Weeds

During 2009-2010 NEWA undertook the following activities in relation to weed control:

Weed Control Activities

- 4000km of roadsides treated for Blackberry, Sweet Briar, Serrated Tussock and St Johns Wort across the four Councils
- control program for Coolatai Grass and African Lovegrass continued in Walcha LGA
- Walcha and Armidale Dumaresq parks treated for broadleaf weeds and Bindi eye
- roadside furniture (guide posts/guard rails) treated for all councils. Uralla Shire Council controls weeds on Thunderbolts Way while the other Councils control all sealed roads.
- water storage areas / waste transfer stations / sewerage treatment plants treated for noxious weeds
- Pesticides Notification Plans placed on all council websites
- reinspection of Privet infestations carried out in Armidale urban area.

Education Programs

- NEWA continues to work closely with Landcare and holds weeds identification days at Landcare Field days, SLEX, Armidale TAFE, Wool Expo and the Armidale and Walcha Shows.
- weed identification displays at Ebor, Puddledock, Inglebah and Bundarra
- Native Solutions program conducted with brochures distributed at all publicity events.

Northern Rivers CMA funded programs (\$40,000)

- environmental weed control at Kelly's Plains
- Coolatai Grass control in Northern Rivers CMA area on roadsides in Armidale, Guyra and Uralla
- Walcha funding to fit a slasher blower fan to reduce grass weed dispersal

Border Rivers - Gwydir CMA Funded programs (\$240,000)

- Gorse control on private properties along Boorolong Creek
- funding for blower fans to be fitted on Guyra and Armidale Dumaresq slashers to reduce grass weeds dispersal
- implement containment lines and control outlier infestations of Serrated Tussock in Uralla and Guyra LGAs (regional project conducted by NEWA and also involving Inverell, Tenterfield and Glen Innes)

Monitoring

- awaiting confirmation from UNE on best control options for Mexican Water lily. Initial study has found that herbicide treatments have not killed the tuber system. Works proposed for Gara Dam. The pond in Armidale's Civic Park was treated with Glyphosate and is being monitored.
- mapping of Coolatai grass in Northern Rivers CMA area
- mapping of Serrated Tussock in Armidale Dumaresq LGA conducted during 2009-2010 and ongoing into 2010-2011.

Feral / Companion Animals

Armidale Dumaresq Council

Council Rangers continued education activities aimed at Primary Schools through the “Spot the Dog” program, while the Animal Shelter opened to the public during Local Government Week and maintained a website to assist with re-homing activities and liaises with local and State-wide animal welfare groups in attempts to find homes for abandoned and unclaimed animals.

These activities have resulted in a continued high profile of animal management within the Region and a continued rise in the number of animals reclaimed or re-homed from the shelter. Similar to last year, 2009-2010 saw the number of re-homed animals outnumbered the number of euthanised animals.

Guyra Shire Council

Since the appointment of a new Impounding Officer/Ranger in October 2009 Council has undertaken a door knock program to help identify owners and the number of companion animals within the Shire, resulting in 204 residences in Tingha and 315 in Guyra being attended to the end of June 2010. This campaign has also seen a significant increase in the number of companion animal lifetime registrations during 2010, as shown below:

2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 (to July)
37	16	35	33	45	121

During the attendance of each residence Council officers have been able to liaise with residents and identify how many companion animals reside there, who the correct owner(s) of the animals are, educate owners regarding their responsibilities as owners of companion animals and the penalties that apply for offences with the Companion Animals Act and Regulation. Council's has also offered the service of permanent identification (micro chipping) which has been especially convenient for Tingha residents.

The outcomes of this campaign have included:

- a significant reduction in the number of unidentifiable stray companion animals coming through the Council pound;
- a reduction in common complaints regarding stray and nuisance animals; and
- an increase in the welfare of companion animals where the owner has made an investment into the animal (identification, registration, pound fees and veterinary care).

Council has also conducted a feral cat capture campaign for business owners, mainly within the Guyra area. This campaign has seen the following outcomes:

- the capture and re-homing of suitable feral and stray cats that were living, causing a nuisance and breeding with no control mainly within the commercial area of Guyra;
- a reduction of feral cats in the area;
- reduction in complaints mainly regarding the nuisance of smell and waste from these cats;
- reduction in the destruction of property and goods (mainly food based products) from within businesses.

Uralla Shire Council

Feral animal control was undertaken at Racecourse Lagoon and at the Uralla Landfill and Recycling Centre throughout 2009 and 2010 resulting in a decline in fox numbers at Racecourse Lagoon and a decline in feral cats at the Uralla Landfill and Recycling Centre.

Walcha Council

Council continues to advise animal owners of their responsibility for animal management, usually in response to complaints, which has seen a reduction in the number of repeat offenders.

HiCUB (High Country Urban Biodiversity)

In December 2008 it was announced that Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra Shire, Uralla Shire and Walcha Councils had been successful in obtaining a grant of \$2 million from the NSW Environmental Trust for Urban Sustainability.

The project, called HiCUB, will occur over two and a half years and provide community education, monitoring and evaluation, technical studies and on-ground rehabilitation works across the Region, including riparian restoration works.

Since the project's inception, and during the current reporting period, a project team has been appointed, a Community Engagement, Education and Capacity Strategy and a Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy have been developed, a website developed various on-ground activities have commenced.

Armidale Dumaresq Council

Activities undertaken by Council during 2009-2010 with respect to biodiversity included:

- fencing of Endangered Ecological community, Manna gum Snow gum grassy woodland at Apex lookout reserve to exclude unauthorised vehicles. Previous regular damage to the groundcover of parts of this area by illegal vehicle entry and behaviour was increasing weed invasion and threatening integrity of plant community. Personal access gates have been installed for use by pedestrians only. Vehicle gates for authorised entry are locked.
- a total of 13,000 native plants have been established on the urban reaches of Dumaresq Creek since September 2009. The work was undertaken by volunteers from a range of community groups under the coordination of the Armidale Urban Rivercare Group (AURG) with support from Council and in accordance with Council's 'Draft Revegetation Guidelines for of the Urban Reaches of Dumaresq Creek, 2009.

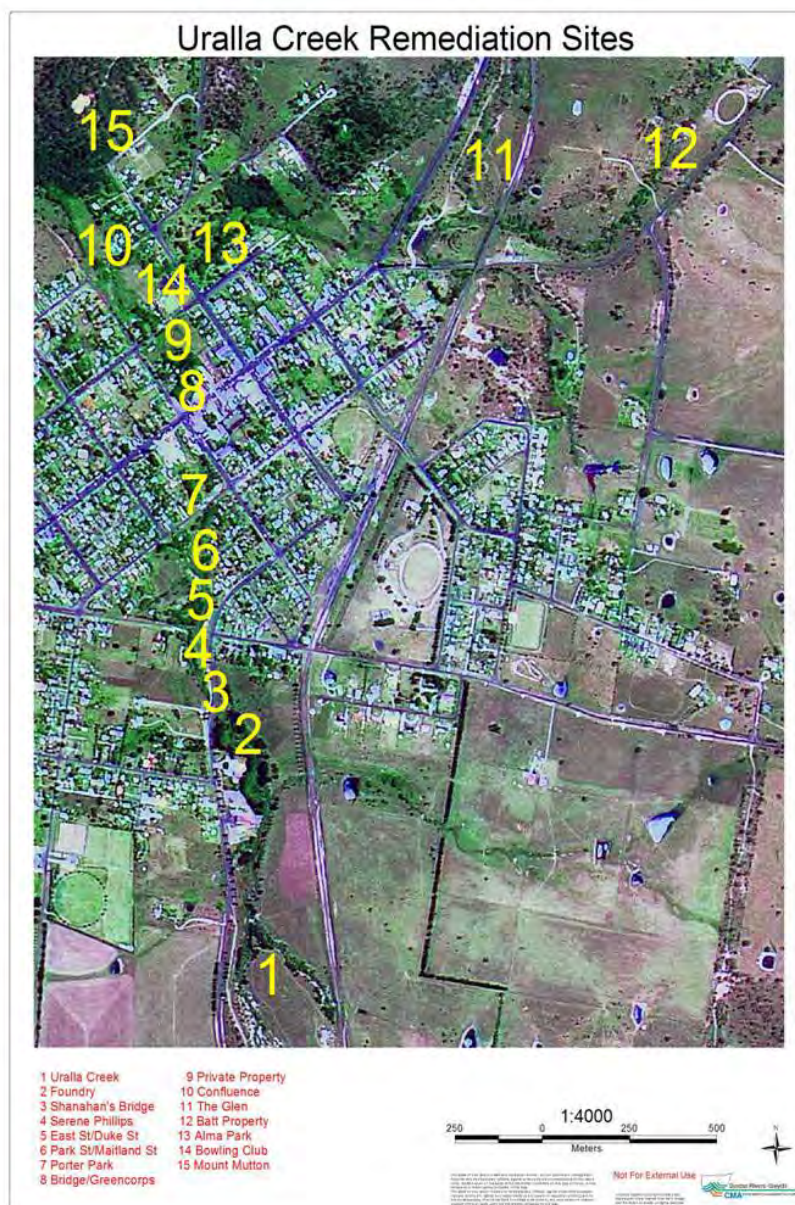
Council assisted with funding for maintenance (subsequently undertaken on plantings), hiring of contractors for maintenance and donation of mulch from Armidale Landfill.

Uralla Shire Council

Uralla Sub-Catchment Management Plan

Partnerships have been formed by Uralla Shire Council with Soil Conservation Services of NSW and the Department of Environmental, Climate Changes and Water resulting in technical recommendations for remediation and priority of projects along Uralla and Kentucky Creek. Remediation work, in accordance with Uralla Sub-Catchment Management Plan Stage 1, has occurred on sites 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11 and 13 (refer to the Uralla Creek Remediation Site Map below). Uralla Shire Council has adopted appropriate management of autumn leaf drops, removal of existing exotic tree species from riparian zones and supports the recommendation to plant only native species on riparian zones in the future.

Documentation and planning of Stage 2 of the Sub-Catchment Management Plan has been completed. The HiCUB project will be undertaking works on these priority sites during 2010-2011.



Kentucky Creek Catchment Project

As a continuation of the Uralla Sub-Catchment Management Plan funding was sourced for a Kentucky Creek Catchment Project from the Border Rivers – Gwydir CMA. The project entailed the drilling of 3 monitoring wells at the closed Kentucky Landfill site. Drilling commenced in June 2010.

Mt Mutton Remediation and Walking Track

The Mt Mutton Remediation and Walking Track project, funded by the Federal Government's National Building – Economic Stimulus Plan, involved the removal of an extensive amount of woody weeds, erosion control and site remediation, along with the building of a walking and cycling track from Hill Street Uralla up to the Mt Mutton Look out. The project aims to encourage the Uralla community to enjoy local flora and fauna whilst creating stage one of the Uralla walking and cycling track which will provide safe passages around Uralla to educational facilities, sporting venues, environmental and cultural areas.

Recovery Plans

Uralla Shire Council's project to re-establish habitat for the Regent Honeyeater at the Bundarra Native Park was completed in 2009.

Catchment Management Authorities

The following programs have been undertaken by the respective CMAs operating in the Southern New England Region during 2009-2010.

Border Rivers – Gwydir CMA

- a two year weed control project has been established with Northern Inland Weeds Advisory Committee (NIWAC). This will focus on education and containment of the following weeds - Serrated Tussock, Gorse, Chilean Needle Grass and Bridal Creeper. Through the project around 500 hectares will have weed control activities implemented.
- a project with the Southern New England Landcare Inc. to deliver the control of rabbits around the Mother Of Ducks Lagoon at Guyra and Little Lagoon at Zonta Station has been commenced.

Namoi CMA

- three of the Namoi sub-catchments (the Upper and Mid Macdonald and the Cockburn River catchments) which are within the Walcha shire boundary only. Currently working with landholders to improve the condition and reduce the critical threats to upland wetlands in the target area.

Northern Rivers CMA

- 109ha of native vegetation enhanced or rehabilitated via a Corridors Project. This work is in addition to projects managed by Southern New England Landcare (SNELC)

Community Responses

The following submissions have been received from community groups / individuals outlining activities undertaken during 2009-2010.

National Parks Association of NSW - Armidale Branch (Armidale NPA) and Birds Australia – Northern NSW Group (BANN)

Environmental monitoring:

Birds Australia – NNSW (BANN) has monitored Mugga Ironbark patches on TSRs and roadsides near Torryburn and on the Bundarra Rd in Uralla Shire for the occurrence of Regent Honeyeaters (a State and Federally listed endangered species). A breeding population was found near the licensed sand quarry on the Gwydir River at Torryburn and in the nearby Gwydir Park Road TSR in Nov-Dec 2008. No Regent Honeyeaters were found in spring 2009, probably due to drought-induced failure of flowering in the Mugga Ironbarks.

The Regent Honeyeater is now listed as critically endangered at both State and Federal levels, so it is vital that all authorities conserve and protect their core breeding habitat such as the Gwydir Park Road Travelling Stock Reserve and the Gwydir River Crown Reserve at Torryburn in Uralla Shire.

Issues include preventing unauthorised felling of trees on the TSR for firewood or fence posts, and preventing excessive damage to and clearing of roadside trees by Shire staff during routine roadside maintenance programs – both of which degrade the environment for threatened woodland birds.

Activities and projects:

Some restoration has been done by BANN on the 2ha tree-planting project in Gwydir Park Road TSR at Torryburn, following losses from the drought. Further direct seeding with Eucalypts and wattles will be undertaken this spring.

Armidale and District Australian Plant Society

Arboretum Working Bees:

The Armidale and District Australian Plant Society (APS) has developed and maintains a few beds of native plants at the Armidale Arboretum. Pat Laher is the mainstay behind these plantings, organising and co-ordinating both new plantings and maintenance of the beds, with the assistance of a few volunteers from the Armidale APS. In 2009 some Work for the Dole participants also provided assistance.

The major projects undertaken by members in 2009 were the removal of *Acacia boormanii*, along with planting, pruning, spreading sawdust and weeding over the 3 New England flora beds.

	2009	2008	2007
Total labour hours spent	81.5	71.5	88
Number of working bees	8	12	8
Number of volunteers	10	8	9
Number of plants planted	91	151	292
Approx. wholesale cost of plants (\$)	364		1270

Due to continuing low numbers of members at working bees in 2010, we have been unable to maintain all of the native plant area under our control. Armidale Dumaresq Council staff were requested to clear the lower beds of shrubs and weeds and return the areas to grass. The removal of the very dense vegetation will make the area more secure for people walking through the garden. Trees and tall shrubs will remain. Although not yet completed, this work has already enhanced the appearance of the remaining beds. The pond and grass trees are now visible from some parts of our garden.

At the working bees about two and a half truck loads of wood chip was spread, which covered two of the New England Flora beds, and 14 plants were planted out.

In June 2010 a letter was sent to both local High Schools seeking volunteers for Arboretum working bees. A positive response was received from both schools and at this stage Armidale High will be sending some students for the working bees in August, September, October and November.

Citizens Wildlife Corridors Armidale Inc. (CWC)

CWC is a 19 years old local, non-government, charitable environmental organisation working on the Northern Tablelands and elsewhere to ensure the survival of Australian wildlife and its habitat. Grants are used to subsidise members to protect existing remnant native vegetation and riparian areas from stock predation with fencing, build wildlife corridors 30 metres wide to connect to these remnants and distribute an informative and educative newsletter to 600 families biannually.

Along with other projects, over the past five years CWC members have protected a total of seventeen (17) kilometres in the New England area with fencing on both sides of streams up to 100 metres wide and planting therein with indigenous vegetation to create wildlife habitat. This work improves water quality by excluding stock and also provides substantial additions to wildlife habitat.

Activities / projects undertaken during 2009-2010 in relation to the local environment include:

- CWC has enclosed a stretch of 2.7 kilometres of unformed Crown Roads in the northern outskirts of Armidale near Blue Wren Road with assistance from the Department of Lands. Management of these unnamed Crown Roads was transferred to Armidale Dumaresq Council so they could be added as extensions to the Armidale Walking Track. With a grant of \$7,500 from Newcastle Permanent Charitable Foundation, CWC then enclosed the former road reserves at three (3) points and at another point with CWC funds to restrict vehicular traffic while maintaining walking access. The old growth woodland on these roads is now protected wildlife habitat containing rare birds and other wildlife.
 - Armidale Tree Group has been engaged to plant over 300 indigenous native plants to enrich an area at the northern end of Arundel Drive and private landholders have also built wildlife corridors adjoining the walking tracks.
 - Country Energy has engaged Armidale Tree Group to plant three rows of indigenous native shrubs along a 400 metres stretch of Blue Wren Road under the powerlines to
-

compensate for those destroyed earlier. This area also adjoins the Walking Track enclosures and adds to the considerable wildlife habitat in the area.

- Citizens Wildlife Corridors, along with other organisations, are running an awareness campaign to alert their readers to the killing of millions of wildlife annually in Australia by feral and domestic cats and foxes. CWC are hopeful that in future legislation will be provided to control the activities of domestic cats to prevent their natural hunting skills being used to kill native wildlife.

A copy of the CWC Newsletter 41 (Winter 2010) is included in Appendix 5 for further information about CWC activities.

7. WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY

7.1 INTRODUCTION

Councils across the Southern New England Region continue to operate licensed solid waste landfill facilities, along with various rural transfer stations to service smaller settlements and rural communities. All of the Southern New England Councils are actively involved in recycling, working to reduce overall waste generation and improving waste management.

Armidale Dumaresq Council is working to develop a regional landfill facility that will have capacity to handle waste from across the Region. The planning stage of this proposal has continued during 2009-2010 with preparation of environmental assessment documentation.

7.2 WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY PRESSURES

Activities and issues that impact, or create pressure with respect to waste, waste management and resource recovery in the Southern New England Region are broadly identified as:

- domestic waste production
- levels of recycling
- operation of waste management facilities
- impact of waste on the environment
- pollution
- sewage

The existing Armidale Dumaresq landfill facility on Long Swamp Road has reached capacity and a minor extension has been constructed to provide additional capacity for the next four years. A new landfill is required and Armidale Dumaresq Council is planning to construct a new facility east of Armidale to replace the existing site. Further details regarding the planning and approval process for the proposed new land fill facility are outlined in Part 7.4.

7.3 WASTE MANAGEMENT IN THE REGION

The environmental indicators outlined below have been used to assess and monitor the state, or condition of the environment with respect to waste, waste management and resource recovery over a number of years. This section provides up-dated data for the respective environmental indicators for 2009-2010.

7.3.1 Waste Management Facilities

Each of the four (4) Councils in the Southern New England Region operate landfill facilities and/or transfer stations as part of their waste management operations. Landfill facilities are operated at Armidale, Tingha, Uralla, Bundarra, Kingstown, Walcha, Nowendoc and Woolbrook, while transfer stations are operated at Tilbuster, Wollomombi, Hillgrove, Ebor

and Guyra. Rehabilitation of the Llangothlin landfill facility in the Guyra LGA continued during 2009 – 2010.



7.3.2 Waste Collection Services

Waste collection services were operated in each of the Southern New England Region Council areas during 2009-2010. The following Table shows the number and type of services operated by each Council during 2009-2010 and a comparison of the total number of collection services operated in the previous year (2008-2009).

Table 15: Number and Types of Waste Collection Services by LGA

Number / Type of Waste Collection Service	ADC	GSC	USC	WC
residential	8635	1107	1516	
commercial	760	136	75	
other			26	
Total number of services in 2009-2010	9395	1243	1673	993
Total number of services in 2008-2009	9315	1152	1617	970
Total change in number of services over last 12 months	+ 80	+ 91	+ 56	+ 23

7.3.3 Waste Generation and Disposal

The amount of waste generated across the Southern New England Region is measured to allow comparisons over time for the total amount of waste deposited to landfill and the amount of domestic waste generated per capita.

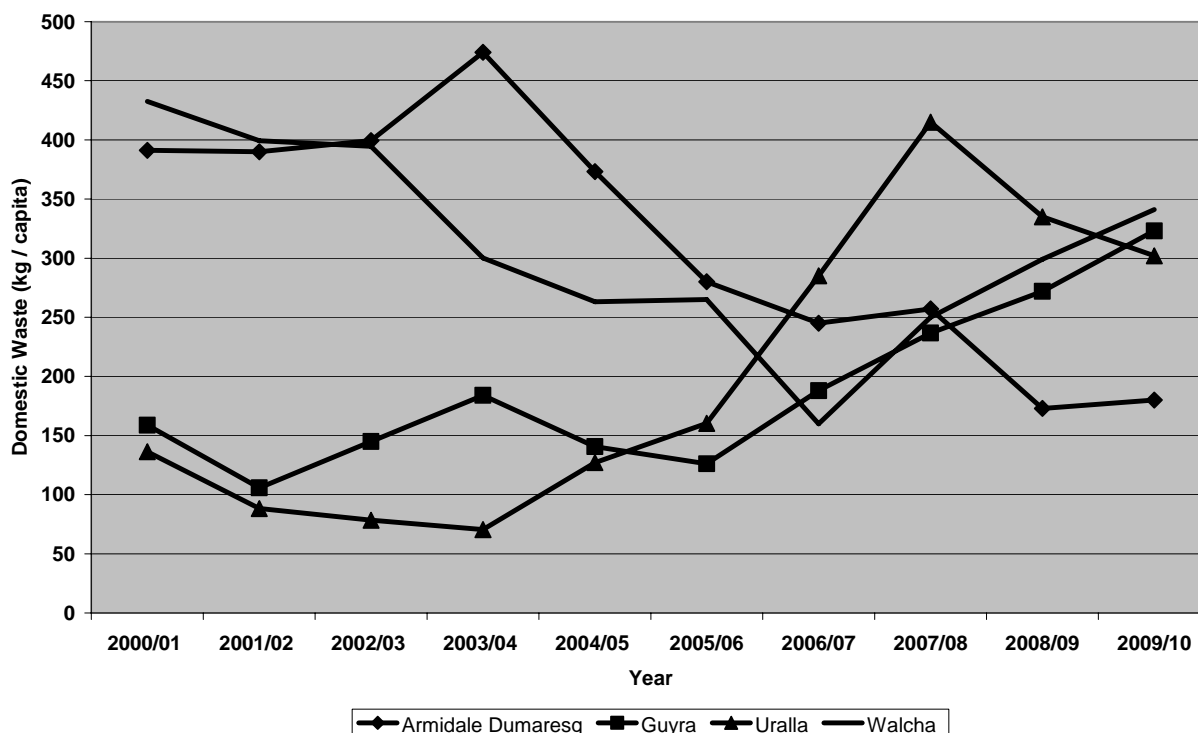
The total amount of waste deposited to landfill for each local government area during 2009-2010 was as follows:

Table 16: Total Waste to Landfill

LGA	Tonnes to Landfill		% change from 2008-2009
	08-09	09-10	
ADC	14035	12890	8% ↓
incl. wood waste*		17277	
GSC	1213	1463	21% ↑
USC	2865	2746	4% ↓
WC	980	662	32% ↓

* wood waste includes timber, particle board, etc that is chipped and used as litter control at the Armidale landfill during wet conditions. A market for this recycled material has yet to be found.

Comparative data for domestic waste generated per capita for the four Southern New England Region Councils since 2000-2001 is shown below in Figure 26.

Figure 26: Domestic Waste per Capita (2000-2001 to 2009-2010)

The longer term trends for domestic waste generation per capita show decreases for both for both Armidale and Walcha, despite an increase in Walcha over recent years. Uralla's domestic waste per capita has decreased since a peak in 2007-2008 while Guyra's per capita waste generation has been increasing since 2005-2006.

7.3.4 Recycling

Recyclable materials are measured in a similar way to domestic waste to allow comparisons between Councils over a number of years. Table 17 shows the total amount of recyclables collected by each Council during 2009-2010 while Table 18 shows an approximate breakdown of the types of recyclable materials collected during the current reporting period.

Table 17: Recyclables Collected (2009-2010)

LGA	Recyclables (tonnes)	Green Waste (tonnes)
ADC	3292	8354
GSC	334	n/a
USC	816	1140
WC	~400	~145

Table 18: Recyclables by Type in 2009-2010 (approximate % values)

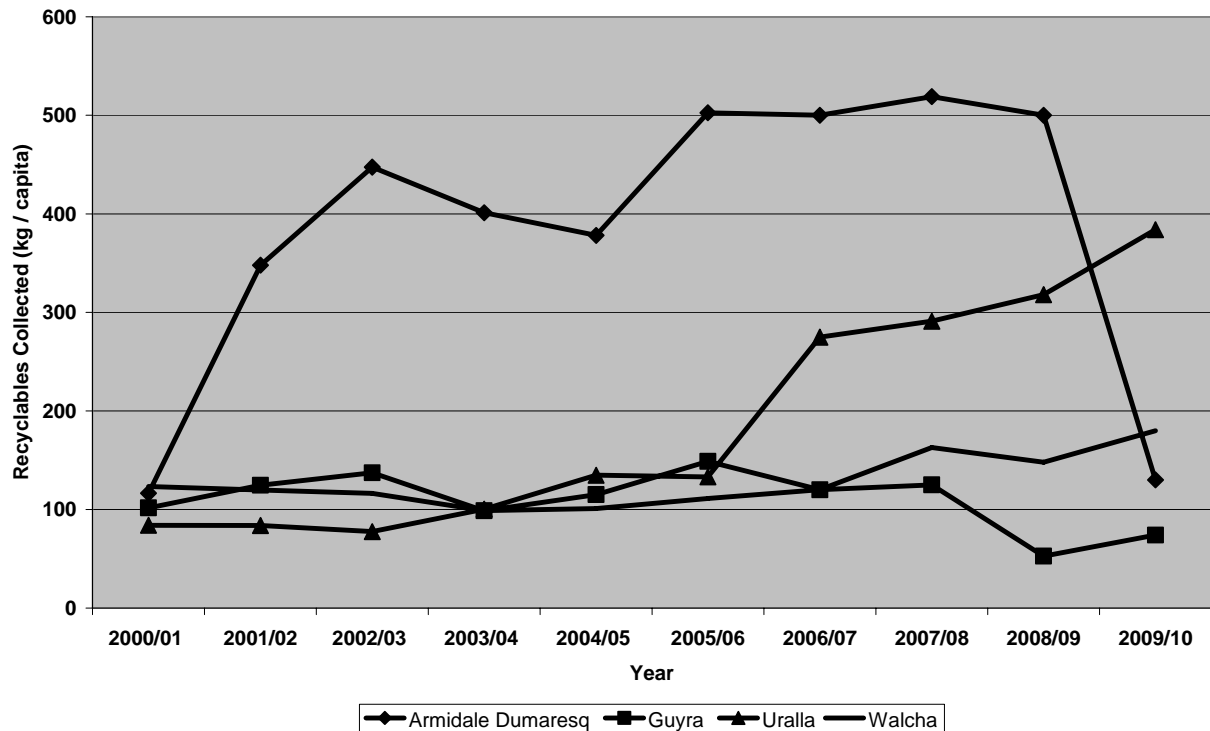
Recyclables	Approximate % of Material per LGA			
	ADC	GSC	USC	WC
Metals	1.5	17	20	30
Paper/Cardboard	70.7	52	59	20
Glass	22.1	23	10	10
Plastics	4.8	2	8	5
Aluminium	0.9	0.5	0.5	
Batteries		0.25	2.5	
Other		5.25		35*

* includes 30% green waste



Figure 27 shows comparative data of recyclables per capita for the four Southern New England Region Councils since 2000-2001.

Figure 27: Recyclables per Capita (2000-2001 to 2009-2010)



Note: Figures for Armidale Dumaresq from 2001-2002 to 2008-2009 are based on the sum of recyclables collected (including green waste, timber, metals, etc). Figures for 2009-2010 are based on kerb side collected recyclables.

7.4 RESPONDING TO WASTE ISSUES

Following is an outline of the activities and strategies implemented across the Southern New England Region during 2009-2010 in response to waste issues.

Waste Minimisation

Armidale Dumaresq Council

As with last year, waste minimisation promotional material was developed through the Northern Inland Regional Waste (NIRW) group, including personal ashtrays and car tidy bags along with a TV advertisement encouraging landowners to clean up rubbish on their properties. A waste minimisation booklet was developed by NIRW and distributed.

It is recognised that by being a member of NIRW Council can capitalise on economies of scale. For example the waste minimisation booklets, Chemical cleanup advertising, Sharps disposal, and recycling brochures incurred no cost to Council.

Recycling

DrumMuster

The DrumMuster campaign resulted in the collection of 3305 drums in Armidale Dumaresq, 601 in Guyra and 2082 in Walcha. No figures were available for the Uralla LGA.

Armidale Dumaresq Council

Council runs a second hand shop for used / recycled goods. It also processes green waste into mulch and concrete into two grades of crushed concrete, metal is collected and sold, while wood waste is chipped for use at the landfill. The outcome of these activities is that 100% of the green waste and concrete is processed and sold and all wood waste is used as a cover material to reduce wind blown litter at the landfill. A small amount of crushed concrete is used around the Waste Transfer Station and landfill for hardstand during wet periods.

Computer Bank New England (CBNE) has also continued to expand their e-waste recycling operation during 2009-2010.

Uralla Shire Council

Council uses and sells mulch and sells baled plastics and paper/cardboard to markets in Sydney or Brisbane. Scrap Steel is sold to OneSteel in Newcastle.

Computer Bank New England also commenced operations at the Uralla Landfill in June, 2010 which has led to a 97% decrease of e-waste going into the landfill cell.

Landfill Operation

Armidale Dumaresq Council

Council has introduced a commercial and industrial (C&I) and building and demolition (B&D) material recovery facility (MRF) which was recognised by the NSW State Government and considered a first for regional NSW. The introduction of the C&I and B&D MRF has reduced the amount of waste to landfill and a trial is in place to look at the effectiveness of the C&I and B&D MRF.

Uralla Shire Council

Since the introduction of staffing at the Bundarra landfill, Council has noticed a decrease in the amount of waste/recyclables going into the landfill cell of up to 50%. Recycling rates have also increased proportionally.

Northern Inland Regional Waste Group

Projects / strategies conducted by the Group during 2009-2010 included chemical collection, drum muster, green waste processing, concrete crushing, metal collection, battery collection, oil and paint collection, florescent lighting collection, Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) and Emission Trading Scheme (ETS) study for LSR Landfill, sharps disposal bins, true cost of landfill study, educational material, and road signs to reduce litter.

Regional Landfill Proposal

After the landfill project initially commenced, a significant change to NSW planning legislation saw the introduction of “Part 3A” requirements (relating to Major Infrastructure and other projects) to the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. Under the new requirements of Part 3A, Council prepared a Preliminary Environmental Assessment for the project. The Preliminary Environmental Assessment provided an outline of the project and a summary of the main environmental issues requiring further assessment. This document was submitted to the Department of Planning in October 2008. Revised Director-General’s Environmental Assessment Requirements for the project, specifying the issues that must be addressed within the Environmental Assessment, were issued in November 2008. The landfill project was declared by the Minister for Planning to be a ‘Major Project’ in February 2009. An Environmental Assessment was prepared in 2009-2010 to provide detailed information about the project and analysis of its potential environmental impacts in order to provide sufficient information for the Minister of Planning to make a determination on the project.

The project has previously been declared a ‘Controlled Action’ under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) on the basis that the proposed landfill would have the potential to impact on the nearby Oxley Wild Rivers National Park, unless suitable mitigation measures are put in place. The National Park is located 4km from the proposed landfill site and forms part of the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage Area. Having been declared a ‘Controlled Action’ the proposal therefore requires approval under the EPBC Act and will be reviewed for approval at both State and Commonwealth levels.

The recently prepared Environmental Assessment includes the following information:

- site description – describing the proposed location, site history, landscape features and regional context;
- project justification – why the proposed landfill is required, how it aligns with local and regional planning strategies (including waste management strategies) and the alternatives that have been considered;
- project description – details of the major features of the proposed landfill and presentation of the conceptual design of the proposal;
- planning framework – outlining the environmental assessment and planning process required under both Commonwealth and NSW State legislation, including State Environmental Planning Policies and the requirements of the Armidale Dumaresq Local Environmental Plan 2008;
- environmental impact assessment – identifying potential environmental impacts during both construction and operation of the proposed landfill.

The environmental assessment discusses the results of specialist studies commissioned to assess potential environmental impacts and describes appropriate measures to mitigate impacts that may arise.

The Environmental Assessment document was placed on exhibition for 60 days during April/May 2010 during which time submissions were invited from stakeholders and members of the public.

A formal response will be prepared by Council for all issues raised in the submissions received during the exhibition period. A Submissions Report, documenting submissions

received and how these have been addressed, will be prepared and submitted to the Department of Planning. The Department will then prepare a Project Assessment Report for the NSW Minister for Planning to consider. The Minister may then approve or reject the project, on its merits. A separate, formal approval is also required from the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment under the requirements of the Commonwealth EPBC Act.

Impact of Waste on the Environment

Armidale Dumaresq Council

Council carried out 30 Category 1 Trade Waste inspections during 2009-2010. Four (4) instances of non-compliance were detected. Upon re-inspection all were found to be satisfactory.

Council also carries out monitoring at its landfill facilities with respect to groundwater, surface water, gas monitoring, and this year air monitoring for asbestos. All results were to the satisfaction of Council and the Department of Environment Climate Change and Water.

Uralla Shire Council

Council undertook monitoring of rubbish collections with landfill staff sorting and weighing randomly selected compacter truck loads of domestic waste, finding that 50% was green waste and 33% recyclables.

Environmental monitoring at the Uralla landfill is also carried out quarterly as required under its licence conditions for methane levels, groundwater levels, groundwater quality and surface water. No surface Methane was detected in the current cell area although low concentrations continue to emit from the western gas vent in the northern cells. Water levels in the wells are high. Nitrite and Nitrate contamination in well uw3 is still above background levels and iron levels in the surface water at us1 is relatively high (June, 2010). No future action is proposed in relation to these findings.

Walcha Council

Council undertakes environmental monitoring of its landfill facilities for surface and groundwater by an independent body. The results for 2009-2010 were stable, as per previous years.

Pollution

Armidale Dumaresq Council

Council received the following pollution complaints during 2009-2010:

- 367 abandoned shopping trolleys
- 25 littering / illegal dumping complaints
- 2 relating to asbestos on land which were issued a verbal Clean-up Notice
- 8 relating to rubbish on land, requiring meeting with residents and issuing a verbal Clean-up Notice
- 5 relating to wayward pamphlet/paper deliveries, requiring meetings with distributors/publishers to clarify legislative requirements. Verbal Clean-up Notice for issued for these offences.

- 1 relating to a waste oil drum on a residential premises, requiring a verbal Clean-up Notice.

Penalty Infringement Notices were issued for depositing litter from a vehicle (1), transporting waste to a place not a lawful facility for that waste (2) and littering (wayward newspaper / pamphlet deliveries) (1).

One illegal dumping incident was also detected on private land. In this instance a small amount of asbestos material (confirmed by Council) was left on private land. The landholder initiated a clean-up of the material.

Guyra Shire Council

Ten (10) incidents of illegal dumping were reported or found during daily duties during 2009-2010. Action, including sorting the rubbish for forms of identification, was taken in an attempt to identify where the rubbish had originated from. All incidents were the size of a car boot / ute size load. No details were found in the rubbish and investigations failed to find any witnesses. The rubbish was collected and disposed to prevent further trend dumping at the same areas, which was mainly TSR land nearby to towns and villages.

No Penalty Infringement Notices were issued during 2009-2010.

Uralla Shire Council

Two (2) incidents of illegal dumping were detected during 2009-2010 with Clean-up notices and Penalty Infringement Notices being issued for both.

Sewage

Armidale Dumaresq Council

Council undertakes monitoring of ground water, surface water, surface and sub-surface soil at its sewer treatment plant. Effluent and biosolids are also analysed before application to land.

A suspected leak from a maturation pond was investigated and shown to be groundwater.

Council reuses approx. 46% of all effluent from its sewer treatment plant in agriculture (cropping and pasture).

Walcha Council

Council undertakes daily monitoring and monthly lab analysis of flows through its tertiary treatment pond and outflows along with river water quality monitoring. Results have remained stable and required no specific action.

Council currently reuses approx. 5% of the water from its sewer treatment plant.

8. NOISE

8.1 INTRODUCTION

Noise pollution and issues associated with noise generation are generally not significant environmental problems across the Southern New England Region. A number of noise complaints are usually received by the respective Councils each year, but historically these tend to be isolated incidents or noise related to an identifiable point source.

Presently there is no regular noise monitoring undertaken by any of the Councils across the Region. Any monitoring that is carried out is usually in response to complaints or specific issues.

Land use zoning within the four urban areas of Armidale, Guyra, Uralla and Walcha and consideration of potential noise generation during the development assessment process help to confine potentially noisy activities to suitable areas while establishing appropriate conditions for operation of such activities.

All of the Councils endeavour to respond promptly to noise complaints, and in doing so, seek to minimise potential impacts on residents and the environment.

Barking dogs continue to be the greatest source of noise complaints for each of the Southern New England Councils. There has been no noticeable change to this situation during 2009 - 2010.

8.2 SOURCES OF NOISE

While noise is not considered to be a significant environmental issue within the Southern New England Region, the following sources and impacting activities have been broadly identified as those that create pressure on the environment in respect to noise:

- barking dogs
- urban noise (including loud music, air-conditioners, etc.)
- industry
- noise from rural activities
- transport (including airport and aircraft noise)
- waste management activities and facilities



8.3 NOISE IN THE REGION

The environmental indicators outlined below have been used in previous State of Environment Reports to monitor the state, or condition, of noise within the Region. The following Tables provide up-dated data for the respective environmental indicators for 2009-2010.

8.2.1 Noise Monitoring

Armidale Dumaresq Council

During 2009-2010 Council undertook monitoring of Hot Water Heat Pumps at a commercial premises. The monitoring found that noise levels were greater than 5db above background. A Noise Control Notice was issued to the operator who erected a noise barrier by to comply with the Notice.

Uralla Shire Council

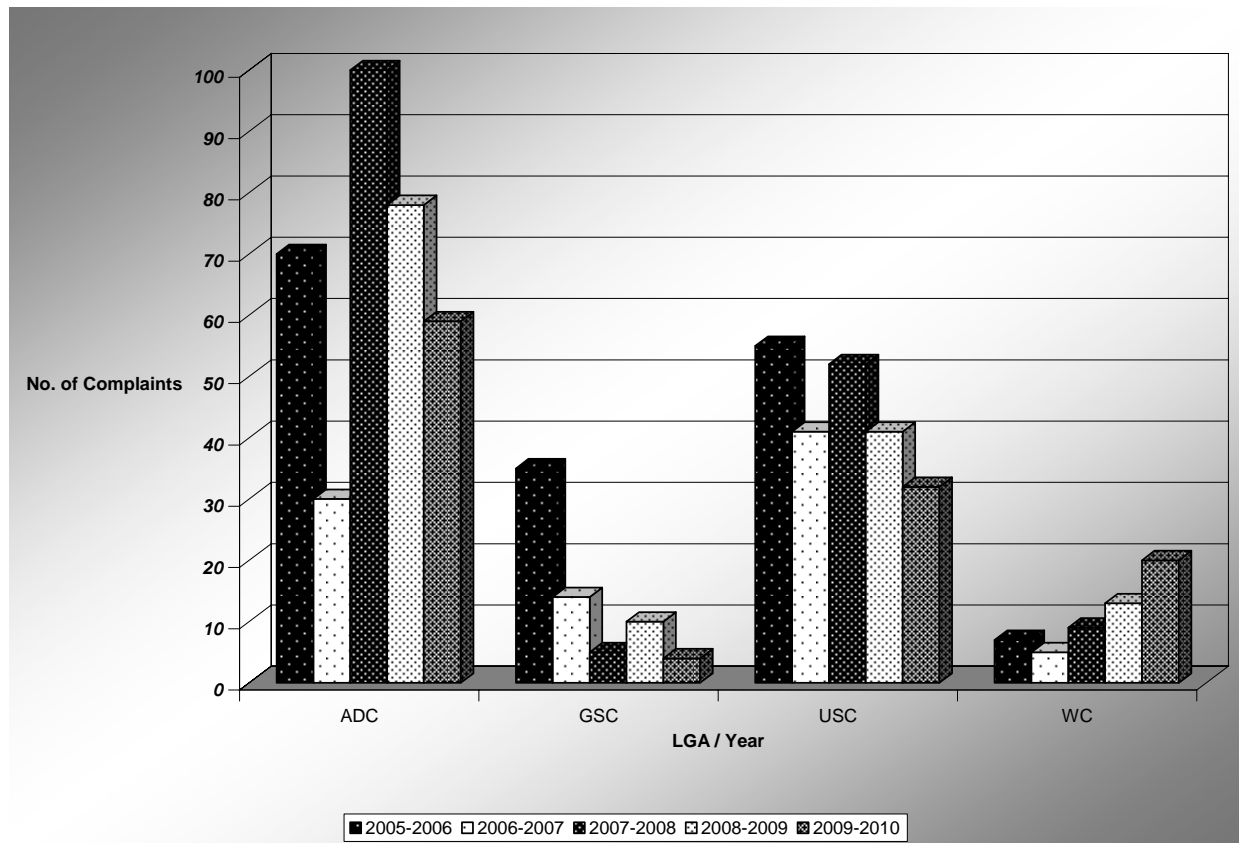
Staff undertook early morning noise monitoring to ascertain the validity of noise complaints relating to roosters and a trucking business. After being unable to resolve the issues, an Order was served obviating the nuisance. No court actions as required in relation to noise during 2009-2010.

