


Narromine
SHIRE COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

2015/2016



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Mayoral Welcome



I am extremely proud to have been elected Mayor following the September 2016 local government elections. I congratulate the previous Mayor, Cr Bill McAnally, who has stepped down after serving Council for twelve years (12), as its Mayor since September 2012. Thanks must also go to the former Deputy Mayor, Cr Sue McCutcheon, also since September 2012, and to retiring Councillors Carney, Ellis, Mack and Truscott.

Council's many achievements, on your behalf, are outlined in the Annual Report and End of Term Report, and I commend them to you to read and note actions and future priorities to make this an even more sustainable and responsive Council.

Council has had to meet the challenges of remaining as a "stand alone" Council to ensure our community has a strong voice and the Council is 'Fit for the Future' to serve them well. The next challenges for Council are to maintain its financial sustainability rating and to improve the "scale and capacity", i.e. population growth and economic development for more local jobs.

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

One of our main priorities has been to focus on the feasibility study for the Narromine Flood Levee extension. A decision on this has been delayed due to Council wanting more accurate flood data included in the flood studies and due to the statutory process Council has to follow in order to ensure funding and immunity. The moving of the Cenotaph, adoption of a Strategic Asset Management Plan for the Narromine Aerodrome, including the ongoing development of Stage 4 Skypark Residential Estate, and finalisation of other asset management plans have been other achievements to date.

Our Macquarie Valley Family Day Care Service and the Narromine Saleyards, for instance, are some of those community assets that need to be maintained and their future properly planned to ensure they are sustainable assets. Consequently, Council has had to look at their cost levels, fees, possibility of others leasing them etc. to ensure they are not unduly subsidised by ratepayers who do not use the facilities. These are some of the hard decisions Council has had to make, and the new Council will have to continue to do.

Mayoral Welcome (Cont'd)

The future for economic growth in the Narromine Shire continues to look bright for Council, with the development of a Public Relations & Marketing Strategic Plan, a Prospectus to attract business, the plans for the Inland Rail to go through Narromine, the sale of Council's Industrial land on the Mitchell Highway to local developers, the selling of residential blocks in Skypark, the extension of the Narromine Aviation Museum, the three (3) year expansion of the Tomingley Gold Operations mine, the establishment of new Aged Care facilities, and so forth. Added to this, are our close links to Dubbo, Orange and the emergence of mining and the upgrade of regional airport and transport operations, which will all set the platform for real growth.

The new Council is focussed on the economic development of the Shire to promote further employment and increased production. Council has already commenced planning initiatives to address the increased levels of crime within the Shire and provide opportunities for our youth by working with other agencies.

The next twelve months will see a new round of community consultation as Council reviews the Community Strategic Plan and develops the four year Delivery program establishing and committing the key priorities and initiatives of the new Council. I encourage all residents to be actively involved in the community consultation process providing feedback to Council on what they see as the key priorities within our community.

In closing, I thank you, the community, for your patience and your input in making this the great rural shire that it is.

Cr Craig Davies
Mayor

Community Vision and Values

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

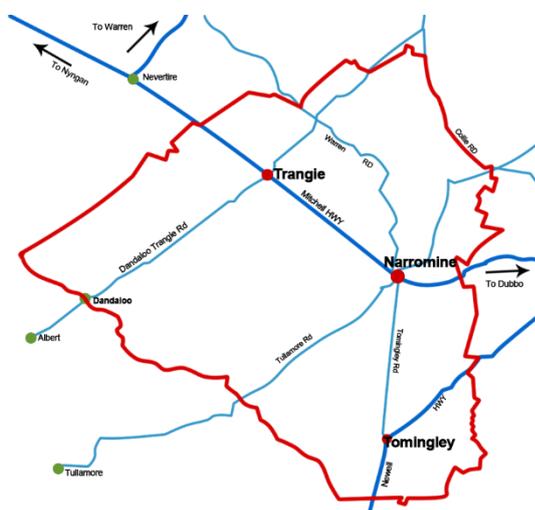
The Shire covers an area of 5268.9 km² within central New South Wales and has a population of approximately 6,850. The Shire comprises three urban centres of Narromine (population 3500), Trangie (population 800) 35 km to the west, and Tomingley (population 50) 35 km to the south. The remaining residents live in the surrounding rural areas.

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

Narromine offers numerous opportunities to potential investors and the pro-active Shire Council will assist wherever possible. The planned future direction for the Shire is to

encourage industrial development and provide a rural quality of life. The Shire is centrally located in the State with excellent links to capital cities, and the port of Newcastle. Significant mineral resources have been discovered near Tomingley, and the Tomingley Gold Mine is now in operation.

The Shire has a moderate and stable climate, an abundance of raw materials, an established irrigation industry and relatively cheap land. The Shire also has an excellent labour base including capable tradespeople in virtually every industry. The local and regional network of suppliers and support industries is also excellent. Narromine is considered the best gliding area in Australia and one of the three best in the world. Pilots from many overseas countries visit Narromine every year for gliding and the State and National Championships are held here on a regular basis. The Aviation Museum complex highlights the extraordinary history of the aerodrome including a stopover for many famous aviators, providing a training base for pilots during WWII and instruction for Qantas pilots. The Aerodrome is also home to a replica Wright Brothers Plane, along with a number of restored historic aircraft.



