NARROMINE SHIRE COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING BUSINESS PAPER – 10 DECEMBER 2024 REPORTS TO COUNCIL – GENERAL MANAGER

1. ALCOHOL FREE ZONES 2024 - 2028

Author	Director Governance
Responsible Officer	General Manager
Link to Strategic Plans	CSP – 1.1.1 Advocate, represent and promote programs that will minimise crime and assist in crime protection for our community including our young and most vulnerable D.P. – 1.1.1.2 Review Alcohol Free Zones within the Shire

Executive Summary

This report provides Council with information to consider re-adopting Alcohol Free Zones in both Narromine and Trangie for a further four-year period.

Report

In November 2008, Council resolved to implement Alcohol Free Zones (AFZ) in Narromine and Trangie for a further period of three years, using the 50km speed signs to determine the area within each town. The zones were then renewed in 2001, 2014, 2017 and 2020 with the expiry of current zones in November 2024.

The AFZ may only be established to include a public road, footpath or a public place that is a carpark (i.e. carparks on public land or Crown land) and for a maximum period of four years.

Police and authorised Council enforcement officers have the power to tip out or otherwise confiscate alcohol being consumed in an Alcohol Prohibited Area. Since the implementation of the AFZ in 2008, Council and the NSW Police have seen a reduction in the number of complaints relating to broken bottles and irresponsible behaviour.

Council must gain approval from the relevant Police Local Area Commander prior to establishing the AFZ (Section 632A(8) of the Local Government Act 1993). Accordingly, the Manager of Health, Building and Environmental Services met with Police earlier in the year (including the licensing sergeant) who reviewed the relevance of the location of the existing alcohol-free zones and recommended reinstating them.

In accordance with Section 644 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council then published a notice of the proposed alcohol-free zones in a newspaper circulating in the area inviting representations or objections within 30 days from the date of publication. In addition, Council wrote to representative groups such as the Local Aboriginal Land Councils, Narromine Police and all licenced premises within the AFZ areas, inviting representations/objections.

Council received one comment regarding the Alcohol-Free Zones for 2024 to 2028 which was in favour of the existing zones.

Council must now, by resolution, adopt a proposal to re-establish the alcohol-free zones. The resolution itself will establish the zone.

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1. ALCOHOL FREE ZONES 2024 – 2028 (Cont'd)

Following this resolution, Council must publicly advise the re-establishment of an alcohol-free zone by notice published in a manner that the Council is satisfied is likely to bring the notice to the attention of members of the public in the area.

The AFZ will not operate until 7 days after the first publication of the relevant notice and until the roads, footpaths and public carparks affected are adequately signposted.

Financial Implications

Operational Plan and Budget 2024-2025

Legal and Regulatory Compliance

Local Government Act 1993 – Sections 632 – 644 Ministerial Guidelines on Alcohol-Free Zones 2009

Risk Management Issues

Compliance with legislative requirements.

There is evidence that when Alcohol Free Zones are established in appropriate areas and operated with the required level of resources to promote and enforce the zones, they can be an effective tool in assisting Police manage public safety.

Internal/External Consultation

Meeting with Local Area Police Public Notification allowing 30 days for written submissions Written notification to appropriate parties

<u>Attachments</u>

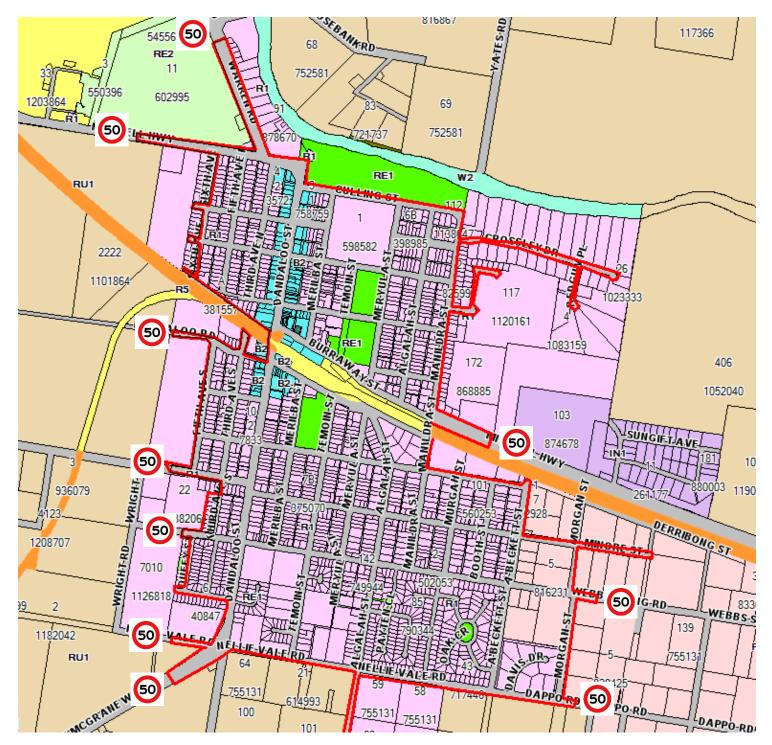
- Proposed Alcohol-Free Zones 2024 – 2028 for Narromine and Trangie (Attachment No. 1)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council establish Alcohol Free Zones in Narromine and Trangie using the 50km speed signs to determine the area within each town, for a period of 4 years effective 23 December 2024 to 22 December 2028.

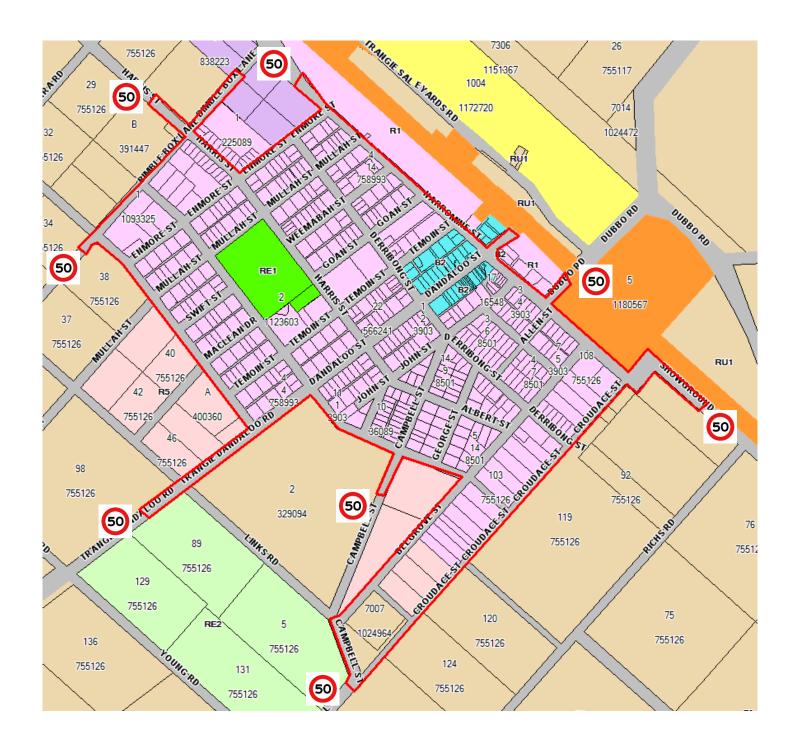
Jane Redden General Manager Attachment No. 1

Narromine Township Alcohol Free Zone



Attachment No. 1

Trangie Township Alcohol Free Zone



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