8.2.2 Noise Complaints

The total number of noise complaints received by Councils across the Southern New England Region over the last five (5) reporting periods has averaged at 136 complaints per year. In 2009-2010 a total of 115 complaints were received compared to 142 in 2008-2009, 166 in 2007-2008, 90 in 2006-2007 and 167 in 2005-2006.

The number of noise complaints received by Armidale Dumaresq Council, Guyra Shire Council and Uralla Shire Council fell in 2009-2010 compared to 2008-2009, while Walcha Council's numbers of noise complaints continued to increase, albeit for a generally low number of complaints overall.

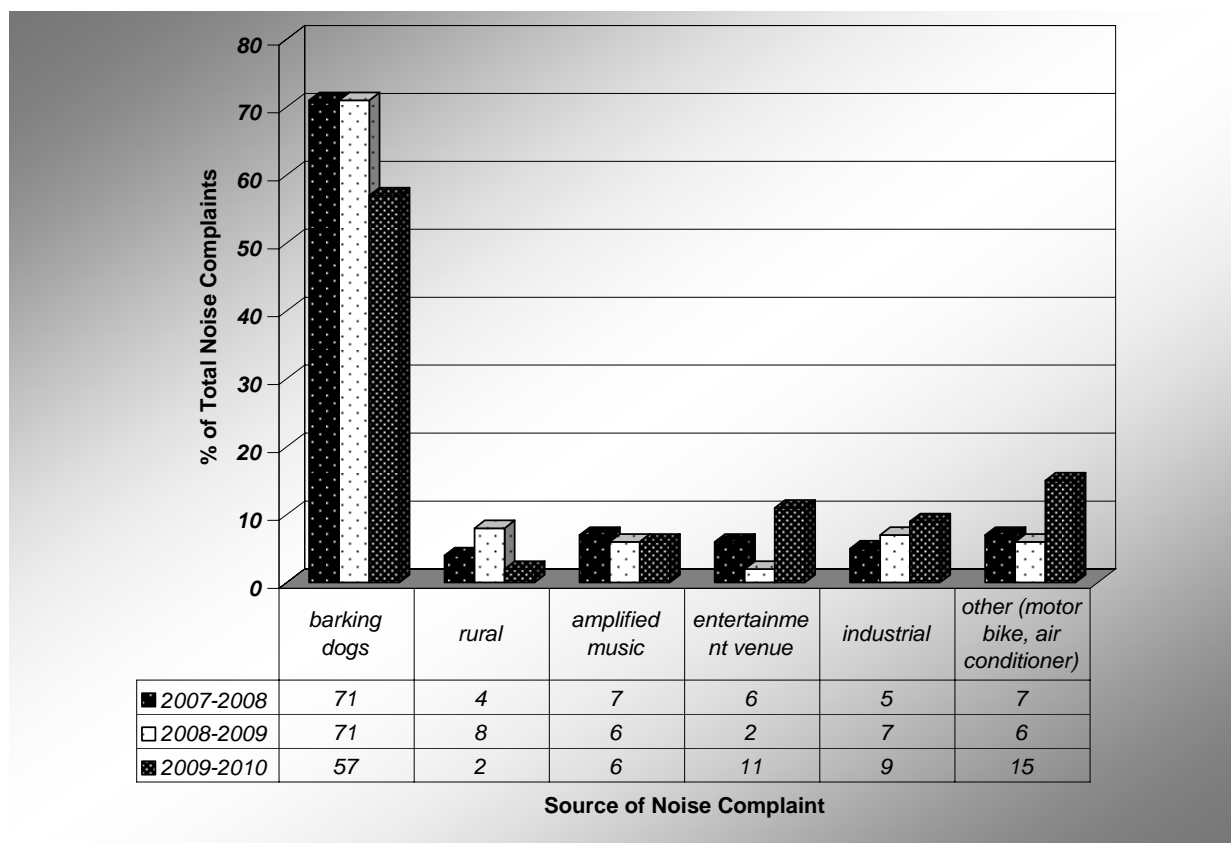
Details relating to the number of complaints received by each Council and the trend in complaint levels over the last four reporting periods is shown below in Figure 28.

Figure 28: Noise Complaints Received by LGA

The majority of noise complaints consistently continue to come from barking dogs, falling to 59% of all noise complaints compared to 71% in the previous two years. Both Armidale Dumaresq and Guyra Shire Councils experienced a reduction in the number of noise complaints from barking dogs in 2009-2010 compared to the previous reporting period (37 and 6 respectively), while Uralla Shire Council remained the same and Walcha Council received an increased number of noise complaints relating to barking dogs over the same period (8).

Other noise complaints were received in relation to rural noise, amplified music, entertainment venues, industrial activity or other sources including a compressor, motorcycle/car, air conditioner, heat pump, aircraft, leaf blower, alarm, small business operating in early hours and building construction outside of consent hours.

Figure 29 below shows the percentage (%) of total noise complaints by source received by the Councils across the Southern New England Region from 2007-2008 to 2009-2010.

Figure 29: Percentage of Total Noise Complaints by Source

8.2.3 Environment Protection Licences

There are seven (7) premises in the Southern New England Region that have environment protection licences issued under Section 55 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* with conditions relating to noise. The following Table identifies the premises with noise licence conditions and any incidents of non-compliance with licence conditions for annual licence returns submitted during 2009-2010.

Table 19: Environment Protection Licences - Noise

Lic. No.	Activity / Licensee	Compliance with License Conditions
Armidale Dumaresq LGA		
5860	Waste Management Facility (Armidale Dumaresq Council)	complied
921	Hillgrove Mine (Straits (Hillgrove) Gold Pty Ltd)	10 incidents of exceedence of ambient noise criteria. Licensee will further define nuisance sources of noise. Licensee will continue to monitor both situations.
12481	Metz Quarry (Boral Resources)	complied

12123	Armidale Airport Helicopter Activities (Armidale Dumaresq Council)	complied
Guyra LGA		
11792	Guyra Quarry (Inverell Aggregate Supplies)	details not yet published
Uralla LGA		
5899	Landfill (Uralla Shire Council)	complied
Walcha LGA		
6120	Waste Depot (Walcha Council)	complied

8.4 RESPONDING TO NOISE ISSUES

Responses Across the Region

The general response of each Council in the Region to noise issues can be broadly categorised into the following areas:

- strategic land use planning (regional LEP)
- on-site noise reduction techniques
- policies and guidelines developed by State and Local Government
- maintenance of noise complaints register and protocols to deal with all serious noise complaints expeditiously

Armidale Dumaresq Council

Responding to complaints:

Council officers respond to noise complaints by interaction / meeting with operators / owners to outline their responsibilities (consent conditions and/or legislation). Assessments are also carried out to determine noise levels and characterisation (*offensive/ intrusive* nature of noise). For example:

- complaint regarding small business operating during early hours – a Noise Prevention Notice was issued which resulted in a change of working practices; and
- one instance involved engagement of consultant (by company) to determine noise impacts and outline remediation strategies.

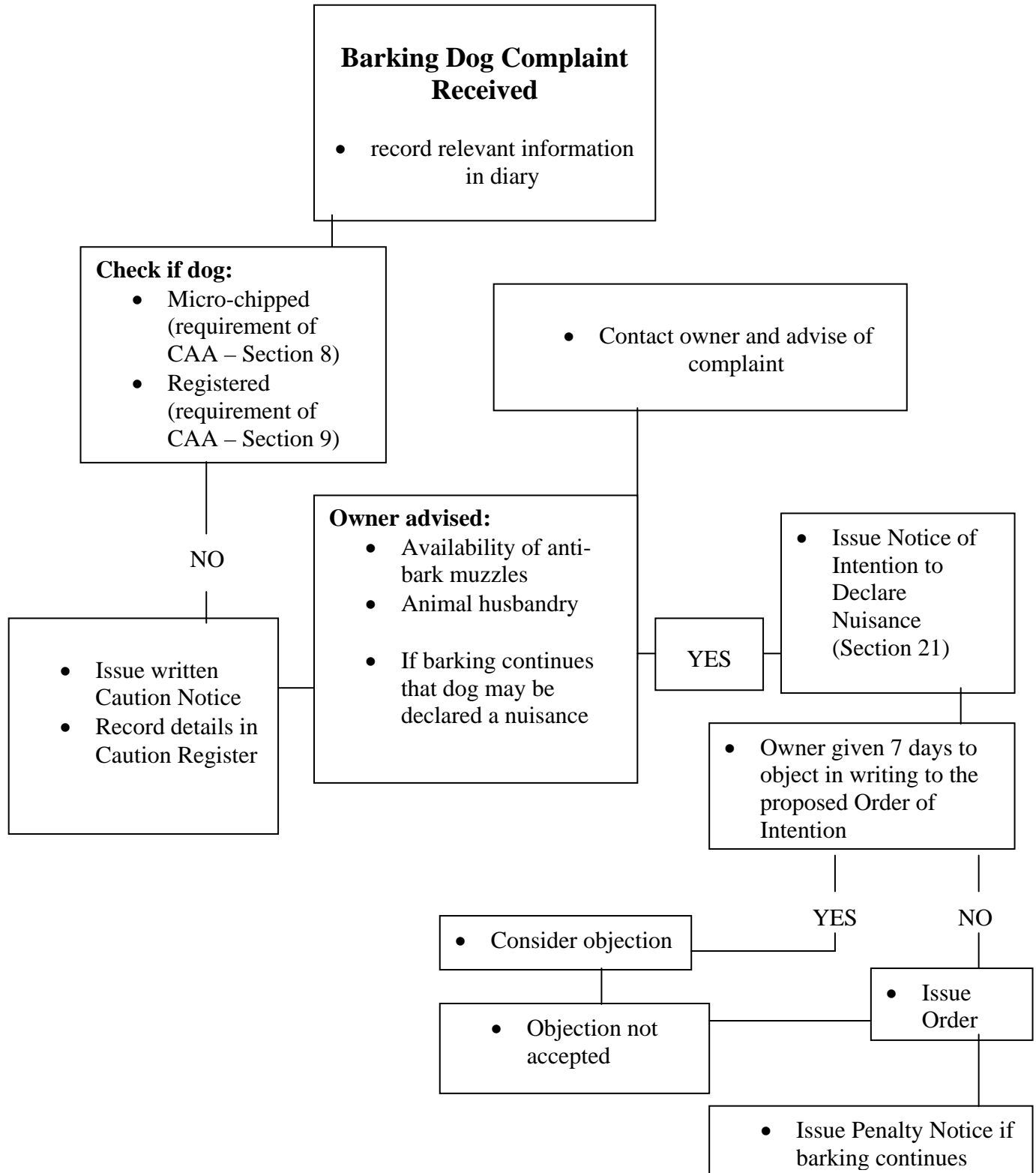
All instances of interaction with the noise source operator / owner were successful in addressing the noise complaint presented to Council, except;

- one ongoing trail-bike noise issue in which it has been difficult to make suitable arrangements between the parties (i.e. clarifying issue, contacting and receiving response from parties - out of country).

Dog Control

Control Measure	Reporting Year			
	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
issue nuisance order	18	15	1	2
anti-barking collars	10	-	-	-
Husher muzzles	16	-	11	8

Armidale Dumaresq Council's standard procedure for handling barking dog complaints is outlined below (SPN127)



Guyra Shire Council

Responding to dog complaints:

In the majority of cases, council officers liaise initially with the owners of potential offending dogs and investigate the claims and level of disturbance, including verification with other neighbours. After complaints are confirmed, officers proceed to make the owners aware of problems, along with their requirements as owners of companion animals and the impact on surrounding residents.

Council officers develop plans specifically for each individual situation to at least reduce and then eliminate the potential for future noise issues and report back to complainants and nearby residents who are or may be affected by the noise. This process generally works well in the majority of cases and in a reasonable time the noise issues are reduced and/or eliminated.

Uralla Shire Council

Responding to dog complaints:

Council's response to barking dog complaints includes issuing of nuisance orders for dog related noise, hire out anti-barking collars and/or selling husher muzzles.

Control Measure	Reporting Year			
	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
issue nuisance order	3	5	4	4
anti-barking collars	-	-	-	
Husher muzzles	11	-	8	3

Walcha Council

Responding to dog complaints:

Council's initial response to barking dog complaints generally involves contact with the offending dog's owner to advise them of their responsibilities. During 2009-2010, ten (10) anti-barking collars were hired.

9. HERITAGE

9.1 INTRODUCTION

The Southern New England Region has an extensive and diverse heritage relating to its Aboriginal and European occupation. There is a strong awareness and appreciation of heritage in the region as reflected in the preparation of heritage studies, identification, restoration and preservation of buildings and places, public education and promotion of heritage.

9.2 HERITAGE ISSUES

Aboriginal Heritage

There are many issues and activities (pressures) affecting the preservation and management of Aboriginal Heritage, such as a limited understanding and knowledge of Aboriginal culture and heritage and limited knowledge regarding the location of significant sites.

Activities and issues that have been identified as potentially impacting or creating pressure on Aboriginal heritage in the Southern New England Region include:

- limited knowledge of Aboriginal sites and areas of significance
- loss of cultural heritage
- preservation of identified Aboriginal sites and artefacts
- understanding between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people

Non-Aboriginal Heritage

The issues and activities that broadly create pressure on non-aboriginal heritage items within the region are identified as:

- development (new development, urban consolidation, inappropriate redevelopment / restoration, impacts on streetscape)
- deterioration and damage
- community values and perception of heritage significance
- information management and loss of historical knowledge
- insufficient funding and difficulty in obtaining funding for heritage work

A noticeable increase in the installation of alternative energy technologies (e.g. photovoltaic panels and solar hot water systems) during 2009-2010 has created pressure in relation to the aesthetic value of streetscapes in heritage conservation areas and adjacent to heritage items.

9.3 THE STATE OF HERITAGE

The following indicators have been reported and monitored in previous State of Environment Reports to provide an indication of the state or condition of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage in the Southern New England Region.

9.3.1 Aboriginal Heritage

The extent of Aboriginal heritage can sometimes be difficult to ascertain due to sensitivities associated with identifying and publicising sites of significance. Within this context, the environmental indicators outlined below have been identified to assess and monitor the state, or condition of the environment with respect to Aboriginal Heritage.

Population

The 2006 Census (Australian Bureau of Statistics) showed the Aboriginal population of the Southern New England Region as 2,181. The total Aboriginal population for the region grew by 703 people (48%) from the 1991 to 2006 Census. In the 2006 Census, Aboriginal people made up 5.9% of the Southern New England Region's total population, compared to 2.3% of the total Australian population and 2.1% of the total NSW population.

Further up-dates will be available following the release of 2011 Census data.

Number of Identified Aboriginal Sites

The Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS), administered by the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW), lists known Aboriginal sites within NSW and records their location and any appropriate access restrictions to ensure their protection. It should be noted that the AHIMS database only includes recorded sites. Large areas of NSW have not been subject to systematic survey or the recording of Aboriginal history and these areas may contain sites that are not listed on the AHIMS.

DECCW advised that during 2009-2010, 12 sites were added to the AHIMS across the Southern New England Region, consisting of 6 sites in Armidale Dumaresq and 6 sites in the Walcha local government area. The total number of sites recorded on the AHIMS by LGA as at 30 June 2010 is shown below in Table 20.



Table 20: Sites Recorded on AHIMS by LGA

Number of sites recorded on AHIMS	Local Government Area			
	ADC	GSC	USC	WC
as at 30 June 2010	202	142	59	136

Heritage Studies

There have been no new studies relating to Aboriginal Heritage during 2009-2010. Walcha Council is continuing with the preparation of its Community Based Heritage Study that will incorporate Aboriginal Heritage.

Permits Issued Under National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974

The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW) is responsible for approving and issuing permits under sections 87 and 90 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*. An Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) is the statutory instrument that DECCW issues under sections 87 and/or 90 to manage impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage objects and places.

Under section 87 of the Act, an AHIP is required if an Aboriginal object is to be disturbed or moved, or land is to be disturbed for the purposes of discovering an Aboriginal object. Under section 90 of the Act, an AHIP is required if an Aboriginal object or Aboriginal place is to be destroyed, damaged or defaced. Permits are required for work that could impact on Aboriginal heritage either positively or negatively.

During 2009-2010, one (1) Section 90 permit was issued by DECCW in the Armidale Dumaresq local government area.

9.3.2 Non-Aboriginal Heritage

Indicators reported and monitored in previous State of Environment Reports to provide an overview of the state or condition of non-Aboriginal heritage in the Southern New England Region include:

- number of heritage studies undertaken
- number of listed heritage sites
- level of funding obtained for heritage based projects
- number of Interim Heritage Orders issued.
- activities of Council's Heritage Advisor
- details of museum visitation

The following section provides an up-date on the indicators for 2009-2010.

Heritage Studies

No new heritage studies were completed in the Southern New England Region during 2009-2010. However, Walcha Council is continuing with its preparation of a Community Based Heritage Study in conjunction with the NSW Heritage Branch.

Local Heritage Items

Items of local heritage significance are listed in the local environmental plan of the respective Councils. None of the Council's local environmental plans were amended during 2009-2010 to include additional heritage items.

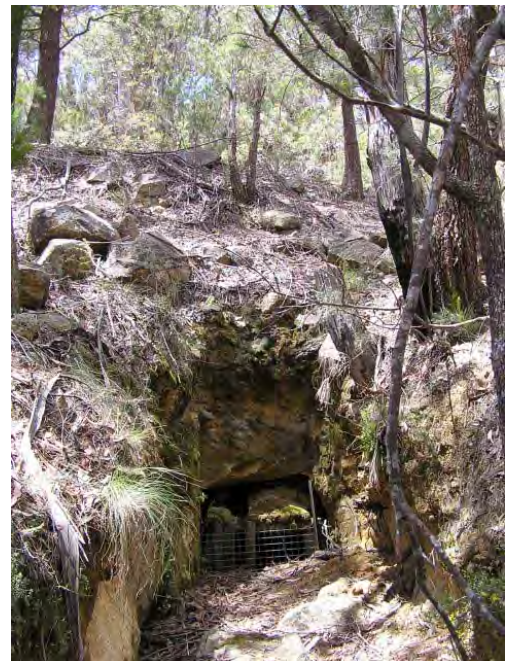
Armidale Dumaresq Council and Council's Heritage Advisor previously completed an inspection and review of 44 potential additional items identified in a former Dumaresq Shire Heritage Study. It is proposed that 13 of these properties be included as Heritage Items in Council's new Standard Instrument LEP, subject to further consultation with the respective owners.

State Heritage Register

There are 28 items listed on the NSW State Heritage Register across the Southern New England Region. One (1) new item was added to the Register in November 2009, being the Yooroonah Tank Barrier, Waterfall Way, Ebor.

The following Statement of Significance, from the NSW Heritage Branch, outlines the importance of the Yooroonah Tank Barrier:

The Yooroonah Tank Barrier has State significance as one of the last inland and most intact complexes of tank barrier systems in NSW, surviving from World War II. Built in 1942, the construction of this inland defence complex came as a response to the national threat of Australia's invasion by Japanese enemy forces. This site is significant as it demonstrates the relationship between the federal, state and local governments who, by working with the community, built this barrier to protect inland NSW against the common enemy during World War II. The Yooroonah Tank Barrier was one of approximately 50 defence complexes built in eastern NSW and its survival in its current, largely-intact, state is rare in NSW. The complex is also significant for the relationship between the components of the site, these being the wooden post barriers, concrete tetrahedra and the excavated tunnel under the former road (to be detonated should an enemy approach).



Source: NSW Heritage Branch

Archaeological Sites

Work to complete a European Archaeological Management Plan for Armidale recommenced in 2009-2010 in conjunction with the University of New England. The Plan is expected to be completed in 2010-2011.

Conservation Management Plans

The following Conservation Management Plans were received during 2009-2010:

- Ursuline Convent, 131 Barney Street, Armidale
- Hunter River Lancers (Department of Defence), Cnr Allingham and Mann Streets, Armidale
- Armidale Court House and Sheriff's Cottage, 143-145 Beady Street, Armidale

Funding

No new external funding was received for heritage projects during 2009-2010.

Armidale Dumaresq Council's Local Heritage Fund was conducted again during 2009-2010 with 3 projects funded. The projects had a combined value of \$20,000, with the Local Heritage Fund contributing \$2,825 and the balance being contributed by the owners.

Funding obtained last year was also used to commence re-signposting the Armidale heritage walk route.

Interim Heritage Orders

No Interim Heritage Orders were issued across the Southern New England Region during 2009-2010. The issuing of Interim Heritage Orders is uncommon in the Region as no Orders have been made under s.25 of the *Heritage Act 1977* since August 2001 when delegation was granted to Councils by the then Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning.

Council Heritage Advisors

Table 21 provides an overview of activities undertaken by Heritage Advisors across the Region during 2009-2010 and comparison to similar activities during the last reporting period.

Table 21: Council Heritage Advisor Activities

LGA	Site Visits		Heritage / Urban Design Advice		Pre-DA Advice		Advice to Council	
	08-09	09-10	08-09	09-10	08-09	09-10	08-09	09-10
ADC	25	19	35	29	5	5	35	29
GSC	4	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
USC	12	29	7	9	6	7	6	0
WC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Museum Visitation

Visitor numbers to museums across the Region have remained relatively stable, or slightly improved during 2009-2010. Table 22 shows the reported number of annual visitors to various museums located in the Southern New England Region and a comparison of visitor numbers between 2003-2004, 2008-2009 and 2009-2010.

Table 22: Visitor Numbers to Museums in the Southern New England Region

Museum	No. of Visitors		
	2003-2004	2008-2009	2009-2010
Armidale Dumaresq LGA			
Armidale Folk Museum	9980	7858	8313
Hillgrove Museum		1352	1707
Armidale Bicentennial Railway Museum	~3500	1993	1584
Guyra LGA			
Guyra Historical Museum	n/a	206	200
Wing Hing Long Emporium (Tingha)	2050	1670	1614
Uralla LGA			
McCrossin's Mill	5655	3985	4390

9.4 RESPONDING TO HERITAGE ISSUES

In addition to the activities outlined above, the following actions have also been undertaken in relation to heritage during 2009-2010.

9.4.1 Aboriginal Heritage

Armidale Dumaresq Council

Armidale Dumaresq DCP 2007 – Chapter C5

During 2009-2010, Council prepared a draft amendment to its Development Control Plan 2007 – Chapter C5 – Development Involving Places of Heritage Significance. The draft Plan was adopted by Council for public exhibition and exhibited during June 2010.

Included as one of the main amendments to Chapter C5 was the introduction of a new Part 5 in the Chapter which outlines Aboriginal Heritage assessment requirements. This is based upon work undertaken with Council last year by the NSW Aboriginal Heritage Office, in conjunction with the Gayinyaga Committee. Part 5 includes a predictive model for determining the likelihood of Aboriginal Heritage Items occurring and being detectable in an area; details of where can information about recorded Aboriginal objects or places is available; an outline of permit requirements for developments that may disturb, excavate or move an Aboriginal object; and consultation requirements for Aboriginal heritage assessment.

Preparation of the draft Plan involved consultation with Council's Gayinyaga Aboriginal Advisory Committee, the Armidale Aboriginal Elders Congress and various individual members of the local Aboriginal community.

Scholes Road, Armidale

Investigation along the route of a proposed pedestrian footpath / cycleway on an unformed section of Scholes Road, north Armidale, found a number of Aboriginal artefacts. During 2009-2010 a process of consultation with interested local Aboriginal groups/individuals was carried out and an application made to DECCW for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) under Section 87 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*. An AHIP was subsequently issued in April 2010.

Gayinyaga Aboriginal Advisory Committee

Council continues to hold monthly meetings with its Gayinyaga Aboriginal Advisory Committee.

Aboriginal Action Plan

Through the work of Council's Aboriginal Liaison Officer, implementation of Council's Aboriginal Action Plan 2007-2011 has continued during 2009-2010.

9.4.2 Non-Aboriginal Heritage**Armidale Dumaresq Council*****Armidale Dumaresq DCP 2007 – Chapter C5***

During 2009-2010, Council prepared a draft amendment to its Development Control Plan 2007 – Chapter C5 – Development Involving Places of Heritage Significance. The draft Plan was adopted by Council for public exhibition and exhibited during June 2010.

Some of the main changes included re-structuring and updating the Chapter with the introduction of suggested planning controls in addition to the existing guidelines in Parts 3 and 4 of the document. New sections include the placement of solar energy systems on places of heritage significance, fencing controls and the potential under Council's Local Environmental Plan to exempt certain minor works from the need for Development Consent.

The draft Plan was adopted by Council for public exhibition and exhibited during June 2010.

Heritage Promotion

Armidale heritage promotion is well established and includes a daily free bus tour, a self drive heritage trail tour and a self guided heritage walking tour.

Solar Installations

In response to an increased number of public enquiries relating to Government rebates for installation of photovoltaic panels and solar hot water systems, Council prepared a guideline for the installation of solar hot water systems on Heritage Items and contributory buildings within the Heritage Conservation Areas.

In February 2010 Council initiated a major community and industry education program in relation to installation of solar hot water systems and photovoltaic cells, particularly roof installations which can have a significant visual impact. Council also prepared a detailed response to NSW Department of Planning Draft Guidelines on renewable energy Installations including issues relating to places of heritage significance.

In the interests of encouraging property owners and contractors to submit necessary complying development or development applications, where required, Council has also capped relevant application fees at a nominal \$50, and as a result are now starting to receive a considerable number of applications for solar hot water and PV installations.

Hillgrove Village

In October 2009, Council's Heritage Advisor and Strategic Planner meet with the Hillgrove Progress Association Inc. and Local Area Committee. The meeting provided a background of heritage issues in Hillgrove, including the Dumaresq Shire Heritage Study recommendations. It was advised that Council had decided not to proceed with a heritage conservation area at Hillgrove as proposed in the Heritage Study. The purpose of the meeting was to find out how the community would like to protect Hillgrove's heritage.

In November 2009, the Hillgrove Progress Association Inc. advised that it had resolved, as suggested at the meeting in October 2009, that:

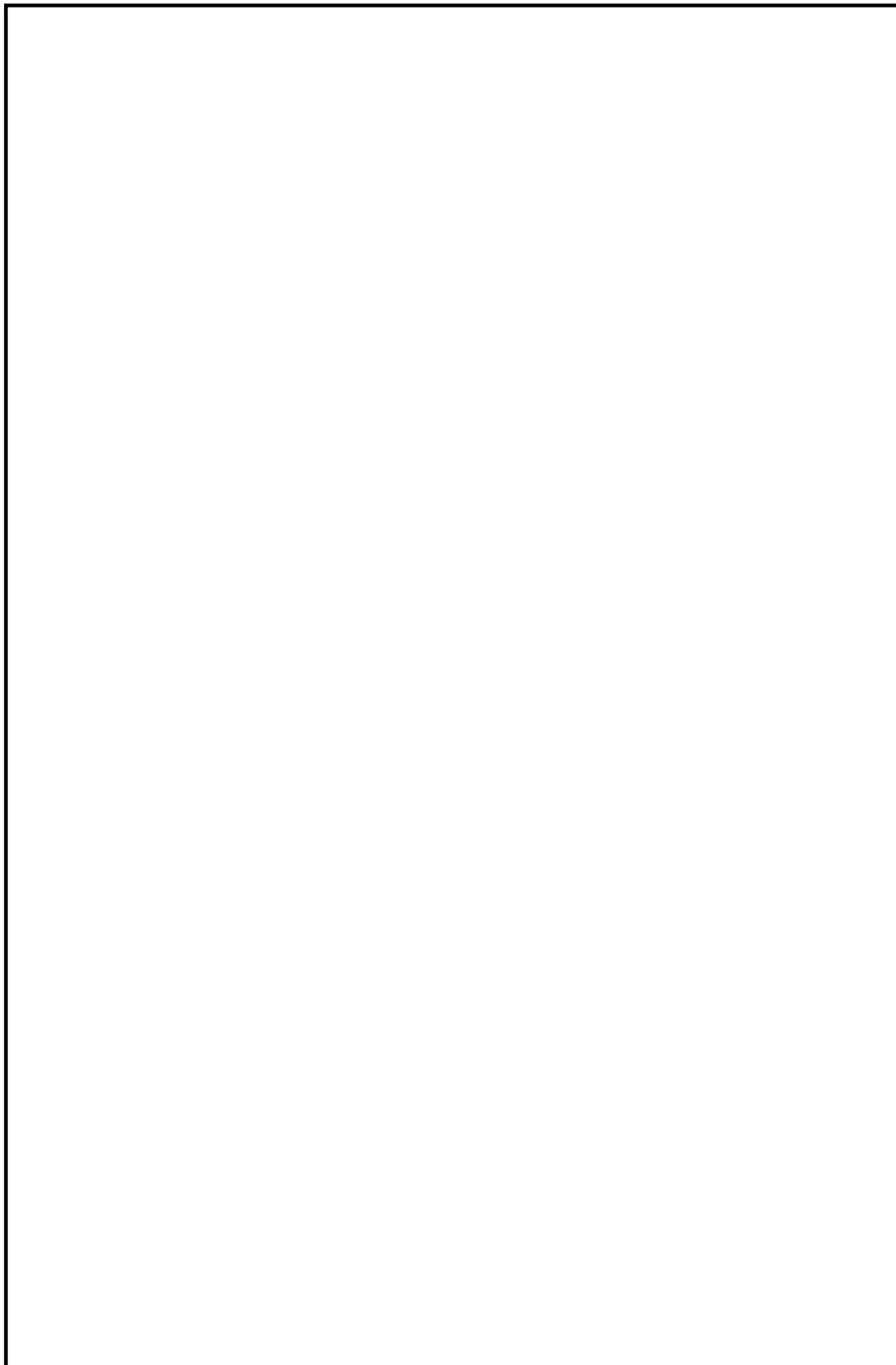
- sites with archaeological potential that have been identified in previous work carried out by Mr Chambers and Council's former Heritage Advisor, Mr Graham Wilson, be mapped;
- the existing building stock and sites of known former building sites be mapped and photographically recorded; and
- the existing signage of former building sites be upgraded to include a panel which shows the history of the building, and where possible, a photograph of drawing to show what the original building looked like.

Work on this project is expected to continue during 2010-2011.

APPENDIX 1

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT
AND CLIMATE CHANGE

CLIMATE CHANGE PROJECTIONS FOR THE
NEW ENGLAND / NORTH-WEST





Summary of Climate Change Impacts New England/North West NSW Region



NSW Climate Change Action Plan

Projected regional climatic changes by 2050

NSW government agencies and the University of NSW have been developing climate change forecasts for the NSW State Plan regions. These pages present the interim findings. In summary, a moderate decrease in winter rainfall and a slight to moderate increase in rainfall in other seasons is projected for this region. Due to increased temperatures, drier conditions are projected, particularly in winter and spring.

A hotter climate

Days are projected to be hotter over all seasons, with the greatest warming in winter and spring (2 to 3°C).

Nights are also projected to be warmer, with mean minimum temperatures projected to increase by 2 to 3°C in the east of the region, and slightly less in the west. Frosts are likely to be fewer.

Increased rainfall in all seasons except winter

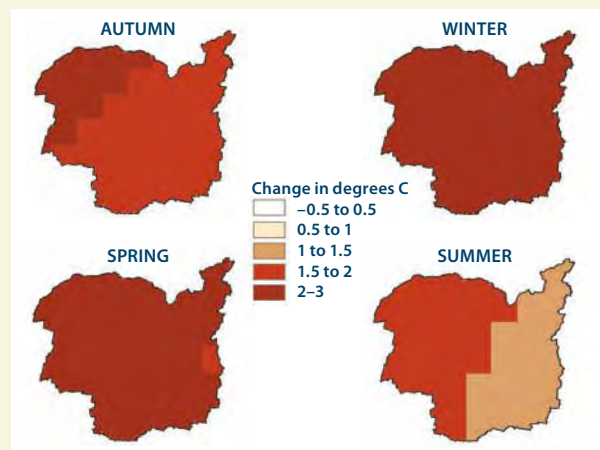
Rainfall is projected to increase in spring, summer and autumn by 5–20%, but decrease in winter by 5–20%, with the greatest decrease in the west of the region.

Drier conditions in all seasons except summer

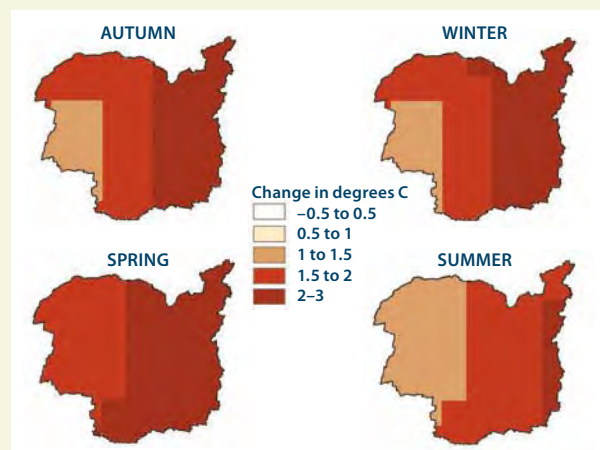
An increase in evaporation is projected to create drier conditions, and winter and spring are projected to be the driest. In summer, net water balance is projected to remain similar to current conditions.



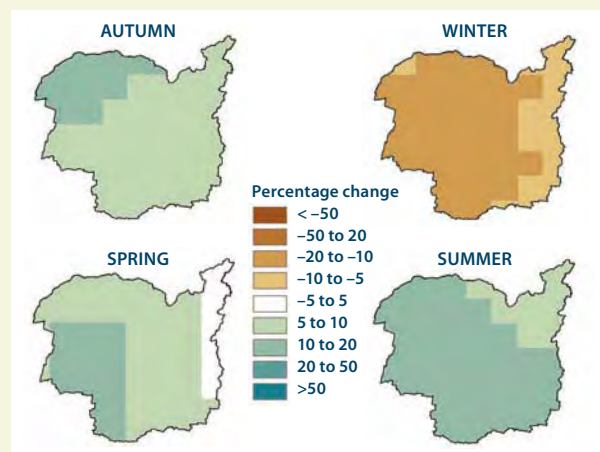
Projected change in mean maximum temperature by season



Projected change in mean minimum temperature by season



Projected change in seasonal rainfall



Assessment of regional biophysical impacts

Characteristics of the region

The New England/North West Region comprises an area in north-western NSW, extending from Glen Innes and Armidale on the New England Tablelands in the north-east, to Inverell and Tamworth in the centre and then to Moree and Narrabri on the north-western plains. The region is highly diverse, incorporating a wide range of altitudinal and latitudinal gradients, climatic conditions and land uses. The tablelands have a temperate climate with warm summers and cool winters. The far north-west of the area is hot and semi-arid while much of the centre of the region is sub-humid.

Broadly the region can be divided into the tablelands, slopes and plains. The plains include the broad alluvial or riverine plains of the main rivers. The landscape of the region varies from high inland tablelands and slopes, to the broad floodplains of flowing rivers, including the Namoi, Gwydir and Macintyre rivers.

The rivers have formed several significant wetlands. These wetlands support a high diversity of flora and fauna that are dependent on varying regimes of wetting and drying. Major floodplain wetlands in the region include the Gwydir wetlands and Goran Lake.

Land uses vary widely, with grazing and horticulture dominating land use in the tablelands; cropping and rotational grazing in the slopes and plains; and significant, important areas of irrigation occurring on the extensive riverine plains.

There are many national parks located along the escarpment. The large parks further to the west include parts of Pilliga, Mount Kaputar and Torrington national parks, however most national parks in the region are small and scattered, and many ecosystems are not represented in these areas.

The New England/North West Region has a moderate annual average rainfall overall (700 mm) with the highest rainfall in the New England Tablelands and the lowest in the west of the region. The rainfall is summer dominated, and comparatively uniformly distributed for the rest of the seasons. The runoff for the region is highest on the tablelands, and the seasonal runoff pattern is similar to the rainfall pattern.

El Niño Southern Oscillation

The pattern of the El Niño Southern Oscillation cycle is expected to continue but with higher temperatures than currently experienced. El Niño years are likely to continue to be drier than average and become hotter. La Niña years are likely to continue to be wetter than average and also become warmer. In El Niño events, water stress is expected to be more intense due to higher temperatures. During La Niña years storms with heavy downpours are expected to be more frequent.

Fire

The frequency of very high or extreme fire-risk days is predicted to increase across NSW. Increases in temperature, evaporation and high fire-risk days are likely to increase fire frequency and intensity across the region. The fire season is likely to be extended as a result of warmer temperatures.

Biodiversity

Higher temperatures and drier conditions are very likely to have a major impact on biodiversity. Higher altitude forests west of the tablelands such as Mount Kaputar and the Liverpool Ranges are likely to undergo major contractions both eastward and upward in response to higher temperatures. Climate change is likely to place additional pressures on those ecological communities that are already stressed due to fragmentation and may be less resilient to disturbances. Specialised communities that are naturally very limited in distribution are likely to be at risk of degradation or loss. Fauna are likely to be affected by habitat loss, long hot spells and reduction in key habitat resources such as hollow bearing trees and nectar. Increased fire frequencies are likely to lead to widespread changes across many ecosystems.

Soils

Reduced vegetation cover, caused by poorer growing conditions, is very likely to leave some soils vulnerable to increased erosion. The risk of erosion is likely to be exacerbated by increased rainfall in summer and autumn, but is likely to be reduced on the plains in spring. Gully erosion on the slopes and plains is likely to increase in summer with increased runoff. Wind erosion is likely to increase in the drier areas and the management of sodic surface soils is likely to be

more difficult on the plains. Vulnerable areas include some surface soils on the plains, and gullies on the slopes and plains. Acidification hazard is likely to be slightly reduced. Salinity hazard is likely to change, but the degree of change will vary with the characteristics of local catchments.

Floods

Despite the potential for drier conditions for much of the year due to increased evaporation, flood-producing rainfall events are likely to increase in frequency and intensity. Whether these changes lead to an increase in flood levels depends upon the existing catchment conditions (e.g. moisture levels in soils) and the water levels in the major storages at the time of actual events.

Hydrological change

Overall, there will more likely than not be a slight increase in runoff.

- In summer, there is very likely to be a major increase in runoff depths (with estimates ranging from +7 to +20%), and a major increase in the magnitude of high flows. Current levels of low flows are likely to occur slightly less frequently.
- In autumn, there will more likely than not be a minor increase in runoff depths (with estimates ranging from -16% to +24%) and a slight increase in the magnitude of high flows. Current levels of low flows will more likely than not occur slightly more frequently.

- In winter, there is likely to be a major decrease in runoff (with estimates ranging from -29% to +11%) and a moderate decrease in the magnitude of high flows. Current levels of low flows are likely to occur moderately more frequently.
- In spring, there is likely to be a major decrease in runoff (estimates ranging from -23% to +6%) and a moderate decrease in the magnitude of high flows. Current levels of low flows will more likely than not occur slightly more frequently.

The consequences of the changed catchment runoff for streamflow and consumptive water users will clearly depend on what part of the reported range of change is realised, as well as the influence of water infrastructure. If the drier end of the range were realised, towns with smaller water supplies would need to consider that there may be inflow reductions of 10–20% during drier periods.