Community Vision and Values (Cont'd)

Vision Statement

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

Our Mission

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

Our Values and Principles

That guide the Council will be:

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



Australia Day Award recipients 2016

Councillors (2016 – 2020)



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Mayor

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Interim General Manager's Message



I am pleased to present Narromine Shire Council's 2015/16 Annual Report to Residents on Council's achievements in 2015/16 and future priorities for

2016/17 as outlined in Council's adopted Delivery Program and Annual Operational Plan. Please take the time to read them; they outline the many tasks undertaken and achieved by Council in the last year. Council and Staff have done an excellent job in meeting our targets and propose to continue to do this in 2016/17.

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

Council has "fine-tuned" its organisational structure and made significant staff changes to ensure there is more stability with the retention and promotion of key staff who are focussed upon delivering the best outcomes for the Narromine Shire. There are now three (3) directorates, (reduced from four (4) previously) under the Chief Financial Officer, Director Infrastructure

& Engineering Services, and Director Corporate, Community & Regulatory Services, in order to strengthen leadership levels.

To date, during this 2015/16 period, Strategic Plans have been developed for the Narromine Aerodrome, Roads, Water, Sewer and Waste following extensive community consultation, and the remainder, Recreation and Community Facilities thereafter. Internally, our Roads Management practices have been improved in consultation with our community needs and civil engineering consultants, with productivity gains identified to complement our Roads Asset Management obligations. The same process has been applied to all other areas of Council's responsibility in order to ensure our financial and asset management capability. This will require a comprehensive review of our levels of service in due course to ensure our "Fit for the Future" sustainability strategies are met.

Council had to demonstrate to the NSW State Government that it has the "scale and capacity" and "financial sustainability" to be a stand-alone Council that meets the "Fit for the Future" (FFTF) criteria. Council was determined to be financially sustainable which was a great achievement by Council and staff involved. The next challenge is the implementation of the FFTF Improvement Plan, adopted by Council, for the General Manager to implement to ensure Council remains 'fit' and sustainable financially.

Interim General Manager's Message

(Cont'd)

Council has formed strong alliances within the Orana Regional Organisation of Councils (OROC) (comprising 10 other councils), the Lower Macquarie Water Utilities Alliance (10 others), the Macquarie Regional Library (3 others), Orana Arts and Netwaste to name a few. This enables Council to participate in the 'shared resources' philosophy and maintain a sustainable financial position sought by the State Government to ensure Council retains its independence as a 'stand-alone' Council.

The State Government has undertaken a trial of five (5) regional organisations of councils to explore the possibility of establishing them as legal entities entitled Joint Organisations of Council (JOs). OROC was not one of those trialled. Recently a consultation paper on the proposed structure and functions of JOs has been circulated for comment, and hopefully, by the end of November 2016 when this Annual Report is presented, confirmation of the functions and boundaries of the JO will be received so Council can deal with the situation.

Investigations into the extension of the flood levee for Narromine, improving sewer and water quality, security and infrastructure for the Shire's towns and village and continuing to consult with the community in improving the roads system and upgrading recreational facilities are a few key priority area "big ticket" items in the 2016/17 budget.

During 2015/16 the vast majority of projects proposed to be done were achieved and those that were not completed will be carried over into the next year. Very few projects were not completed, as outlined in this Annual Report, which is a credit to the Council, senior staff and operational staff.

Council is working hard to make the difficult decisions needed to ensure it is an efficient entity to provide the services the community seek in a cost effective manner, within the available resources, and has been laying the platform for this to occur during the term of the current Council. To be determined as 'Fit' financially is an extremely positive platform for Council to build upon. The challenge is to increase the "scale and capacity" levels proposed by IPART and Council notes their population levels were based on population projections from the NSW Department of Planning, rather than ABS sources, that Council uses via the REMPLAN tool. This approach has resulted in far less population projected than is actually occurring for the Shire, which reflects a gradually increasing population, not a declining one, which augers well for the future prosperity of Council.

I wish to thank Greg Lamont, General Manager, who has resigned after six and a half years with Council to pursue other activities, for his achievements over that period in progressing the Shire. As Interim General Manager, I look forward to working with the community and staff in continuing the good work already achieved. Projects for the coming twelve months include a decision on the feasibility of the construction of the flood levee, upgrading water and sewer infrastructure and improving our roads network, to take advantage of the opportunities the Narromine Aerodrome has to offer, to increase our capability to entice people and businesses to relocate to our towns and rural areas.

Jane Redden,
Interim General Manager

How We Operate

Four operational divisions are responsible for the implementation of Council's Delivery Program which direct the everyday operations of the Organisation as follows:



JANE REDDEN
Interim General Manager

Includes the activities of Human Resource Services, Industrial Relations, Workplace Health and Safety and Workers Compensation for the organisation

JANE REDDEN
Chief Financial Officer

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



VAS ROBERTS
Director Corporate, Community and Regulatory Services

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



KERRIE MURPHY
Director Infrastructure and Engineering Services

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

Strategic Priorities

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

The image of Narromine and the Shire

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

Facilities and Services

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

Maintaining and Improving Infrastructure

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

Our Regulatory Function

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

Leadership and Delivery of Ideas

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

Summary

Based around these issues, strategies and specific action statements have been developed to work towards delivering the community's vision for Narromine Shire 2022. The strategies and actions of Narromine 2022 are detailed in Council's Delivery Program and Operational Plan (2015-2016).