More information

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www.environment.nsw.gov.au/climatechange/actionplan.htm

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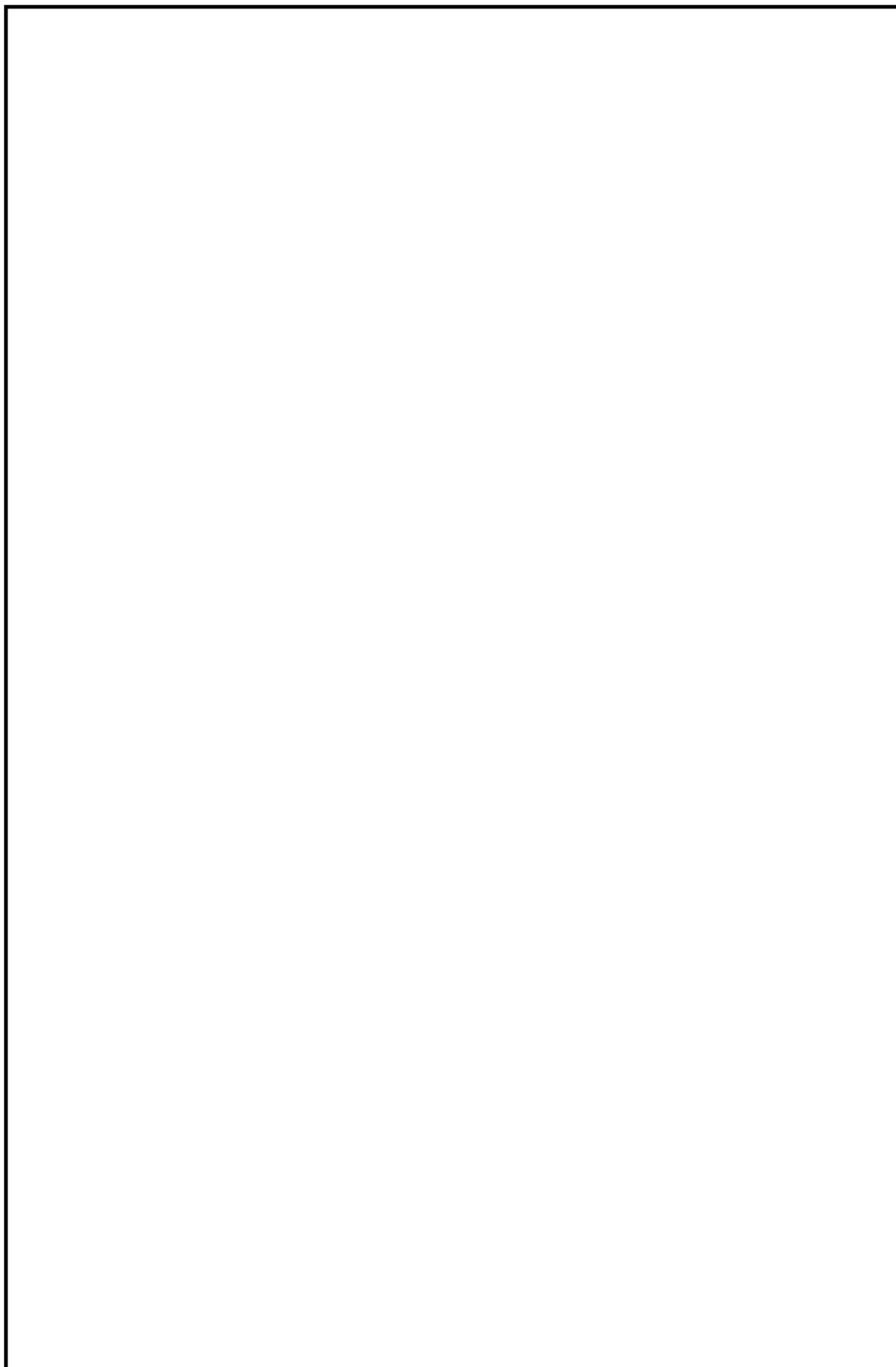
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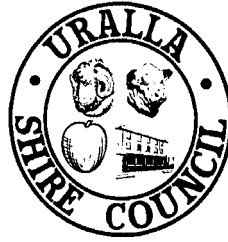
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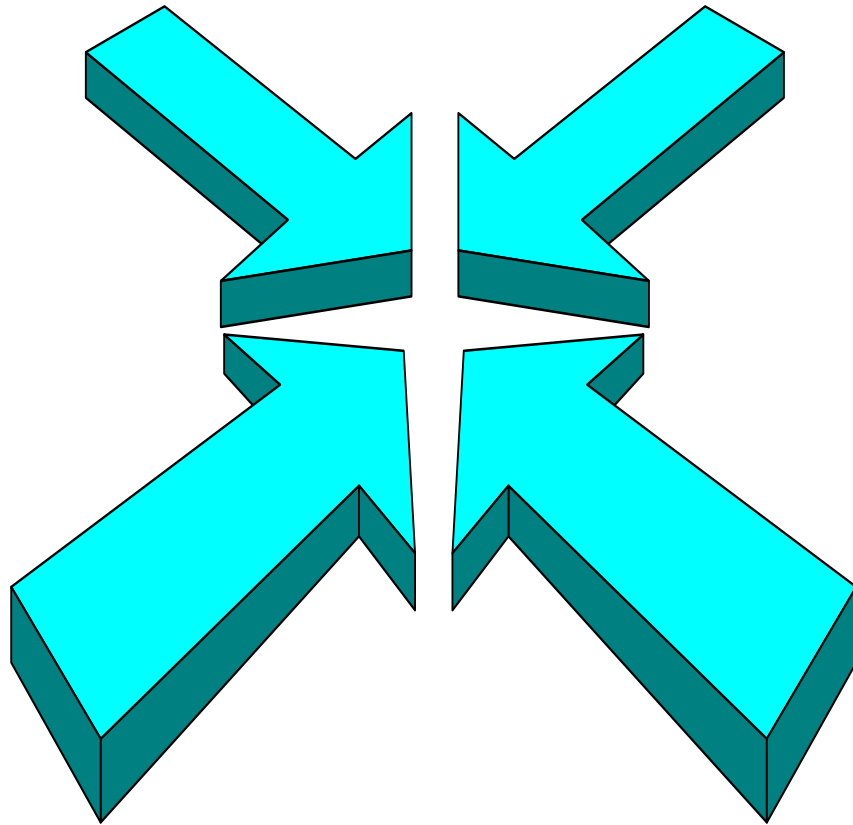
APPENDIX 2

CLIMATE CONSENSUS PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL





ADOPTED MANAGEMENT PLAN

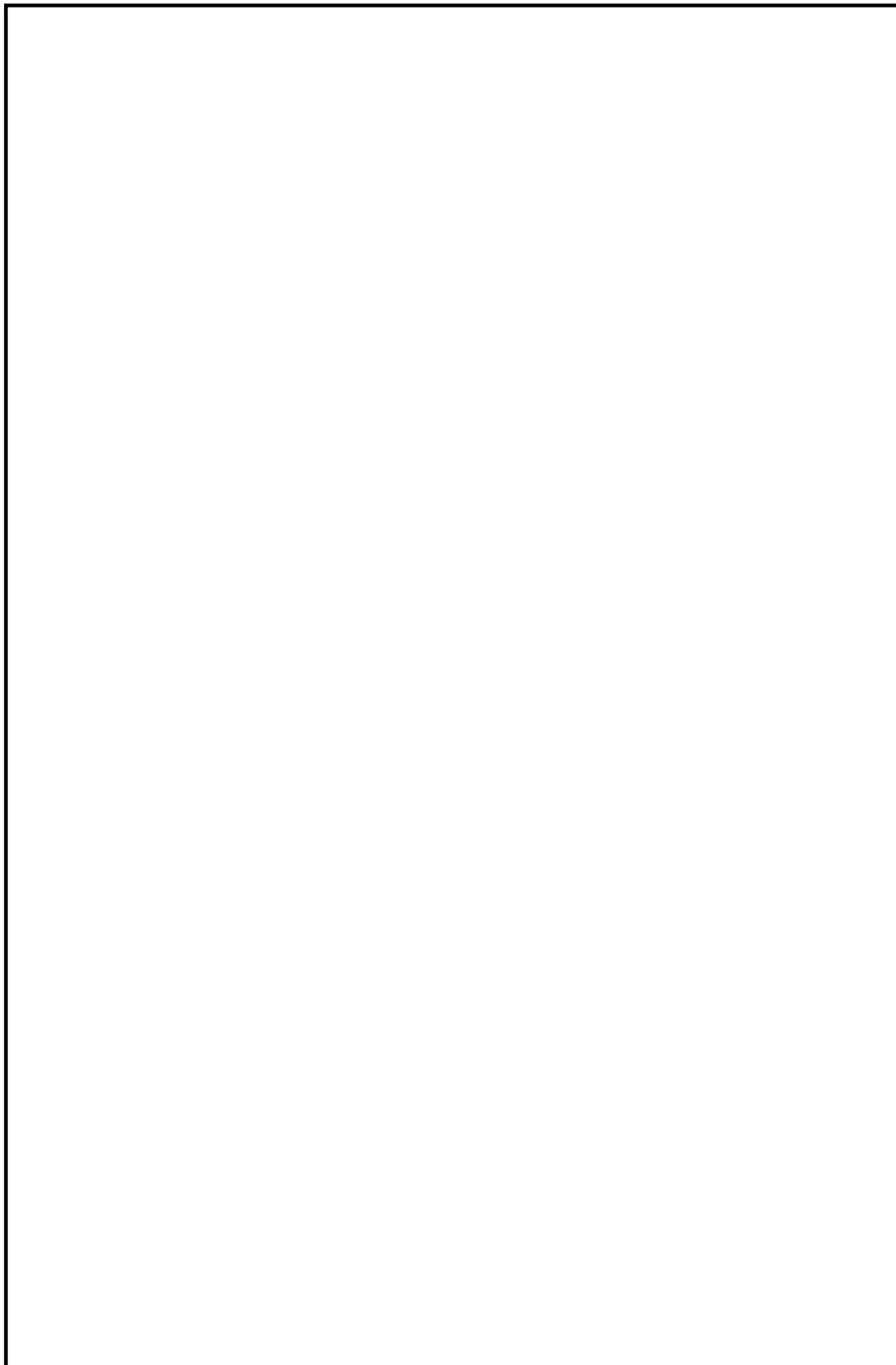


VOL. 3

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

2010/2013

Management Plan adopted by Council on Monday 28 June 2010 (Resolution 220/10).



STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The Uralla Shire Council has described its functions in terms of 11 Principal Activities, each of which has a number of functions and services.

PA1	Administration
*	Governance
*	Corporate Support Services
PA2	Public Order and Safety
PA3	Health
PA4	Community Services and Education
PA5	Housing and Community Amenities
PA6	Water Supplies
PA7	Sewerage Services
PA8	Recreation and Culture
PA9	Mining, Manufacturing and Construction
PA10	Transport and Communications
PA11	Economic Affairs

The functions and activities which relate to the above Principal Activities are as follows:

Governance

Council's role as a component of democratic government, including elections, meetings and associated activities, area representation, public disclosure, and compliance, together with related administration costs.

Corporate Support Services

The provision of administration, accounting, clerical, secretarial, records management, customer service, human resources and information technology services to or on behalf of all other functions of Council. Corporate Support Services also includes the Technical Services support, administration, surveying, design and project management.

Public Order and Safety

Fire protection, animal control, enforcement of local government regulations and emergency services.

Health

Environmental Health administration and inspections, immunisations, food control, insect and vermin control, noxious plants and other.

Community Services and Education

Aged Care facilities administration and operation, family day care, child-care, youth services, Community Services through State and Federal programs for services to disadvantaged

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

Community Services and Education (Continued)

families, children, aged and disabled (Aboriginal and mainstream), Community Transport and other community services and pre-school education.

Housing and Community Amenities

Housing, town planning, domestic waste management services, other waste management services, street cleaning, other sanitation and garbage, urban stormwater drainage, environmental protection, public cemeteries, public conveniences and other community amenities.

Water Supplies

Joint Uralla and Bundarra Water Supplies.

Sewerage Services

Uralla Local Sewerage Scheme.

Recreation and Culture

Public libraries, museums, community centres, public halls, other cultural services, swimming pools, sporting grounds, parks and gardens, lagoons and other sport and recreation.

Mining, Manufacturing and Construction

Quarries and pits.

Transport and Communication

Roads and streets, bridges, footpaths, parking areas, bus shelters and services, kerb and gutter, works undertaken for Roads and Traffic Authority, road directional and advisory signs, street lighting and other ancillary transport facilities.

Economic Affairs

Caravan parks and camping areas, tourism and area promotion, industrial development promotion, real estate development, private works and other business undertakings. The Principal Activity entitled Economic Affairs lists the activities of Council which would be considered to be of a business or commercial nature with the exception of the Water and Sewerage activities.

The Joint Uralla and Bundarra Water Supply Fund, the Uralla Local Sewerage Fund are designated Category 2 businesses under the NSW State Government's Policy Statement "*Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government*"; however they are not accounted for in Principal Activity 11 but in Principal Activity 6 for the water services and 7 for sewerage services. Council has also determined that the Grace Munro Aged Care Centre, which is included in Principal Activity 4, should also be treated as a business activity and accounted for as a separate fund and by a Special Purpose Financial Report in the annual Financial Statements.

Environmental Considerations

An increasing demand on all local authorities in the past few years and one of growing importance is the need to properly manage, develop, protect, restore, enhance and conserve the environment in a manner that is consistent with and promotes the principles of ecologically sustainable development.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

Environmental Considerations (Continued)

The Uralla Shire Council also needs to respond to and address priorities identified in the Comprehensive Southern New England State of Environment Report 2008-2009 prepared for the Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra, Uralla and Walcha Councils by the Armidale Dumaresq Council Strategic Planner and adopted by Council (Resolution 507/09) at its council meeting of Monday 23 November 2009.

The Comprehensive State of the Environment Report November 2009 has recommendations that affect Council in the carrying out of its activities in respect to the following eight environmental sectors of the report:

- Land Use and Management Page 115
- Air and Climate Change
- Water
- Waste Page 116
- Aboriginal heritage
- Non Aboriginal heritage

For Council the State of the Environment Report is a major document in respect to sustainability actions required by Council. The State of the Environment Report Appendix M contains the local recommendations from the Climate Consensus Project. The details of the project, which was run in conjunction with the Nature Conservation Council of NSW, is summarised below including the full list of forty recommendations and the actions taken on these recommendations by Council up to 30 April 2010.

Climate Consensus Project



The Uralla Forum: The Uralla Forum was attended by 18 community members; these residents expressed their interest in the forum and were then randomly selected to fit the community profile for Uralla Shire. Over 2.5 days participants received professional briefings covering Weather and changes, Land Use Management, Building adaptations, Humanitarian issues and Local Government processes.

Consensus: The participants reached consensus on 40 separate Recommendations to Council which are contained in this report. In Table 1 the column “CCP Recommendation” provides the exact wording from the Climate Consensus Forum and are listed under the Section Headings of **Mitigation** (39 Recommendations) and **Adaptation** (1 Recommendation).

Mitigation Refers to actions that will reduce greenhouse gas emission and reduce the severity of climate change. Examples are:

- Improving energy efficiency,
- Using energy sources that have lower greenhouse gas emissions, like natural gas, wind and solar
- Capturing emissions from power stations and storing them,
- Planting trees to soak up carbon from the atmosphere,
- Changes in lifestyle and consumption patterns that emphasize resource conservation,

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

Mitigation (Continued)

- Urban and public transport planning,
- Community education programs,
- Feed-in tariffs for renewable energy technologies,

Adaptation

Refers to actions that will reduce the unavoidable consequences of climate change, including:

- Improving the efficiency of water use to reduce the impact of lower or intense rainfall
- Designing our buildings to withstand more severe weather conditions
- Improving crop and grazing land management
- Strengthened emergency medical services
- Initiatives to prepare for increased people displacement due to sea level rise in our region
- Implementing appropriate planning and development guidelines in coastal areas that may be affected by sea level rise

The Recommendations are then divided into the sections covering Energy, Community, Transport, Water, Land Use & Land Management, Landfill, Urban Development, Education and Uralla Shire Council. Table 1 then provides a classification of each recommendation, determined by an expectation level/s (Federal – State – Local) whilst proposing Council Actions and a record of actions already in train.

Legend:

Classification	Level of Government	Council Action
1	Federal / State	Lobby
2	Federal / State	Facilitate
3	Local	Action

LOCAL LEVEL RECOMMENDATIONS - PRIORITY MITIGATION

Table 1.

ID No	CCP Recommendation	Classification	Council Action	Actioned
E1	Mitigation Plans Energy We all agree and recommend Uralla Shire Council volunteer to be a Lighthouse model of local mitigation & adaptability to Climate Change	1, 2, 3	Refer to Council's adopted Management Plan, Volume 1 (page 2) The Council's Charter, Principle 5 "to properly manage, develop, protect, restore, enhance and conserve the environment of the area for which it is responsible, in a manner that is consistent with and promotes the principles of ecologically sustainable development"	LG Act determines the Charter Being a Light-house model included in Mission Statement (5)

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

LOCAL LEVEL RECOMMENDATIONS - PRIORITY MITIGATION

Table 1.

E2	USC harnesses the enthusiasm and drive in the local community to progress any of the issues raised in this document	3	Refer to Council's adopted Management Plan, Volume 1 (pg 2) The Council's Charter, Principle 8 "to facilitate the involvement of councillors, members of the public, users of facilities and services and council staff in the development, improvement and coordination of local government"	Existing Ongoing by the utilisation of the UC3F Group and its recommendations to Council through the Environmental Committee.
E3	Create a Mission Statement for our community articulating our goals to be a carbon neutral community	3	Recommend that: When Council's Management Plan is reviewed, the "Mission Statement" be amended to incorporate the wording " carbon neutral community " as an additional aim.	Included in Mission Statement (1)
E4	Uralla Council undertake an audit to establish the carbon footprint of both the USC and the Shire (council leadership)	3	Recommend that: Council incorporate this recommendation as a goal linked to a specific Climate change Section in the 2009 comprehensive State of the Environment Report. Once listed, an annual report will be undertaken.	Included in State of Environment Report, November 2009 adopted by Council on 23 November 2009 (Resolution 507/09)
E5	Uralla Shire needs to become a carbon sink, increase biomass (eg. tree planting, increased native pasture retention etc)	3	Recommend that: Council be proactive regarding implementation of these actions as adopted in the Management Plan and State of the Environment Report.	Ongoing action in Council's operations and strategic planning
E6	Establish with the community an Energy Task group.	3	Recommend that: Council's Environmental Committee list this recommendation on its Watching Brief.	Watching Brief for E6,7,8,11, 12, C15, 16 T19, 20, 23 W 24 L28 ED 31, 33, USC 36, 37

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

LOCAL LEVEL RECOMMENDATIONS - PRIORITY MITIGATION

Table 1.

E6	Establish with the community an Energy Task group, via a Business Feasibility Study to establish which renewable energy sources (eg. wind, solar, waste, burning of methane from waste (to reduce greenhouse effect by 87%), biomass or geothermal) are the most viable for community power production	3	Recommend that: Council's Environmental Committee list this recommendation on its Watching Brief to work with the community regarding the establishment of an Energy Task Group.	The Energy Task Group had a core role at the CCP Forum with all members adopting various renewable energy projects and reporting back to Council. A legal entity to be established and future direction determined
E7	Target replacement of electric hot water systems	3	Recommend that: Council's Environmental Committee investigate and report on the most appropriate course of action to facilitate, eg; investigate parallel rebates with State and/or Federal Government.	Ongoing investigation
E8	Create a highly visible demonstration council building (eg: install photovoltaic cells)	3	Recommend that: Council investigate the purchase and installation of Solar Panels onto highly visible building/s (eg. Library, VIC, Council Chambers and inform residents on the project via Council Newsletters and Uralla Wordsworth.	PV. Panels installed at Library and Solar HW on the VIC. 2 nd Origin Solar Information session to occur in 2010 for students. McMaugh Gardens funded for PV panels in 2010/2011.
E9	Council support bulk purchase of renewable systems for homes	2, 3	Note that: An initiative from the New England Sustainability Strategy to cluster purchase premium solar power systems at 1/3 rd the usual price. Support requested from Council includes: a) Endorsement of the Solar New England Region Project by 1) Joint promotion of the Project (media, email) 2) Hosting a public meeting 3) Facilitating contact with local tradespeople interested in the installation work and training/accreditation	Introduced and supported by Council with great success.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

LOCAL LEVEL RECOMMENDATIONS - PRIORITY MITIGATION

Table 1.

E9	Council support bulk purchase of renewable systems for homes (Continue)		Recommend that: Council refer this recommendation to the Environmental Committee to ascertain the most appropriate course of action to take, eg; investigate parallel rebates with State Government and/or Federal Government.	Parallel rebates under investigation.
E10	Lobby state government to expand the solar schools program	2,3	Recommend that: Council write to: 1. The Hon. Verity Firth, Member of NSW Legislative Assembly, Member for Balmain, Minister for Education and Training and Minister for Women; 2. To Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter, Director General of Education and Training, NSW; 3. The Hon. Julia Gillard, Deputy Prime Minister; Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations; Minister for Education; Minister for Social Inclusion, seeking an expansion of the existing program to encompass all schools across the State.	
E11	Promote and support genuine ‘Green Power’, and expand the availability to all energy users (eg. Schools and businesses)	2, 3	Recommend that: Council refer the recommendation to the Environmental Committee to investigate and ascertain “Genuine” Green Power providers and report back to Council. “Council then raise the matter through the B division of the Shires Association and write to the State Government to promote and support genuine Green Power and expand the availability to all energy users throughout the Community.	Not actioned to date as there is a lack of information regarding “Green Power”.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

LOCAL LEVEL RECOMMENDATIONS - PRIORITY MITIGATION

Table 1.

E12	Simplify the rebate system for domestic renewable energy products (ie. Supplier receives subsidies following installation rather than the consumer)	2, 3	Recommend that: Council refer this recommendation to the Environmental Committee to ascertain the most appropriate course of action to take, ie; investigate rebates with State Government and/or Federal Government to locate appropriate contact. Council then write to the State Government to request direct payment to supplier following satisfactory installation of the product. This course of action negates the community member needing to have the additional funds up front.	For consideration in future budgets after investigation.
E13	USC to lobby for legislation to provide fair returns for feed-in tariff	1, 2, 3	Recommend that: Council write to a) the Hon. Tony Windsor MP, Member for New England commending his Private Members Bill to Federal Parliament b) the Hon. Nathan Rees, Member of the Legislative Assembly, Member for Toongabbie, Premier and Minister for the Arts, commending his upcoming initiative on feed in tariffs.	
E14	USC to lobby for all direct and indirect fossil fuel subsidies to be removed and the savings used to fund renewable energy and energy efficiency programs	1, 3	Recommend that: Council write to; the Senator the Hon. Penny Wong, Minister for Climate Change and Water, Senator for South Australia, and to the Hon. Peter Garrett AM MP, Minister for Environment, Heritage and the Arts, Member for Kingsford Smith promoting and supporting this community recommendation.	

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

LOCAL LEVEL RECOMMENDATIONS - PRIORITY MITIGATION

Table 1.

C15	Community Ensure streetscapes are shaded and more conducive to pedestrian & cycle use	3	Recommend that: Council's Environmental Committee investigate what upgrading is required to the existing streetscapes and forward appropriate recommendation to the Director of Engineering Services and flag these issues to the Consultants currently reviewing the Social Plan.	Cr Powley has continuing to investigate issue since September 2009 All cycle / walk pathway projects will include vegetation.
C16	Limit vegetation clearing by power authorities along streetscapes (while ensuring safety is maintained)	3	Recommend that: Council's Environmental Committee liaises with and forms a working relationship with representatives from the Power authorities to establish protocols for vegetation clearing along/adjacent to streetscapes. Once established, these protocols will be monitored by Council Staff and Power Authorities jointly.	M.O.U. between Country Energy and Council under review
T17 T18 T19	Transport - Rail Lobby State Government to maintain and improve existing rail infrastructure Councils engage with major freight users re: road/rail ratio Lobby State Government to Improve/expand passenger rail system	2, 3 2, 3 2, 3	Recommend that: 1) Council write to the SRA detailing the concerns raised in Recommendations T17, T18, T19. Council contact Glen Innes Severn 2) Council to discuss the rail issues and raise the issue through the NELG and Shires Association B Division. 3) Council support NELG initiatives for re-establishment of the previous rail network which operated across Southern New England Tablelands. 4) Councils Environmental committee investigate new and/or alternative energy sources for railway stock.	Ongoing through New England Local Government (NELG) with Cr S Toms, Mayor of Glen Severn as the leader.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

LOCAL LEVEL RECOMMENDATIONS - PRIORITY MITIGATION

Table 1.

T20	Transport – Vehicle Invest in Research & Development of alternative fuels for vehicle fleets (eg. hydrogen vehicles, electric cars +recharge points)	3	Recommend that: Council’s Environmental Committee add this recommendation to its Watching Brief acknowledging that by doing so USC commences an investment strategy (in-kind) and confirm support for Research & Development of alternative fuels. Council to support Council support the evolution to green and fuel efficient vehicles.	Commenced and Ongoing. Council has been changing its car fleet during February to May 2010. An integral part of this process has been moving towards green and fuel efficient vehicles.
T21	Transport - Buses: Investigate current services with the aim to better coordinate and promote timetables.	3	Recommend that: 1) Council Survey the community to establish the most appropriate times for bus services and speak with the Bus companies about the provision of these services to the community.” 2) Council link this recommendation with T17, T18, T19 to investigate rail shuttle service availability.	Survey completed, collated and results to the June 2009 Council meeting.
T22	Transport – Bicycles Establish cycle ways within and between communities	3	Note that: Councils Manager of Planning and Development Engineer are currently reviewing subdivision standards for the purpose of the drafting of a new subdivision code. Included in this review are appropriate footpath widths, ramp access, bike use, skateboard use etc.	Ongoing investigation

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

LOCAL LEVEL RECOMMENDATIONS - PRIORITY MITIGATION

Table 1.

T22	Transport – Bicycles Establish cycle ways within and between communities (Continued)		Recommend that: 1. Council write to Armidale Dumaresq Council seeking information regarding their "Cycle Committee" recommendations for possible duplication in Uralla LGA. 2. Council's Director of Engineering Services to investigate the feasibility of upgrading existing infrastructure and all avenues of funding available, then provide a report for Council's consideration for inclusion in the 2010-2011 Draft Budget.	Ongoing investigation
T23	Reduce the need for goods transportation – increase local production & marketing within the Shire	3	Recommend that: a) Council's Environmental Committee investigate the "Transition Town" (see web link http://transitiontowns.org/) concept adopted by Armidale Dumaresq Council and, b) Council support any potential opportunities to increase local production and marketing leading to a reduction in goods transportation.	Project Officer, Mrs Little, is investigating Transition Towns.
W24	Water Install water tanks to save the energy from transporting water	3	Recommend that: Council's Environmental Committee investigate creating a rebate scheme for installation of water tanks to existing dwellings.	Ongoing investigation
W25	Encourage and implement water use efficiency and recycling to conserve water for feeding into environment	3	Recommend that: a) Council undertake an audit regarding the amount of water used in all facets of it's operations;	a) commencing in 2010

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

LOCAL LEVEL RECOMMENDATIONS - PRIORITY MITIGATION

Table 1.

W25	Encourage and implement water use efficiency and recycling to conserve water for feeding into environment (Continued)	3	Recommend that: b) Council encourage the use of grey water storage tanks in conjunction with On-site Waste Treatment Devices (anaerobic type) with either existing or new approvals; c) Council's Environmental Project Officer to commence and then continue to provide regular community updates regarding water usage and recycling tips via the Newsletter.	b) ongoing c) Ongoing
LM 26	Land & Use & Land Management Manage native vegetation at a landscape level & revegetate using multi-purpose tree species. Continue to rehabilitate and revegetate waterways and riparian zones. Manage riparian zone vegetation to restrict weed growth.	3	Refer to Council's Charter Item 5. "to properly manage, develop, protect, restore, enhance and conserve the environment of the area for which it is responsible, in a manner that is consistent with and promotes the principles of ecologically sustainable development Refer to "State of Environment Report" Section 3 – Land Use and Management, Sec 3.4 Response - Table 3.6 Land Use and Management Actions/Outcomes Sec 3.4.2 Community and Government Agency Actions Tables 3.7. and 3.8 SNELC On-Ground Outputs in NESAC Region for 2007-2008 and Environmental Projects Funding Summary for 2007-2008 Sec 3.5 Recommendations for 2008-2009	

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

LOCAL LEVEL RECOMMENDATIONS - PRIORITY MITIGATION

Table 1.

LM 26	Land & Use & Land Management Manage native vegetation at a landscape level & revegetate using multi-purpose tree species. Continue to rehabilitate and revegetate waterways and riparian zones. Manage riparian zone vegetation to restrict weed growth. (Continued)	3	Recommend that: 1. Council incorporate the NIWAC protocols in “Management of Roadside Vegetation – a Management plan for reducing the spread of roadside weeds” and its Standard Operating Procedures for managing the spread of weeds on roadsides, clean-down Procedures, Inspection Procedures and Wash Down Bay Specifications.	Introduced and Ongoing
			Recommend that: 2. Council incorporate NEWA protocols being developed by the NESAC Works Directorate.	Introduced.
LM 27	Create an avenue of funding to Councils to support projects with Landcare, CMAs and other NRM Bodies (create synergy between initiatives)	3	Note that: Council’s Environmental Levy can be used for environmental projects in conjunction with Landcare, Catchment Management Authorities and Natural Resource Management (NRM) bodies and will continue to raise these funds. Recommend that: Council continue to liaise with State and Regional Bodies and organisations (DECC, DPI, DWE, CMAs, SNECC etc) to source and secure funding allocations for projects.	Ongoing
L28	Landfill Create an opportunity for locals to re-purchase items from the waste management centre	3	Recommend that: Council’s Environment Committee adds this recommendation to its Watching Brief to investigate construction of an “Op Shop” at Uralla and Bundarra Landfills.	Building Community Partnerships funding successful & Federal Infrastructure funding allocated. Jan. 2010. ComputerBank opened on 23/2/2010

LOCAL LEVEL RECOMMENDATIONS - PRIORITY MITIGATION

[illegible]

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

LOCAL LEVEL RECOMMENDATIONS - PRIORITY MITIGATION

Table 1.

Ed 31	Education Start education for sustainability at a very early age and continue lifetime learning (Continued)	3	Suggestions to facilitate Recommendations: a) Recycling in Shire Schools : (provision of bins, information, Councillor visits and discussion with children) b) NIRW Program : – Investigate with NIRW Education Officer to develop program for Uralla Shire – investigate Education trailer available to visit Shire schools c) Investigate Education trailer availability from CMAs.	Rocky River School garden opened 28 Sept 2009. Kingstown School Recycling Station and Education program - November 2010 NIRW brochures at Council for distribution to schools in 2010, to be done.
Ed 32	Community Education via Shopfront – Provide materials, displays, information, working models on display - Must be interactive and accessible	3	Recommend that: Council institute an ongoing education program by providing materials, displays, information and working models. Larger, more interactive displays would be set up in the Library Foyer while general information would always be available in Councils offices. Displays will be sourced and monitored by Council's Environmental Project Officer.	"Mr Smiley" Information display erected in Library grounds. Unveiled by Tony Windsor attended by schools. Web monitoring device on Council's website to display on web and in Library foyer the Library PV Panels energy generation.
Ed 33	Develop a Communication strategy to inform businesses and residences on matters relating to environmental values. Place information sheets in doctor's surgeries, hair dressers etc on sustainability practices	3	Recommend that: Council's Environmental Committee investigate and formulate an Environmental Communication Policy.	Being developed. In the meantime action has been taken refer next section.

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

LOCAL LEVEL RECOMMENDATIONS - PRIORITY MITIGATION

Table 1.

Ed 33	Develop a Communication strategy to inform businesses and residences on matters relating to environmental values. Place information sheets in doctor's surgeries, hair dressers etc on sustainability practices (Continued)	3	Suggestions for Recommendations: The policies' key strategies will encompass the following: a) Information sheets on environmental values and sustainability practices (these would be left at surgeries, hairdressers etc) b) Environmental and Sustainability information articles prepared for Council newsletter and the Uralla Wordsworth	Articles in newsletter on current projects. "Let's Talk <i>More</i> Garbage" pamphlet to residents May 2010. More to come
Ed 34	Explore the funding opportunities from DECC under the "Green Precinct Fund" through State and Federal avenues.			Note: Application was not successful, however every funding avenue being continually explored.
USC 35	Uralla Shire Council Council explore ways of reducing emissions from fleet	3	Note that: Council vehicle purchases are factoring in the inclusion of energy and fuel saving vehicles into the fleet with each new purchase. Recommend that: Council's Works Committee facilitates an internal audit on the vehicle fleet and report back to Council via Committee's Minutes.	Council has commenced reducing engine sizes (ie 6 to 4 cylinders) preferred. (Refer to T20)
USC 36	Create a Council calendar to notify community of events and give tips on sustainable living in that calendar	3	Recommend that: Council refer this recommendation to the Environmental Committee to investigate the production of a bi-annual calendar to advise the community of pre-planned events, and recommend updates be placed into the Council Newsletter.	Distributed fridge magnets calendars with Recycling strategy in 2009 2010 Fridge magnets distributed. Council website to be updated 5/10 – 8/10

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

LOCAL LEVEL RECOMMENDATIONS - PRIORITY MITIGATION

Table 1.

USC 37	Create Community vegetable gardens - local community responsibility with council support	3	<p>Note that: Council's Manager of Health & Building Services will investigate current community and school use of the site.</p> <p>Recommend that: 1. Council invite Expressions of Interest from the community. This invitation will encompass the following</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explore the project, set usage guidelines to conform with Zoning regulations (eg. confirm produce consumed and not sold etc.), source volunteer key community members to manage the site, educate the community about the project etc. 2. Council allocate Community Land – Part Rotary Park (vacant land beside swimming pool) to this project. Lot 1 Section 27 DP 759022 Open space, Crown Land, Area 8087m2 with small area initially set aside and if project is taken up by the community to increase the size to approximately 5,000 m2. 3. Public toilets on-site, investigate solar panels to provide power to the amenities block 4. Council fence the land with rural-type fencing. 5. Parking is available adjacent to the site 6. Street access available from the northern and the southern ends of the lot. 7. Expressions of Interest to be referred to Environmental Committee for assessment and report to Council. 8. Review the project annually. 	<p>Investigations commenced</p> <p>Rocky River School Garden opened Sept 2009. Searching for funding. On-going project</p>
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STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

LOCAL LEVEL RECOMMENDATIONS - PRIORITY MITIGATION

Table 1.

USC 38	Create wider footpaths in new developments and along the main street to facilitate safe and more pedestrian and cycle journeys	3	<p>Refer to Councils Adopted Management Plan Section 10.5</p> <p>Note that: Councils Manager of Planning and Development Engineer are currently reviewing subdivision standards for the purpose of the drafting of a new subdivision code.</p> <p>Included in this review are appropriate footpath widths, ramp access, bike use, skateboard use etc.</p> <p>Recommend that: Council endorse Director of Engineering Services and Manager of Planning to formulate specifications to include this recommendation.</p>	Ongoing
USC 39	Involve community in planting appropriate trees in town and maintaining their health	3	<p>Recommend that: Council, while mindful that street trees have a defined life which require management and regular replacement, plant and maintain appropriate trees within its parks and street verges in consultation with its community.</p>	Ongoing (trees , suitable for urban environment – sewer and water piping – to be provided to new dwellings)

Note: End of Mitigation Recommendations

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

LOCAL LEVEL RECOMMENDATIONS - PRIORITY ADAPTATION

Statement:

We all agree that Council adopt the following Slogan regarding Climate change:

“Be prepared, be adaptable, be conducive to change, be flexible, be open-minded”

Table 1.

USC 40	<p>a) All Participants agree that our Council must have the foresight and will to act; to put the planning and thought into understanding the risks; and to then carry out the actions required to cope with the predicted changes in climate. All Participants agree that our Council recognise that we need to be adaptable in our response as information and technology becomes available.</p> <p>b) In this assessment we believe these are some of the issues that will need to be addressed in the creation and adoption of a climate risk management strategy:</p> <p>Health Issues Adapting lifestyles to changing conditions Population change : - increase, mobility & changing vocational emphasis Environment -Agriculture - Adapting farm strategies - Bush fire strategies - Insurance Issues - Storm & Tempest - Food - Water Reservoirs - Alternatives to Scarce resources Building & Design -Adaptation Education Local industries - Tourism, - Sustainability Industries Transport</p>	3	<p>Recommend that: In response to: The Statement Item a) and Item b)</p> <p>Council modifies the values expressed in Volume 1 of the Management Plan by incorporating: Openness and adaptability with flexibility which enables change. b) The New England Strategic Alliance of Councils is undertaking a climate change risk assessment under the Australian Government’s Local Adaptation Pathway Program (LAPP). The objective of this project is to identify and assess the key risks that climate change poses to the achievement of local government objectives in the New England region of NSW and identify appropriate risk management and adaptation strategies.</p>	<p>Modifications made to Management Plan Volume 1 for 2009/2010 and continuing into 2010/2011</p> <p>b) Completed in April 2009</p>
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STATEMENT OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

In the process of assessing the Local Recommendations some of the Council Actions proposed will involve implementing ongoing strategies and others will require changes to Council's Management Plan, State of the Environment Report and Social Plan. The ongoing strategies will be investigated and assessed by Council's Environmental Committee, subsequently reporting to Council to assist in prioritising actions for budgeting purposes.

At its meeting of Monday 15 December 2008 Council resolved (438/08) that Council:

1. Integrate the Local Recommendations as listed in Table 1 through the stated Actions into the strategic planning process via the Management Plan including the State of the Environment Report and the Social Plan.
2. A full copy of the report and subsequent resolutions be forwarded to the Nature Conservation Council of NSW for their information.
3. Write to all participants of the Uralla Climate Consensus Forum Workshop to:
 - a) thank them for giving their time, effort and energy to this project.
 - b) request their ongoing support and contribution to the CCP as Council meets its obligations to the community with mitigation and adaptation responses and actions to Climate Change.

Council's Environmental Committee continues to utilise the UC3F Group's members' expertise and community liaison skills to work with the recommendations and monitor the progression of these outcomes.

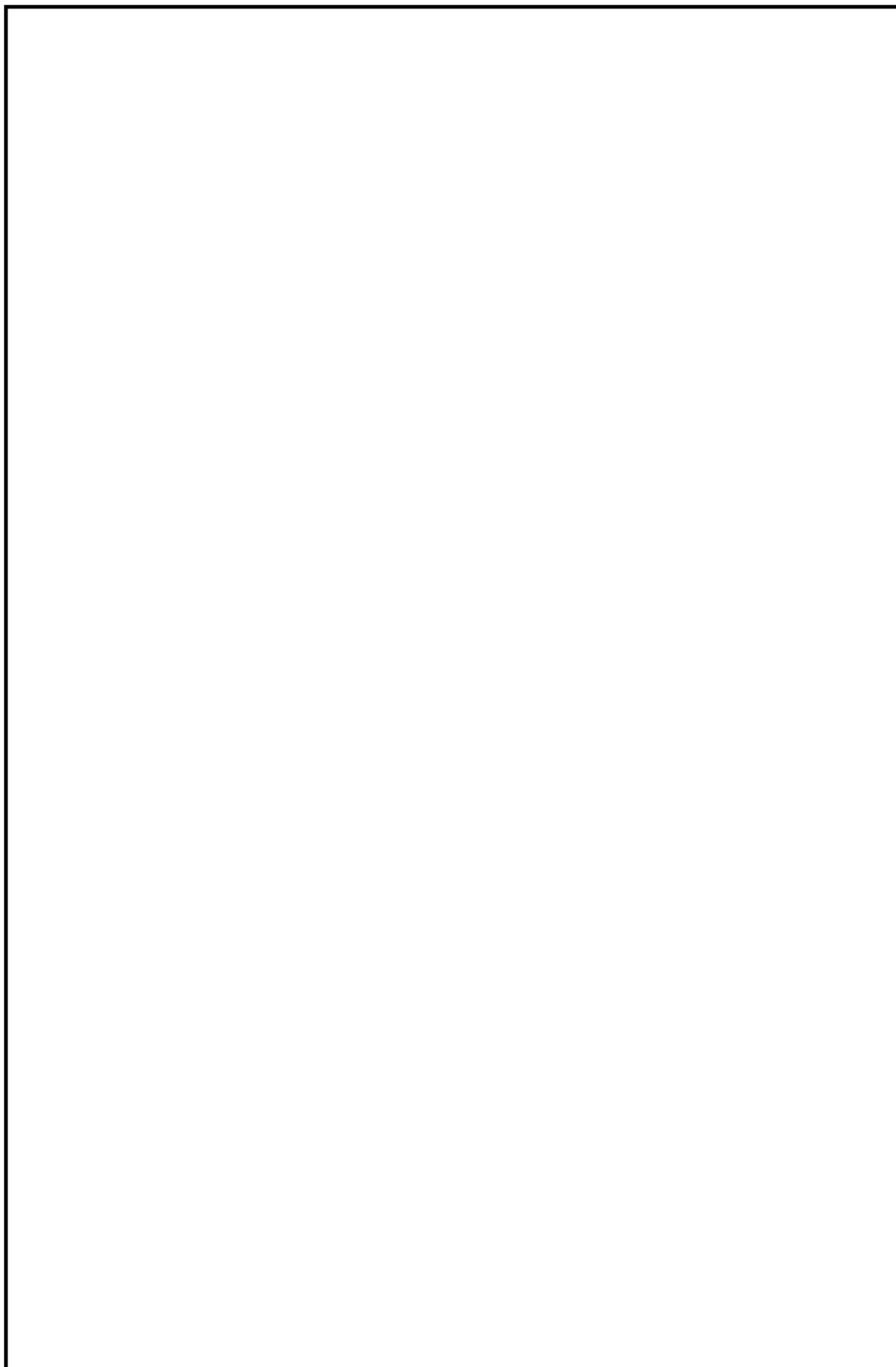
Objectives and Performance Targets of the Principal Activities

Volume 4 Part A of the Management Plan gives further details concerning Council's Principal Activities particularly in respect to objectives and performance targets for each activity within the Principal Activity. Volume 4 Part A also outlines the Strategic Objective and links the activity to the Statement of Goals outlined in Volume 1 of the Management Plan.

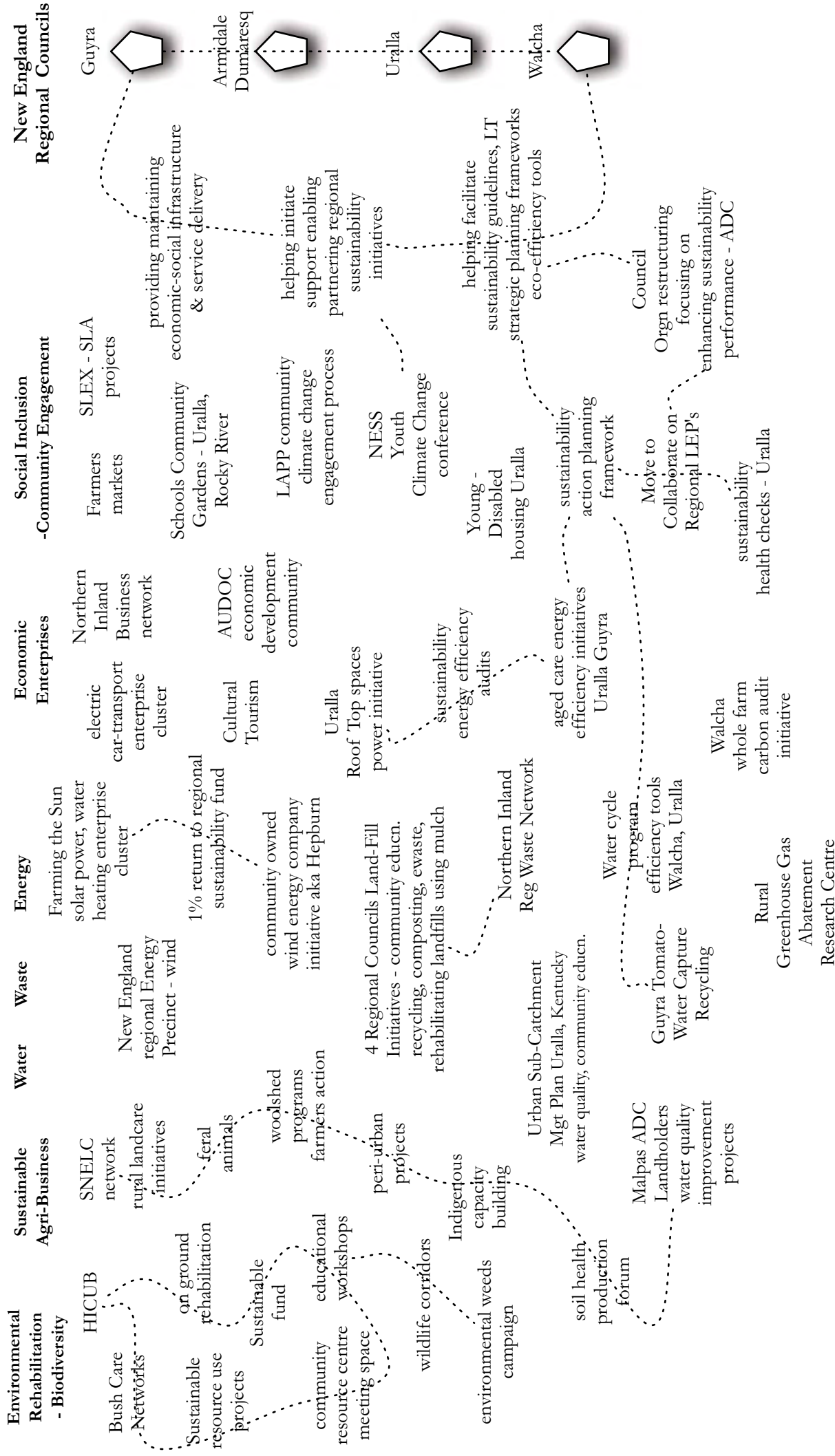
Details of the funding of all the activities of Council are provided in Volume 4 Part B of the Management Plan, the Budget Estimates. The budget allocations are provided to projects that form the components of each Principal Activity.

APPENDIX 3

MAP OF REGIONAL SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES

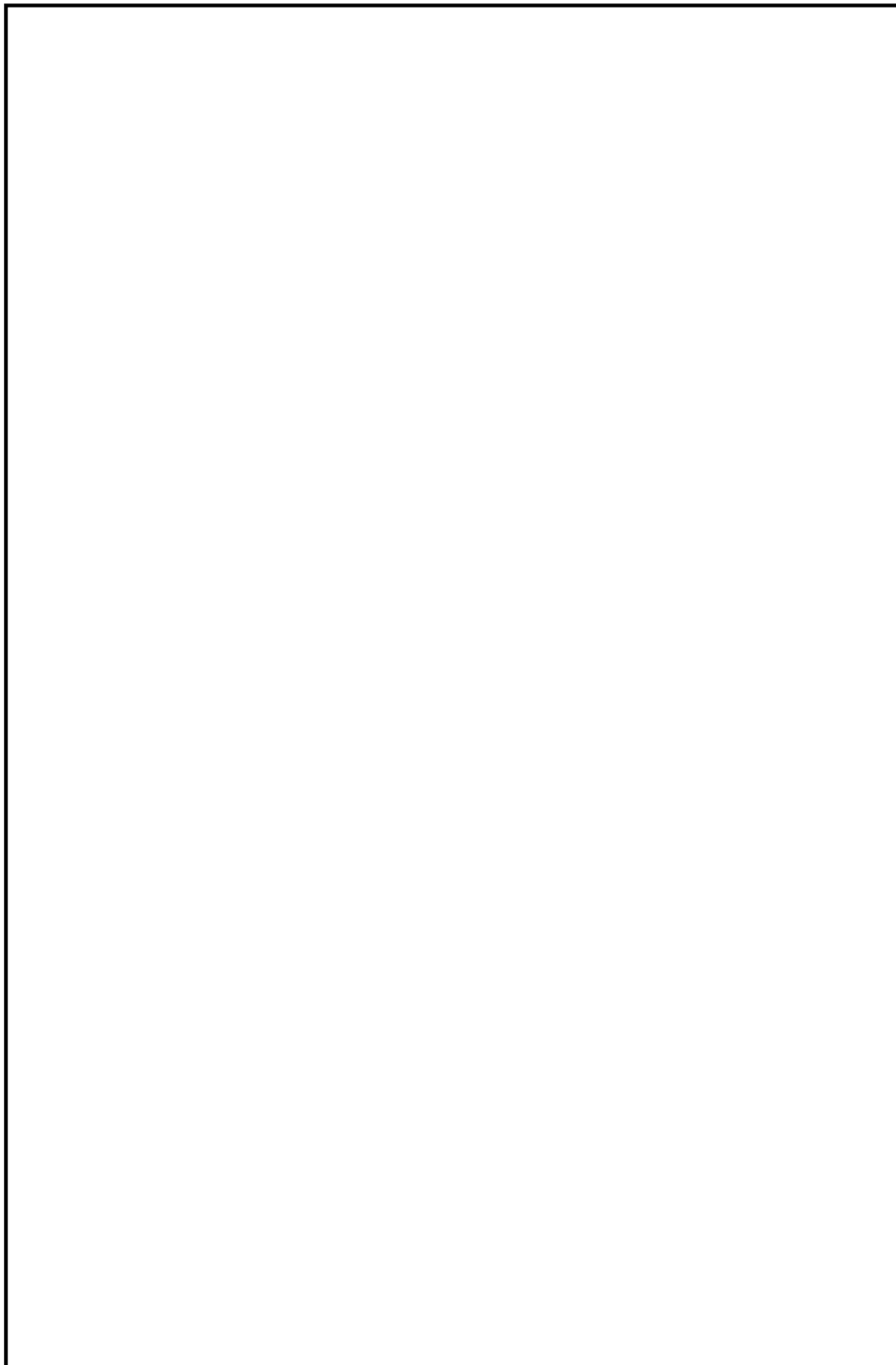


A Map of the Regional Sustainability Initiatives Emerging Across New England



APPENDIX 4

NEW ENGLAND SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY PROGRESS REPORT





Progress Report

NESS²

~ Extending & Completing NESS ~
New England Sustainability Strategy

funded by the



an initiative of



supported by



August 2010

NESS² Progress Report

Table of Contents

Executive Summary.....	3
Objectives & Activities.....	4
Outcomes.....	7
Partner & Stakeholder Communications.....	7
Stakeholder Engagement & Participation.....	8
Embedding Sustainability.....	9
Delays & Difficulties.....	12
Modifications.....	12
Finance Report.....	12
Other Developments.....	13
Appendices.....	14
Media Coverage.....	14
Vision New England Summit.....	18
Armidale Dumaresq Council Calendar.....	20
Key Stakeholders Mapping.....	22
Finance Report.....	23
Bundarra Community Sustainability Forum & Plan.....	24
Uralla Community Sustainability Forum & Plan.....	26
Integrating Local Government Business & NESS.....	28
DotNESS (Website).....	29
Status Report – Farming the Sun.....	30
NESS2 Communications Strategy.....	31



Bundarra Community Sustainability Forum

NESS² Progress Report

Executive Summary

This Progress Report is the first of two Reports required for the NSW Environment Trust detailing the outcomes and work completed during the first five months of NESS² – extending & completing the New England Sustainability Strategy (NESS).

NESS is a whole-of-region governance model and approach to sustainability ~ bringing together the wide array of stakeholders across the community to foster their shared vision for a sustainable New England; identify the strategies and initiatives to achieve this vision; and, the measures to assess performance and progress.

The work on NESS² to date has been able to:

- Galvanise leadership and engagement ~ such as successfully developing the Uralla Community Sustainability Plan only 48 hours after the Kibble Review recommended a forced amalgamation of their Shire Council;
- Strengthen existing and build new partnerships ~ such as with Regional Development Australia Northern Inland (RDANI) and the High Country Urban Biodiversity Project (HiCUB);
- Enhance community networks and understanding ~ such as through aligned media and communication strategies, infrastructure and tools; and,
- Catalyse major new sustainability initiatives ~ such as the Sustainable Heating Initiative and Slow Food New England Convivium.

The project outcomes, activities and milestones have significantly exceeded the original scope of work, with several substantial opportunities realised that build upon the intended outcomes for NESS². One of the most complex outcomes, the “LGA Bridge” to develop and integrate a replicable model of sustainability planning, has been boosted by RDANI’s adoption of the Starfish/NESS model for their Regional Development Plan.

The priorities ahead to complete the New England Sustainability Strategy include:

- Walcha and Guyra Community Sustainability Forums;
- Regional Stakeholder Round Table and NESS Public Forum;
- Completion of the “LGA Bridge” replicable model and governance structure for the New England Sustainability Strategy Executive (NESSiE); and,
- Sustained work on implementing the Strategy through priority initiatives such as *Farming the Sun* and the YOUTH LEADiNG Australia Congress.

The NESS² project is on time and on budget without any delays or variations of concern.



NESS² Progress Report

Objectives & Activities

The purpose and three objectives for NESS² in order of their relative size within the overall scope of work are:

- Extend and complete the collaborative development of the New England Sustainability Strategy (NESS);
- Develop a replicable model for the integration of NESS, and other similar initiatives such as the Local Adaptation Pathways and Climate Consensus Projects, into local government planning, management and reporting systems; and,
- Finalise the governance structure for the New England Sustainability Strategy Executive (NESSiE).

The outcomes of this work include:

- Improved community knowledge of sustainability;
- Improved sustainability performance of key stakeholders;
- Improved sustainability performance of local government stakeholders by integrating major sustainability strategies and initiatives into planning, management and reporting systems; and,
- Improved sustainability of the New England Region ~ environmental, social and economic ~ through continued implementation of priority initiatives such as *Farming the Sun*.

The project activities and milestones have significantly exceeded the original scope of work, with several substantial opportunities realised to build upon NESS².

The table on the following page summarises delivery of specified project activities, including the future project timetable. Highlights include:

- Bundarra & Uralla Community Sustainability Forums completed. Copies of the Reports and Plans are included in the Appendix;
- "LGA Bridge" Workshop completed. A copy of the Outcomes Report is included in the Appendix;
- Media and Communications Strategy developed (as part of an alliance with HiCUB, detailed below). A copy of the Strategy is included in the Appendix;
- Legal Briefing submitted to LegalMinds to initiate work on the governance structure for NESSiE;
- Regular media, stakeholder and community communication throughout project, including regular updates to the DotNESS website (www.ness.wikidot.com). Copies of various communiques and media clippings are included in the Appendix;
- Briefings and meetings held with NESSiE and LGA Steering Committee; and,
- Thorough documentation of activities, records and outcomes, as reflected throughout this Progress Report.



NESS² Progress Report

		07/10	08/10	09/10	10/10	11/10	12/10	01/11	02/11	03/11
Media & Communications	Stakeholder Workshop Strategy Complete									
	Modest Media Coverage 2% on Email			Document Round Table		Document Forum				
	Public (Media, eNews, DotNESS, Newsletters)									
	DotNESS									
Local Sustainability Forums	Updates Maintained Web Portal Coming									
	Bundarra & Uralla Complete			14 th & 15 th Guyra & Walcha						
	NERAM Booked Workshop Complete				29 th -31 st SLEx	8 th Public Forum		LGA Sign Off		
	Boundary Commission Review									
Public Forum (SLEx '10) LGA Integration	NESAC "Kibble" Review									
	2010-2011 Planning Process									
	Integrated Reporting Framework									
	"Green is the New Black" (Walcha)									
Regional Sustainability Roundtable Initiatives	Community Strategic Plan									
	In Process									
	NERAM Booked Stakeholders Mapped		Invitation & Briefing Paper	20 th Round Table				Eol for Ongoing Involvement		
	Strategic Alliance Continuing									
	Farming the Sun									
	Sustainable Home Heating...									
	Finalised & Launched									
	YOUTH LEADING Australia – New England Congress		16 th Gen Y Not Luncheon			23 rd -25 th Congress				
NESS	Local Planning Forums									
	Business & Economics Forums		Local Planning Forums							
	RDANI Partnership									
	Awakening the Dreamer Symposium					7 th Symposium				
Project Report Governance & Coordination	Update Working Group SWOCs			Foundation Strategy to Roundtable	Penultimate Strategy to Public Forum	Draft Final Strategy & Letters of Support	Final Strategy to Enviro Trust for Review			Final NESS
	Legal Briefing			Review UN CN Network						
	Governance Model						Draft		Due to Enviro Trust	
Project Report Governance & Coordination	Review Progress Report						Review Final Strategy	Review Final Report		
	Enviro Trust Progress Report									
	Armidale Dumaresq Council									
	NESSIE			Meeting	Meeting		Review Final Strategy	Review Final Report		



NESS² Progress Report

The activities detailed below have further built upon NESS and extend on the specific requirements of the funded NESS² project:

- Partnership with Regional Development Australia Northern Inland (RDANI) to:
 - Integrate the outcomes from NESS¹ and NESS² into the RDANI Regional Plan for submission to the Australian and NSW Governments; and,
 - Utilise the Starfish/NESS model for an additional fourteen local community dialogues and plans;
- Formation of a strategic alliance with the NSW Environmental Trust funded HiCUB project, specifically to collaborate in regards to:
 - Establishment of a sustainability fund;
 - Development of internet based community networking tools;
 - Stakeholder engagement for the Regional Sustainability Round Table & Scorecard and the "LGA Bridge" model; and,
 - Creation of aligned media and communication strategies.
- Media and Communications Workshops held with HiCUB to develop strategies for NESS² and HiCUB; and,
- *Farming the Sun* expanded to launch the Sustainable Heating Initiative with new solar thermal heating and cooling technology now available in the Region.



Public Launch ~ Sustainable Heating Initiative (solar thermal heating & cooling)

NESS² Progress Report

Outcomes

Together, the project and expanded activities detailed above, have achieved project outcomes meeting and significantly exceeding the original scope of work. The major highlights include:

- Integration of NESS¹ & NESS² into the RDANI Regional Development Plan (addressing economic development that is environmentally sustainable and socially inclusive);
- Replication and use the Starfish/NESS community dialogue and planning model, a project outcome identified for Local Government, for the RDANI local community planning dialogues;
- Creation of Local Sustainability Plans for Uralla and Bundarra (see Appendix);
- Outcomes in alliance with HiCUB including:
 - Workshop and agreement with key stakeholders to use a range of common communication tools for sustainability and community engagement, namely:
 - [NEON](#) (New England On Now) for all events and activities;
 - [Spatial Vision](#) to enable 'crowd mapping' of biodiversity and other spatial/biophysical attributes of the region;
 - [Sustainable Living Guide](#) to list information, products and services;
 - [Northern Inland Sustainable Business Network](#) (NiSBN) as the primary directory of sustainable businesses;
 - [LinkedIn](#) to provide a network for sustainability practitioners;
 - [Place Stories](#) for publishing digital stories about sustainability; and,
 - [Posterous](#) as a medium to share relevant information about biodiversity.
 - Creation of aligned media and communication strategies (including the above tools);
- Expansion of *Farming the Sun* with solar thermal heating and cooling technology (in addition to sustaining existing priorities of solar power, solar hot water and home sustainability assessments);
- University of New England (UNE) agreement to host YOUTH LEADIng Australia Congress 2010; and,
- Expansion of the NESS community sustainability network to exceed 2% of the regional population.

Partner & Stakeholder Communications

The membership of NESSiE includes a diversity of key stakeholders and partners, embedding collaboration and communication within the core governance structure for NESS.

Additionally, there has been a constant attention to communication (internet, media, email and interpersonal) as well as meetings (detailed below).



NESS² Progress Report

A comprehensive communications strategy is in place (refer Appendix) for NESS². A selection of media coverage is included in the Appendix, as well as a screen shot from the DotNESS website.

These broad streams of communication are deepened with targeted mediums including:

- Local Government Newsletters to residents (Uralla, Walcha and Guyra);
- Community Network Newsletters including SNELCC, SLA, CWC and Bundarra Community Progress Association; and,
- Regular NESS eNews email reaching 2%+ of the regional population.

Stakeholder Engagement & Participation

The core principles of NESS are engagement and participation, bringing together the wide array of stakeholders and community members to collaboratively design a shared vision and strategy for sustainability.

The membership of NESSiE reflects this diversity, embedding engagement and participation within the core governance structure for NESS. The current membership of NESSiE includes: Starfish Enterprises; PeaceWorks; Armidale Dumaresq Council and Southern New England Landcare.

A Steering Committee has been established to oversee NESS² with representatives from each of the four LGA partners.

The mapping of key stakeholders receiving regular communication and invitations to relevant NESS² forums is included as an Appendix.



Awakening the Dreamer, Mini-Symposium ~ June 2010

The major community meetings and events, with participation numbers, include:

- Uralla and Bundarra Community Sustainability Forums (45 people);
- Stakeholder Dialogue to finalise the Sustainable Heating Initiative (30 stakeholders);
- “LGA Bridge” Workshop (7 participants from across the four LGAs);
- NESS² & HiCUB Stakeholder Engagement Workshop (14 participants);
- NESS² & HiCUB Communications Workshop (14 participants);
- Public Launch of the Sustainable Heating Initiative (20 people); and,
- Awakening the Dreamer, mini-Symposium supporting Uniting Church Armidale (35 people).



NESS² Progress Report

There have also been frequent meetings with stakeholders, groups and individuals, the most key including:

- Partnership development with RDANI Directors, EO and senior staff;
- Strategic alliance negotiations with HiCUB, including meeting with the Steering Committee and Southern New England Landcare (SNELCC, HiCUB project manager) Directors and senior staff;
- Presentations at Board, Committee and Member Meetings for SNELCC, RDANI, HiCUB Steering Committee and Advisory Committee, Sustainable Living Armidale (SLA), Uralla Climate Change Consensus Forum (U3CF); Talloires Declaration Committee;
- Negotiation meetings with key stakeholders (such as the UNE regarding YOUTH LEADING Australia and the Pachamama Alliance regarding the Awakening the Dreamer Symposium; and,
- Briefings and meetings held with NESSiE; and,
- Briefings and meetings with the NESS² LGA Steering Committee.

Embedding Sustainability

NESS, and this second stage of work on NESS, is effecting the embedding of sustainability for the New England Region on two levels:

1. Direct outcomes from NESS²; and,
2. Through being part of a broader shift to sustainability taking place across the New England Region and beyond.

Embedding is a high level outcome from a process of connection, awareness raising, engagement, participation and capacity building. Across this continuum of social change NESS² is contributing to the substantial starburst of sustainability initiatives and efforts throughout the New England Region.

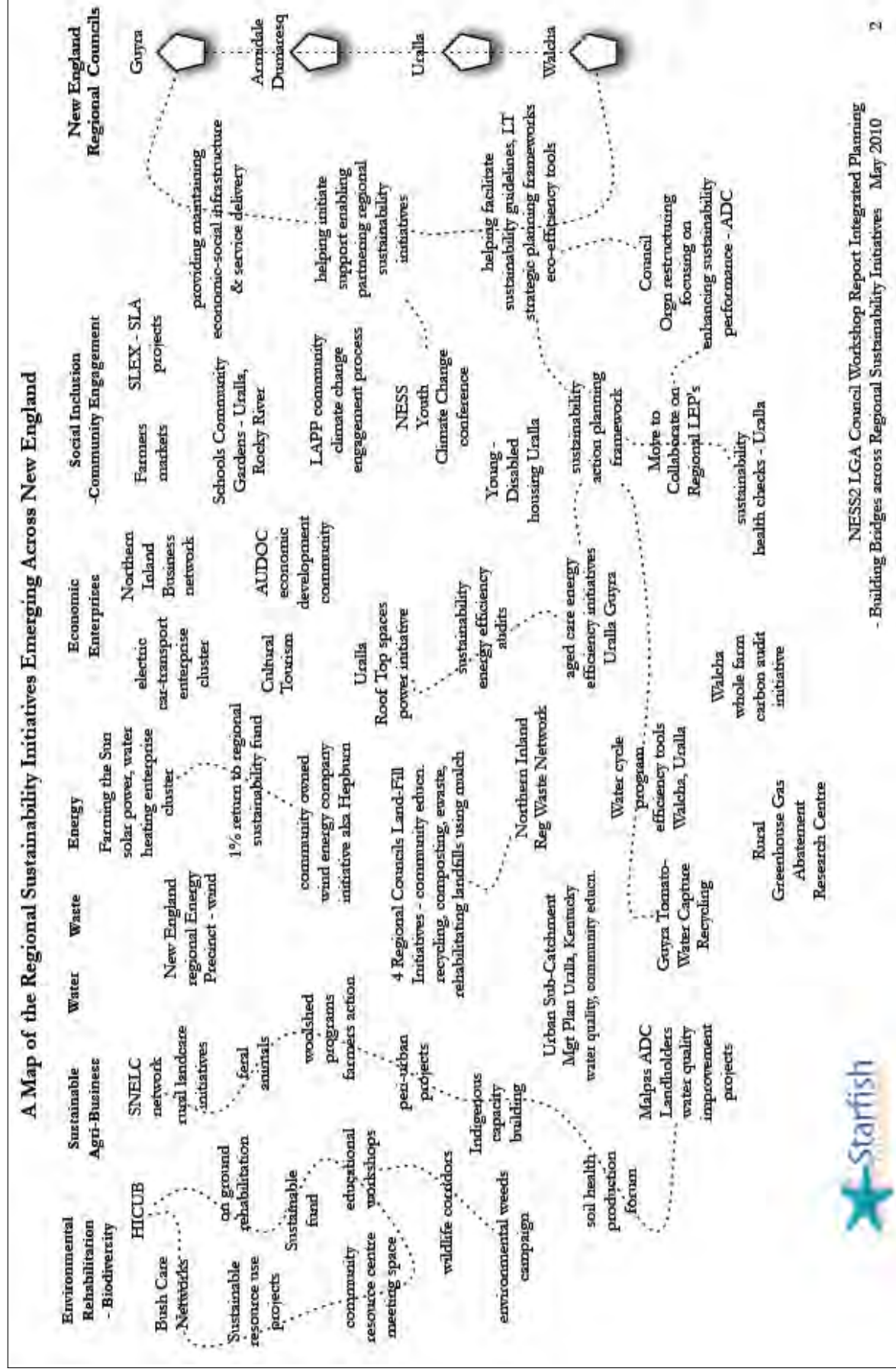
This 'starburst' was mapped during the "LGA Bridge" Workshop and is presented on the following page. It is worth noting this is still the tip of a larger iceberg so to speak.

NESS² is only a partial contributor, though perhaps it is fair to say a significant contributor, towards the following outcomes which evidence sustainability being 'embedded':

- Enhanced Local Government capacity for sustainability through:
 - Direct involvement in the various stakeholder and community workshops;
 - Wider perspective on magnitude of sustainability activities throughout the Region;
 - Outcomes from "LGA Bridge" Workshop (included in the Appendix), particularly recognition of the different roles fulfilled by LGA's, namely:
 - Providing and maintaining economic-social infrastructure and service delivery;
 - Helping initiate, support, enabling and partnering with regional sustainability initiatives; and,
 - Helping facilitate sustainability guidelines, strategic planning frameworks, eco-efficiency tools; and,



NESS² Progress Report



NESS² Progress Report

- Recognition by Armidale Dumaesq Mayor, Peter Ducat, of the community's defining vision as 'sustainability' (refer Appendix for copy of Mayor's column in annual calendar); and,
- Opportunities for collaboration with key stakeholders ~ such as NESS and SLA for the weekly newspaper column (refer example in the Appendix) and with HiCUB/NESS for the Sustainable Living Guide;
- Use of Starfish/NESS model for RDANI Regional Development Plan, with development including 'environmental solutions' and 'social inclusion';
- Identification of New England as a high potential site for NSW's first community-owned wind farm (refer earlier remarks about successful Starfish/NESS led consortium tendering to commence work on this initiative);



Uralla Community Sustainability Forum

- Adoption and recognition of NESS model in the outcomes of Tony Windsor, MP Vision New England Summit (refer Resolution 20 in the media coverage included as an Appendix)
- 500% increase in grid connected solar power, 700% increase in solar power production and four new private solar power companies in last two years. A fuller Status Report for Farming the Sun is included in the Appendix;
- Collaboration with Richard Torbay, MP, to successfully influence a change to the NSW Solar Bonus Scheme legislation to better accommodate agricultural and rural property holders;
- Involvement in the formation of a new Slow Food New England convivium;
- Photo Essay and Documentary of the New England Regional Art Museum (NERAM) *Sustainable City* installation; and,
- Use of *Farming the Sun* in an Honours Student thesis considering community-scale efforts on climate change and a local school project focussed on renewable energy.

NESS² Progress Report

Delays & Difficulties

The only delay has been the deferment of the Walcha and Guyra Community Sustainability Forums from July to September. This was agreed with the key stakeholders, particularly the two Local Government Authorities.

The most significant difficulty experienced has been due to the impact of the Kibble Review. The proposed amalgamation of three of these LGA's, and the boundary review taking place at the time of writing. This has taken a massive amount of attention for the Armidale Dumaresq, Uralla, Walcha and Guyra Local Government Authorities this project works with, created a certain degree of local political tension within the region and considerable uncertainty for staff. Notwithstanding this, the Councils have continued to support and progress the *NESS²* project alongside other sustainability initiatives such as the Armidale Sustainable Living Guide.

Modifications

There are no modifications to the Project Plan requiring Environmental Trust consideration.

The deferred Walcha and Guyra Community Sustainability Forums are timed to feed into the Stakeholder Round Table as originally intended.

The impacts of the Kibble Review and proposed amalgamation have not compromised the specific outcomes of *NESS²* to any significant degree as at the time of writing.

Finance Report

The project is on budget. The variances compared with the full project budget are broadly in line with the 25–35% of work undertaken to date.

An additional \$5,000 of funding has been added to *NESS²* from HiCUB towards the shared work on media and communications strategy, including the two workshops.

A copy of the Finance Report is included in the Appendix (page 23).



NESS² Progress Report

Other Developments

Several other developments are currently in process and worthy of note:

- A Consortium led by Starfish/NESS have successfully tendered to undertake a Pre-Feasibility Community Wind Farm Study. The Consortium members include Hepburn Community Wind Farm, Embark, The Community Mutual Group, the UNE, the Environmental Defenders Office, Future Energy, SNELCC and SLA;
- Starfish is negotiating further strategic alliances, which will benefit NESS, with The Community Mutual Group and East Armidale Sustainable Living Education and Community Centre; and,
- Negotiations with the Armidale & District Business Chamber to facilitate a series of sustainability dialogues with members.

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Appendices

Media Coverage

LOCAL NEWS

Wednesday May 12, 2010 | 9

Get involved and make your place sustainable

Residents, businesses and everyone interested in sustainability are invited to get involved with their Local Sustainability Forums taking place across the New England in June 2010.

"Sustainability is about the quality of our lifestyles, work and environment," said Adam Blakester, Convenor of the New England Sustainability Strategy. "In this way the uniqueness of our towns, villages and region is a really important part of making our places sustainable."

Four Local Sustainability Forums will be held – Bundarra, Guyra, Walcha and Uralla – as part of the next stage of work to complete the New England Sustainability Strategy (NESS).

"We're wanting to involve as many people as possible to identify how we can make our way of life and places more sustainable," continued Adam Blakester. "Our challenge is to be mindful of the bigger picture and what is happening in the world around us right now,

as well as ensuring that our way of life can continue without impacting badly on others, the Earth or future generations."

Sustainability is often seen as only a problem, however it also presents significant opportunities which could benefit our Region if we take leadership and action. These opportunities could include enterprise in renewable energy, regional carbon sequestration and biodiversity banks, strengthening research, education and professional services with new sustainability knowledge, technology, practices and culture.

Work on NESS began in late 2008 with a Public Forum at New England Regional Art Museum as part of the Sustainable Living Expo (SLEx), attended by more than 120 people. In total more than 300 people from across the New England were involved in the first stage of work on NESS through the Public Forum, seven working groups and online blogs. Details of the

sustainability priorities from this work can be seen at www.ness.wikidot.com.

The Local Forums in June 2010 will provide the opportunity for Uralla, Bundarra, Walcha and Guyra to contribute their priorities, strategies and initiatives and influence the overall regional sustainability strategy which will be completed at a second Public Forum as part of SLEx '10.

Interest is now sought for involvement with each of the Local Sustainability Forums. We are seeking a Convenor to co-chair the Forums, plus individuals interested to look at sustainability from business, youth, Aboriginal, environmental, social, global and cultural perspectives. We are also inviting expressions of interest for attendance and participation at each of the Forums.

To express your interest or discuss this further, please contact Adam Blakester, 6775 2501 | 0419 808 909 adam@paradigmplay.net.

The Armidale Independent, 12 May 2010



Torbay calls for flexibility on feed in tariff on solar

Member for Northern Tablelands Richard Torbay has urged the government to act quickly to ensure farmers and householders who have already installed solar systems will not miss out on payment for the energy they produce after July when the system changes.

He told Parliament that last minute alterations to the feed in tariff system meant that from July 1 only those who installed new meters, at considerable cost, would receive the payment.

For most householders the charge to transfer from 'net' to 'gross' meters would be in the region of \$200 - \$300 dollars but for many farmers the impost would amount to tens of thousands of dollars, he said.

He called for a flexible policy to include both meters and allow users to decide which they could afford to adopt. The difference between the two feed in tariff systems is that the net meter yields a return only for extra energy generated after household or business use and the gross system pays a bonus for all the energy generated by the solar system.

"Through the unexpected change in government policy in November last year those who, in good faith, installed net meters will now receive no payment at all after July," the MP said. "It is both unfair and unwise for the government to put barriers in the way of people wishing to make a positive contribution to the environment."



Solar team gathers to discuss installation of panels and a hot water system at Richard Torbay's house – from left Karl Morrison, Liz Gardiner, Rory Cahill, Member for Northern Tablelands Richard Torbay, Bernard Flint, Joel Griffiths, Rory Ryan, Adam Hone and Pete Brennan

Mr Torbay said the change would hit farmers the hardest. He said one farmer had been quoted \$35,000 for electric cabling and trench digging to change his meter. "The solution is to make the policy more flexible and I urge the Minister to make the amendment without delay," he said.

The MP said he had been the first to sign up for solar panels and a solar hot water system through the Farming the Sun initiative of the New England Sustainability Strategy

(NESS) when it was rolled out last year. "Because of my work and other commitments there has been a delay in the installation, so I am one of the lucky ones who will automatically have a gross meter connected," he said.

"Like many people in the community I am committed to doing what I can in the interests of the environment and I would like to think that government policy will not stand in the way all those who wish to make a contribution.

The Armidale Independent, 17 March 2010

Have your say on sustainability in Uralla

Uralla is hosting the second Local Sustainability Forum. The event will provide a unique opportunity for the community to have their say about the priorities required for Uralla's sustainability, strength and uniqueness.

The Forum is being held at the Uralla Community Centre, Hill Street on Tuesday evening, June 22, 2010 with supper to be provided.

"The format of the Uralla Forum will be an open discussion," said Adam Blakester, Convenor of the New England Sustainability Strategy (NESS). "This format is designed to make it as easy as possible for everyone and anyone to participate, across all ages and all interests."

The Uralla Sustainability Forum will strengthen and extend upon the local work already being undertaken by groups such as the Uralla Climate Change Consensus Forum. The outcomes will also directly feed into the regional New England Sustainability Strategy, which is being finalised at a major public forum being held at NERAM in November as part of SLEx'10.

"The Uralla discussions will be recorded and presented back to the community using an innovative package of digital media tools – video, photography and dialogue mapping," continued Mr Blakester.

The Local Sustainability

Forum will consider:

- Key strengths and uniqueness of Uralla;
- Opportunities to make Uralla more sustainable; and,
- Priorities for action.

"With the massive changes now taking place for Uralla's local government, community enterprises such as NESS and sustainability become an even more pressing and important necessity," added Blakester.

The Forum is open to everyone interested in strengthening the sustainability of Uralla. To RSVP to attend, find out more or discuss this further, please contact Adam Blakester, 6775 2501, 0419 808 909 adam@paradigmplay.net.

The Armidale Independent, 16 June 2010

10 Wednesday June 16, 2010

10 Wednesday June 16, 2010

FARMING THE SUN FOR ENERGY

The average solar power system will pay itself back in just 3-5 years, and

For further information on Farming the Sun, a community-scale solar energy initiative of the New England Sustainability Strategy, visit www.ness.wikiidot.com



newsextra

Summit points the way forward

Vision New England opens communication between community and government

THE 2009 Vision New England Summit in Armidale has provided an opportunity for groups to unite in support of each others' quests to identify and deliver solutions to issues that impact on people across the New England Electorate.

Convener of the Summit, Independent Member for New England, Tony Windsor was pleased with the input from the delegates representing some 40 community organisations.

"All participants were considered and understanding of issues impacting on the different groups," Mr Windsor said.

"They were enthusiastic in their support of the 21 resolutions, and raised other points that would assist in promoting solutions to the issues raised."

Mr Windsor said the 21 resolutions from the Summit would now be followed up as per the direction of the summit.

"The Summit resolutions all have associated follow up actions which we will be pursuing," Mr Windsor said.

"I will provide updates as to progress made on each resolution and look forward to positive outcomes for the communities of the New England Electorate."

Resolution 1

That the Vision New England Summit endorses the formation of a small workgroup consisting of four people to put a submission together

* Alun Davies - former network manager for Telstra Country Wide

* David Jones - councillor from Inverell Shire Council

* Brian Cameron - representative from University of New England and

* A representative of Regional Development Australia New England North West.

All interested parties will send short letters of support, which include the following points to Mr Windsor's office

* Commitment to use the National Broadband Network (NBN), when rolled out in their area

* How their community will use NBN - for example, expansion of the medical centre and remote

diagnostics in Inverell; web broadcast of equine events in Tamworth; video call centre for New England Credit Union Armidale, and the disaster centre in Inverell;

* How they can help to facilitate smooth rollout of NBN in New England if applicable - for example, councils could nominate a liaison officer to quickly resolve any local issues with pits and cabling

The working group is to put together the submission and send it via Mr Windsor's office to Senator Conroy and Mr Quigley.

Resolution 2

That the Minister for Ageing be requested to follow up the report into aged care services in small regional and remote communities into the development of a model to serve these communities' needs with inclusion of clinical nurse practitioners as an option, incorporating community care and making use of technology advances.

Resolution 3

That the Bolivia Hill section of the New England Highway be made the number one priority of the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) for major works to be undertaken next.

Resolution 4

That the Summit supports RTA prioritisation and construction of a heavy vehicle bypass of Tentfield.

Resolution 5

That the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) and industry stakeholders should be encouraged to move quickly to deciding on the preferred route through the Liverpool Range and commence works.

That the Summit identifies that the Inland Rail Link between Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane is significant and supports a study of rail links all the way into Brisbane.

Resolution 6

That the Vision New England Summit provides Tamworth Regional Council with a letter of support for the continued delivery of services to the Australian Defence Force from the BAe college at Tamworth Regional Airport.

That we support the Federal Government making



University representatives at Vision New England summit, Prof Ray Cooksey, Eve Woodberry, Graham Webb and John Kleeman

a decision based on merit, not politics.

Resolution 7

That the Vision New England Summit seeks Commonwealth Government support for Farnsfield Australia, with a pilot program to examine a rebate for farmers to retro-fit safe access to tractors in the New England North West Region of NSW involving Farnsfield Tamworth and Farnsfield North West.

Resolution 8

That the Vision New England 2009 Summit acknowledges the significant contribution of the Australian Defence Forces to the New England community and supports the ongoing continuation of this positive relationship.

Resolution 9

That the community, business, university and government sectors acknowledge the benefits of working together and continue to work together to support and build on the strength, potential and resilience of Aboriginal communities and Aboriginal people in the New England region.

Resolution 10

That the Vision New England Summit requests the Commonwealth Government recognise the work of the North and North West Community Legal Service Inc and provide five years worth of funding for the service, at an increased level.

Resolution 11

That this Summit encourages all relevant parties including those present to work with the higher education sector and UNE in particular to investigate ways in which to articulate courses and qualifications, encourage professional development and enhance tertiary education participation to address regional skills shortages.

That this Summit endorses UNE's initiative to undertake a regional survey to identify skills requirements into the future and undertakes to cooperate in this endeavour.

MORE - PAGE 33.

newsextra

Regional think tank produces 21 pivotal resolutions

Resolution 12

That this Summit calls on Coalition and crossbench Senators to pass the Higher Education Legislation Amendment (Student Services and Amenities, and Other Measures) Bill 2009, and encourage all organisations and individuals to write to the Senators as a matter of urgency in support of the bill.

Resolution 13

That this Summit welcomes the Federal Government's intention to provide a new income loading for universities to support programs for attracting and retaining students from low socioeconomic backgrounds, and welcomes the funding given to universities to build long term partnerships with schools and in disadvantaged areas, to lift the numbers of students who participate in higher education.

It supports moves by UNE to be part of these new initiatives and its moves to secure the funding that will ensure success of programs designed to increase the proportion of students from the region who take advantage of the opportunities to further their education.

Resolution 14

That the Summit endorses and seeks to cooperate with the university's vision to develop further connection/consultation and activities designed to identify areas of research and development needs in particular local areas and to identify areas where UNE service and expertise provision could assist with further economic and community development.

Resolution 15

This Summit recognizes and supports UNE's actions in developing a hub of digital technology in the region, recognizing the beneficial impact this will have on educational delivery and regional development.

Resolution 16

That the Vision New England Summit supports examining the feasibility of rural dental programs at the UNE.

Resolution 17

This meeting therefore calls on the Federal Government to immediately implement a system of safe rates and conditions in the roads transport industry to combat the horrendous death toll by client pressures.

Resolution 18

The NSW planning process is flawed and does not recognise areas of high environmental and agricultural value of the region and the environmental risks posed to those values and that these flaws should be remediated by the following measures:

- * Fund the Namoi Water Study
- * Incorporate the findings of the Namoi Water Study into a mine development plan; and
- * Amend the Mining Act to incorporate the following principles:

- The inclusion of a trigger caused by any proposed release of all coal, gas or mineral exploration licences (EL).

- This trigger would require that the proposed EL be placed in front of an inter-agency panel that would apply a model to be developed by the NSW Natural Resources Commission.

This panel would identify the risks to key environmental factors and would rule out the release of these designated high-value areas.

The model developed by the NSW NRC would be structured in accordance with a terms of reference, either scheduled to the Mining Act or included in that Act.

- A 'right of appeals' process, to allow challenges seeking either inclusion or removal of designated areas is being considered as part of the amendments.

Resolution 19

This proposal seeks Federal money (about \$2.5 million a year for four years) to undertake an across state/territory project.

This would allow more than 240 school staff members to undertake professional learning and enable almost 15,000 families to have their children enrol.

Resolution 20

1. Support will be provided to the establishment of bio-regional, 'whole-of-region' governance approaches to sustainability, and the New England Sustainability Strategy will be developed as a model for adaptation and adoption for other bio-regions across the New England

North West.

2. All government agencies will be requested to formally consider their own interest and responsibilities in addressing the priorities for sustainability of the New England Region, including their direct participation in the development of the New England Sustainability Strategy and incorporation of key actions into their strategies, management plans and budgets.

Resolution 21

That the Summit supports the establishment of a 'New England Institute' the function of which would be the overall regionalisation, development and integration with membership from political (Federal/ State representatives and local mayors), bureaucratic representatives from Federal and State Government Departments, non-government organisations, UNE, and other interested individuals.



Karthikeyai Kangasahapathy, Jennifer Crew and John Williams at the Vision New England Summit

0. 9. 8. 7. 6. 5. 4. 3. 2. 1

Planet 51 is touching down at the Belgrave Cinema

When:

Thursday December 10

Time: 6.00pm

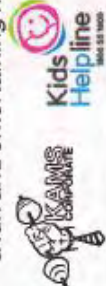
Cost: \$15 per person

Tickets: Can be purchased from the Amidale Express office

Bring your family along for a fun and entertaining night.



A portion of the ticket sales is going to Kids Helpline as part of the Corporate Challenge.