Council's Annual Report is one of the key points of accountability between a council and its community. It is not a report to the Office of Local Government or to the NSW Government; it is a report to the community. The Annual report focuses on Council's implementation of the Delivery Program and Operational Plan because these are the plans that are wholly the Council's responsibility. The report also includes some information that is prescribed by the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

Strategic Priorities (Cont'd)

This information has been included in the Regulation because the Government believes that it is important for community members to know about it – to help their understanding of how the council has been performing both as a business entity and a community leader.

This report focuses on Council's key activities and the achievements in relation to those activities for the 2015/2016 year.

Human Resource Services

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

Achievements in 2015/2016

- Human Resource Policies created, implemented, reviewed and developed throughout the year.
- HR Advance used when required to assist in the development of policies and HR correspondence.
- WHS Audits completed to identify and ameliorate risk to Council and Staff.
- Individual training plans created for all staff to identify training gaps and ensure the workforce have access to development opportunities to ensure they are able to meet regulatory and legislative requirements.
- HR newsletter completed quarterly.
- Council's insurance cover negotiated and insurance claims managed accordingly.

Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- Biannually update the EEO Management Plan

Future Priorities

- Risk register populated with further current information.
- Develop and implement new Human Resource policies.
- Continue to develop and implement WHS and Risk Management plans, strategies and audits to identify and ameliorate risks to Council and staff.
- Investigate and implement organisational structure changes to improve efficiencies.
- Implementation of an Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee to analyse compliance, risk management, financial management, governance, services reviews, performance measurement data etc.

Community Services

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

Achievements in 2015/2016

- Macquarie Valley Family Day Care (MVFDC) provides high quality access to childcare, vacation and after school care. It also operates as an agent for NSW In-Home Care Services providing care for children with an illness or disability. Visitor information services are also delivered from the MVFDC office assisting tourists and residents with information during the year.
- During the 2015/2016 year 251 children were enrolled in MVFDC in Narromine, Warren, Sydney and Bathurst with a total of 23 Educators providing care.
- 55 children were enrolled in Narromine Vacation Care.
- Narromine Vacation Care children enjoyed excursions to Inflatable World, Bubble Soccer, Reading Cinema, Terramungamine Reserve, Dubbo Waterpark, Wellington Caves, The Courthouse, St Vincent de Paul and the Narromine Men's Shed.
- The Quality Improvement Plans for both MVFDC and Narromine Vacation Care reviewed to assess value of current practices and plan improvements.
- Quarterly meetings held with Narromine and Trangie Showground and Racecourse facility users.
- Regular meetings held with facility users of the Trangie Memorial Hall and Tomingley Memorial Hall.
- Grant funding applied for throughout the year to improve showgrounds and halls.
- Narromine Branch library had 28,877 visitations with 23,083 articles on loan during the year. The library also responded to 3,448 information requests.
- Trangie Branch library had 15,666 visitations with 8,387 loans and 1,563 information requests.
- The libraries ran very successful promotional weeks, activities, author visits, and events during the year. Narromine Shire Council is a partner with the Macquarie Regional Library which includes the Councils of Dubbo Regional (formerly Dubbo and Wellington) and Warrumbungle. Macquarie Regional Library Board Meetings are held alternatively in each centre quarterly.
- Budget allocation of \$1,000 and \$2,000 respectively provided to the Trangie and Narromine Local History Group.

Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- All planned strategies were achieved.

Community Services (Cont'd)

Future Priorities

- Continue to promote opportunities for Educators to join Macquarie Valley Family Day Care.
- Continue to apply for grant funding to improve community halls and showground facilities.
- Continue to provide a budget allocation to the Local History Groups.



Trangie Showground Pavilion – Photo courtesy of Trangie Charity Masquerade Ball



Playgroup – Macquarie Valley Family Day Care

Vacation Care



Corporate Services

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

Achievements in 2015/2016

- The following events were held in partnership with the community: Pink Pigeon Race Day in aid of McGrath Foundation, Local Government Week, Senior's Week, Youth Week and Narromine Australia Day.
- Section 355 committees, various workshops and public forums held throughout the year which provided opportunities for community members to participate in Council's decision-making processes.
- Annual report written, produced and made available to the public.
- Monthly newsletter "Community Connection" celebrating and promoting the positive aspects of Narromine Shire distributed.
- Regular columns placed in the Narromine News and Trangie Advocate and Flatchat Newspapers informing the community of events and important decisions.
- Responded to 1 Government Information Public Access request during the 2015/2016 year. Council continues to provide the public with information when requested outside of GIPA.
- Legislative checklists distributed monthly to management to ensure compliance with legislative requirements.
- Statutory policies, codes and plans presented to Council for consideration and adoption as per legislative requirements.
- Leases and licences of Council owned land as well as land Council is responsible for renewed as required.
- Incoming and outgoing correspondence electronically registered and distributed.
- Eligible records disposed of in accordance with State Records Act 1998.
- Community's interests represented through submissions, presentations letters and lobbying on topics of significant impact to the Shire.
- Advocated for better allocation of funding through OROC.
- Submissions prepared for rural roads, infrastructure and services funding.
- Maintained partnerships with OROC, Lower Macquarie Water Utilities Alliance and LGNSW.
- Active membership and representation on OROC, GMAC Advisory Committee, Association of Mines Related Councils.
- State Regional Emergency Management Committee meets quarterly.