Message from Mayor Peter Ducat

We see sustainability in our area as Armidales Dumaresq community's key aim and it is also considered by Council throughout all its planning. As part of Council's new integrated corporate planning, the document on "Excellent Lifestyle and Sustainable Growth" will be presented to our community early in 2010 for comments and suggestions.

Financially, environmentally and socially, Council is committed to ensuring a sustainable future for the entire community. Following the report from our consultants, "Review Today", Council is engaging in a long term asset management plan covering the next twenty years. Through careful management, Council intends to build our assets and still provide the services that we all expect.

Achievements during the year include the completion of the Ozonation Plant at the Water Treatment Plant which ensures that our drinking water is greatly improved in taste and odour even at times of blue green algae outbreaks.

With strong community support and a hard-working committee, assistance from Council and State Government funding, the Armidales Gymnasium Centre is now complete and well used by our young people. Facility improvements at the Sportsground, Curtis Park, Skate Park, Rologas Sporting field and Court House have been possible from the funds from the Regional and Community Infrastructure Program. The second round funding of \$194,000 will go towards improving and replacing aging facilities. Council congratulates the Federal Government on this program which has assisted many Councils with improving their facilities.

The management of the New England Regional Art Museum has stabilised after the establishment of NERAM Ltd and the gallery is expected to forge ahead as a major rural art gallery.

With all these newly acquired facilities and our excellent water supply, Armidales is in a most favourable position to welcome an additional 5,000 people to our area to take advantage of our cultural and educational institutions and also our excellent lifestyle.

I thank past and present Councilors and their families for their contribution to our local government area. I would also like to thank the many people in our community, who, operating either as individuals or as part of a group, have given thousands of volunteer hours through service clubs and organisations to make our area an excellent place for everyone.

Lately I present this calendar and summarised Annual Report for your information. The centre fold map is the most up to date and will be of benefit to residents and visitors. Council would welcome your feedback on this calendar. I wish one and all a healthy and safe 2010.



Armidales Dumaresq Profile

Local Government Area
Armidales Dumaresq Council

Location:

Part of the New England plateau, which rises to 1,000 m above sea level. From Sydney via New England Highway 567 km, 475 km via Gloucester and Walcha via Thunderbolt Way, 467 km from Brisbane via New England Highway, 256 km from Port Macquarie via Oxley Highway and Thunderbolt Way, 191 km from Coffs Harbour along the Waterfall Way. Armidales is only 2.5 hours by road to the east coast along the scenic Waterfall Way.

Armidales City

Altitude 980 m above sea level

Latitude 30° 31' S Longitude 151° 40' E

Armidales Dumaresq

Population 25,228 (June 2008 figure)

Total area 4,235 km²

Recreational area in city 34.5 km²

Number of rateable properties: 10,051

Transport: Daily air, rail and coach service to and from Sydney. Daily air (via Tamworth) and coach service to Brisbane.

Climate: Four distinct seasons: warm summer with low humidity, mild, colourful autumn, crisp, invigorating winter and pleasant spring. The average maximum monthly temperature in Armidales ranges from 11.5°C in winter through to 24.1°C in summer. The average minimum monthly temperature ranges from -1.8°C to 13.1°C. The average monthly rainfall for Armidales is from 5.4mm to 118.2mm with a mean monthly rainfall of 52mm.

Major Industries: Educational services, fine and superfine wood, merino sheep breeding, cattle and lamb production, fruit, and vineyards. A number of societies for breeds of cattle, and other farmed livestock are represented in Armidales. Improvements in communication infrastructure, including broadband capacity, have encouraged relocation of businesses to Armidales, clustering in industry areas such as Information Technology, education and research.

Other services: Armidales has four employment agencies, five vet clinics, two kennels, a number of support services including housing and counselling. Catering for the boom in development, Armidales has 11 real estate and 11 stock and station agencies.

Education (Armidales Dumaresq area): University of New England, New England Institute of TAFE, six secondary schools, 17 primary schools, nine pre-schools, six child care centres, a number of

home based day care centres, nine play groups, and five other education related organisations. Three of the six secondary schools offer boarding facilities. **Research:** Centre for Agricultural and Environmental research. The University of New England and CSIRO are world leaders in animal genetics.

The University of New England (the first regional university in NSW), together with the Agricultural Business Research Institute (ABRI), the CRC for Cattle and Beef Quality, the CRC for Poultry and the CRC for Australian Sheep Industry and the CSIRO excel in research.

Health: Armidales has a public and a private hospital, as well as an Aboriginal Medical Centre (Pat Dixon Medical Centre). Armidales has eight medical surgeries totalling 30 general practitioners (not including doctors at Pat Dixon Medical Centre), 12 medical specialists, five anaesthetists, 10 private dental practitioners and 3 orthodontists, a number of complementary health practitioners, including psychologists, a psychoeducation assessor, provide a range of alternative health services to the community. Six health and fitness centres, Council has a Health & Wellbeing Project which promotes Armidales as a Centre for Health & Wellbeing.

Tourism: Excellent variety of accommodation and conference centres. Armidales is the gateway to the spectacular scenery along the Waterfall Way and an ideal base for exploring the National Parks. It is within easy reach of several important National Parks including Oxley Wild Rivers, Dunges Gorge, Wollomombi Gorge, Cathedral Rock National Park and the New England National Park.

Plans are progressing for two major tourism attractions, the longest walking track in eastern Australia, travelling along some of the most breathtaking gorge country from Walcha on the Northern Tablelands to Coffs Harbour on the north coast and a motor transport museum.

A sporting and basketball complex of international standard at the Armidales High School as well as a world class water based hockey field and amenity complex at the UNE have been constructed. Esports facilities are being built at the Armidales Sportsground and at the UNE oval. A gymnastic centre has recently been completed.

Arts and Culture: Armidales is the Third City of the Arts. Its New England Regional Art Museum (NERAM) is famous for its Hinton and Coventry Collections and attracts many travelling exhibitions throughout the year. NERAM also houses a Print Museum. The City has eight specialist museums.

Amongst the 35 National Trust listed buildings are excellent examples of works of the famous architect Horbury Hunt. The New England Conservatorium of Music provides first class tuition and a range of cultural pursuits for all age groups.

Economic Development:

Council's updated Local Environmental Plan has included provision for future growth and development in residential, commercial and industrial areas, incorporating expansion of rural residential subdivisions to meet the lifestyle of those with young families. Land has been earmarked for development as an industrial park for more industry in the area.

Armidales has three substantial shopping centres; the Armidales Plaza, Centro Armidales and East Mall Shopping Complex as well as boutique fashion houses in the Mall and arcades. Armidales is now a fashion hub with the availability of most labels offered in the City and shopping in a relaxed atmosphere. Another growth area is in the development of residences for seniors. Currently there are six retirement homes and additions are being built at two of these. As part of its Economic Development program, Council can offer fast tracking on development proposals and a flexible array of economic development incentives. Armidales' water supply has an enormous potential to sustain a substantial increase in population.

History: Originally the Anaiwan were the predominant Aboriginal people in the area around Armidales but many other tribal groups occupied different parts of the region. Their territory is defined by kinships and geographical features such as rivers and mountain ranges. John Oxley, the Surveyor General, conducted his survey in 1817-1818. First settled by Europeans in 1839, Armidales took its name from the Scottish ancestral home of George James MacDonald who was the Commissioner of Crown Lands at the time. The gold rush of the 1850s brought an influx of miners and business people. In 1863, with a population of 950, Armidales was made a municipality and in 1865 with the erection of two very fine cathedrals it became a City. Dumaresq Shire Council was founded in 1912.

In 2000, Dumaresq Shire Council amalgamated with the Armidales City Council and was proclaimed Armidales Dumaresq Council on 21 February 2000 and the inaugural election for Councilors was held on 27 May 2000.

Solar Thermal Air Systems launched in N E

A multi-award-winning range of solar thermal air heating and cooling systems was launched in Armidale on Friday, July 30.

The systems are a solid solution to serious wood smoke pollution issues as well as being able to significantly offset rising costs for space heating and cooling.

"A special package of forty SolaMate systems at wholesale prices have been launched just for New England residents," said Adam Blakester, New England Sustainability Strategy Convenor. "These significant savings are because of the advantages the NESS Farming the Sun community-scale solar initiative, which creates large volume price discounts, that are then passed on to the community."

Solar air heating is an innovative and simple technology. Air is heated by the sun as it passes through a triple glazed panel, and then filtered for air quality. In summer the process reverses to bring cool air in at night. The only power required is a low wattage fan to drive the circulation, providing heating and cooling for the same cost as running a light bulb. The technology works equally well for homes, workplaces and other buildings.

"Residents attending the launch were impressed at just how effective this technology is, even in very cold climates such as ours,"



Armidale Dumaresq Council's Director of Planning and Environmental Services, Stephen Gow; Dave Kennedy (SolaMate, solar air heating); Convenor of the New England Sustainability Strategy, Adam Blakester; and Troy O'Callaghan (SolaMate). Image: Danielli Studios

continued Blakester. "Extensive installations across New Zealand and Tasmania indicate that around half annual heating and cooling can be met."

NESS prioritised sustainable heating due to the need to

addressing serious wood smoke public health issues. This initiative will also contribute to the need for sustainable firewood harvesting.

Farming the Sun is the renewable and sustainable energy stream of the New England Sustainability

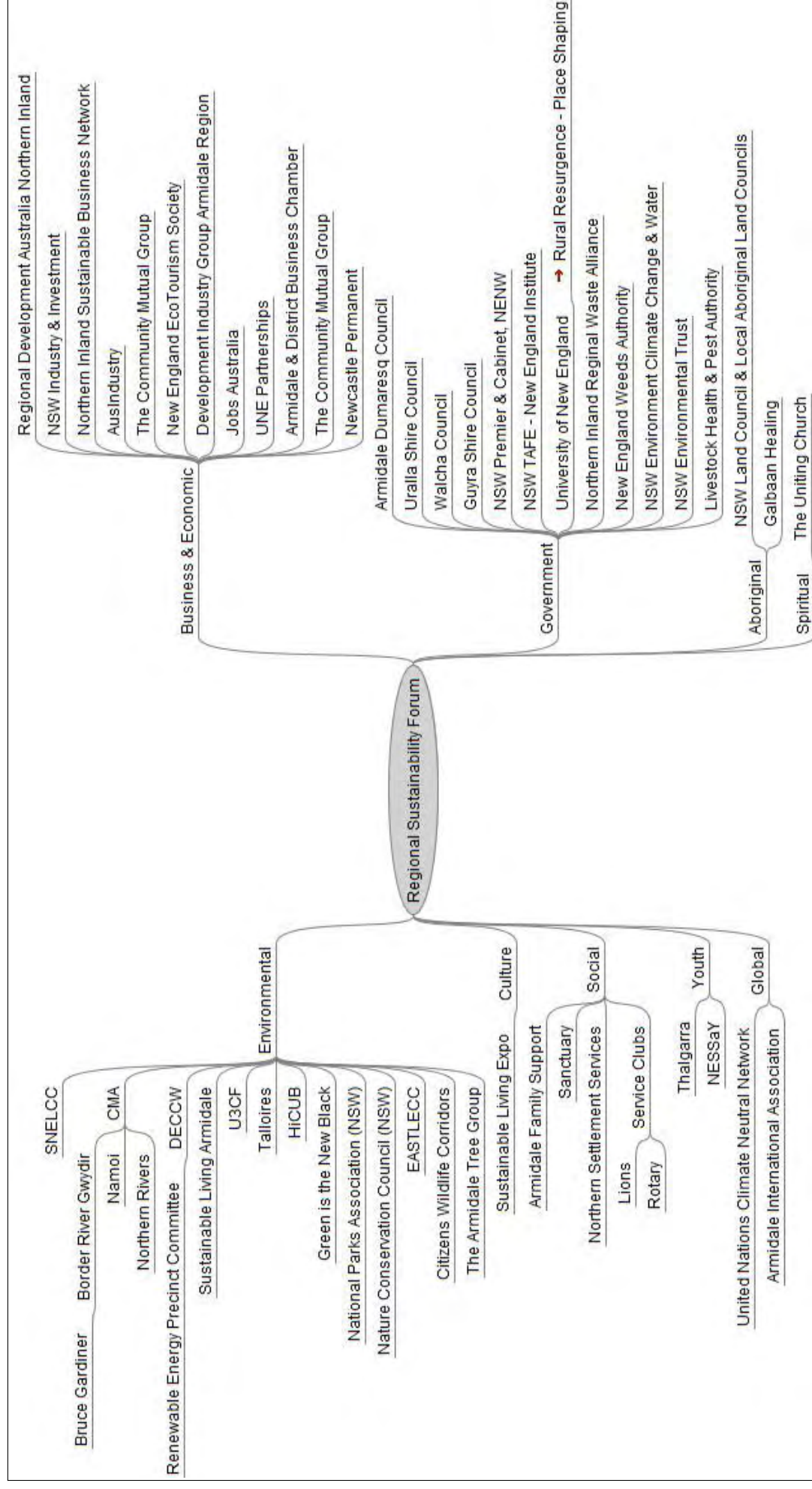
Strategy and has contributed to around a two per cent uptake of solar technology in the last two years alone, with some \$4mil.+ in green business. The solar heating addition builds upon the continuing community savings for solar hot

water and power.

To register interest or find out more details about the new solar thermal air heating and cooling systems please contact Liz Gardiner on 6778-7249 or go to www.ness.wikidot.com.

NESS² Progress Report

Key Stakeholders Mapping



NESS² Progress Report

Finance Report

PROGRESS FINANCIAL REPORT - ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST GRANTS - 2006 ONWARDS

ORGANISATION NAME:

[Evolveris Inc trading as Starfish Enterprises](#)

GRANT NUMBER:

2009/USS/0002

NOTE: The amounts shown below should be GST exclusive.

FUNDS FROM OTHER SOURCES	TOTAL CURRENT APPROVED PROJECT BUDGET				EXPENDITURE TO DATE			DIFFERENCE
	ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST CONTRIBUTION BY YEAR				YOUR EXPENDITURE TO DATE	TRUST EXPENDITURE TO DATE	TOTAL EXPENDITURE TO DATE	
	Yr 1	Yr 2 (If App)	Yr 3 (If App)	WHOLE PROJECT BUDGET				TOTAL UNSPENT FUNDS TO DATE
Direct Project Costs								
Salaries - officer/s	10,000			0	4,000		4,000	6,000
Salary On-Costs				0			0	0
Consultancies	20,000	40,000		40,000	9,059		9,059	50,941
Materials		1,500		1,500	290		290	1,210
Transport Costs		2,500		2,500	750		750	1,750
Insurance				0			0	0
Project Publicity	10,000			0	7,880		7,880	2,120
Other (detail)	50,000	3,500		3,500	16,750		16,750	36,750
Subtotal	90,000	47,500	0	47,500	38,729	0	38,729	98,771
Administration								
General Administration	2,500			0	1,958		1,958	542
Accounting Costs	1,000			0	500		500	500
Project Documentation	2,500	2,500		2,500	1,500		1,500	3,500
Other (detail)				0			0	0
Other (detail)				0			0	0
Subtotal	6,000	2,500	0	2,500	3,958	0	3,958	4,542
TOTAL	96,000	50,000	0	50,000	42,687	0	42,687	103,313

CERTIFIED BY: Adam Blakester

POSITION: Project Manager

DATE:

19/08/2010

Progress Financial Report - Expenditure to Date

Page 1 of 1



Bundarra Community Sustainability Forum & Plan

17 June 2010

The **Rundara** community and surrounding farmers has *survived a 10 year drought* and is ready to get going again. Their plan for regenerating and building a strong, healthy, resilient and sustainable community, water smart agribusiness and new enterprises are detailed over the page.

.....
The town has a well regarded

with committed teachers and a supportive 10:1 student ratio.

They have plans to upgrade their town main street.

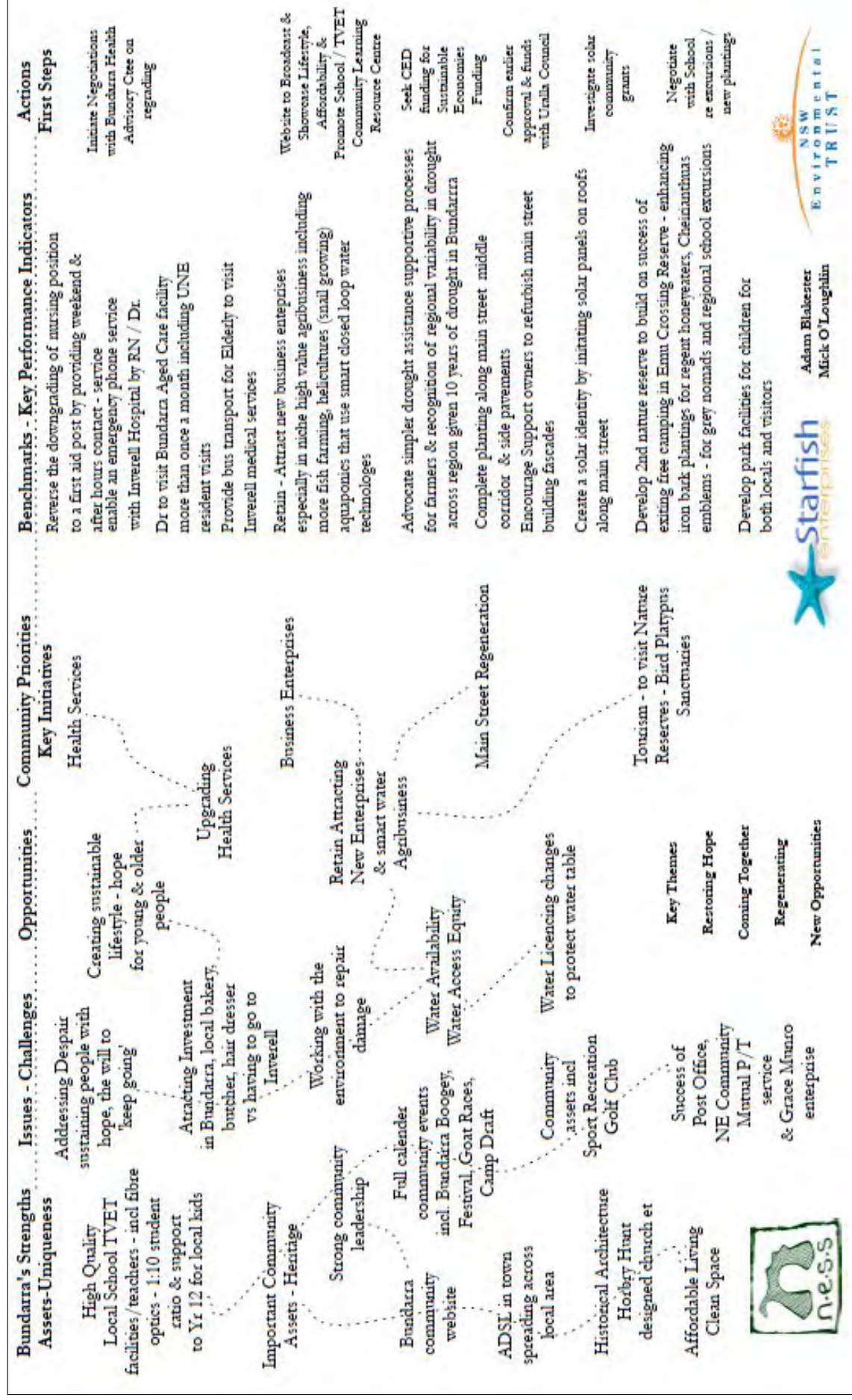
Through addressing the despair and hardship, the Bundarra community are putting ideas into action to create a stronger, healthier, resilient and sustainable place which is attractive to young people, tourists, new and old businesses and instill a will to 'keep going' for all members of the community.

community events including its famous

plus many more highlights and attractions displayed on the Bundarra Community website.

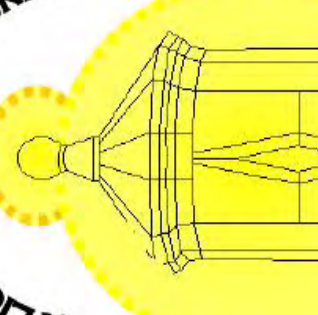
Regeneration
Regeneration

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Uralla Community Sustainability Forum & Plan



A LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITY

URALLA COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY FORUM

22 JUNE 2010

Preserve Identity

Create Employment

Partnerships

Autonomy

Entrepreneurial

Connections

Tourism





THIS IS THEIR STORY...





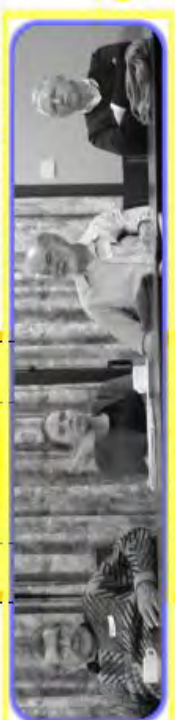
Historical Significance—Future Appeal

Possessing a *Forward Looking* culture, Uralla is ready to meet the challenges present in their community NOW; a *dynamic community*, with lots happening and a rich and viable way of life - creating a sustainable future is about **CONNECTING WITH WHAT IS IN PEOPLE'S HEARTS.**

Highlighting the desire to become a 'Lighthouse Community', Uralla residents attending the 2010 Community Sustainability Forum brought to attention the valuable and unique assets their community has and could provide, and have developed first steps to realise the potential of their ideas...

As a LIGHTHOUSE community, Uralla knows that a sustainable community must **REACH OUT** to support other communities in the Shire: beginning a **VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY...**

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 by Neil Galt



NESS² Progress Report



Adam Blakester
Mick O'Loughlin



NESS² Progress Report

Integrating Local Government Business & NESS

NESS2 - Extending & Completing the New England Sustainable Strategy 2010

Aim: This workshop considered how Councils could design and build more effective 'bridges' across the wide range of sustainable initiatives being undertaken across New England to enhance regional sustainability strategies, reporting and performance.

Who & What Happened: Representatives from the 4 New England LGA's (Guyra, Armidale-Dumaresq, Urala & Walcha), SNELC-HICUB, and the NESS executive, mapped a wide range of innovative sustainability initiatives by both regional stakeholders and Councils. A number of opportunities and issues for Regional Councils were also identified

Conclusions - Recommendations

1. Regional Councils play an important role in initiating, supporting-enabling & availing grants for funding -resourcing sustainable projects in addition to their role in providing economic-social infrastructure & service delivery. Councils play a key role in helping facilitate and outline sustainability guidelines, long-term strategic planning frameworks-reviews and tools.
2. That the wide range of environmental-social-economic regional sustainability initiatives needed to be linked and promoted as a dynamic network of regional sustainability projects and documented in an integrated regional sustainability performance reporting framework.
3. This bridge building' across initiatives could open up new strategic partnerships for accessing resources/funding, enable synergies across initiatives, and enhance community awareness of what is happening with regional sustainability.
4. NESS was seen as helping to 'bring it all together' - to develop storylines around sustainability initiatives in waste, energy etc and collate these initiatives as part of a regional sustainability reporting framework and, as an on-going community involvement, education and awareness raising process around regional sustainability.
5. The key dimensions of a regional sustainability performance framework were seen as sustainable water, energy (renewable efficient), waste, landscape rehabilitation - biodiversity, community engagement- social inclusion, economic-social infrastructure - service delivery and business enterprise development. This framework would be further discussed in the follow-up regional stakeholders roundtable discussion.

Opportunities for

1. Collaboration across Councils in community social planning re youth, women, Indigenous, aged groups & LEP's
2. Identifying what is strategic & most useful for each Council to lead regionally - looking for synergy & reducing duplication - such as ADC's vision to restructure its business to include a sustainability performance team.
3. More Council partnered initiatives along the lines of those identified in the attached 'sustainability initiatives map' including aged care energy efficiency, environmental rehabilitation, water recycling, environmental flows management, community engagement re climate change responses, supporting farmers markets, school community gardens etc. For example, ADC saw the opportunity to improve their environmental management, monitoring & climate change adaptation
4. Better communication within Council around bridging and supporting sustainability initiatives - closing the gap between what is actually going on with what is known to be going (Integrated Reporting framework, State of the Environment report). This will be further developed as part of the Sustainability Community Communications & Engagement Strategy.

Issues for Regional Councils

1. Councils concerns around overcommitting resources & community expectations on sustainable initiatives
2. Responding to State Govt directives & imposed solutions (except planning etc) that are more Sydney-centric, leading to 'homogeneity' and threatening a loss of place - uniqueness across New England.



Workshop on Integrating LGA Planning, Management & Reporting Systems on Regional Initiatives

...to enhance Regional Sustainability Strategies and Stakeholder Performance
28th April 2010 ADC

Workshop Purpose: Develop a replicable model for the integration of NESS, and other similar initiatives such as the Local Adaptation Pathways and Climate Consensus Projects, into local government planning, management and reporting systems

Steve Gow, Paul Crenaune, Bob Furze,
Jackie Bove, Adam Blakester,
Mick O'Loughlin, Rebecca Spence
apologies Gerry Morgan



May 2010

1



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DotNESS (Website)

Completing Ness - NESS - Mozilla Firefox

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http://ness.wikidot.com/completing-ness

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Completing Ness

NESSIE is now coordinating a second stage of work to extend and complete the New England Sustainability Strategy. This work will take place over the twelve months to February 2011.

The key dates and events are:

- 17 June Bundarra Community Sustainability Forum
- 22 June Uralla Community Sustainability Forum
- 14 Sept Guyra Community Sustainability Forum
- 15 Sept Walcha Community Sustainability Forum
- 20 Sept Sustainability Scorecard Workshop (NERAM)
- 7 Nov Awakening the Dreamer Symposium (Armidale)
- 8 Nov New England Sustainability Public Forum (NERAM)

Fuller details of each event is provided below.

Expressions of interest are now being sought for participation in this work, particularly the following major initiatives:

- Participation in Local Sustainability Forums (Walcha, Guyra, Uralla and Bundarra) - of which there are both formal roles (Convenors, Community Representatives) as well as attendance by the wider community;
- Involvement in the development of a New England Sustainability Scorecard and Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Framework, to be collaboratively designed at a New England Sustainability Roundtable. This initiative is particularly seeking to involve key stakeholders, formal organisations and networks; and,
- Attending the second Public Sustainability Forum to be held as part of **SLEX '10**.

More details for each of these initiatives is provided below and here is a visual map of the processes involved. You can click on the map to open

Read First

ness.wikidot.com community protocols and aims

Page tags

climate economic environment global government indigenous neram social sustainability tips youth

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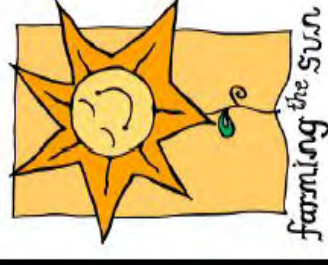
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Status Report – Farming the Sun



Farming the Sun Status Report

- 180+ Pv Systems & 270kW+ – residential, farms, government & business (500% of Baseline)
- 120+ SHW Systems – residential & government
- 145+ Home Sustainability Assessments
- \$4m+ project value
- 4 new solar companies in Region
- Systems 20–50% more affordable
- Training for 30+ tradespeople
- Increased community understanding



NESS² Progress Report

NESS² Communications Strategy

SVm

NESS 2.0 Communications Strategy
Discussion Document
July 2010



Figure 1 High Country Regeneration Logo Mock-Up

Introduction

Social Ventures Media has been asked to provide groundwork for a Communications Strategy for the second stage development of the New England Sustainability Strategy (NESS).

This discussion paper proposes a basic Communications framework that takes into consideration the needs/objectives of NESS 2.0 and the proposed synergies with the High Country Urban Biodiversity Project (HiCUB) currently running in the New England Region.

Supplementary to this paper is the Communications Strategy document for HiCUB

Synergy with HiCUB

A Communications Strategy has been drawn up for HiCUB which addresses general communications needs for the project – and much of that document is available to model the Communications needs and solutions for NESS as the management of NESS seeks to communicate its evolution to NESS 2.0.

It also seeds the branding concept of other existing and future projects that fit under the banner of “High Country” Biodiversity.

The “High Country” branding concept, the communications channels, audiences and some of the HiCUB messaging outlined in that strategy offer shared opportunity for both NESS & HiCUB.

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While HiCUB focuses its activity on the urban environments of Walcha, Uralla, Armidale and Guyra specifically – NESS, through the proposed “High Country Regeneration” project can position itself to promote and advance activity and organisations across the whole of the New England region engaged in both urban and rural Biodiversity regeneration/rehabilitation. In this way it has the potential to brand the ‘Regional Regeneration’ stream of the NESS Foundation Strategy.

The rationale underlying this is that there have been numerous such undertakings in the past – such as Nova Anglica – and there are currently many in progress or in the planning stage and that NESS is the ideal vehicle to promote, document and support these.

Through targeted communications NESS can serve as the information portal/knowledge commons for the region in relation to biodiversity and regeneration. Promoting the High Country brand and HiCUB as a flagship activity are the opportunity for NESS to take up this position.

NESS - Communicating as Whole of Community Enterprise

Currently NESS operates (or seeks to) in these key areas.

- Proposing a governance model for small and large scale Sustainability projects/enterprise based on community input, LGA integration and best practice that is identifiable as particular to the New England Region and its communities.
- Facilitating dialogue, collaboration and partnerships across the region between a diverse range of stakeholders around issues of Sustainability
- Initiating, implementing and supporting large scale Sustainability initiatives – eg Farming the Sun, High Country Regeneration etc
- Providing an information gateway or portal for Sustainability in the New England Region and build a knowledge commons – that harnesses common goals, knowledge and practice in Sustainability for the New England region.

These points and the objectives stated in the Completing NESS documents form the basis of communications for the next phase of work on NESS.

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Additional Context setting

ness.wikidot.com

The initial web presence for NESS was established in 2008, intended as a working example of Web 2.0 technologies.

Its primary purpose was to hold documentation of some of the outcomes of the Public Forum and providing a shared facility for ongoing community use.

Subsequently the site has primarily been used by NESS to promote flagship activities auspiced and initiated by NESS.

As a community venture, there was only a small uptake from the community and that was primarily a short lived use of the forum facility on the site by members of the community.

The site has served well to archive most of NESS activity since 2008.

Subsequent to the forum there has been a marked change and development in how organisations, groups & projects involved with Sustainability issues have employed Communications, including online & digital technologies in the NESS “footprint”.

A stronger and more diverse range of web sites and networks is apparent mid-2010 particularly in the Walcha, Uralla, Armidale Dumaresq and Guyra areas and also in other New England communities

To help further develop and support these and the NESS 2 objectives there is a need to have some kind of centralised and shared portal to these sites and networks.

The Portal/Commons

A significant objective stated for NESS 2.0 which also serves to form the basis of the design for the NESS online presence.

Strategic Communications design requires preliminary work in these areas:

- Restate NESS mission as it is at mid 2010



NESS² Progress Report

- Articulate NESS governance model
- Promotion and branding of NESS, Farming the Sun, High Country Regeneration and Sustainable New England Youth Congress (SNEYC currently aka YOUTH LEADiNG New England Congress)



- Create a significant promotional framework for all New England Sustainability activity - grass roots regeneration of biodiversity, business, eco trade, landcare, renewables development & roll-out, local tech innovation, education etc
- ness.wikidot.com as it stands is archived in the Commons and a new online service be developed and tested there before the NESS 2.0 site is ported to its own appropriate Content Management System and dedicated domain and server
- Establish the framework for community construction of online Knowledge and SkillsBase Commons
- Be instrumental in the GIS mapping and digital documentation of all New England Sustainability activity for a minimum of 3 years
- Facilitate a Development Program to consolidate partnerships, networks and communities of interest - governmental; not-for-profit & NGO sectors; philanthropy & funding agencies; corporate and private sector; service clubs; education, employment and training sectors

Message Modes

Primary mode is **Engagement/Mobilisation** – which seeks to actively engage individuals and groups and organizations in the advocacy for and support and promotion of the New England Sustainability Strategy.

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Key questions:

- Who needs to be mobilised.
- To what purpose?
- What is the call to action?

This does not exclude **Information/Education** and **Promotion/Marketing** modes as part of the Communications Strategies that NESS adopts – and in fact informs these communications modes. The implementation of the strategy will call for shifts in emphasis at different stages of NESS 2.0 development.

Message Design

Key Messaging themes, around which all messaging is designed and clustered.

- Change – NESS 2.0 is a refit to suit the needs of the Sustainability Communities of Interest
- Initiatives (Current and future) – including Sustainability Fund, LGA Integration Model, Sustainability Roundtable & Scorecard and HiCUB Synergy
- Achievements – Both NESS and the New England Region Sustainability activity.

Communications Objectives:

Key Objectives

- Engage & Mobilise
- Change Awareness
- Improve Practice

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Communications Tools

Adoption and adaptation of the HiCUB Community Communications Strategy – (prepared by Social Ventures Media, May – July 2010)

The following are the “landscape” scale processes/campaign architectures

- Marketing & Promotion
- Advocacy campaigns
- Public Relations - Events/Campaigns
- Cultural and Civic participation projects/events
- Public Forums, Community Consultations and presentations
- Community Media and Communications capacity building
- Online Communities through Blogging and Social Networking and other Web 2.0 technologies – eg hicub.posterous.com and blueechidna.blogspot.com, Spatial Vision, Facebook, etc.

Particular, at-hand Channels/Tools are to be identified according to resources, budget and emergent needs. An initial list is to be found in the HiCUB Communication Strategy document.

Media Releases	TV Advertising	Print Advertising features/advertorials
Media Kit	Signs	Education Supplements
Media Invites/VIP Invites	Shop-a-Dockets	Magazines
Radio Advertising	Supermarket trolleys	Newsletters
Radio Interviews/talkback discussion	Milk Cartons	Print News Stories
TV Community Service Announcements	Press Ads	Digital Stories eg <i>Place Stories</i>
Telephone	Email	Online Viral marketing
Other web channels	Web Site	Staff Bulletins/Messaging
Briefing Notes		

NESS² Progress Report

High Country Regeneration(HCR)

A key tool is the High Country Regeneration logo – a visual connection between HCR (and therefore NESS) and HiCUB. using elements of the HiCUB design and colour scheme – the representations of *Eucalyptus Nova Anglica*; the New England Tablelands sectional profile with High Country Regeneration caption.



Figure 6 HCR logo Mock-Up

Target Audiences

As per the HiCUB list – beginning here reinforces the NESS HiCUB Synergies
Identifying additional NESS specific audiences

Based on the existing list in the HiCUB Business Plan:-

- Residents, businesses and community based organisations in the towns of Walcha, Uralla, Armidale and Guyra
- LGAs Walcha, Uralla, Armidale Dumaresq & Guyra Shire Councils and key staff
- HiCUB Funding Application Consortium Members
- NESS Executive and the NESS network including existing sustainability groups
- UNE, TAFE – student & staff bodies, relevant schools, courses and associations (including alumni)
- HiCUB Advisory Committee & Steering Committee
- New England Weeds Authority

NESS² Progress Report





- Northern Inland Regional Waste Alliance
- CMA's – Northern Rivers, Namoi, Border Rivers-Gwydir and their networks
- Livestock Health & Pest Authority and its networks
- SNELCC and its Landcare networks (rural landcare)
- SLEX and participating groups
- Existing Community Groups (both environmental and other clubs, groups and organisations eg Rotary, Lions, Scouts,)
- Indigenous Community groups
- Youth of the four communities (12 yrs - 24yrs) – through Youth Lead – refer NESS
- Primary & High Schools in the four LGA's – Teachers & Students
- National Parks Association
- Other regional and state agencies
- The NSW Environmental Trust & DEWCC
- New members of community – new residents, tree-changers. migrants & international students etc
- Locally based experts, mentors and advisors



NESS² Progress Report

NESS 2.0 Web

Web Portal Design Storyboard Template

	THE NEW ENGLAND SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY			
				

The front end redesign of the NESS site complies with the Web 2.0 principles of:

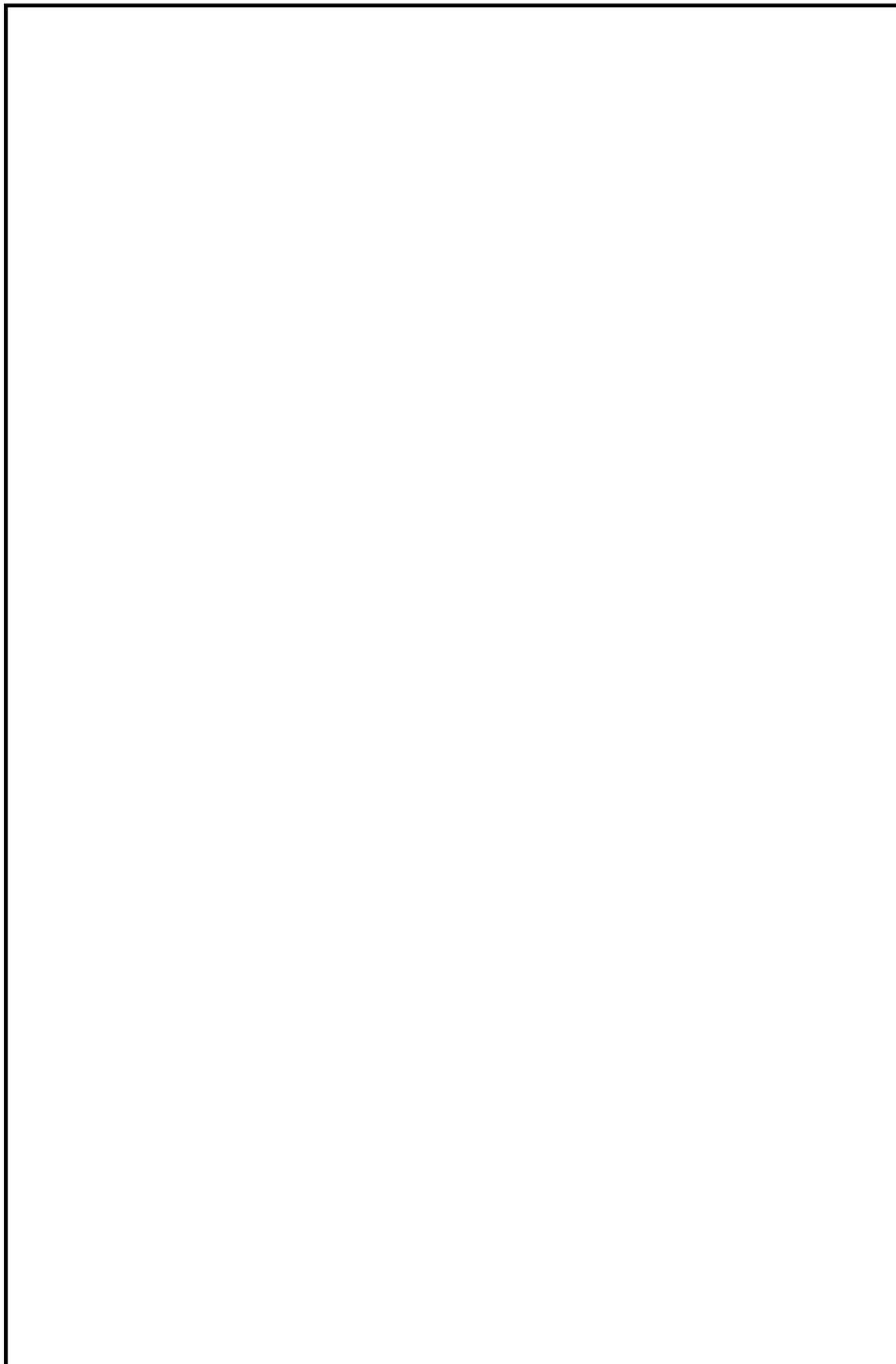
1. being an aggregation of links and feeds offering apparent and visible access to all services and information the site contains
2. User driven functionality
3. User centred design

Initially accommodating the following :

- Link to NESS Governance Model & NESS Mission Statement etc
- Information feeds – eg NEON Calendar,
- Sponsors & partners
- LGA Integration
- Advertising/promotions
- Cross links – eg SLA/Transition Towns,
- Promotions – SLEX
- Major promotions – FTS, HCR & YOUTH LEADIng (rebranded as SNEYC)
- Current Sustainability in New England news and information
- The Commons (Knowledge, Information)
- The Foundation
- User/member contributions

APPENDIX 5

CITIZENS WILDLIFE CORRIDORS
NEWSLETTER 41 (WINTER 2010)



CITIZENS WILDLIFE CORRIDORS ARMIDALE INCORPORATED

Landholders Linking Wildlife Habitats

*A voluntary, not-for-profit charitable
organisation*



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IN THIS ISSUE:

Feral Cats in the Environment –	
David Donnelly	1
Community Web Mapping Portal -	
Tom Barrett	2
Progress with the Imbota Connectivity	
Project – Peter Metcalfe	3
Values of Yellow Box – P. Metcalfe	3-4
Armidale Urban Rivercare Group –	
High Achievers – Angus Adair	4
Improving Biodiversity on Your Farm	4
Did You Know?	5
Book Review – ‘Requiem for a Species:	
‘Why We Resist The Truth About Climate	
Change’ by Clive Hamilton.	5
Protection of Old Growth Woodland on	
Armidale Walking Track	6
The P20P2020 Project – Renewable Power	
To People – Tara Cameron	6
Armidale Birdwatching	7
Community Partnership Account –	
New England Mutual	7
Kentucky Tree Nursery	7
The Grass Routes: heritage – habitat –	
Livelihood – Adam Blakester	7
CWC Aims	8
Membership Form	8

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE:
1ST July. See Page 8 for Form.

FERAL CATS IN THE ENVIRONMENT

It costs little to reduce the damage

A Farmer’s Perspective

David Donnelly, Glen Innes

The issue of the extent of feral cat populations around urban areas and beyond into farmland and native timber areas is very often ignored and certainly understated. Whilst a huge effort has been applied to revegetate strategic portions of open landscapes on the tablelands, the threats to native wildlife remain. Fortunately there have been some recent advances in publicising the issue with a local effort at Glen Innes by GLENRAC and by the Invasive Animals Co-operative Research Centre at a state level.

There are a number of low cost measures that urban communities, Landcare groups and individual landholders can employ. These include:

- The development of an awareness strategy (as developed by GLENRAC)
- Co-operative involvement agencies
- Integrated control programs with other pest animals species
- Landholder arrangements with sporting shooters
- Trapping
- Discussions with the NSW Game Council.








In my own case, I have found our sporting shooters to be quite dedicated to the task of reducing the feral cat problem and as a result the numbers of feral cats have been reduced considerably. It is pleasing to find reduced evidence of bird kills and greater numbers of small birds returning.

The cost of the control program is minimal and these results can be enhanced when an integrated pest animal and blackberry control program is implemented.

The Community Web Mapping Portal

A fun and easy way to record wildlife sightings and conservation activities

The Community Web Mapping Portal (<http://cwmp.spatialvision.com.au>) is a fun and easy way for anyone to record and share wildlife observations and other conservation activities with others – and you don't have to be a scientist or work for the government to use it! The portal has been developed as part of the Victorian Connecting Country project led by the Friends of the Box-Ironbark Forest community group. Spatial Vision, the company that built the portal, has kindly agreed for the portal to be promoted and used by: Citizen's Wildlife Corridors (CWC), Southern New England Land Care and the Armidale Tree Group and is also supporting a CWC led funding bid to run a trial and assessment of the portal's use.

The portal uses a Google Map format so you can navigate to your area using a cadastral map background (roads towns etc.), a satellite image or even a 3D Google Earth backdrop. There is also a quick link to our region by selecting 'Southern New England' centred on Armidale, or the larger 'North East NSW', from the drop-down list on the bottom left corner. When you register you can add labels, in the form of picture icons, to the map that indicate where you; saw a native animal  or plant  or weed . You then have the chance to record what you saw and other details such as the observer and the date. In addition you can add links to other web sites that provide the viewer with more detailed information about the animal or plant. The other types of labels you can add include; revegetation sites , remnant bushland sites , significant sites  (historic sites for example) and the location and contact details of a community group  such as a Landcare. You can also click on 'Help', above the map, to view the clear and easy to use manual to help you get started.

For example, on a recent trip out to a local Travelling Stock Route (TSR) near Armidale my son and I were amazed to witness a magnificent White-bellied Sea Eagle soar past us and perch in a nearby tree. If you go to the portal and enter "sea eagle" in the search box and click the [Search] button this site should come up in the list, it is

called 'TSR on Gara River', if you click on this site (in the search results) you can see the observation details. You can then zoom in to see exactly where the observation was made. By clicking on the 'Links' tab you can see that I've added a couple of links to informative websites if you want to learn more about the White-bellied Sea Eagle.

For those of you who enjoy spotting and identifying native animals and plants, whether you live on a property, in town or go on weekend picnics in the bush, I would encourage you to register and add your sightings and conservation activities to the portal. By recording our observations we will start to build up a picture of all the amazing and unique plants and animals that inhabit or migrate through the New England Tablelands. This presents another way for anyone to contribute to the conservation of our native species. Animal and plant surveys undertaken by ecologists are very expensive and tend to be mainly on public lands such as National Parks or along roads, few surveys are undertaken on private lands. For this reason we know less about the native plants and animals in these areas and your observations will help fill this gap. With the new threat of climate change scientists now believe that protecting and enhancing native habitats outside National Parks will be critically important for the survival of many species as they are forced to move and/or adapt to changing conditions.

I've just started using the portal and I find that I tend to add observations of animals that are a bit unusual or of particular interest to me. I believe that it would also be useful to have the options to be able to add a 'list' of sightings made at a single location and I've made this suggestion to the web site developers.

I hope you will get as much enjoyment out of using the portal as I have and I can't wait to see more observations and conservation actions appearing in the New England Tablelands. Please contact me if you have any queries or suggestions about the portal and its use.

Tom Barrett, Email: tom_wb@yahoo.com

PROGRESS WITH THE IMBOTA - previously Eastwood State Forest - CONNECTIVITY PROJECT

By Peter Metcalfe

In late 2009 Northern Rivers CMA provided funds to the Armidale Tree Group for a project to increase the connectivity of Imbota Nature Reserve to nearby remnant vegetation. Landholders to the east of Armidale in the vicinity of Imbota NR have responded enthusiastically and over 20 landholders have expressed interest in helping develop the connectivity to this island of vegetation.

This project is focused on the Yellow Box – Blakely's Redgum woodland which is classed as an endangered ecosystem. This type of vegetation was once widespread from Queensland to Victoria. Being on better class soils this vegetation was heavily cleared for agriculture and less than 1% of the estimated original area remains. Imbota Nature Reserve is very important because it is one of the few areas of Yellow Box – Redgum woodland that is protected in a reserve or national park.

Staff of Armidale Tree Group and Southern New England Landcare have had discussions with Bruce Watsford, a field officer for *Greenfleet*, a registered non-profit, environmental charity that aims to reduce the impacts of greenhouse gas emissions from transport industries [and also private car users].

Since 1997 *Greenfleet* has planted more than five million native trees across Australia.

Greenfleet is looking for landholders right across Northern Tablelands who are planning environmental plantings on their properties in the coming years. In exchange for a share of the future carbon sequestration benefits *Greenfleet* will fund the supply and planting of seedlings for environmental plantings.

Armidale Tree Group is particularly keen to work with *Greenfleet* to extend plantings of native species reaching out from Imbota Nature Reserve.

Anyone interested in participating with *Greenfleet* to plant areas of native vegetation on their properties please

contact Armidale Tree Group (6771 1620) or SNELCC (6772 9123) for further information.

THE VALUES OF YELLOW BOX By Peter Metcalfe

Yellow Box (*Eucalyptus melliodora*) melli=sweet, odora=smelling is well named. It has long been recognised as one of the best multiple-use eucalypts of eastern Australia. Yellow Box is a magnificent nectar producing tree. It flowers for months and provides a wonderful flow of nectar and plenty of pollen that is attractive to many species of honeyeaters and also lorikeets and woodswallows. Besides the birds, many insects utilise this food source. Native bees, wasps, butterflies and a myriad of little flies and beetles visit by day and by night glider possums, moths and nectar bats (so called flying foxes) visit for nectar and pollen. Yellow Box honey is recognised for its flavour and clarity and this species still plays an important role in honey production state-wide.

Yellow Box is a key-stone species in New England as it fills a large and vital few months in the annual cycle of nectar production that the resident honeyeaters rely upon. Stringybarks, Blakely's Redgum, New England Peppermint and White Gum or Ribbon Gum (*Eucalyptus viminalis*) also have a role to play in the nectar supply but a minor one compared to Yellow Box. Mistletoes too supply nectar and make an important contribution at a time of the year when few trees are flowering.

The leaves of Yellow Box are eaten by koalas and possums. Unfortunately Christmas beetles also eat their leaves but not the same level of defoliation suffered by New England Peppermint. Annoyingly, rosellas nip the flowers right off, seeking the nectar and pollen. Rosellas are not equipped with brush tongues like the better adapted lorikeets which merely run the flowers through their beaks and leave the blossoms to produce nectar for days. Yellow Box is a very durable hardwood, much sought after as fence posts. I have 100 year old stumps that are still quite

Values of Yellow Box continued.

sound where nearby redgum stumps have rotted away and peppermint stumps have long vanished. It is also a premium firewood. If it can be said to have a fault Yellow Box does not rot out to produce nesting holes for birds and possums like softer trees.

The pioneers quickly came to recognise 'Yellow Box Country' as a landscape where the rainfall was good and the soils were generally of reasonable fertility. This is why the species was almost cleared to extinction across its range from Victoria to Queensland. Very little of this species is represented in national parks or nature reserves as yellow box country was taken up by farmers and graziers long before national parks were thought of.

Yellow Box is a tree suitable for planting mid-slope across Northern Tablelands where it fits with Redgums below the Stringybarks on the ridges and above the Ribbon gums and Peppermints on the lower slope and Snow Gums and Black Saltees in the frost hollows. Because of all its good features Yellow Box should be included in all plantings on suitable sites.

ARMIDALE URBAN RIVERCARE GROUP - HIGH ACHIEVERS!

By Angus Adair, AURG.

Thank you to all involved in another successful tree planting day at Elizabeth Park over the past few months.

To give you an idea, here is a list of plantings done along Dumaresq Creek since September 2009:

- . 6 September: AURG National Tree Planting Day, Ken Jones Park – 2000 plants.
- . 21 September 2009: GreenCorp, Ken Jones Park western side – 900 plants.
- . 18 October 2009: AURG, Greens, Socialist and SLA planting day, Elizabeth Park, west of creek – 1000 plants.
- . 30 October 2009: Mike on behalf of AURG with Robb College, Elizabeth Park – 1500 trees
- . 22 November 2009: AURG planting day, Elizabeth Park, west of creek – 500 trees.
- . There were a further 7,000 plants planted along Dumaresq Creek by Armidale Tree Group as contractors to

SNELCC and Armidale Dumaresq Council. **4**

By Christmas we had about 13,000 natives planted along Dumaresq Creek from St Peters Pre-School to Douglas Street. What an amazing effort!

As most of you will be aware, this planting program is part of a larger planting program that the AURG has helped develop.

A special thanks to the Armidale Tree Group for their efforts to get the remaining trees in the ground!

A special mention must go to Jackie Bowe from SNELCC for her help in getting HiCUB funding to complete the planting and Mike Jarochowicz for coming in and taking some of the load off me. Their contributions cannot be understated and is hugely appreciated!

As always, huge thanks to the Armidale Dumaresq Lions Club for their continued support of the AURG and its activities. Having a nice cup of tea and a sausage sizzle makes all the efforts very much easier.

I hope I have not missed anyone in the "special thanks". If I have you know who you are and you will know how grateful I and the group are for your contributions. Again a huge thankyou to all those that have been involved in any small way. The accumulation of all this effort has been one of the most successful planting programs held by the AURG ever!

From: *Landchat*, No.74, Jan-Feb 2010.

IMPROVING BIODIVERSITY ON YOUR FARM

This project is the New England National Reserve System project which is a partnership between Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority, Nature Conservation Trust, Department of Environment Climate Change and Water and the Department of Environment Water Heritage and Arts.

The long-term well being of Australia's birds and animals relies largely on the presence of a diverse range of trees and plants which provide

them with food and shelter. To provide the best possible habitat, most native vegetation communities should contain standing dead timber, trees with hollows (big and small), and logs and rocks lying on the ground. Today, healthy examples of many of the native vegetation communities on the Northern Tablelands can only be found in small pockets, making their retention even more important.

In 2010, Northern Rivers CMA and partner organisations are holding information sessions to help landholders identify and manage vegetation of high conservation value on their properties. In the coming weeks, Warwick Browne will be participating in field days across the Northern Tablelands as part of this initiative.

If you want more information regarding these opportunities contact Warwick at Northern Rivers CMA, Armidale on 02 6771 3450.

DID YOU KNOW?

From *Releaf*, Spring 2009, No.12.

Since the beginning of life on earth, it is estimated that of the 30 billion species that have existed, only a tiny 0.01% of them are still living on earth today. This is due to extinctions, where every member of a species is lost.

The earth has witnessed several mass extinctions over time, the most recent resulting in the loss of the dinosaurs around 65 million years ago. However, many biologists believe that we are currently in the middle of another mass extinction period and, that due to human impact, we could expect to lose up to half of all species within the next 100 years.

Australia's landscapes and species have been severely impacted over the past 200 years with the loss of their natural bushland habitat. **Australia has the worst**

record of mammal extinction in the world. Incredibly, half the mammals that have become extinct globally in the last 200 years have been Australian species.

We cannot afford to let more of our unique plants and animals disappear forever, so it is essential that we protect our 'threatened species' because these are the ones that are likely to become extinct within the near future.

In Wildlife & Native Plants Study Group Newsletter, Spring 2009-Summer 2009/10, Issue 63.

BOOK REVIEW

'Requiem For A Species: Why We Resist the Truth About Climate Change', by Clive Hamilton.

Over the past five years, almost every advance in climate science has painted a more disturbing picture of the future. The reluctant conclusion of the most eminent climate scientists is that the world is now on a path to a catastrophic future and it is too late to stop it. This book is about WHY we have ignored those warnings.

A timely look at the major players in clean technology and what we stand to gain from them if we put the time energy and money into them that they require to develop. This brilliant concise and clear-eyed account has it about right. Ten technologies could save the planet. *Review from Australian Wildlife E-news (Wildlife Preservation Society of Australia)*

'Requiem for a Species' magnificently captures the idea that by and large, none of us want to believe that climate change is real. It explains our inability to seriously weigh the evidence of climate change and to take appropriate action to ensure our own survival.' – *Tim Costello, CEO, World Vision Australia.*

'Clive Hamilton, as usual, has courageously challenged the current nature of our society in this inspirational new book.' – *Graeme Pearman, former head of the CSIRO Division of Atmospheric Research.*

From: *Hut News* No.268, March, 1010, p.11.

PROTECTION OF OLD GROWTH WOODLAND ON ARMIDALE WALKING TRACK

Newcastle Permanent Charitable Foundation granted Citizens Wildlife Corridors Armidale Inc a generous grant of \$7500 to erect three enclosures and enrich with plantings, a section of Armidale Walking Track.

About 60 Walkers per day were being harassed by unauthorised trail bike riders and 4WD vehicles and the wildlife habitat was being damaged on these 'paper roads' so, eventually, with the assistance of Rodney O'Brien in Armidale Lands Department and Richard Morsley from Armidale Dumaresq Council an extension to the Armidale Walking Track was made so that an additional enclosure, financed by CWC, was added to the original project.

Now a total of 2.7 km of the Walking Track has been enclosed and the result has protected the Walkers and the wildlife habitat from unauthorised vehicular traffic. CWC is very grateful to the Newcastle Permanent Charitable Foundation for their generous grant to protect this old growth woodland. It adds considerably to the wildlife corridors in Blue Wren Road and the adjoining unnamed lane and also links private plantings and areas of protection already established in that region creating valuable wildlife habitat.

Manager, Judith Hansen with John Murrell of Newcastle Permanent Armidale Branch inspecting the enclosure at Blue Wren Road Walking Track.



THE P20P2020 PROJECT- RENEWABLE POWER TO PEOPLE

By Tara Cameron in *Hut News*, No.270, May 2010, page 3.

We have learnt about an exciting plan to get 100% renewable energy by 2020, funded by Australians. At this stage subscribers just show support by registering for email updates on the website. Nothing more than that!

The aim is to gather 20,000 subscribers prior to an anticipated public launch. If the group can gather 2 million + Australians behind the vision of 100% renewable electricity for Australia by 2020, they will then move to Step 2 – the economic and business proof. Armed with that, they plan to launch a private company that sees Australians who partake owning an equal share. From there, shareholders can divert a proportion of their Superannuation based upon the final business case.

Many Consoc members, including myself, are registering for email updates. To find about more and register, go to <http://www.p2p2020.com/>

Judith Hansen & John Merrill at planting site of Armidale Walking Track. Photo: K. Wray.



ARMIDALE BIRDWATCHING

The Armidale Birdwatching group is an informal organisation of people who enjoy birdwatching. Regular outings occur on the first Sunday of the month except January, Easter Sunday and July; there are extra events as well.

Anyone wishing to join the group should phone -

Shirley Cook: 02 6772 7262 or
email: shirleycook1@bigpond.com.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP ACCOUNT

New England Mutual
Formerly New England Credit Union

Citizens Wildlife Corridors have now registered with the New England Mutual to become a recipient organisation of the Community Partnership Account. This account is a savings account that allows our supporters to raise funds on our behalf without it costing any time or money. You can simply open a Community Partnership Account and specify that you would like Citizens Wildlife Corridors to become your recipient organisation.

The account operates the same as any normal transaction account, however, at the end of each financial year New England Mutual donates the equivalent of 1% of the average balances held by our supporters.

New England Mutual provides direct financial assistance to many different community groups and this is a great way to assist in meeting the fundraising needs for Citizens Wildlife Corridors.

For more information, just go into the Armidale Branch of the New England Mutual, or call 132 067.

KENTUCKY TREE NURSERY

Hiko seedlings
Native trees & shrubs
Shade, shelter, erosion control
Wildlife habitat
Cartons & stakes
Planting tools
Advice
Contract planting
Catalogues available

Chris & Maria Eveleigh

Dandloo Kentucky NSW 2354
Tel 6778 7342 fax 6778 7434
Cs.ma.eveleigh@bigpond.com.

THE GRASS ROUTES **heritage – habitat – livelihood**

Citizens Wildlife Corridors has joined with others to create a unique Australia-wide network of bush corridors. These 'grass routes' are essential to protecting our heritage and native habitats, as well as providing areas for sustainable livelihoods. To achieve this vision requires a ground swell of action from all Australians – citizens, organisations, businesses, scientists, drovers, politicians and more – to collaborate and contribute towards the conservation, regeneration and sustainability of our unique bush corridors. In short we need your help to create a truly Australian grass routes movement! The Grass Routes has been launched with a \$3 seed Pack awareness and fund-raising campaign including Kangaroo Grass – a mascot for the need to regenerate seriously depleted native habitats across Australia. Proceeds from these Seed Packs are being invested equally towards:

- . Work on local bush corridors;
- . Building Support, partnerships and shared resources like our website; and,
- . Reinvesting into future awareness and fund raising initiatives.

For more information about Grass Routes, to buy or sell \$3 Seed Packs, or get involved in some other way contact:

Adam Blakester Ph. 02 6775 2501
Mob. 0419 808 900
adam@paradigmplay.net

CITIZENS WILDLIFE CORRIDORS' AIMS

8

CWC encourages landholders, whether householders in towns, hobby farmers or broadacre farmers to consider their land as wildlife habitat of some kind. We invite them all to be part of a network of wildlife corridors right across the Northern Tablelands and elsewhere. Members' properties provide wildlife linkages within their property boundaries as well as providing linkages to adjoining properties, State Forests, National Parks or Travelling Stock Routes and Reserves, through bushland patches or with built and planted corridors. This helps to provide means for native birds and animals to move more safely to interbreed which will help prevent gene pool deterioration caused by isolation and inbreeding. By providing more wildlife habitat it will help turn the tide of the serious extinctions happening here at present.

About 75% of all wildlife inhabit the soil. To help make the soil-wildlife (biota) flourish and the soil to become richer, hold more moisture and be more productive for agriculture, we encourage the feeding of these microscopic organisms with organic material (carbon) such as spent grasses, roots, leaves, manure, fallen branches etc or compost. In turn the soil biota enrich the soil with their minute amounts of manure but when you consider that there are millions of them in a teaspoon of soil, this is no small amount. Vegetation cover including grasses, shrubs and trees, is also encouraged to assist this process and to arrest soil loss by erosion, wind and water.

The other 25% of wildlife lives on top of the soil or above it. All the visible wildlife such as birds, animals and insects need food and shelter too. We encourage the growing of more native trees and many more shrubs, especially for the little birds that need dense vegetation to be safe from predation by the more aggressive larger birds. One tree can support up to 1500 species of insects to feed birds.

GRANTS: If you would like to access grant funds to provide habitat for birds and native animals and incidentally to protect domestic pastures and livestock then please contact us.

CWC TRACK RECORD over the last eight years: CWC has now been operating for over 18 years. During the last 8 years 57 of our hundreds of members have, with grant subsidies –

- . planted 65,548 local indigenous shrubs and trees
- . protected from stock and erosion with fencing 18.4 kilometres of streams and their riparian (streamside) areas to improve water quality
- . protected from stock damage with fencing 218 hectares of native bushland remnants for wildlife habitat
- . built 15 kilometres x 30 metres wide and planted as wildlife corridors to link to native bushland remnants, and
- . published a 44 page monitoring report, with ISBN, as well as an abridged edition for landholders, with additional assistance from some of the CWC members' donations.

CWC PUBLIC FUND has been set up to encourage people to give tax deductible donations to CWC to help extend its activities to fill the 'gap' between private initiatives and the work made possible by grants. This may include the strategic purchase of land to further consolidate the network of linkages of wildlife habitats across the Northern Tablelands, as well as other measures to secure the continuity of the work of CWC.

Donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible. Do please consider making a donation that will be very much appreciated.

Thanking you for your continued support that makes the continuing work of CWC possible.

Cut here.....

MEMBERSHIP/SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Annual fee of \$10 is due on 1 July annually.

Name and Address

- ☐ Please note my change of address
- ☐ Please remove my name from the CWC mailing list.
- ☐ I would like to see the CWC maps to see where my property fits into the scheme. Please contact me to arrange an appointment. Phone:

Enclose please find: ☐ Cheque ☐ Money Order (payable to CWC or Citizens Wildlife Corridors, being payment for

☐ **Membership: due 1 July annually, \$10 including GST)** \$

☐ **Donation to CWC Public Fund (donations of \$2 and over are Tax deductible.)** \$

TOTAL: \$

Please return to Citizens Wildlife Corridors, 7 Merinda Place, Armidale, 2350

ABN 92 296 337 296. Thank you for your stamp and envelope. Your official receipts will be forwarded in your next Newsletter unless you have enclosed a stamped, self addressed envelope.

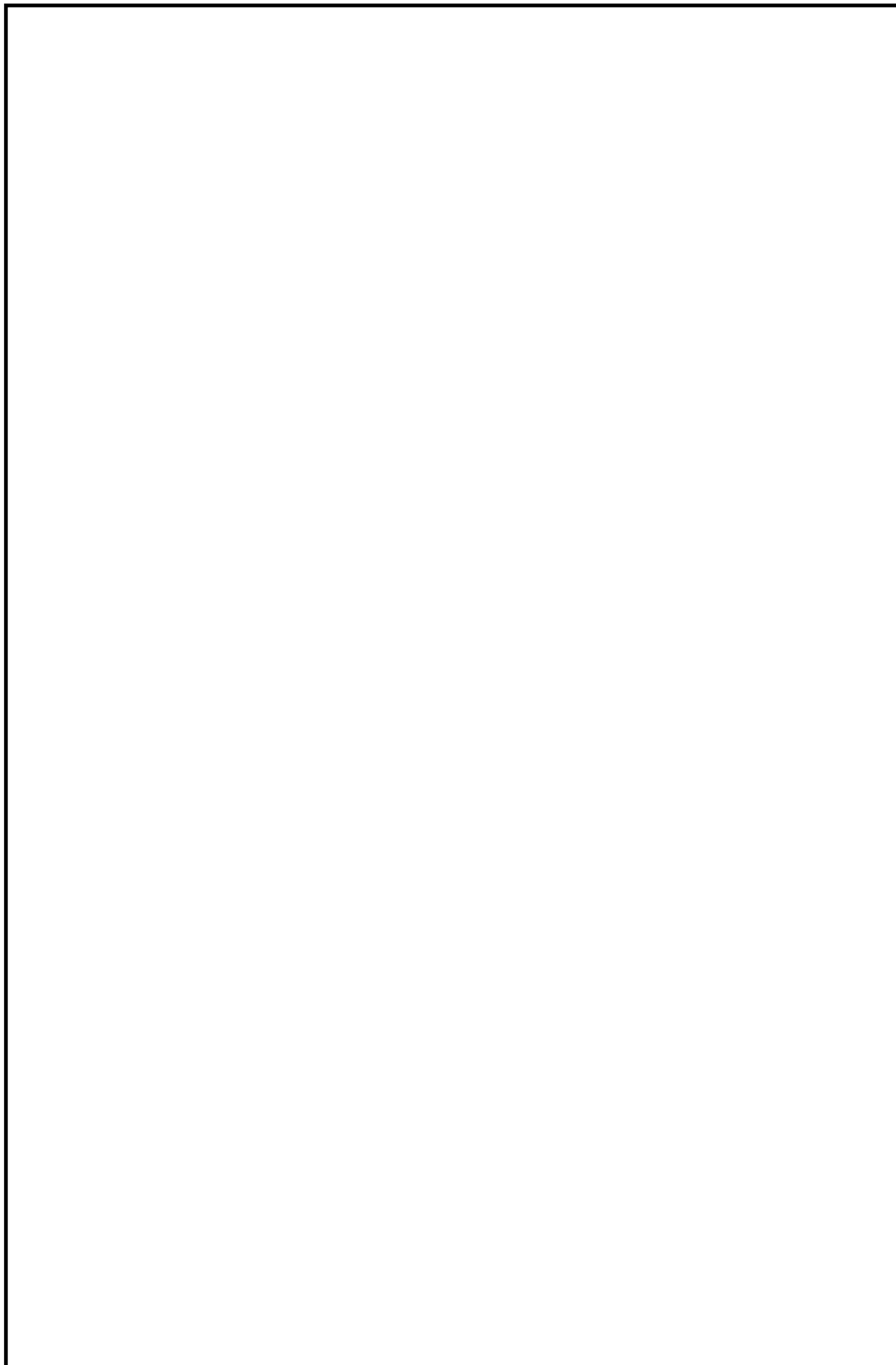
URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

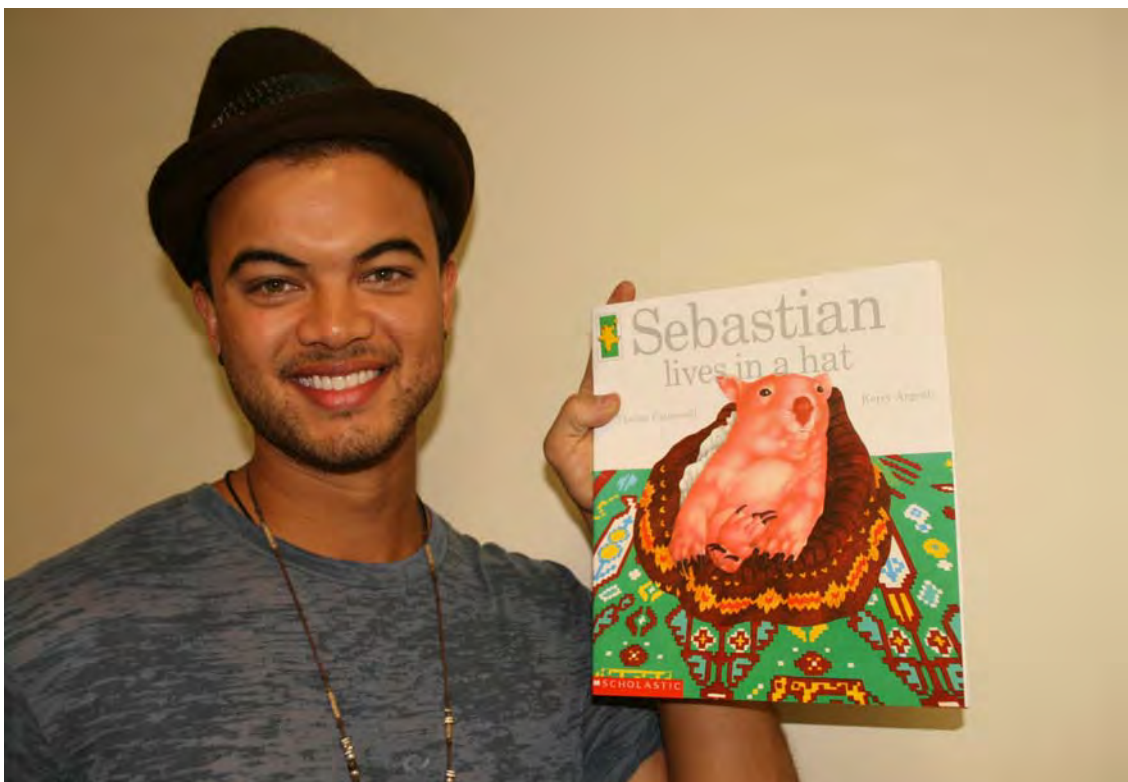
2010

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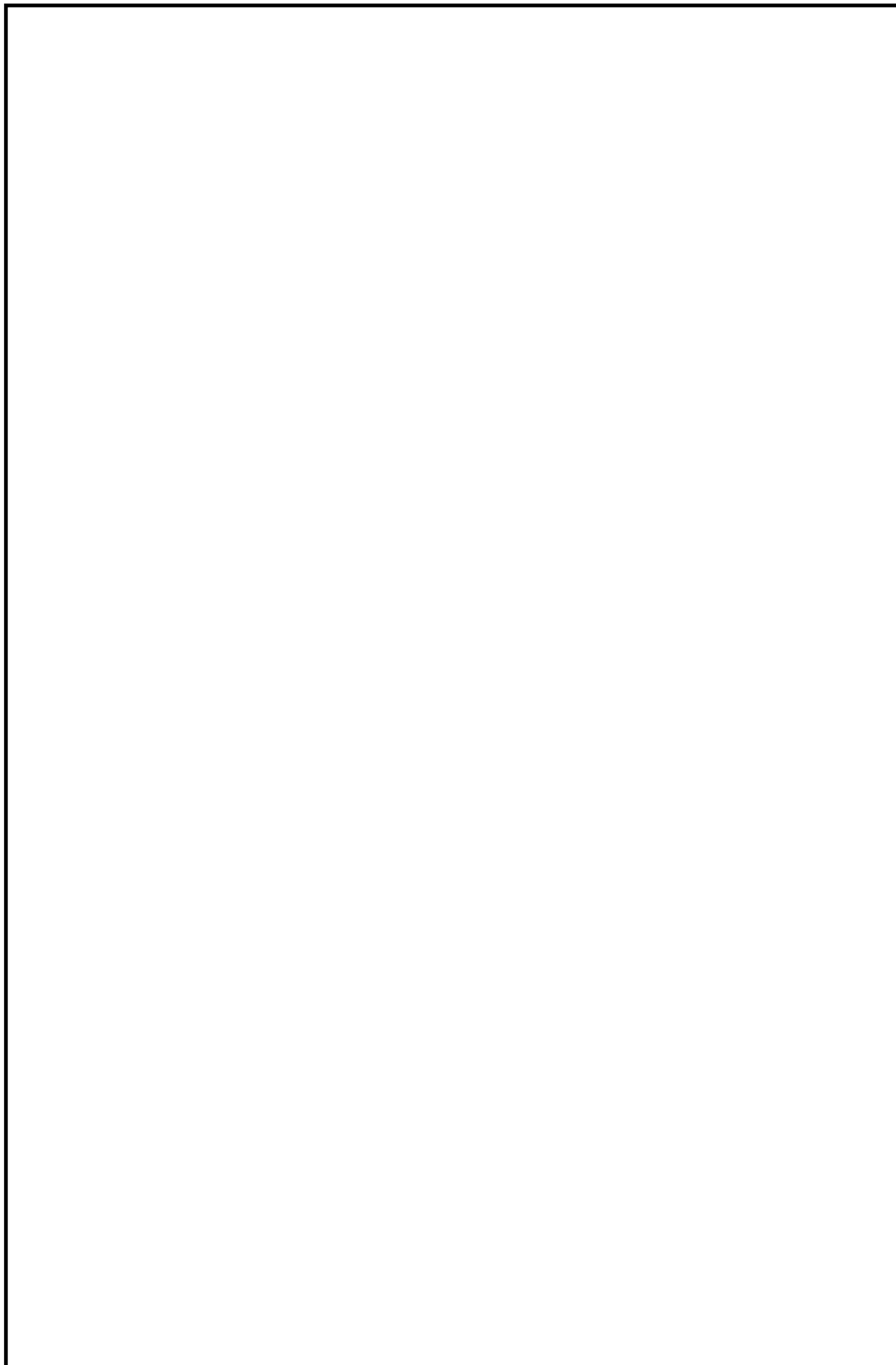
CENTRAL NORTHERN REGIONAL LIBRARIES



Annual Report 2009/2010



central northern
regional library



Contents

Vision Statement & List of Delegates ***Overleaf***

CNRL Annual Report 2009-10 ***Pages A1-A6***

LGA/Branch Library Reports- ***Pages LGA1– LGA13***

CNRL Annual Statistics Pages S1-S13

Loans by LGA/Branch S1

Reservations S2

Membership S3

Loans by Collection/ Branch S4-S6

Stock by Collection/ Branch S7-S9

Acquisitions, Donations & Withdrawals S10

New Items S11

Stock Turnover S12

Public Access Computer Bookings S13

Staff List Appendix 1

CNRL Vision Statement

CNRL councils build community by providing virtual and physical gathering places that foster lifelong learning, literacy, intellectual recreation and participation.

Participating Councils

Library Delegate

Liverpool Plains Shire Council

Cr Colleen Wills

Narrabri Shire Council

Cr Ron Lowder

Tamworth Regional Council

Cr Helen Tickle

Uralla Shire Council

Cr Karen Dusting

Walcha Council

***Cr Bill Heazlett (Mayor)
(CNRL Chairman)***

Central Northern Regional Library 2009-10



New 5 Year Strategic Plan for CNRL:

The new five year plan (July 2010 - June 2015) was developed by the CNRL library management team with input from staff in the CNRL participating local government areas. It attempts to lead the CNRL service forward by being responsive to local needs, facilitating community connections and providing information and recreation resources in both the physical and online environment. It acknowledges that a modern regional library service must be responsive to change in order to remain current and relevant to the communities it serves.

The plan has five themes and these are set out in the strategy map below:

Libraries as community builders	Libraries as online community	Maximizing value of technology	Flexible, team oriented and skilled staff	Responsible finance & governance
1.1 Libraries are well sited, contemporary, accessible and appropriate to each community	2.1 The library website encourages user participation and local content	3.1 Technology meets community and industry expectations	4.1 Staff are aligned with strategic outcomes	5.1 CNRL Committee kept informed and participate in policy making and strategic planning
1.2 Branch libraries are flexible spaces with multi format content, learning events and diverse programming			4.2 There is a culture of learning and staff are skilled and confident	5.2 Systems, processes and performance regularly reviewed
1.3 Library services are inclusive				5.3 Funding is maximized and budget/ asset management is realistic and sustainable
1.4. The regional library is tuned into the communities it serves and responsive to local needs				

From September 2010 the CNRL quarterly reports and annual reports will have a new format that reflects the themes and outcomes identified in the new strategic plan.

Systems and Technology:

- The scheduled upgrade of the Library Management System took place in January / February 2010.
- Improvements to the CNRL website have continued with an increase in the number of podcasts on the site. The highlight this year was the introduction of Clipper DL downloadable audio books. There were **320,946** visits to the CNRL website this year.
- A new self check facility was installed at Manilla Library.
- **103,660** public access Internet bookings were made at CNRL libraries in 2009-10.

Introduction of e-Audio:

E-Audio was introduced in CNRL for the first time in February 2010. The service offers 573 titles and allows simultaneous access to each title. 501 items were downloaded by CNRL users from February to June 2010. CNRL was the first library in Australia to offer the Wavesound Clipper DL service. E-Audio allows library members to access (with a PIN) and download talking books from the library website onto their personal MP3 player. This service can be accessed from home 24/7 and is available across the entire CNRL region. Staff have provided support to borrowers using the service at Wee Waa, Walcha, Nundle, Narrabri and Tamworth. Tamworth has also used the service with some Home Library Service clients. Some clients require basic training to use the service for the first time. The service can provide clients with greater independence.

Nintendo Wii:

Tamworth Regional Council introduced Nintendo Wii at Tamworth, Barraba, Manilla, Kootingal, and Nundle branches. The service is available for youth after 3pm on school days and anytime on Saturday or school holidays. Adults can use Nintendo Wii at anytime during open hours. The service has been particularly popular at Tamworth, Manilla and Kootingal. Games are rotated between branches. Kootingal library has used Nintendo Wii competitions to attract young people to the library during school holidays. Nintendo Wii has also been promoted to the stroke recovery support group.



Library Development Grants:

Two Library Development Grant applications were submitted in the CNRL region this year and both were successful.

Liverpool Plains - \$23,289

To upgrade library technology including ten new computers, wireless Internet, printers and furniture for Werris Creek and Quirindi libraries.

Walcha - \$37,665

Upgrade library facilities including new furniture, fittings, carpet, computers and wireless hotspot.

Circulation:

LGA	Stock per Capita	Loans per Capita
Liverpool Plains	1.80	4.1
Narrabri	1.65	4.3
Tamworth	1.45	4.7
Uralla	1.50	3.1
Walcha	1.80	3.7

- Loans across the region increased by **9.6%** in 2009-10. The largest increases were at Werris Creek (31.5%), Manilla (12.9%), Uralla (12.1%) and Tamworth (12%).
- Total reservations for the region equalled **52,938**.

Information and Reader Services:

- Database Searches** increased by **7%** in 2009-10. There were **32,540** searches compared to 30,389 in the previous year.
- Inter Library Loans 2010 (increased by 27% on previous year)**

Quirindi	195
Werris Creek	88
Total Liverpool Plains	283
Boggabri	2
Narrabri	379
Wee Waa	48
Total Narrabri Shire	429
Barraba	27
Kootingal	372
Manilla	85
Nundle	41
South Tamworth	319
Tamworth	1545
Total Tamworth	2389
 Uralla	 224
 Walcha	 16
 Total	 3341

Book Groups:

CNRL supported 26 book groups during 2009-10 including a patients' book group in the renal unit at Tamworth Base Hospital. ABC Radio follows the progress of the Nundle Book group with radio interviews about what the group is reading. Quirindi Library's contemporary literature book group has grown to 14 members and this year the group entered a local scarecrow competition organized by Quirindi Rural Heritage Village Inc. with the entry scarecrow of *Miss Juliet Ashton*, the main character from *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* – one of their book group books.

Promotion:

Author talks: author talks during the year

have included:

Stephen M Irwin *The dead path*;

Sharyn Munro *Mountain tales*;

Meredith Kirton *Harvest*;

James Knight *A theory of moments*;

Susan Duncan *A life on Pittwater*;

Pearl Goldman *Memories of Norman*

Lindsay & the theatre;

Eddie Whitham *Then, now and in*

between / Uncle Eddie's twisted tales;

Di Blacklock *Three's a crowd*;

Sharyn Killen *The inconvenient child*

Katherine Howell *Cold justice*;

Monte Dwyer *Red in the centre*.



CWA Country of Study: a web site with links to information about Scotland was constructed to assist CWA members with their study. The Wanthella CWA group attended an information session and morning tea in Tamworth. CNRL staff also presented information sessions at Quirindi, Werris Creek, Narrabri, Bellata and Wee Waa.

Exhibitions: State Library of NSW — Australian Cookbooks display was on exhibition at Tamworth in April and May 2010.

Movies: The movie *Bright Star* about the life of poet John Keats was screened in the Tamworth Library in June 2010.

Knit ins: as part of the ABC's Knit with Love campaign there have been *knit ins* held at several libraries

Children's Services:

Book Week 2009 was celebrated throughout the region 22nd-28th August. The picture book *Sunday Chutney*, written and illustrated by Aaron Blabey, was selected by the Youth & Branch Services Librarian from the Shortlist for use during class visits or pre school storytimes around the region during Book Week. Ideas for activities and games were used during the school visits to support the theme '**Book Safari**'. Posters were purchased and sent to all branches in the region. A Regional Book Week competition was also distributed to Branch staff. Winners of the competition received quality Australian children's books for prizes specially selected by the Youth & Branch Services Librarian.

National Simultaneous Storytime 2009 was held on 26th May during **Library & Information Week**. This event is now held annually in May to highlight the importance of reading and literacy. The book chosen this year by The Australian Library and Information Association was called *Little White Dogs can't Jump*, written by popular children's author Bruce Whatley and illustrated by Rosie Smith. All CNRL branches were sent a copy of the book and posters for promoting and presenting the storytime at their library.

Splash Splash Storytimes at the Pools: Youth services introduced storytimes at local Council pools early in January 2010. Visits were made to Quirindi, Werris Creek, Narrabri, Boggabri, Uralla & Walcha as well as TRC pools. Many families attended the 'Frog' themed event with picture books *The Wide Mouthed Frog* by Keith Falkner & Jonathan Lambert and *Picasso the green tree frog* by Amanda Graham & John Siow being enjoyed along with a number of fun activities.

Stephenie Meyer Book Group @ Narrabri: Along with the pool visit Youth services staff included a visit to

Narrabri library to present a Stephenie Meyer book group to coincide with the movie release of *New Moon*. The visit included trivia questions, book/film discussion, lucky door prize and refreshments.

Bedtime Storytime: Packages were prepared and sent to all branch staff during Term 1 in 2010 to assist them in hosting a special bedtime storytime. Packages included two picture books *Check on me* by Andrew Daddo & Jonathan Bentley and *Hush, hush* by Margaret Wild & Bridget Strevens-Marzo as well as a craft activity and laminated rhyme sheets. Quirindi were particularly keen to host this event and promoted it for all ages.

April School Holiday Activities: Tamworth hosted a 'Manga Madness Month' to coincide with the school holidays, Youth Week and the launch of the new graphic novel collection. Activities included noodle box decorating, kite making and decorating paper fans. The highlight was guest speaker Wai Chew Chan, a graphic artist specialist who spoke at the Regional Training Day to library staff and later in the Tamworth Library to keen graphic novel enthusiasts about graphic novels and their huge popularity with all ages.