Corporate Services

Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- All planned strategies were achieved.

Future Priorities

- Develop and implement a Communications Strategy.
- Implement a new electronic document records management system.



Senior's Week – Trangie 2016

Shire Development

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

Achievements in 2015/2016

- Continued development of marketing collateral.
- Council regularly engaged with the indigenous community through support of events including NAIDOC Week, Reconciliation Day and Apology Day.
- Established a strong working relationship with Regional Development Australia – ORANA.
- Continued marketing in regional and national publications to promote Narromine Shire as a desirable place to live, invest and conduct business.
- Ongoing marketing of Stage IV of the Skypark Estate with three lots sold.
- Ongoing collaborative working relationship with neighbouring councils through participation of the Orana Economic Development Officers Network.
- Ongoing relationship through Inland Tourism Destination Management Group.
- Assisted the Gliding Federation of Australia host the 9th FAI Junior World Gliding Championships in December 2015.
- Supported the hosting of Ausfly 2015.
- Participation in the Orana Relocation Project "You'll love the life we live" website.
- Participation in the new Dubbo and Great Western Plains Visitor Guide.
- Assisted in the expansion of the Narromine Aviation Museum.
- Ongoing assistance and support for start-up businesses as required subject to budget constraints, equity, fairness and legislative requirements.

Shire Development (Cont'd)

Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- Welcoming newcomers in the shire including people with English as a second language (ESL) and assisting with their integration into the Narromine Shire community.
- Developing and dissemination of welcome packs to all new residents.
- Hosting welcome functions for new residents, community group representatives, business owners and local agency representatives to provide an opportunity for new residents to establish contacts and networks within the community.

Future Priorities

- Develop Council's website to include economic development and tourism. This was deferred in 2015 pending the outcome of "Fit for the Future".
- Review of tourism services delivery.
- Delivery of grant writing workshops for community and sporting groups.
- Implement a broader marketing strategy for Narromine Skypark Estate.
- Facilitate forums with existing tourist operators and community groups to promote the Shire.
- Increase the number of aviation related events at the Narromine Aerodrome, by assisting groups where possible.
- Develop a new Narromine Shire visitors guide in conjunction with the Trangie Action Group.
- Develop a shire wide Economic Development Strategy with a tangible action plan to grow the local economy.



Junior World Gliding Championships - Narromine

Built and Natural Environment

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

Achievements in 2015/2016

- A total of 96 development applications approved and complying development certificates with a total value work of \$26,948,060.
- Processed 217 planning (s.149) certificates.
- Issued 55 construction certificates.
- Obtained Local Heritage Assistance Funding for maintenance and upgrades to older buildings.
- Participation in Macquarie Valley Weeds Advisory Committee.
- Conducted over 75 weeds inspections on private property.
- Attended quarterly Local Land Services "fox bait" meetings for the coordination of various control programs.
- Commitments and delegation within the Weeds Action Management Plan.
- Macquarie River stocked with over 6800 Golden Perch fingerlings and over 3800 Murray Cod fingerlings.

Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- Review Rural Residential Land Use Strategy.

Future Priorities

- Review of the Narromine Development Control Plan.
- Continuation of the Dollar for Dollar Native Fish Stocking Program in conjunction with the Macquarie Cotton Growers Association and Department of Primary Industries.

Health Services

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

Achievements in 2015/2016

- 114 food safety inspections carried out on food premises in Narromine, Trangie and Tomingley.
- Participation in Food Regulation Partnership program with NSW Food Authority.
- Attendance at North West Regional Food Group meetings and professional training.
- All environmental health complaints actioned in accordance with Council's complaints management system. Complaints received: 184 companion animal and stock on roads; 24 public health; 13 illegal waste and 12 other.
- Subscribed to free online food safety program.
- Subscribed to free online responsible pet ownership program which aims to promote de-sexing of domestic animals, dog and cat registration and microchipping.
- Inspection of 10 private swimming pools for compliance with Swimming Pools Act and regulations. All non-compliances require rectification works.
- Attendance at Narromine Liquor Accord meetings as required.
- Building inspections carried out in line with Council's statutory obligations under the Environment Planning legislation.
- Continued to increase re-homing rate of companion animals for Council's animal shelter. The re-homing rate for the period of Jan 2016 to July 2016 was 65%.
- Implemented Scores on Doors program (hygiene and food safety).

Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- All planned strategies were achieved.

Future Priorities

- Inspect a minimum of 5 on-site sewage management systems a year.
- Upgrade of Council's animal shelter to meet new draft industry standards where possible.

Accounting Services

- *To provide sound financial management.*

Achievements in 2015/2016

- Applied for a Special Rate Variation after conducting three community consultation meetings in the Shire. Council's application was successful.
- Compiled and put forward Council's "Fit for the Future" submission with the assistance of management and a Consulting firm.
- A balanced and financially sustainable budget adopted by Council. The Income Statement was balanced across the three funds – General, Water and Sewerage.
- Equitable rating strategies developed.
- Levies made and rates and charges collected in accordance with statutory requirements and Council policies.
- Monthly cash balances and detailed quarterly financial reports provided to Council.
- Annual Financial Statements prepared in accordance with legislation and audited within the required timeframe.
- Outstanding rates and charges at year end 8.78% (target <10%).
- All accounting data and returns recorded accurately and on time.
- Grants were actively sought throughout the year and all projects monitored to ensure corresponding grants were fully utilised where possible.
- All projects were scrutinised to check suitability for grant applications.
- Infrastructure investments were identified from community needs and priorities and these capital items were maintained during the year.
- A Stormwater Levy was applied during the year.

Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- Replacement financial/accounting software was deferred until Council's "Fit for the Future" submission determined. Now scheduled for 2016/2017.

Future Priorities

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

Customer Services

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

Achievements in 2015/2016

- Delivery Program and Operational Plan implemented during the year.
- Delivery Program progress reports provided to Council every 6 months.
- Council donated a total of \$24,722 to community groups during the year and \$5,000 in sponsorship.
- Strategies were implemented improving the stability of Council's IT system, increasing uptime especially during working hours.
- Network wide security measures were improved.
- Extensive documentation of IT systems was commenced.
- Monitoring of IT systems improved and automated.
- Major review of IT system undertaken.
- 314 new "help desk" requests received during the year, all investigated within 24 hours and resolved within the allocated time period.
- Data backups conducted daily. Full backups conducted weekly. All backups monitored on a daily basis. Backup of system is being evaluated as part of the IT review and improvements made.
- Council's Facebook and Twitter accounts are operational and monitored regularly.
- Council's intranet maintained to increase efficiency and enhance customer service levels.
- A total of 1342 Customer Service Requests received, with 78% completed.
- Council currently purchases its services and products locally when it is financially prudent to do so.
- Applied for \$75,000 under NSW Government Innovation Fund for upgrade of IT System.

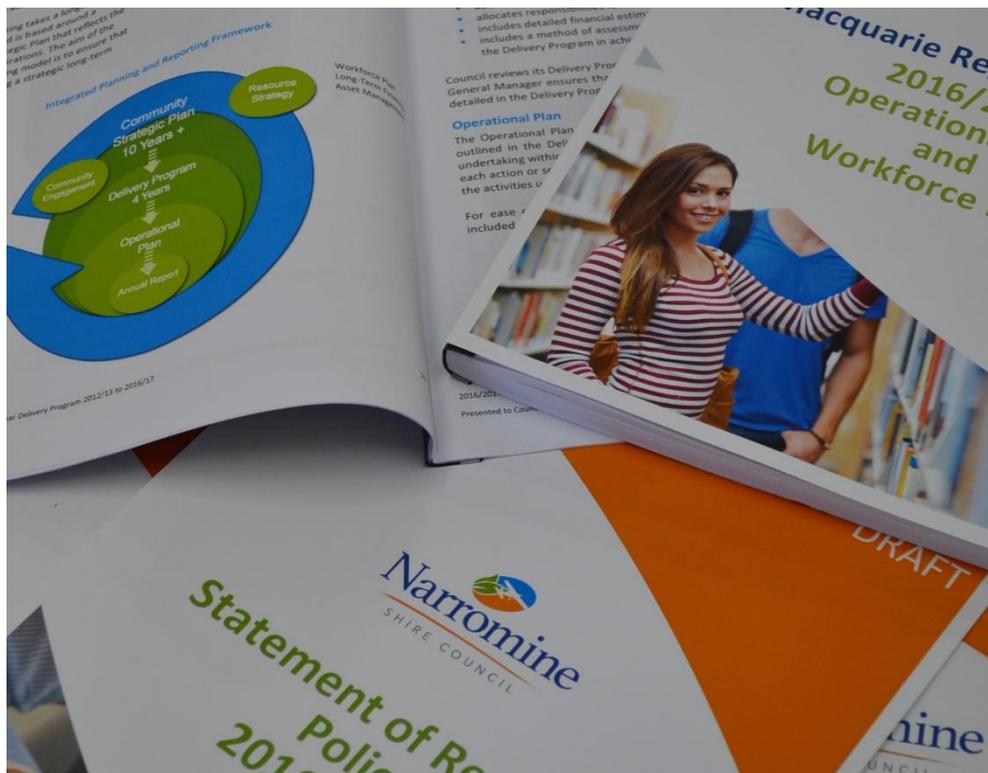
Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- Draft IT Strategy has commenced, to be completed 2016/2017.