Gruffalo Storytime: Capitol Theatre Tamworth was one of a number of regional centres hosting the magical music adaptation of the award-winning picture book *The Gruffalo*. Tamworth Library was offered the opportunity to present a special Gruffalo storytime which included a visit by the Gruffalo! Youth Services library staff were keen to support such a wonderful classic story and were pleased that lots of families attended the stage production following the success of the storytime. The Gruffalo is a shy and nervous creature, however some children were feeling a bit the same on meeting him!

New Storytime Packages: Many branch libraries are continuing to host children's storytimes and are regularly sent storytime packages throughout the year to assist them. Children's Services have increased the number of packages due to demand and have prepared 20 new storytime packages including: Music, Indigenous, Zoo, Monsters & Aussie themes.

Summer Reading Club: Summer Reading Club is held during December and January school holidays. This event is a national reading program produced by the Australian Library and Information Association. Reading Club kits are provided free of charge by CNRL to each LGA and sent to branches from Children's Services. Printouts of registration forms, reading records and activity booklets for different age groups were also provided and sent to all branches. Each year there is a theme and ALIA is now hosting a wiki for all library staff to contribute ideas to and copy from to support the program and minimize duplication.

Public Service Outlets:

With the retirement this year of Mrs Rutledge, the Bundarra service point was changed from a branch to a bulk loan destination. The CWA is now providing a volunteer circulation service and Bundarra borrowers are being encouraged to use the library website to reserve items (Bundarra remains a pick up location for reserves). This now means that all Bundarra resources are changed over regularly. It also means that when other CNRL borrowers reserve items that are at Bundarra, the Bundarra items will have a status of "On Loan" and the borrower then understands that the item will not be delivered immediately. Previously when items were showing as "Available", borrowers had unrealistic expectations about the time it would take for the item to arrive.

Co-ordination of the Bundarra service point is carried out by the Uralla Librarian and Uralla Shire Council is using the funds previously allocated to staffing to now upgrade the facility. Uralla Shire Council has placed a locked library returns box in the general store for borrower convenience.

The Premer service point continues to be staffed by LPSC however it has also been changed to a bulk loan destination. It is co-ordinated by the Quirindi Librarian.

Staff Development:

Public Libraries NSW Conference — Switch 2009: Public Libraries in a Changing Environment:

This conference was attended by Bruce Mercer, Cr Bill Heazlett, Kay Delahunt, Jenny Campbell and Donna Garrad.

Regional Training Days: Four regional training days were held in 2009-10.

In April Wei Chew Chan from Kinokuniya bookshop gave a presentation on *graphic novels*.

The December Regional Training Day featured guest presenter Kevin Hennah. His *Rethink, Reinvent and Rejuvenate* workshop was an intensive look at interior design, merchandising and space management for libraries.

12s to 24s @ your library in Australia and New Zealand: attended by Narelle Lightfoot.

RU game? seminar at the State Library of NSW attended by Kay Delahunt & Kim Collins.

LIAC Forum: (State Library of NSW) attended by Megan Pitt.

Drug Information @ your Library Forum: (State Library of NSW) attended by Wendy Millar.

Murder @ the Metcalfe: Readers Advisory seminar at State Library of NSW — attended by Kate Nalder, Kerrie Shaw and Sandra Collins.

SPUN Conference: attended by Marian Bennett, Kim Collins and Kay Delahunt.

Reference @ the Metcalfe: attended by Megan Pitt.

Seniors in focus @ your library: attended by Kate Nalder.

Children's Book Council Conference: attended by Katey McPherson.

What's Coming in 2010/11:

- Further introduction of Web 2.0 features to engage user participation on the CNRL website.
- Continuation of the Learning 2.1 online training programme from the State Library of New South Wales.
- Aboriginal Family History workshops for staff and the public at Tamworth & Narrabri.
- Further development and promotion of e-Audio resources.
- Expanded library programming to branch libraries.
- Online language resources.
- Regional Resources Policy to be updated.

Concluding Comments:

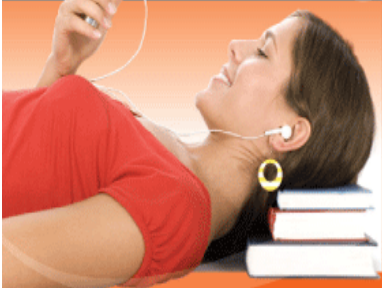
Vitally important to the success of Central Northern Regional Library are the staff at both the central library and the branch libraries. The staff continue to contribute in a positive manner and have worked tirelessly to ensure the library's success. The significant increase in CNRL library activity over the past twelve months is evidence of their efforts.

Kay Delahunt—Library Services Manager



Online Branch 2009-10

Website snapshot

Clipper audiobooks now downloadable 		Website visits	320,946
eAudiobook titles compatible with MP3 players, including iPods, iPhones and many more... brought to you by Wavesound		Reservations over the web	15,740
Even easier for more of your users to connect, click and listen		Renewals over the web	6,302
		Database searches	32,540
		CNRL members with a PIN	22,726
		E-Audio downloads	501
		Book reviews on web catalogue	76

E-Audio was introduced in CNRL for the first time in February 2010. The service offers 573 titles and allows simultaneous access to each title. **501** items were downloaded by CNRL users from February to June 2010.

www.cnl.nsw.gov.au

Liverpool Plains Shire Libraries 2009-10

Liverpool Plains Shire Area:	5121 sq kms	loans per capita	4.1
Population:	7941 estimated resident population	stock per capita	1.8
Service Points:	2 Branch Libraries & 1 public service outlet	stock turnover	2.2
Open Hours:	Quirindi Branch Library 39 hours per week Werris Creek Branch Library 26 hours per week Premer 4 hours		
Number of Public Access PCs:	Quirindi Library 6 Werris Creek Branch Library 4		

Quirindi Library snapshot 2009-10

- The contemporary literature **book group** continued to meet at the Quirindi Library in 2009-10. They now have 14 members and have embarked on some local activities including entering the **Scarecrow competition** organised by the Quirindi Rural Heritage Village. Their scarecrow was *Miss Juliet Ashton*, the main character from the book *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*.



- CNRL staff presented a **CWA Country of Study 'Scotland'** Information Day at the Quirindi Library.
- Library Lovers Day** was celebrated at Quirindi when Therese Ralston from Warrah Creek Writers presented her poetry. There were rose petals on the carpet, chocolates, cheese and wine at this event. A prize of a "romantic dinner for two" was sponsored by local restaurants. Book marks with "I love this book" were used for readers to recommend their favourite romantic books.

Quirindi Library	2008-09	2009-10	%change
Library Visits	26657	27544	3.3%
Membership	2337	2559	9.5%
Computerised loans	17540	18754	6.9%
Stock	7034	7606	8.1%
New Stock	842	847	0.6%
Reservations	1221	1911	56.5%
Public Access Computer Bookings	4036	5379	33.3%

- Mrs Alison Jerry, who is the oldest borrower at Quirindi Library, celebrated her 101st birthday. Library staff and Cr Colleen Wills delivered Mrs Jerry's library books to the nursing home on her birthday. She was given a new library bag, some flowers and small gifts to help her celebrate.
- 595** children and adults participated in regular storytimes & school holiday events at Quirindi Library in 2009-10.
- Children's Book Week, **Book Safari** theme, was celebrated with a reptile show **Crocodile Encounters**. 57 attended the event.



- Quirindi Library participated in *Christmas Festival @ Quirindi* with a Christmas tree, lights, Christmas carols and display of the Chamber of Commerce colouring competition entries.
- CNRL staff presented **Splish Splash Storytime** at Quirindi Pool in January.
- Quirindi Library participated in the Quirindi Rural Heritage Village annual event with a scarecrow colouring competition and by displaying scarecrows in the library.
- Quirindi Library participated in National Simultaneous Storytime and the Summer Reading Club.

- Other children's promotions held at Quirindi included a **Where the wild things are** event and **Good Night Sleep Tight** (bedtime stories held after hours with children attending in pyjamas).
- An information session was held at the Quirindi Library for HACC carers with 12 people attending—Special needs collections, health information, government information and useful websites were promoted.

Werris Creek Library snapshot 2009-10

- **Werris Creek Book Group** meet on the first Tuesday evening of each month throughout the year.

- **Children's Storytime** was conducted each Wednesday morning throughout the school terms for 2009/2010 with volunteer Brian Paris.

- A **Pizza Party** was held for children during the school holidays on Wednesday 15 July at 3.00pm. This was a very successful afternoon with seventeen children in attendance (ranging in age from 4 to 16), six adults (four of whom joined in with the children's games) and two volunteers who assisted the librarian. Children enjoyed board games such as Monopoly, Pictureka, Junior Scrabble, Snakes & Ladders, Uno, jigsaw puzzles and also computer games.

- Book Week 2009 **Book Safari** was celebrated with a visit from Year 3 students from Werris Creek Public School (20 children & 3 teachers). The library was decorated with animal safari balloons, animal print fabrics and a fabric artwork (of the jungle). The children followed the colourful animal footprints to the door of the library for storytime. Afterwards, the children spent time reading animal books and the Children's Book Council of Australia award winning books for 2009. They were given Book Week badges and/or bookmarks and before leaving had fun drawing animal chalk pictures on the pavement in the library courtyard.

- The Book Week celebrations continued with the prize-giving ceremony for winners of the Regional Library Book Week Competition. The Mayor, Councillor Ian Lobsey, presented book prizes.

<i>Werris Creek</i>	<i>2008-09</i>	<i>2009-10</i>	<i>% change</i>
Werris Creek Library Visits	No electronic visitor counter	3912	
Membership	779	897	15.2%
Computerised loans	9470	13777	45.5%
Stock	6258	6947	11.0%
New Stock	653	696	6.6%
Reservations	1137	1597	40.5%
Public Access Computer Bookings	728	2289	214.4%



- The Werris Creek RSL Sub Branch contributed towards the cost of delivery of the World War 1 Memorial Box from the Australian War Memorial (Canberra). Werris Creek Library commemorated Remembrance Day on 11th November with a visit from Werris Creek Primary School.
- A **Where the wild things are** storytime was conducted and was designed to tie in with the release of the *Where the wild things are* film based on the picture book by Maurice Sendak.
- The library was decorated throughout

December with a beautiful Christmas tree and lights in the window, courtesy of the Council. Library volunteers erected and decorated the tree with gold trimmings. The Library participated in the Quirindi Chamber of Commerce and St Vincent De Paul Christmas appeal by providing a drop off point for donations of Christmas gifts.

- Werris Creek Library participated in the Summer Reading Club's **Read on the Wild Side** program, designed and co-ordinated by the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA). Reading kits compiled by CNRL were handed out to children to encourage them to continue reading throughout the school holiday period. Small incentive prizes supplied by ALIA were given out for number of books read.
- CNRL staff conducted a **Splish Splash Storytime** at Werris Creek Swimming Pool on the afternoon of Friday 8th January with 16 children in attendance for stories, crafts, songs and games.
- A **Pizza Party** and games afternoon was held at the library on Friday 22nd January for children of all ages. There were 24 people in attendance.
- A **Computer Training** workshop was conducted at the library on Wednesday 10th February 10.00am to 1.00pm by David Maunder (Council IT staff). There were seven people in attendance at the training which was tailored to address specific questions from each person. Another session was also conducted for HACC.
- Eight **Family History workshops** have been conducted at Werris Creek Library this year.
- **Library Lovers Day** was celebrated with a Morning tea and borrowers were offered beautifully gift-wrapped 'blind date' books to take home for free (donated and ex library books). Customers at the library received a lucky door ticket to win donated prizes of a pink iced heart-shaped cake, a bottle of wine and a small book of love poems.
- **National Simultaneous Storytime** was celebrated and 45 children attended plus the School Principal and 3 teachers. The Mayor, Cr Ian Lobsey (OAM) read the story to the children for the second year in a row and once again the children were totally captivated and highly entertained by his humorous style and skill as a presenter.
- Werris Creek Library conducted a '**Knit In**' as part of the ABC Local Radio Knit In campaign across NSW to support the *Wrap with Love* project. The purpose of this project is to knit colourful squares to create 'wraps' for communities in need worldwide, including Australia.

Liverpool Plains Shire Council Library Staff

Quirindi Branch Library Ms. Marcela Krasny
Mrs M Muirson

Werris Creek Branch Library Ms Marilyn Deeks B Ed (UNE)

Premier Public Service Outlet Ms Robyn Douglass

Narrabri Shire Branch Libraries 2009-10

Narrabri Shire Area:	13065 sq km (GIS map info 13.10.2005)		Loans per capita	4.1
Population:	13507 estimated resident population		Stock per capita	1.65
Service Points:	3 branch libraries		Stock turnover	2.58
Open Hours:	Narrabri Library	40 hours per week		
	Boggabri Branch Library	10 hours per week		
	Wee Waa Branch Library	20 hours per week		
Number of Public Access PCS:	Narrabri Library	12		
	Boggabri Branch library	2		
	Wee Waa Branch Library	4		

Narrabri Library snapshot 2009-10

- Two contemporary literature **book groups** continue to meet monthly at Narrabri Library.
- Storytime** is held 2 days a week.
- Bulk loans and deliveries continue to Bellata school & CWA & two Narrabri Preschools.
- The Narrabri Librarian gave a library talk to the SIAHTO group.
- Ten children attended the **Splish Splash Storytime** at the Narrabri Pool.
- Ten young people attended a **Twilight** trivial pursuit afternoon.
- 29 children attended the **Summer Reading Club** Party and 102 registered for the program.
- Narrabri's **Storytime for Seniors** Program was runner up in the **NSW Marketing Awards for Public Libraries**.
- Two Lapsit programs took place.



Narrabri Library	2008-09	2009-10	%change
Library Visits	50514	48375	-4%
Membership	4864	5376	11%
Computerised loans	44874	47402	6%
Stock	13159	14593	11%
New Stock	1823	1944	7%
Reservations	9585	11462	20%
Public Access Computer Bookings	13130	18214	39%

- Jenny Campbell was awarded the most valuable employee at the **Narrabri Best Business Awards 2010**.
- School Holiday activities took place.
- An Author event with Mark Dapin took place.
- A poetry book was launched for the sesquicentenary - over 90 people attended.
- A community website *Friendly Faces, Helping Hands* was launched at the Narrabri Library - 54 people attended.

- **National Simultaneous Storytime** and **Children's Book Week** were both celebrated at Narrabri Library.
- Narrabri Library received excellent media exposure with book reviews on local radio, a book review session on ABC radio and weekly articles appearing in the local newspaper.
- Excursions to the Library have included Narrabri Public School, Joeys and the Community College.
- A **CWA Country of Study** day was held at Narrabri - 22 ladies attended.
- Narrabri Library participated in the judging of the Science Week Competitions at Narrabri and entries were displayed at the Library.
- Narrabri Library hosted a talk on Bipolar disorder.

Boggabri Library snapshot 2009-10



- The **Boggabri Book Group** continue to meet monthly at the library.
- Boggabri Library delivers a home library service to 2 clients.
- CNRL staff travelled to Boggabri to present **Splish Splash Storytime** at Boggabri Pool in January.
- Boggabri Library hosted a display from the Boggabri Museum during sesquicentenary celebrations.
- The introduction of a monthly storytime at Boggabri Library is planned for next year.

Boggabri Library	2008-09	2009-10	% change
Library Visits	2414	2017	-16%
Membership	336	364	8%
Computerised loans	4181	3991	-4.5%
Stock	2337	2601	11%
New Stock	273	316	16%
Reservations	249	327	31%
Public Access Computer Bookings	358	273	-24%



Wee Waa Library snapshot 2009-10

- CNRL staff presented a **CWA Country of Study Scotland** information day in Wee Waa.
- Wee Waa Library participated in the **Children's Book Week** Colouring Competition.
- Wee Waa Library delivers Home Library Service to 2 clients and has one Seniors Assist client.
- Wee Waa Library has applied for a positive ageing grant to put in 2 new computers and run a series of basic computer courses for seniors.



Wee Waa Library	2008-09	2009-10	% change
Library Visits	10101	8765	-13%
Membership	732	810	11%
Computerised loans	7054	6960	-1%
Stock	5156	5466	6%
New Stock	391	391	0%
Reservations	1365	1633	20%
Public Access Computer Bookings	3557	3233	-9%

- Two contemporary literature **book groups** meet monthly at Wee Waa Library.
- Narrabri Council intends to apply for a Library Development Grant to build a new purpose-built library at Wee Waa.
- Wee Waa Librarian Margaret Trindall continues with her studies to gain a Cert IV Library Qualification.

Narrabri Shire Library Staff

Narrabri Shire Library Ms Jenny Campbell *Librarian*

Janelle Van Bommel
April Sawicki
Margot Dunnett

Boggabri Branch Library Mrs Helen Gilham

Wee Waa Branch Library Mrs Margaret Trindall

Tamworth Regional Council Libraries 2009-10

Tamworth Regional Council Area: 9653.25 sq km

Population: 57182 estimated resident population

Service Points: 6 Branch Libraries

Open Hours:

Tamworth City Library	49 Hours per week
Barraba Branch Library	15 Hours per week
Kootingal Branch Library	17 Hours per week
Manilla Branch Library	25 Hours staffed & 44 hours access
Nundle Branch Library	12.5 Hours per week
South Tamworth Branch Library	38 Hours per week

No of Public Access PCS:

Tamworth City Library	22
Barraba Branch Library	4
Kootingal Branch Library	4
Manilla Branch Library	4
Nundle Branch Library	3
South Tamworth Branch Library	6

TRC loans per capita	4.7
TRC stock per capita	1.45
TRC stock turnover	3.2

Tamworth Library snapshot 2009-10

- Country Music Week 2010 storytimes featured **Guy Sebastian**, Jay Collie and Alyce Simmonds.
- Author talks** were hosted with Stephen M Irwin, Sharyn Munro, Meredith Kirton, James Knight, Susan Duncan, Pearl Goldman, Di Blacklock, Sharyn Killens, Katherine Howell, Monte Dwyer and local writer Eddie Whitham.
- A poetry evening with local poets Tom Chapman and Michael Thorley was hosted in September.
- The movie **Bright Star** about the life of poet John Keats was screened in the Library in June.
- Several Tamworth **book groups** met at and/or used the regional book group kits.
- Regular **Home Library Service** is provided for 60 Tamworth residents.



Tamworth Library	2008-09	2009-10	% change
Library Visits	144001	158945	10.4%
Membership	18182	20504	12.8%
Computerised loans	147203	167285	14%
Stock	43338	47595	9.7%
New Stock	5608	6576	17.3%
Reservations	7757	8163	5%
Public Access Computer Bookings	48410	51236	5.8%

- 9003** people attended children's events at TRC libraries in 2009-10, up 66.7%.
- Manga Madness Month** was held in April with promotion of graphic novels and an author talk from Wai Chew Chan.
- Children's programs** for the year included Storytimes, Baby Bounce, Children's Book Week, Dads & Donuts, Wild things @ your library, January poolside Splish Splash Storytime, Stephanie Meyer Bookgroup and the Summer Reading Club.

South Tamworth Library snapshot 2009-10

South Tamworth library	2008-09	2009-10	% change
Library Visits	39118	41976	7%
Membership	4333	4658	7.5%
Computerised loans	52381	55231	5.5%
Stock	13320	14598	9.6%
New Stock	1527	1961	28%
Reservations	2972	3137	5.5%
Public Access Computer Bookings	8051	9619	19.5%

- Preschool **storytimes** have been held at South Tamworth during term on Wednesdays.
- South Tamworth Library exterior has been rejuvenated with all guttering and eaves painted charcoal, new exterior lighting and bright modern signage.
- Some excellent book displays at South Tamworth have encouraged borrowing.



Barraba Library snapshot 2009-10

- There has been a dramatic increase in **public access computer use** at Barraba Library this year (79%).
- Barraba Library received new air conditioning this year.
- Barraba Library delivers **Home Library Service** to 4 residents.
- **Splish Splash Storytime** was held at Barraba Pool in January.
- A local **bookgroup** is supported with Book Group kits from Barraba Library.
- Barraba Library participated in **Children's Book Week** Activities and **Summer Reading Club**.

Barraba Library	2008-09	2009-10	%change
Library Visits	15972	14742	0%
Membership	903	901	0%
Computerised loans	11522	11270	-2%
Stock	6161	7116	15.5%
New Stock	293	801	173%
Reservations	792	886	12%
Public Access Computer Bookings	1103	1974	79%



Manilla Library snapshot 2009-10

- Manilla library is part of a joint library / TRC Customer Services centre. This library model is working well with the library staffed 25 hours per week but public access to the facility is available for 44 hours per week.
- Storytime** is presented weekly (during school terms) at Manilla Library by trained volunteers from the Manilla *Born to Read* Group. Manilla Library also hosted a *Where the Wild Things Are* promotion and participated in the **Summer Reading Program**. The Library has had special visits from both local schools and the pre-school.
- A book group meeting is held monthly at Manilla Library for the **Manilla Book Lover Group**. Every third Monday, around 20 people gather to discuss the book of the month. Some participants travel many kilometres just to attend.
- Manilla Library has a designated children's area, *Once Upon A Time*, where children can sit and read, draw or play games, puzzles and even LEGO.
- For the young adults the *Youth* area features books, magazines, brochures and a Nintendo Wii (available for all borrowers). During the school holidays Manilla Library runs Nintendo Wii competitions.
- In 2009-10 Manilla Library had displays on current issues such as Pink Ribbon/Breast Cancer Awareness, Halloween, SES Week, Book Lovers Week, Easter, Seniors Week, Valentines, Australia Day, Mothers Day, ANZAC Day and cakes/cooking for the Queens Birthday.
- A **self-check unit** was installed at Manilla in 2009-10 and allows borrowers to check out their own books.
- Manilla Library has seen a 15% increase in loans this year and a 16% increase in public computer use. These pleasing results reflect the enthusiasm and effort contributed by the staff at Manilla.



Manilla Library	2008-09	2009-10	% Change
Library Visits	N/A	14742	0%
Membership	1407	1557	10.6%
Computerised loans	14246	16357	15%
Stock	5081	5389	6%
New Stock	550	557	1%
Reservations	2506	3312	32%
Public Access	3194	3704	16%
Computer Bookings			



Kootingal Library snapshot 2009-10

- Kootingal Library's interior was **repainted** in November 2009 and it now has two vibrant, brightly coloured feature walls. The painted glass in the front windows has been replaced with clear glass and new venetian blinds have been installed. The library is now much lighter and brighter.
- A Kootingal Library article is prepared by the branch staff and appears every month in the Kootingal newsletter. Residents are kept informed about library events.
- Computer bookings at Kootingal have increased by 65% this year. Automated computer booking software has been installed at this branch.
- **Preschool storytimes** have been presented by trained volunteers weekly during school terms and the branch library participated in Summer Reading Club.
- The **Nintendo Wii** has been promoted heavily during school holidays with competitions and events.
- Kootingal Library supports one **Book Group**.
- All activities at Kootingal Library have increased this year and the 9.5% increase in loans is pleasing.

Kootingal Library	2008-09	2009-10	% change
Library Visits	11026	12597	14.2%
Membership	1078	1178	9.23
Computerised loans	14038	15367	9.5%
Stock	5871	6235	6.2%
New Stock	635	860	35%
Reservations	984	1059	7.6%
Public Access Computer Bookings	1026	1688	65%



Nundle Library	2008-09	2009-10	% change
Library Visits	8281	7685	-7%
Membership	329	270	-18%
Computerised Loans	6543	6962	6.4%
Stock	3678	3978	8.16
New Stock	401	488	22%
Reservations	598	555	-7%
Public Access Computer Bookings	1030	1027	0%



Nundle Library snapshot 2009-10

- The Library Services Manager has been working with the Nundle CDC to explore options for improved library premises in Nundle. The current library is 43 sq metres, is not accessible and has no cooling or heating. At the June 2010 Nundle CDC meeting it was agreed that a library development grant application be lodged with the view to extending the former Council Chamber for use as a modern library facility.
- Nundle continues to have a high level of loans for a small community. The premises, however, limit possible programming and Internet use is restricted to the 12.5 open hours per week.
- Nundle Branch does not hold regular storytimes as the children cannot fit into the current library space. Staff do visit the school for **Simultaneous Storytime** and Tamworth staff present the **Chinese storytime** at the Easter Go for Gold festival.
- A contemporary literature **book group** continues to be resourced and co-ordinated by library staff in Nundle.

TRC Libraries Staff

See appendix

Uralla Shire Council Library 2009-10



Uralla Shire Council Area:	3215 sq kms
Population:	6081 est. resident population
Service Points:	1 Branch Library
Open Hours:	30 Hours per week (includes Sunday hours)
Number of Public Access PCs:	7

Uralla Library snapshot 2009-10

- Uralla 'bookies' **book group** meet in the library on the third Tuesday of the month. Book group membership has increased from 6 to 16.
- Regular theme-based **storytimes** have been held on Tuesdays during school terms at Uralla Library in 2009-10.
- Uralla participated in **Summer Reading Club** in January 2010.
- **Children's Book Week** was also celebrated at Uralla with a storytime and Book Week competition.
- The *Uralla Playgroup* and *The Hobbit Childcare Centre* both visited the library for a special storytime & craft session. Uralla Central School and Kentucky School have also made class visits to the public library.
- Special Christmas Storytime & Christmas decoration **craft session** was held at Uralla Library.
- Several painters, photographers and crafters displayed their work in the library foyer/gallery area.
- A *Wrap with Love* '**Knit in**' was held in the library in June.
- CNRL information services staff gave a **CWA Country of Study** website presentation at Bundarra.

Uralla Library	2008-09	2009-10	%change
Library Visits	16785	18957	13.0%
Membership	1864	2053	10.0%
Computerised loans	16751	19062	13.8%
Stock	9843	9293	-5.6%
New Stock	926	978	5.6%
Reservations	2345	2447	4.0%
Public Access Computer Bookings	4013	4467	11.3%
Loans per capita	2.8	3.1	
Stock per capita	1.6	1.5	
Stock turnover	1.7	2.03	



- Deliveries continue to be made to housebound borrowers and a Seniors Assist service is also provided.

With the retirement this year of Mrs Rutledge, the **Bundarra service point** was changed from a branch to a bulk loan destination. The CWA is now providing a volunteer circulation service and Bundarra borrowers are being encouraged to use the library website to reserve items (Bundarra remains a pick up location for reserves). This now means that all Bundarra resources are changed over regularly. It also means that when other CNRL borrowers reserve items that are at Bundarra, the Bundarra items will have a status of 'On

loan' and the borrower then understands that the item will not be delivered immediately. Previously, when items were showing as 'Available', borrowers had unrealistic expectations about the time it would take for the item to arrive.

Co-ordination of the Bundarra service point is carried out by the Uralla Librarian and Uralla Shire Council is using the funds previously allocated to staffing to now upgrade the facility. Uralla Shire Council has placed a locked library returns box in the general store for borrower convenience.

Uralla Staff

Uralla Library Ms Judy Cozens Librarian

Walcha Branch Library 2009-10

Walcha Council Area: 4992 sq kms
Population: 3276 estimated resident population
Service Points: 1 Library
Open Hours: 15 hours per week
Number of Public Access PCS: 4

Walcha Library	2008-09	2009-10	%change
Library Visits	2825	2318	-18%
Membership	1099	1193	8.5%
Computerised loans	11379	12199	7.2%
Stock	5571	5586	5.6%
New Stock	550	518	-5.8%
Reservations	651	709	8.9%
Public Access Computer Bookings	540	557	3.2%
Loans per capita	3.5	3.7	
Stock per capita	1.7	1.8	
Stock turnover	2.0	2.1	

Walcha Library snapshot 2009-10

- The Walcha Contemporary Literature **Book Group** continued to meet at the library in 2009/10.
- Walcha library staff continue to select and process books and audio items for the fortnightly Quota Home Book Service and Elizabeth Cross Wing at Walcha MPS.
- Use of the Public Access Computers at Walcha has increased in 2009/2010. An additional Public Access computer brings the total to 4.
- Children's Activities at Walcha Library have included two preschool **storytimes**, a treasure hunt, and participation in the **Summer Reading Programme**.



- Membership, loans, reservations and public access computer use have all increased in the 2009-10 year.

Walcha Staff

Walcha Library Ms Donna Garrad
 (Manager)

The following staff provide services to CNRL and /or Tamworth Regional Council Libraries :

CNRL Executive Officer : Bruce Mercer - Manager Cultural & Community Services - Tamworth Regional Council—*Bachelor Social Work*

Library Services Manager: Kay Delahunt- BA . *Grad Dip Lib. AALIA*

Information & Readers Services Team	Regional Resources Team	Technology & Circulation Team	Youth & Branch Services Team
Team Leader Kate Nalder— <i>Assoc Dip App Sc</i>	Team Leaders Pam Langridge <i>BGen Stud MappSc (Lib & Info Mgt) AALIA</i>	Team Leader Marian Bennett— <i>Dip IT Dip Library & Information Services</i>	Team Leader Narelle Lightfoot <i>Assoc Dip App Sc</i>
Wendy Millar <i>BA (Lib Sc)</i>	Ruth Fermor	VACANT	Katie McPherson
Stephanie Mills <i>Dip IT</i> <i>Assoc Deg Arts</i> <i>Assoc Deg Science—</i> <i>Library Technology</i>	Christine Maher <i>Assoc Dip App Sc</i>	Kim Collins (part time)	<i>Kerrie Shaw—Dip Library & information Services</i> Kootingal Branch
Megan Pitt <i>BA Grad Dip Lib Sc</i>		Sandra Collins (part time)	<i>Yvonne Archer & Renai Fletcher</i> Manilla Branch <i>job share</i>
VACANT		Eric Elsley— <i>Dip IT</i>	Shirley Davis & Gae Sipple Nundle Branch <i>job share</i>
		Lorraine Watton	Kaye Sawyer Barraba Branch

Casual Librarians :

Annabel Ashworth
Veronica Strudwick
Wendy Smith

Other:

Melissa Le Brocq
Steve Meyer (Regional Courier)

Casual Library Assistants

Amanda Burke
Cathy Hanly
Jamie Johnston
Jayne O'Hare
Sue Southwell
Judy Gill
Dorian McCarthy

Staff
Staff
Staff
Staff
Staff

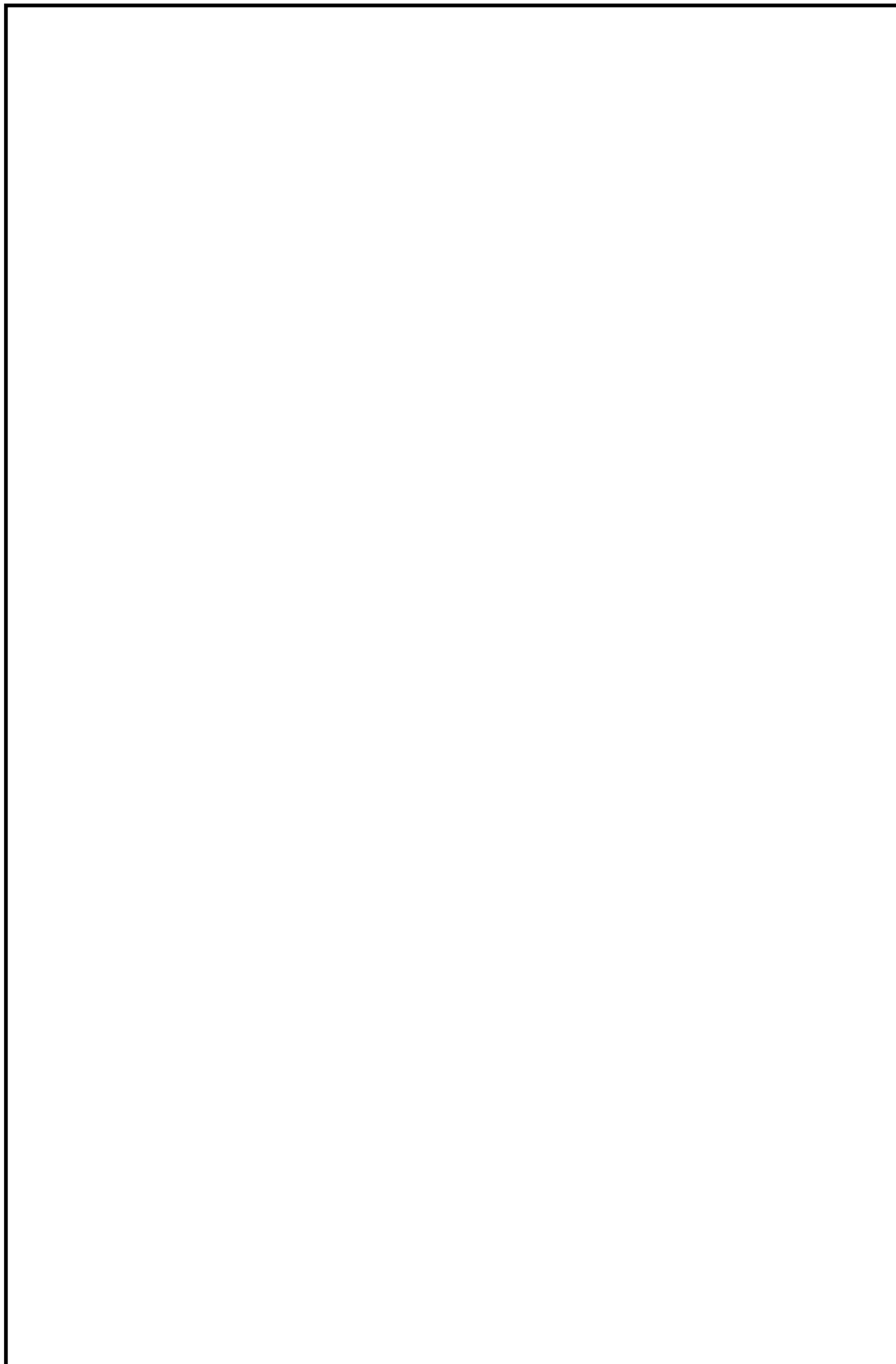
URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

2010

ATTACHMENT G

TABLELANDS COMMUNITY TRANSPORT



TABLELANDS COMMUNITY TRANSPORT ANNUAL REPORT 2009/2010



Alleviating transport disadvantage in a sustainable way

*Auspiced by Uralla Shire Council
Servicing Armidale, Uralla, Walcha and Guyra*

*Funded by the Australian Government, NSW Ageing, Disability and Home Care
& NSW Transport and Infrastructure*

Table of Contents

A message from Cr Isabel Strutt, Chairperson of the Tablelands Community Transport Advisory Committee.....	1
Manager, Margaret Anderson, MBA.....	3
Philosophy of Tablelands Community Transport	4
Service Aims	4
Contact Details.....	5
Tablelands Community Transport Advisory Committee	6
Employees.....	7
Vehicles.....	7
Community Partnerships.....	7
2009-2010 Volunteer Acknowledgements.....	8
Current Tablelands Community Transport Volunteers	8
Volunteers of the Year Award	9
Summary of Services Offered.....	10
New Service Delivery and Business Partnerships.....	11
Achievements: July 2009 to June 2010.....	12
Special Events	12
Training Calendar 2009-2010	14
Committee Involvement / Meeting Processes.....	15
Meetings July 2009 to June 2010.....	16
Operating Data	17
Commendations	18
Data Collection for Services Provided.....	19
Trips Charts.....	20
Financial Statements 2009-2010.....	23

Our Organisational Values are:

HONESTY

ACCOUNTABILITY *Efficiency and effectiveness of resource allocation*

COMMITMENT *to a best practice learning organisation*

EQUITY *in access to services within available resources*

EMPOWERMENT *Passengers are offered choice of services within resources*

SUSTAINABILITY



A message from Cr Isabel Strutt, Chairperson of the Tablelands Community Transport Advisory Committee

It is my pleasure to present the Chairperson's 2009/20 Annual Report for Tablelands Community Transport.

In 2009/2010 the provision of accessible, flexible and appropriate transport options to those members of the communities of the Uralla, Walcha, Armidale Dumaresq, and Guyra Shires who are transport disadvantaged, has continued, utilising the combination of volunteer drivers and cars, the TCT-owned wheel-chair accessible vehicle, taxi services, and brokered bus services. The taxi voucher programme is always a fully utilised service which is often the service of choice for customers; while providing funding for brokered bus services for provision of some one-off type transport assistance has proven to be the best way of meeting specific group transport needs. The Advisory Committee has undertaken review of Policies including a new passenger management strategy to address control of specific health conditions.

The commitment and diligence of volunteer drivers, the Manager of the programme, Ms Margaret Anderson, Council support staff, and the members of the Advisory Committee has again been of the highest standard in 2009/2010. On behalf of the communities which Tablelands Community Transport and the Uralla Shire Council service, I extend sincere thanks to Ms Margaret Anderson; Ms Linda Maynard (Service Administrator); Mr. Roland Bennett (TCT Driver) and the members of the Advisory Committee and volunteer drivers; Mr. Tom O'Connor, General Manager of the Uralla Shire Council; Mrs Jane Michie, Director of Administrative Services; other Council support staff. I also acknowledge the interest and assistance of Ms Mary Devine of Transport NSW.

Services provided through the year included fortnightly door-to-door shopping bus runs from Uralla, Guyra and Walcha to Armidale which continue to be well patronised; a fortnightly service between Invergowrie and Armidale; transport to the Dementia Respite programme in Armidale three times per week; the regular "Old Blokes Bus" monthly service; Aboriginal Elders social activity; the Parkinson Group; Wednesday Splinter Group; New England Stroke Recovery Club fortnightly activities, Multiple Sclerosis Group; partnership with the Benevolent Society supporting people experiencing mental illness; Teen Time supporting children with disabilities to attend after school and vacation care activities; and the Transport to Safety Taxi Voucher Programme. Full details of the range of services offered are contained on page 10 of the Annual Report. The electric scooter is maintained at Crazy Clark's in Armidale, while the other scooter which was located in Bundarra has been re-located to Guyra where it has been warmly welcomed. A Disability Transport Survey was carried out by TCT in consultation with a small team of people with disabilities and Armidale Disability Interagency stakeholders to learn about the experiences and viewpoints of people with a disability and their Carers on a range of transport specifics.

TCT has included promotion of the \$2.50 RED, or Regional Excursion Daily ticket, which is available to eligible Uralla and Armidale passengers allowing all day usage of Edwards's buses, in its information brochure, and public presentations during the year.

A relevant and varied programme of training has continued during the year with the Manager, staff members, and volunteers attending training programmes which have included the New England HACC Forum; DADHC Regional Conference at Coffs Harbour; Transport Integrated Data by Ministry of Transport; "Keep Them Safe" – Working Safely in Private Dwellings and External Locations; Fire Safety; and Drug and Alcohol Awareness training.

Special Events of 2009/2010 included participation in the Carers' Expo at the Armidale Town Hall; consultation with the Division of General Practice regarding Alzheimer and provision of service; Regional Volunteer Awards in Tamworth at which Mr. Keith Kiehne was a finalist; and attendance at the International Day of People with Disabilities including transport to the function for seven customers of Armidale Care for Seniors.

Relevant meetings attended by the Manager and/or staff included Community Care; Disability Interagency; New England Transport Forum; Ministerial Advisory Committee; Volunteer Team Meetings; the Transport Working Group; and New England North West Regional Access Group; while the 2009/2010 social calendar included a very enjoyable Christmas Luncheon and Volunteer recognition at the Top Pub in Uralla in December 2009; the Armidale Volunteer Referral Luncheon; and Armidale Care for Senior Lunch.

Tablelands Community Transport celebrated its 20th birthday on 6 October 2009 with a function held at McCrossin's Mill, Uralla. An excellent historical photographic display; presentation of certificates recognising the service of volunteers; the launch of the TCT web-site which had been developed by Mr Graham Wright of Wrightway Design; and presentation of the history of the development of the programme from its inception to the present were highlights of a most enjoyable celebration.

A very exciting initiative was the Tablelands Youth Week 2010, which sought to coordinate a regional approach for the celebration of Youth Week. The initiative included establishing a Youth Committee comprised of interested young people to plan, help to facilitate, and participate in the whole programme. A Youth Survey was conducted online to assess not only transport needs but to incorporate a wide range of information including social, welfare, and employment issues. The aim of the survey was to provide a tool to assist the Tablelands local government organisations to engage in a strategy of youth policy and service development. The Youth Week activities were indeed varied, ranging from the official launch of Youth Week, which included a debate between a youth team and a "senior" team on the topic "That youth should not have their own mobile phones" followed by a luncheon; to a Bicycle Safety and Maintenance Workshop; Youth Volunteering Visit to the McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre; Lawn Bowling; painting a mural on the water tower; movie at the Memorial Hall; and an Information Expo for young people. The support of Mrs Nicola Fullager of New England Community College and Daphne Field and the Uralla Neighbourhood Centre is warmly recognised. Transport assistance was provided where necessary to enable young people to participate, and to enable them to gain experience in utilising public transport. The Youth Week programme resulted in the award to TCT of the 2010 ***NSW Local Government Association Youth Week Award – Best Small Council with the Most Outstanding Youth Week Programme in 2010.***

I commend the 2009/2010 Annual Report to you and encourage you to read the document which provides detailed information and data on all aspects of service provision by Tablelands Community Transport. I am sure you will find the contents interesting, informative, and perhaps surprising. I express again my sincere thanks and recognition to everyone involved in serving the community through Tablelands Community Transport. 2009/2010 has been another year of hard work and good service including recognition by the Manager and the Advisory Committee that the transport landscape is changing; transport disadvantage may well be an increasing need to be recognised and met; we may need to consider different ways of meeting those needs; and that there may be good opportunities for community transport to have input into the development of Governmental strategic planning for transport provision in general. Please accept my sincere good wishes for the Christmas season and for 2011.