Customer Services (Cont'd)

Future Priorities

- In partnership with the community review Council's Community Strategic Plan in accordance with the NSW Government's Integrated Planning and Reporting Legislation.
- A total of \$23,200 for donations to community groups has been allowed for in the 2016/2017 budget.
- Disaster recovery testing to be implemented.
- Improve staff utilisation of Help Desk system
- Council will continue to shop locally for services and products where financially possible.
- Disability Inclusion Action Plan to be developed by 2017 and integrated into the Integrated Planning and Reporting documents.



Council Policies, Plans and Strategies

Transport

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

Achievements in 2015/2016

- Maintenance grading "Contractor Trial" and review undertaken.
- 12 cattle grids from various locations removed and the road reinstated.
- Off-road cycleway developed in Burroway Street, Narromine (Stage 2).
- Rehabilitation of kerb and guttering in Nymagee and Algalah Streets, Narromine.
- Road verge spraying program developed and implemented in conjunction with hazard reduction slashing.
- Approximately 20 road culverts replaced or upgraded.
- Rehabilitation of Nymagee Street, Willydah, Tyrie, Tullamore and Trangie Showground Roads.
- Resheet of Craigie-Lea, Gibsons, Foremans, Papworth and Mungeribar Lanes and Currington's, Fairview; Farrendale, Backwater, Belmont, Boggy-Plains, Kyalite, Webb Siding, Pinedene, Cornucopia, Cathundral-Bogan, Dulla Dulla, Tantitha and Dappo Roads.

Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- Road culvert condition assessments and 10 year replacement program to be developed.
- Rehabilitation of Peak Hill Railway Road.
- Bulgandramine Timber Bridge Replacement.

Transport (Cont'd)

Future Priorities

- Continue to develop heavy vehicle bypass routes throughout the Shire.
- Off-road cycle way to be developed in Burroway Street, Narromine (Stage 3).
- Continue to implement road verge spraying program in conjunction with hazard reduction slashing.
- 12 cattle grids at various locations to be removed and the road reinstated.
- Gravel resheeting on Papworth Lane and Merrinong, Trangie Rubbish Tip, Buddah Lake, Richs, Farrendale, Backwater and Dilladerry Roads.
- Widen seal on Trangie-Dandaloo Road.
- Rehabilitation works on Bogan-Cathundral, Peak-Hill Railway, Tyrie, Willydah, Webb Siding and Tullamore Roads.
- Bulgandramine Timber Bridge replacement.
- Approximately 20 road culverts to be replaced or upgraded.
- Construction of Heavy Vehicle Rest Area at Trangie.



Sewerage Services

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

Achievements in 2015/2016

- Upgraded telemetry system in accordance with Council policy.
- Extended sewer for IGA development.
- Upgraded pumps in Sewer Pump Station 1 at Narromine.
- Relined 3675m of sewer mains.
- Replacement of aeration outlets at Narromine Sewerage Treatment Plant.
- Replacement of sludge pumping system at Trangie Sewerage Treatment Plant.
- Complete electrical and mechanical refurbishment of aeration pontoons at Trangie Sewerage Treatment Plant.
- Installed pump station rag removal system complete with controls and alarm systems.
- CCTV investigation undertaken for 3719m residential sewer mains.

Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- Narromine Sewerage Treatment Plant upgrade inlet works.
- Trangie Sewerage Treatment Plant upgrade inlet works.
- Trangie Sewerage Treatment Plant new switchboard and control equipment.
- Trangie Sewerage Treatment Plant upgrade telemetry phase 2 analogue telemetry to digital.
- Trangie Sewerage Treatment Plant remediate lagoon walls and fence maturation lagoons

Future Priorities

- Further CCTV condition assessments of clay and concrete mains.
- Further relining of clay and concrete mains
- Narromine Sewerage Treatment Plant upgrade rag, rubber and grit removal systems
- Security fence all sewage pump stations
- Condition rate and upgrade switchboards and control equipment of all sewage pump stations to comply with current electrical codes of practice
- Condition rate and upgrade as required all sewage pump station wells and pumping equipment.

Water Supply/Stormwater Drainage

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

Achievements in 2015/2016

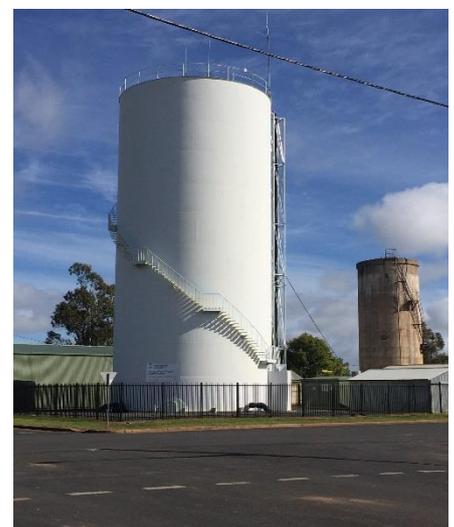
- Continuation of Drinking Water Quality Improvement Plan.
- Narromine (Nymagee Street) Reservoir renewal of internal and external surface coating.
- Narromine (Nymagee Street) Reservoir rehabilitation and upgrade of roof, roof ventilation and roof access hatch and rescue structure.
- Commenced work on Narromine (Nymagee Street) Reservoir new feed tower and inlet works.
- Drilled two new deeper production bores at existing sites in Narromine.
- Replaced and upgraded water main in Burroway Street, Narromine.
- Replaced and upgraded water main in Coles Laneway Narromine.
- Trangie Reservoir external coating maintenance.
- Trangie Reservoir new feed tower and inlet works.
- Trangie installation of online disinfection monitoring system.
- Completed security fencing of Trangie Reservoir.
- Drilled third new bore to replace former bore at Railway Station Trangie.
- Upgraded control system of water supply bores from analogue to digital for integration into new telemetry network at Trangie.
- Installed further backflow devices on Council installations.

Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- Reline aeration tank at high lift pump stations.
- Construction of new 1200 m long rising mains in Narromine.
- Construction of new disinfection system at Narromine.
- Fit out and connection of new deeper bores at Narromine.
- Draft and implement policy for backflow prevention.
- Trangie reservoir internal/external coating rehabilitation.

Future Priorities

- Phase 2 of telemetry upgrade (Wonderware historian) for Drinking Water Quality compliance.
- Further conversions from Analogue to Digital Control Networks.
- Duffy Street Reservoir Narromine internal and external coating rehabilitation.
- Duffy Street Reservoir Narromine roofing, access and ventilation improvements.
- Narromine installation of online disinfection monitoring systems.
- Continuation of Drinking Water Quality Improvement Plan.



Parks and Gardens

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

Achievements in 2015/2016

- Fencing of leash free area at Rotary Park.
- Replacement of Burns Oval complex fencing.
- Upgrade of old Tennis Courts to Basketball Courts in Narromine and Trangie.
- Replacement of softfall at Bicentennial Park swings in Trangie.

Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- Sport User Group Workshops were not required during the period.
- Upgrade irrigation system in Swift Park, Trangie.
- Upgrade irrigation system in Argonaut Park, Trangie.
- New bin surrounds for the main street in Narromine.
- Construction of officials shelter at Burns Oval.

Future Priorities

- Replacement of softfall at Dicken Park in Tomingley.
- Upgrade fencing at Cale Oval, Narromine.
- Install bollards at Swift Park, Trangie.
- Install rain sensors at Dundas Park, Narromine.
- Upgrade irrigation Payten Oval (outer area) Narromine.
- Install light controller at Burns Oval, Trangie.
- New bin surrounds for the main street, Narromine.



Sporting Oval

Community Facilities

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

Achievements in 2015/2016

- Replacement of carpet in the History Room at the Narromine Library.
- Replacement of carpet and painting of internal surfaces of the Trangie Doctor's residence.
- Replacement of electricals in the Trangie Pavilion.
- Upgraded fencing at Narromine Cemetery.
- Developed lawn cemetery extension, with additional irrigation, at Narromine.
- Replaced air-conditioner at Narromine Library.
- Upgraded Goan Waterhole public amenities.
- Constructed new road within Narromine Cemetery.
- Refurbished Pathology collection rooms at the Narromine Shire Family Health Centre.
- Refurbished Administration and Customer and Service Payments Centre car park.

Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- Refurbishment of Trangie Memorial Hall toilets.
- External repainting of Tomingley Community Centre.
- Upgrade of irrigation at Narromine Cemetery.
- Upgrade to Tomingley Hall toilets.
- Repair of footpath at Tomingley School.

Future Priorities

- Upgrades to internal electricals at the Narromine Showground Pavilion.
- Fit security screens at the Trangie Library.
- Install roof over the container at the Trangie Library.
- Replacement of guttering on Tomingley Hall.
- Extension to Narromine Shire Family Health Centre.
- Upgrade Cale Oval amenities.
- Replace pool cleaner at Narromine Pool.
- Develop lawn cemetery extension at Narromine.
- Asbestos removal and recladding of Tomingley Hall.

Community Facilities (Cont'd)

Future Priorities (Cont'd)

- Install solar lights along Heavy Vehicle Bypass.
- New barbeque and solar lighting at Tomingley.
- Install solar lighting at Tom Perry Park, Narromine.
- Install solar lights along Burraway Street, Narromine.
- Burraway Street lighting upgrade.
- Install new seating at Tomingley Cemetery.
- Install a new headstone foundation, Narromine Cemetery.

Corporate Facilities

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

Achievements in 2015/2016

- Lighting upgrade to Narromine Aerodrome.
- Design work for Aerodrome entrance to Tom Perry Drive.
- Runway gravel re-sheet Trangie Airstrip.
- Re-sheet internal roads and car park, Trangie Airstrip.

Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- Strategic masterplan for the Narromine Saleyards to be completed as part of Community Facility asset Plans.
- New signage for Narromine Aerodrome.
- Lighting upgrade to runway 11/29 Narromine Aerodrome.
- New illuminated windsock for runway 11 Narromine Aerodrome.
- Installation of automatic gate openers and security intercom systems at Narromine Depot.

Future Priorities

- Reseal Runway 04/22.
- Line marking of runway 04/22 to displace threshold Narromine Aerodrome.
- Rehabilitation works on Tom Perry Drive.