Cr Isabel Strutt – Chairperson



Manager, Margaret Anderson, MBA

We celebrate our 21st birthday in 2010!

Thank you to the Tablelands Community Transport (TCT) team members over the years, and all individuals, business partners and community services who have supported us in trying to alleviate transport disadvantage in the Tablelands.

Tablelands Community Transport is at the forefront of delivering community transport in NSW as we articulate the Integrated Transport Model, engaging in business partnerships with bus and taxi operators at the local level, and providing a volunteer driver program for passengers with higher needs. This sustainability model supports local transport providers and businesses, and hence has a positive impact on local small business operations.

TCT has researched what the volunteer driver's perspective is from their point of view. And we respond to what our customers want us to do to support them in getting around by themselves. We do this by offering them choice within budgetary constraints. When 95% of customers ask for the 50% subsidized taxi voucher program my question is to the broader community ... why is that wrong? TCT is responsive to the passengers' demands and holds a customer focus in delivering services. By consulting widely with clients we have found that passengers are seeking choice and want to be self determining. That is not possible if government funded service providers make decisions for passengers about where and when they can travel in their local community. Naturally group transport between towns needs to be scheduled so that services can be established as reliable. Furthermore, we have found that our passengers do not want to be patronised by disability or age labels, and given choice will choose not to attend such day centre activities.

The level of physical and complex care needs of passengers has also increased. It is surprising that government has placed an expectation upon NGO's to do more with less, and for volunteer drivers to have to assume the responsibilities of other HACC funded project workers and even ambulance officers. How much training and professional development is it appropriate for volunteers in the community? Furthermore, a community and government that considers it ethical that volunteers from the community should assume the financial and personnel risk to deliver our services is nothing short of questionable. Given that the current funding model for community transport in NSW is paid staff in metropolitan areas this begs the question, why are rural areas expected to manage the delivery of services with volunteers? How sustainable, equitable and realistic is the expectation?

Furthermore, noting that volunteer insurance is not adequate in the event of a volunteer being in an accident, we need to question that if paid staff have worker's compensation entitlements if injured, then these volunteer drivers must surely receive equitable treatment and receive worker's compensation entitlements if they incur an injury. Fire fighters are fully covered, why not our community transport volunteer drivers?

By holding a strategic direction that ensures a sound customer service orientation to the delivery of services, where our passengers are empowered to have choice of transport options, I find it incredulous that others in the community are critical that we deliver what our transport disadvantaged passengers seek; that is, services that optimise their independence on their terms at times that suit them, going to where they want to go. During 2009/2010 we received 374 new referrals, of which 57 were not provided with service. These included 19 referred on to HNEAH, 12 to other agencies, and 26 were not provided service as most were ineligible. A total of 692 individuals were provided a service, with a total outcome of 12,799 trips: HACC (89.3%), CTP (7.6%), contracted services (2.7%), Transport to Safety (0.4%). The individuals included Aboriginal people (8%), people with disabilities (7%) and carers (12.7%). The destination breakdowns were Shopping (61%), Social (23.6%), Day Centre (8%), GP/Specialists (4.5%). The mode of travel included taxis (68%), volunteer cars (11%), project vehicle (9%), Brokered Bus (10%) and other (2%). Interestingly, 75% of HACC trips were for taxis, whilst 82% of CTP trips were with a brokered bus for more isolated clients the most cost efficient way of delivering group transport and 93% volunteer cars to individuals with high needs (dementia, Parkinson's, stroke and Multiple Sclerosis).

The enablement of clients, has underpinned our service delivery. TCT sustainably engages other transport providers such as taxi and bus services to complement the volunteer driver program proudly supporting passengers transverse their local rural landscapes in accessing services relevant to them.

Philosophy of Tablelands Community Transport

Tablelands Community Transport is a rural non-profit volunteer based organization administered under NSW Transport and Infrastructure. It is auspice under Uralla Shire Council to provide various levels of transport services to the local government areas of Walcha, Uralla, Armidale Dumaresq and Guyra. The area covered is 18,000 square kilometres and services a population of some 65,000. Funding is received under Community Transport Program (NSW Transport and Infrastructure), Home and Community Care (HACC) Program (Commonwealth and State governments). Brokerage arrangements operate with Tablelands Community Support Options (TCSO), Glen Innes Severn Council and New England Community Care and other organisations as requests are made. Transport is organised for high needs clients and/or their carers. The Tablelands Community Transport Advisory Committee came into effect in July 2000 with volunteer, Aboriginal, community, university and local government representation from across the Tablelands. Volunteer/consumer representatives serve a two-year term so that many may have the opportunity to participate. The advisory committee assist in the development and review of policies and setting the strategic direction for the service. The manager is delegated authority for the day-to-day operation of the service. Being auspice under Uralla Shire Council means that there are a number of requirements that need to be met under the Local Government Act as opposed to the Associations Incorporation Act.

All community transport services within NSW operate under relevant statutes, the National HACC Service Standards, the Public Passenger Act, Occupational Health and Safety Act and the Privacy Legislation. Tablelands Community Transport has numerous management policies and a team member orientation handbook that are reviewed annually. Transport services across New South Wales were monitored and reviewed under the Integrated Monitoring Framework (2009) and Validation (2001). This service was awarded 100% against the national Home and Community Care Standards in both and „fully met“ all Standards.

Tablelands Community Transport is a member of the NSW Community Transport Organisation, the Australian Association of Gerontology and Volunteering Australia. TCT has had long established business partnerships with McRae's (Uralla), Armidale Radio Taxis and Uralla Taxi Services.

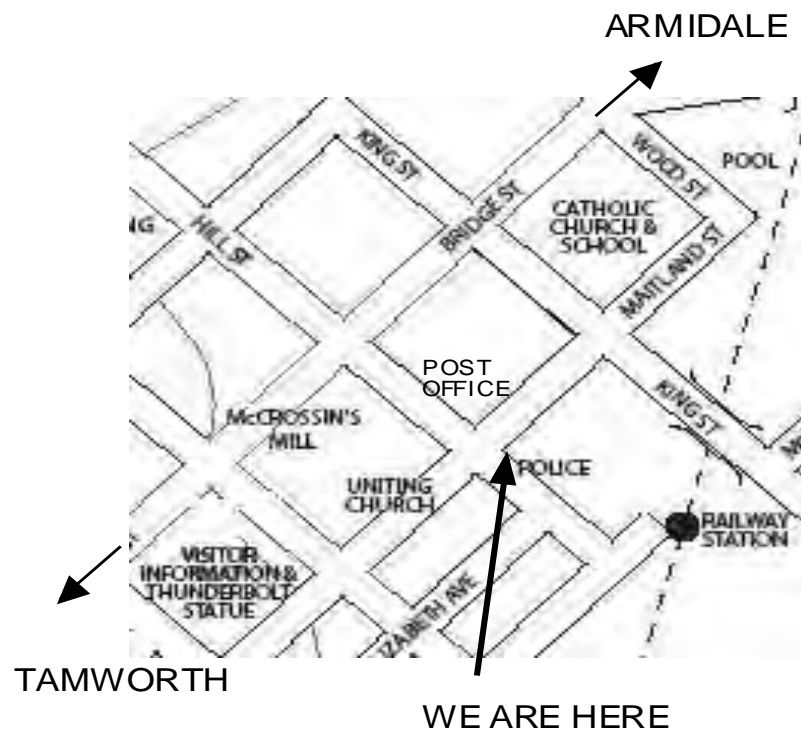
TCT offers Bruno the electric scooter service for use of shoppers in the Armidale CBD. This service now resides with Crazy Clark's. We are grateful to the team at Crazy Clark's and also acknowledge Acacia Medical Equipment for prompt servicing of the scooter. The Walcha based scooter was relocated to Bundarra Neighbour Aid and is now housed in Guyra.

Service Aims

The service aims to provide, within budget, accessible transport options for eligible passengers across the Tablelands, both individually and in groups, in an effort to alleviate transport disadvantage and increase mobility in a sustainable way.

Contact Details

LOCATION:	The office is located in the Old Court House, 9 Hill Street, Uralla.		
POSTAL ADDRESS:	PO Box 20, URALLA NSW 2358		
TELEPHONE:	(02) 6778 4089		
	Manager's mobile:	0417 959 617	
	Driver's mobile:	0417 473 628	
	Office mobile	0409 996 522	
FACSIMILE:	(02) 6778 5089		
EMAIL:	tct07@bigpond.com		
WEBSITE:	www.tablelandscommunitytransport.com.au		



Tablelands Community Transport Advisory Committee

NAME	ORGANISATION	MEMBERSHIP
Cr Isabel Strutt	Uralla Shire Council (Chairperson)	2004-present
Mr Bob Furze	Guyra Shire Council	1994-present
Mr Gerry Moran	Walcha Council	1997-present
Mrs Marjorie Robertson	Armidale TCT Volunteer (1989-2009)	2001-2005 then 2006- present
Cr Paul Harmer	Armidale Dumaresq Council	2008-present
Mr Michael Sivaraman	The Benevolent Society	2000-2005 then 2009-present
Mrs Gloria Kiehne	Armidale TCT Volunteer (1999-2009)	January 2009-present
Mr Doug Cutmore	Guyra Lands Council	June 2009-present
Ms Margaret Anderson	TCT Manager	1999-2009; Minute Secretary (1999-2005; 2007-present)

Tablelands Community Transport Advisory Committee Activity – July 2009-June 2010

<i>Committee Members</i>	<i>General Meetings</i>		<i>*Transport to Safety Subcommittee</i>		<i>Volunteer's Christmas Party</i>	<i>Volunteer Lunch</i>
	<i>Scheduled</i>	<i>Attended</i>	<i>Scheduled</i>	<i>Attended</i>	<i>Attended</i>	<i>Attended</i>
Cr Isabel Strutt (Chairperson)	5	3	2	1	1	-
Mr Gerry Moran (Walcha)	5	3	-	-	1	-
Mr Bob Furze (Guyra)	5	4	-	-	1	-
Mrs Marjorie Robertson (volunteer/consumer)	5	4	-	-	1	1
Mrs Gloria Kiehne (Volunteer)	5	4	-	-	1	1
Mr Michael Sivaraman (Armidale)	5	1	-	-	1	-
Mr Doug Cutmore (Guyra)	5	1	-	-	1	-
Cr Paul Harmer (Armidale)	5	2	2	2	-	1
Ms Margaret Anderson (Mgr)	5	4	2	2	1	1
*Ex-Officio: Ms Mary Devine (NENW Regional Transport) and Ms Sabine Altman (NSW Police Regional Domestic Violence Coordinator)						

Employees

Manager (full time)	Margaret Anderson, M.B.A.; Dip Soc. Sci. B.A. and B.Ed. (Art); (May 1999 to present)
Service Administrator (part time 15 hrs/week)	Linda Maynard, B.A. Secretarial Studies (February 2005 to present) Acting Manager (October 2009 and July 2010)
Project Driver (part time 8-15 hrs/week)	Roland Bennett, B.Sc., PhD. (June 2009-August 2010) Julian Betts (June 2009 – present)
Relief Bus Driver (Volunteer)	Keith Kiehne (2000-present)
Office Assistant (Volunteer)	Garry Kiehne (taxi vouchers)



Vehicles

FLEET: 1 project vehicle (Activan – 2 wheelchair places), 2 electric scooters, 2 electric bicycles

NETWORK TYPE: Partial Bus Brokerage, Volunteer car driving scheme, taxi voucher subsidies

SOFTWARE PROGRAMS: TRIPS A6 linked with TMA Central; Microsoft Office 2007 XP

DISABILITY ACCESS: People with disabilities are provided \$5 lifting vouchers and referred to Armidale Taxis, or transported in the TCT car (two wheelchair seated vehicle acquired August 2007).



Community Partnerships

CRAZY CLARKS: Administers the electric scooter since October 2007, which has served passengers from across the Tablelands who experience permanent or temporary mobility difficulty in accessing services. We are grateful for this business assistance.

ARMIDALE RADIO TAXI: Working collaboratively with TCT in the 50% taxi voucher subsidy scheme since 1990 and with the Maxi Taxi service for people with disabilities.

URALLA TAXI SERVICE: Working collaboratively with TCT in the 50% taxi voucher subsidy scheme since 1990.

McRAE'S BUS PTY LTD: Fortnightly bus run - Uralla to Armidale. Also thanks to Darrell Carson for his assistance in planning Old Blokes bus run.

WALCHA COUNCIL / WALCHA HACC: Provides bus and drivers for the fortnightly Walcha to Armidale Access Bus.

GUYRA COUNCIL / GUYRA HACC: Providing bus driver for a fortnightly Guyra to Armidale Access Bus.

2009-2010 Volunteer Acknowledgements

Tablelands Community Transport recognises the wonderful contribution made by our volunteers and the Advisory Committee. We also pay tribute to our community partnership organisations: McRae's (Uralla), Armidale Radio Taxis, Uralla Taxi Service, Crazy Clark's, Acacia Medical Equipment and the other community and health based organisations that we work with. We particularly acknowledge staff and services at Kent and Hughes House, Armidale, Tablelands Community Support Options, New England Stroke Recovery Club and Teen Time. We also acknowledge the HACC Coordinators of Walcha, Guyra and Uralla for addressing transport disadvantage within their local communities.

Special acknowledgements to Nicola Fulligar of New England Community Collage, Steve Wilcox and Judith Betts for assistance with Youth Week 2010, and to Mary Devine, New England North West Regional Transport Co-ordinator, for supporting funding initiatives and sustainable transport solutions.

Current Tablelands Community Transport Volunteers

Garry Kiehne, Armidale (2003-present)
Gloria Kiehne, Armidale (1999-present)
Keith Kiehne, Armidale (1999-present)
John Martin, Armidale (1989-present)
Leslie Lee, Armidale (May 2005-present)
Marjorie Robertson, Armidale (1989-present)
Trevor Mabbott (March 2009-present)
Julie O'Halloran (2010-present)

TCTAC

Cr Isabel Strutt, Uralla (2004-present)
Michael Sivaraman (2000-2006, June 2009-present)
Bob Furze, Guyra Council (TCTAC 1994-present)
Gerry Moran, Walcha Council (1997-present)
Marjorie Robertson, Armidale (2007-present)
Cr Paul Harmer (2008-present)
Gloria Kiehne, Armidale (2008-present)
Doug Cutmore, Guyra Lands Council (2009-present)
Cynthia Williams (TCTAC community representative, retired November 2009)

In Partnership with Walcha HACC and Guyra HACC (including volunteers participating in Public Passenger Authority Training):

Walcha HACC: Wendy Gribble – Coordinator (and Cathy Noon from 2010)

Davina Young, Walcha HACC Driver

Ralph Barillaro, Walcha HACC Relief Driver

Guyra HACC: Wendy Warner/Sally Burey
Public Passenger Authority Training

Uralla HACC: Catherine Mead - Coordinator

Dawn Bicknell, Uralla (1999-present)

Alan Bicknell, Uralla (1999-present)

Tony Egan, Uralla (December 2006 – 2009)

Retired

Bundarra HACC: Dawn Hodgson – Coordinator
Public Passenger Authority Training

Volunteers of the Year Award

Crazy Clark's in Armidale accepted to enter a community partnership arrangement with Tablelands Community Transport in 2007 as a gesture of support to people with mobility difficulties being able to shop. The electric scooter service is available to residents from all over the region with permanent or temporary mobility issues who come to Armidale for specialist health, medical and retail shopping so that their desire to be able to shop was assured. Customers' independence is therefore heightened when they are in control of where they go and what they can do.

The **Crazy Clark's** staff handle the bookings, customer enquiries, assist passengers with scooter familiarisation and how to ride the scooter safely. The staff collect the small hire fee of \$1 per hour from passengers. This income is then used for ongoing maintenance of the scooter, which is promptly provided by Acacia Medical Equipment.



Justin, Michelle & Janine (Acting Manager)



Tablelands Community Transport are grateful to the staff at **Crazy Clark's** in enabling us to provide this important community partnership.

Congratulations **Crazy Clark's** for a well deserved Volunteers of the Year Award.

Summary of Services Offered

MONDAY	McMaugh Gardens	Monthly
	Armidale / Uralla taxi voucher subsidy scheme	Daily
	MS Uralla to Armidale	Monthly
	Electric Scooter at Crazy Clarks	Daily
TUESDAY	Volunteer car driver scheme	As Required
	Armidale / Uralla taxi voucher subsidy scheme	Daily
	Aboriginal Elders – Social Activity	1 st & 5 th Tuesdays
	Social Seniors – Kent House	2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays
	Older Blokes Bus – travelling the New England	3 rd Tues of month
	Walcha to Armidale Shopping bus (brokered to Walcha HACC)	Fortnightly
	Counselling	Weekly
	Electric Scooter at Crazy Clarks	Daily
WEDNESDAY	Volunteer car driver scheme	As Required
	Armidale / Uralla taxi voucher subsidy scheme	Daily
	Armidale Shopping bus	Weekly
	Dementia respite – Jacaranda room	Weekly
	NESRC Pottery	1 st & 3 rd Wednesdays
	Parkinson Group	First Wednesday
	Wednesday Splinter Group	Weekly
	Electric Scooter at Crazy Clarks	Daily
THURSDAY	Volunteer car driver scheme	As Required
	Armidale / Uralla taxi voucher subsidy scheme	Daily
	Invergowrie to Armidale)	Fortnightly
	Social Seniors (plus concert afternoon 4 th Thursday)	1 st /2 nd /3 rd Thursdays
	Dementia respite – Jacaranda room	Weekly
	Uralla to Armidale McRae's Shopping bus	Fortnightly
	Electric Scooter at Crazy Clarks	Daily
FRIDAY	Volunteer car driver scheme	As Required
	Armidale / Uralla taxi voucher subsidy scheme	Daily
	ASCA House	Weekly
	New England Stroke Recovery Club	1 st & 3 rd Fridays
	Dementia Respite	Weekly
	Electric Scooter at Crazy Clarks	Daily
SATURDAY/ SUNDAY	Armidale / Uralla taxi voucher subsidy scheme	Daily
	Electric Scooter at Crazy Clarks	Daily
OTHER	Aged Expo	March 2009
	Older Parent Carers Forum	May 2009
	Senior Citizen's Week	Yearly

New Service Delivery and Business Partnerships

Business Partnerships

1. Memorandum of Understanding signed off with McRae's Bus Hire for the Uralla to Armidale Access door to door bus (fortnightly service) and Older Blokes Bus (monthly service).
2. Memorandum of Understanding with Walcha Council. Walcha to Armidale Access Bus provided as a fortnightly door to door bus service by Walcha HACC Service.
3. Teen Time provides a door to door car service for children with disabilities to attend out of homecare and school holiday activities from Guyra and Armidale.

Carer Program

4. Individualised Carer Respite (Tamworth and Tablelands) with Commonwealth Carer Respite

Community Partnerships

5. McMaugh Gardens local trips
6. Electric Scooter – Bundarra Neighbour Aid relocated to Guyra HACC June 2010
7. The Benevolent Society – Volunteer driver programme for people experiencing mental illness to counseling
8. Community partnership with Kent House for Senior's Week 2010, Armidale Care for Seniors Tuesdays and Thursdays
9. Armidale Dementia Respite – Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Youth

10. YABBY NET work – established by TCT as a direct outcome of the 2010 Tablelands Youth Survey
11. Tablelands Youth Week 2010– TCT convened this inaugural event and also coordinated the local Uralla Youth Week events and travel training. NSW LGA Youth Week Award-Small Council Most Outstanding Program

Regional Project

12. Transport to Safety Taxi Voucher Program – TCT manages the regional project of taxi vouchers for women and children to access women's refuges partnership with regional taxi companies.

Brokerage & New Services

13. Multiple Sclerosis Group on 4th Monday – Uralla to Armidale volunteer driver program
14. Kentucky to Uralla, monthly (or as needed) on Thursdays
15. Teen Times- a door to door service for children with disabilities to attend out of school activities Wednesday, Thursday, Fridays partnership with Armidale and Guyra Taxi Services
16. Parkinson's Support Group- a door to door service for people to attend support group Wednesdays volunteer driver program.
17. Travel Training-Youth Week 2010 and partnerships with Armidale Women's Housing, Mallam House, Freeman House, Armidale Youth Mental Health team, PRA Psychiatric Rehabilitation.

Achievements: July 2009 to June 2010

2010 Local Government Award – Youth Week Award (Best Small Council Youth Week Program)

Service Delivery and Office Achievements

- Mobility Map – work in progress – A community partnership with Spinal Cord Injuries, Tablelands Transport and Uralla Shire Council

Submissions

- Successful – Travel training – Youth Week (\$500) and NENW Transport Coordinator (\$1449)
- Successful – Youth Week (\$1,200)
- Successful – Transport to Safety Taxi Vouchers Scheme – woman and children to escape domestic violence (\$12,000)

Conferences – Presentations/Chair

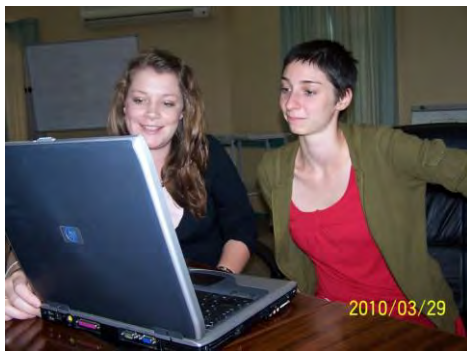
- UNE Postgraduate Research Conference July 2009 – Manager gives a presentation about the community transport action research of the New England Transport Forum (NETF) Learning Group and volunteers
- Manager is Chair of Day 2 of the Planning for an Aged Care Workforce Conference May 2010 at the Marriott, Sydney

Visits

- Marilyn Leeds, Ministry of Transport, Visited office on 21 and 22 May to facilitate the Integrated Monitoring Framework (IMF).
- Gail Mendoza, Converge International - Uralla Shire Council's Employee Assistance Program, regularly visits office.

Special Events

July 2009	NAIDOC Week – UNE Flag Raising Participation in Centre for Applied Research in Social Science Uralla consultation
October	Launch of TCT website and Annual Financial reporting at McCrossin Mill, Uralla Armidale Stress Less festival
November	Thunderbolt Festival : Keith and Gloria Kiehne drive project car in the parade
December	Volunteer Christmas Party at The Top Pub, Uralla Consulting youth on survey design Transport/info desk and participation in International Day of People with a Disability Armidale Racecourse - Roland Bennett wins best dressed International Volunteer Day – Armidale Town Hall
January 2010	Belgrave Twin Cinema Advertising January to June 2010
	Inaugural Youth Survey and establishment of YABBY(youth are being brutally youth)
February	Disability Survey
April	Inaugural Tablelands Youth Week – debate, bicycle workshop, bus travel training, mural at Uralla Water Tower, Radio UNE broadcast live,
May	Relocated electric scooter form Bundarra HACC to Guyra HACC
June	Travel Training with Edwards bus and community agencies



Training Calendar 2009-2010

Date	Venue	Training	Attendees
5-6/8/2009	Artesian Spa Motel Moree	Integrated Community Transport Data Set (ICTDS) – NETF	Margaret Anderson and Linda Maynard
7/8/2009	Uralla Shire Council Chambers	Drug and Alcohol Awareness Workshop	Margaret Anderson and Linda Maynard
August- September 2009	Bus Training	Driver training/supervising on Elders and Older Blokes	Keith Kiehne training Trevor Mabbott
8-9/9/2009	Novatel Coffs Harbour	Sharing Directions Symposium - DADHC	Margaret Anderson, Linda Maynard, Roland Bennett, Gloria & Keith Kiehne
24/11/2009	Aboriginal Medical Service Building	Working Safely in Private Dwellings and External Locations – NE HACC Development Training	Margaret Anderson and Roland Bennett
28/4/2010	Uralla Shire Council Chambers	Fire Safety	Margaret Anderson and Linda Maynard
6/5/2010	Gunnedah Community Transport	New England Regional Transport Forum Trips Reports Training	Margaret Anderson and Linda Maynard
29/6/2010	Pat Dixon Centre	Orientation to Volunteering in HACC (refresher)	Volunteers

Committee Involvement / Meeting Processes

Ongoing Committees

1. Armidale Access Awards Organising Committee – Manager
2. Armidale DADHC Planning Consultation annual – Manager / Service Administrator
3. Community Care, monthly, Armidale – Manager
4. Dementia Network Advisory Committee, quarterly, Armidale – Manager
5. Disability Interagency, monthly, Armidale – Manager
6. International Day for People with Disabilities – Manager
7. Kent House Annual Planning Day, annual, Armidale – Manager (apology) – Survey completed
8. Meals on Wheels Planning Day, annual, Armidale – Manager (apology) – Survey completed
9. New England HACC Development Inc Management Committee, bimonthly, Armidale – Manager (2002 – present)
10. New England HACC Development Planning Day, annual, Armidale – Manager
11. New England Regional HACC Forum, twice yearly, Bingara/Tamworth – Manager / TCT Driver
12. New England Transport Forum, quarterly, around the region – Manager
13. NSW CTO Rural representative on the NSW – Ministerial Advisory Committee – Manager
14. Social Seniors Planning Day, annual – Manager (apology)
15. Staff Meetings – All Staff
16. Tablelands Community Transport Advisory Committee, bimonthly, Uralla/Armidale – Manager/Service Administrator
17. Tablelands Community Transport Planning Day – Manager/Service Administrator/Driver
18. TCT Volunteer team meetings bimonthly to quarterly, Armidale – Manager/Service Administrator/Driver
19. Team Meetings – All Staff and volunteers
20. Transport Working Troup – Armidale – Quarterly – Manager or Service Administrator
21. Uralla Shire Council Consultative Committee bi monthly, Uralla – Manager
22. Volunteer Centre Planning Day, annual, Armidale – Manager (apology) – Survey completed
23. New England North West Regional Access Committee, Quarterly – Manager

Other Meetings

24. Armidale Senior Citizens Week Organising Committee – Gloria Kiehne
25. Kent House Users Meeting – Gloria Kiehne (not met in past 12 months)
26. Legacy House – Marjorie Robertson
27. U3A – Marjorie Robertson

Meetings July 2009 to June 2010

	Meeting	Scheduled	Attended		
			Manager	Service Administrator	Volunteer (Gloria Kiehne)
1.	Tablelands Community Transport Advisory Committee (TCTAC)	5	4	-	-
2.	TCTAC Transport to Safety Subcommittee	2	2		
3.	TCT Volunteer Team Meeting	6	3	6	6
4.	Transport Working Group				
5.	New England Regional Transport Forum	4	2	1	
6.	Ministry of Transport Advisory Committee – Review of Community Transport	4	4	-	-
7.	New England North West Regional Access Group	4	3	-	-
8.	SLEX – Sustainable Transport Working Group	7	5	-	-
9.	New England HACC Management Committee	6	4	-	-
10.	New England Division of General Practice Dementia Working Group	4	1	-	-
11.	Disability Interagency	5	3	-	-
12.	Community Care	5	3	1	
13.	Armidale Senior Citizen Week Organising Committee	8	-	-	8
14.	Kent House User Group	0	-	-	0

Operating Data

Service Statistics	July 2009 – June 2010	July 2008 – June 2009	July 2007 – June 2008	July 2006 – June 2007	July 2005 – June 2006	July 2004 – June 2005
Total Passengers	692	634	732	642	693	713
Aboriginal Passengers	54 (8%)	29 (4.6%)	61 (8.33%)			
Passengers with Disabilities	49 (7.0%)	45 (7.10%)	74 (10.11%)		61 (9%)	
Carers	88					
New Referrals	374	191	207		178	110
Unmet trip requests	19 HNEAH 12 other agency 26 no service provided	35 on list referred to 2 Homecare 14 HNEAHS 2 DVA 17 taxi voucher waiting list	3 Fri Dem. 36 HRT 4 Renal 3 chemo. 55 TV waiting list 7 referred to other agency 4 DVA	23 on list / from July 2005 issued Feb 2006 22 on TV waiting list Feb 2006 and issued TV June 2006	12 referred 2 to TCSO and 9 tr HNEAHS 1 CF denied	43
Total Passenger Trips: HACC, CT, HRT	12799	12,721	12,861	12,077	12,498	14,803
HACC Funding (% of total trips)	11438 (89.3%)	9,848 (80%)	77.5%	74.45%	67.0%	77%
CTP Funding (% of total trips)	968 (7.6%)	2,440 (19%)	22%	22.82%	28%	13%
HRT Funding/HNEAHS Brokerage % of total trips	0. 0(%) No contract negotiated	94 (0.74%)	0.5%	2.73%	2.75%	11%
Transport to Safety (% of total trips) New England region initiative	46 (0.36%)					
Contracted Services (% of total trips)	216 (2.7%)	2	3		1	1
GP/Specialist Medical Appointments	581 (4.5%)	307 (2.4%)	334 (65 HNEAH)	228	150	1,877
Shopping	7802 (61.0%)	7,191 (56.5%)	7,161	6,525	6,210	7,283
Social	3016 (23.6%)	3,123 (24.5%)	3,967	3,687	4,363	4,925
Day Centre	1018 (8.0%)	1,702(13.4%)	359	4	91	85
Other + includes other type health appoint.	382 (3.0%)	393+ (3.2%)	1,040	1,095	988	633
Number of Accidents/Incidents	0 workers comp	3 workers comp	vi, vii	v	lii, iv	lii
Verbal Complaints	7	21	6		11	14
Written Complaints	1	2	3	0	1	1
Last CIARR Number as 30 June	1774	1622	1454	1335	1187	

Key:

- i. no injury, minor damage to bus only
- ii. manager sustains an electric shock from a faulty broadband panel
- iii. service administrators car window is damaged by UCS mower – window replaced at USC expense
- iv. volunteer reverses project car into gutter – minimal damage(NRMA)
- v. Walcha client fell off bus.
- vi. Hubbard's Bus Hire damage made by unknown person during hiring
- vii. Project Car – parked at doctor's surgery scraped by another car

Commendations

2010 (June)	<p>WINNER of the NSW LGSA 2010 Youth Week Award for Best Small Council Youth Week Program</p> <p>Nominated for a Kookaburra Award 2010 for the Tablelands Youth Survey 2010</p>
2008-2010	<p>Manager nominated as Rural Delegate on NSW Ministerial Advisory Committee to Community Transport Service Review and to review and prepare the draft Framework to deliver Community Transport (HACC funding)</p>
2008-2009	<p>Manager invited (with 10 others from around Australia) to develop the 3-day ethics program for the St James Ethics Centre (Vincent Fairfax Ethical Leaders Award)</p> <p>TCT achieves “fully met” (100%) on all Integrated Monitoring Framework (IMF) Criteria – One of three services to achieve this outcome in NSW</p>
2007-2008	<p>Community Relations Commission – Volunteer of the Year – Keith & Gloria Kiehne</p> <p>Service Administrator nominated for Service Provider of the Year (Armidale)</p>
2006-2007	<p>Northern Inland Business Awards Nomination</p>
2005-2006	<p>Prime Minister’s Award for Excellence in Community Partnerships Nominations</p> <p>Nomination in the Community Services Category of the Uralla Rotary Club Awards</p>
2004-2005	<p>Prime Minister’s Award for Excellence in Community Partnerships Nominations</p> <p>Manager graduates with an MBA (partly sponsored by Uralla Shire Council)</p>
2003-2004	<p>Prime Minister’s Award for Excellence in Community Partnerships Nominations</p>
2002-2003	<p>Prime Minister’s Award for Excellence in Community Partnerships Nominations</p> <p>Northern Inland Business Awards Nomination</p> <p>TCT Manager awarded Churchill Fellowship to study the management of community transport in rural communities of 50,000 or less (UK and USA)</p>
2001-2002	<p>Prime Minister’s Award for Excellence in Community Partnerships Nominations</p> <p>National HACC (Home and Community Care) Standards Validation – “fully met” (100%) One of six services in NSW to achieve this outcome</p>

Data Collection for Services Provided

2009 – 2010

Mode of Travel Passenger Trips

Funding Program	Private Operator or STA bus	Brokerage Bus	Project Owned Bus	w/chair Project Owned Car	Volunteer Car	Taxi	Other	Total
HACC	0	535	0	1145	1133	8568	57	11,438
CTP	0	795	0	20	67	86	0	968
CONTRACTS	0	10	0	4	202	0	0	216
TTS	12	0	0	0	0	34	0	46
Travel Training	131	0	0	0	0	0	0	131
	143	1,340	0	1,169	1,402	8,688	57	12,799

Service Type Passenger Trips

Funding Program	Day Care	Social or Recreation	Shopping or Access	Hospital or Medical	GP's or Specialist	Other		Total
HACC	832	2,805	6,908	5	566	322		11,438
CTP	2	52	894	6	4	10		968
CONTRACTS	184	28	0	0	0	4		216
TTS	0	0	0	0	0	46		46
Travel Training	0	131	0	0	0	0		131
	1,018	3,016	7,802	11	570	382	Total	12,799

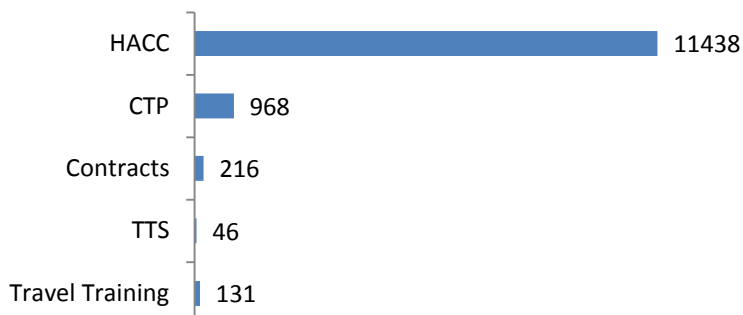
* TTS is Transport to Safety a New England regional partnership with Womens' Refuges and Taxi operators administered by TCT. All data included here has not previously been reported. This includes a total of 3,755km.

Estimated Total Number of Individual People Carried 692

Total Kilometres Travelled to Provide Service 84,028

Trips Charts

Total Passenger Trips by Funding Program



Percentage of Total Trips

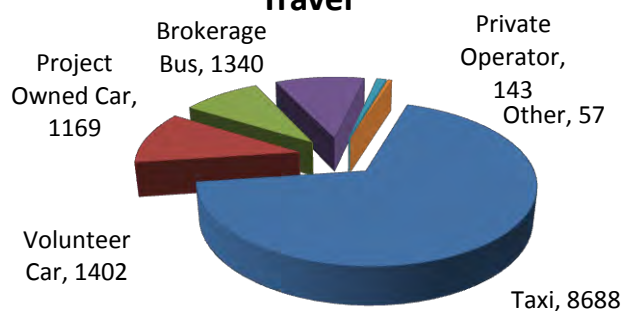
	08/09	09/10
HACC	77.42%	89.37%
CTP	19.18%	7.56%
HRT	0.74%	
Contracts		1.69%
TTS		0.36%
Travel Training		1.02%
OTHER	2.66%	
	100.00%	100.00%

Total Number of Trips

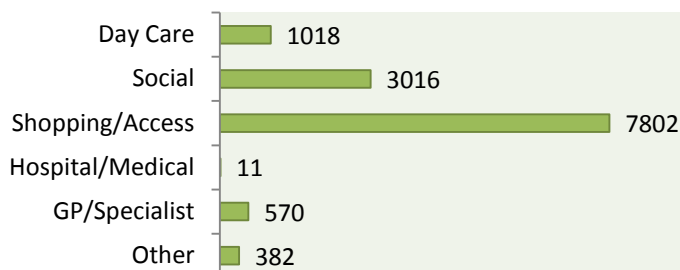
2008/2009	12,721
2009/2010	12,799

	08/09	09/10
Taxi	56.02%	67.88%
Volunteer Car	17.28%	10.95%
Project Owned Car	9.45%	9.13%
Brokerage Bus	16.96%	10.47%
Private Operator		1.12%
Other	0.29%	0.45%
	100.00%	100.00%

Total Passenger Trips by Mode of Travel



Total Passenger Trips by Service Type



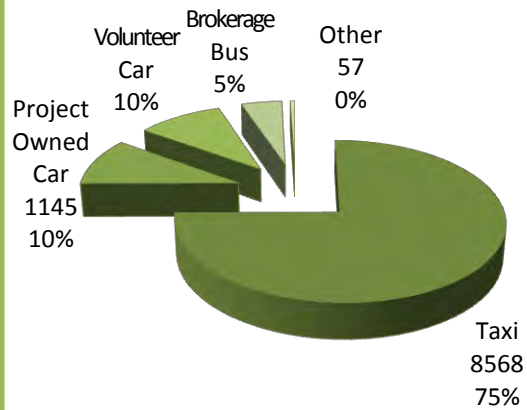
Service Type % Breakdown

	08/09	09/10
Day Care	13.38%	7.95%
Social	24.55%	23.56%
Shopping	56.53%	60.96%
Hospital	0.50%	0.09%
Doctor	1.88%	4.45%
Other	3.17%	2.98%
	100.00%	100.00%

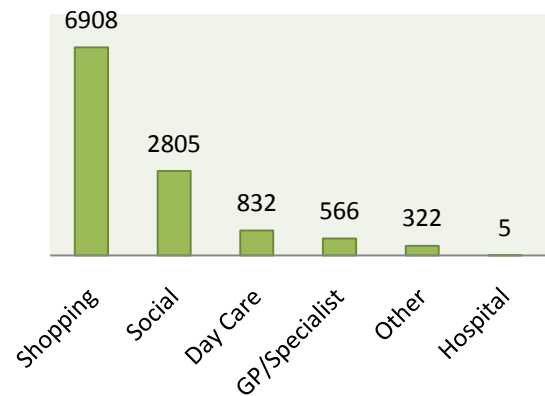
Break up of Mode of Travel for each Funding Type

Break up of Service Type for each Funding Type

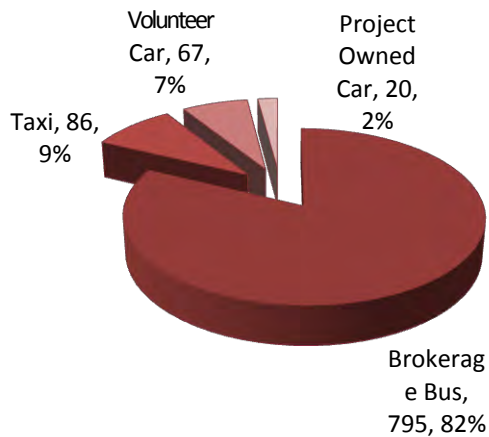
HACC Funded Trips by Mode of Travel



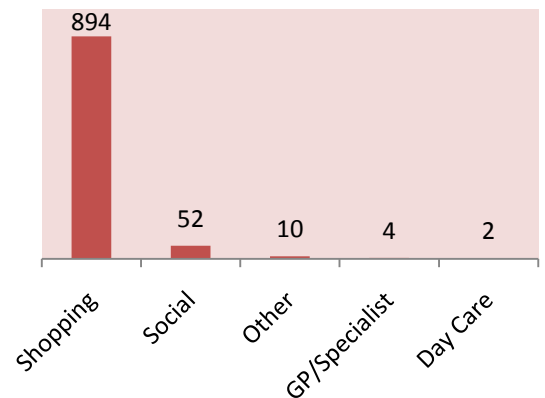
HACC Funded Trips by Service Type



CTP Funded Trips by Service Type

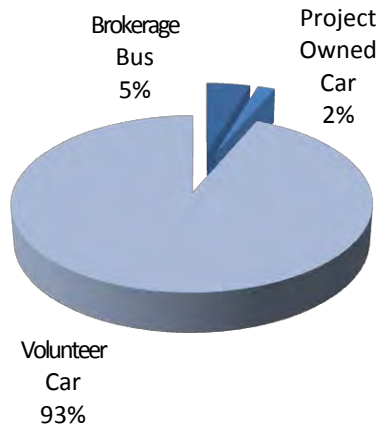


CTP Funded Trips by Service Type



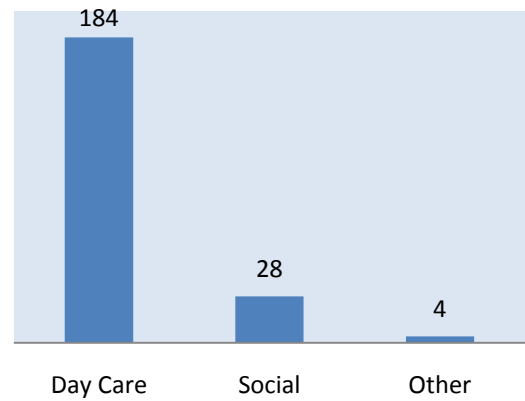
**Break up of Mode of Travel
for each Funding Type
(continued)**

**Contract Funded Trips by
Mode of Travel**



**Break up of Service Type
for each Funding Type
(continued)**

**Contract Funded Trips by
Service Type**



Financial Statements 2009-2010

The audited Financial Statement for year ended 30 June 2010 will be available on our web site.