Waste Services

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

Achievements in 2015/2016

- The feasibility of a kerbside green waste collection service is being investigated, with future developments dependent on construction of an organics facility in Dubbo.
- Upgraded signage at Trangie Waste Depot.
- Upgraded signage at Narromine Waste Depot.
- Replaced waste management software at Narromine Waste Depot.

Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- Nil

Future Priorities

- Further review of Council's Waste Management Strategy in 2016/17.
- Reseal bitumen access road at Narromine Waste Depot.
- Upgrade fencing and tipping area at Tomingley Transfer Station.
- Replace boomgate at Narromine Waste Depot.

Assets

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

Achievements in 2015/2016

- Implementation of Asset Management System and Customer Service Module (CRM).
- Major revaluation of roads, bridges, footpaths and stormwater drainage assets which resulted in \$149 million increase in the value of those assets.
- Completion of Stage IV of the Narromine Skypark.
- Completion of Aerodrome Asset Management Plan.

Strategies Not Yet Achieved

- Strategy and asset management plan for urban drainage.

Future Priorities

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

Community Events

Youth Week

April 2016

In 2015 Council's Youth Week Event was held on the 8th and 12th April. Activities commenced with an under 18's Bluelight Disco at the Narromine USMC from 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm, sponsored by National Youth Week, Council and the Narromine Local Aboriginal Land Council. On the 12th April a free skateboarding workshop was held at the Narromine Skate Park. A free sausage sizzle was followed by music, giveaways and skate demos. This event was sponsored by National Youth Week, Council, Narromine Local Aboriginal Land Council, Lions International and Totem Skate School.

Local Government Week

August 2015

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

Seniors Week

March 2016

Council provided a morning tea for the seniors in the Shire and hosted a concert with Jason Owen. He sang to a full audience of seniors at the Trangie Community Hall.

Australia Day Celebrations

26 January 2016

Australia Day Celebrations were held at Dundas Park in Narromine and the Bowling Club in Trangie. Narromine's Ambassador was Robyn Moore, the voice behind Australia's mischievous cartoon character "Blinky Bill". Trangie's Ambassador was Roger Fletcher, of Fletchers International. The crowds were provided with free barbeque breakfasts followed by a variety of entertainment including thong throwing, face-painting, watermelon eating and song contests. Citizen of the year awards, sporting awards and community event of the year awards were presented by the Ambassadors.



Statutory Report

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

s428(4)(a) Council's audited financial reports –

Refer to Annexure One (Financial Statements)

cl132 Amount of rates and charges written off during the year –

\$10,181

s428(4)(b) Details of Overseas visits undertaken –

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

cl217(1)(a1) Total cost during the year of the payment of expenses of, and the provision of facilities to Councillors in relation to their civic functions –

Expense	Amount
Mayoral Allowance	\$18,158
Councillor Fees	\$93,879
Provision of dedicated office equipment allocated to Councillors	\$3,160
Telephone calls made by Councillors	\$4,239
Attendance by Councillors at conferences and seminars	\$6,596
Training of councillors and provision of skill development, including transport, accommodation and out-of-pocket expenses	\$1,531
Expenses of any spouse, partner or other person who accompanied a Councillor, being expenses payable in accordance with the Guidelines	Nil
Expenses involved in the provision of care for a child or an immediate family member of a Councillor	Nil
Interstate visits by Councillors, including transport, accommodation and other out-of-pocket travelling expenses	Nil
Overseas visits by Councillors, including transport, accommodation and other out-of-pocket travelling expenses	Nil
Other Councillor expenses (catering, stationery etc)	\$26,794
Total	\$154,537

Statutory Report (Cont'd)

cl217(1)(a2) Details of each contract awarded for amounts greater than \$150,000 -

Name of Contractor	Nature of Goods/Services Supplied	Total Amount Paid
Thompsons Irrifab	Water Projects	\$662,764
JW Bouchier & Sons	Fuel Supplier	\$341,573
Interflow	Sewer Projects	\$523,683
Downer EDI Works	Road Stablising	\$330,149
360 Engineering	Water Projects	\$397,489
DJ & LE Anning Grader Hire	Earthworks	\$334,739
Fulton Hogan Industries P/L	Emulsion & Road Sealing Works	\$1,034,074
JR Richardson & Sons	Garbage & Recycling Collection	\$486,236
SJ McCutcheon & Sons	Earthworks	\$574,975
Narromine Building & Excavation	Construction & Earthworks	\$840,428
Origin Energy	Electricity Supplies	\$228,477
Neill Earthmoving Pty Ltd	Earthworks	\$288,474
Stephen Barlow	Water Carting	\$307,890
The Impax Group Pty Ltd	Water Projects	\$233,070
Cadia Plumbing	Water Fittings	\$183,794
Belmur Pty Ltd	Footpath Construction	\$181,561
RF & DM Anthony	Construction & Earthworks	\$151,455
RMP Abrasive Blasting	Water Projects	\$243,467
Hartwig Trucks Pty Ltd (Dubbo)	Plant Purchases	\$275,203
Sainsbury Automotive	Plant Purchases	\$218,884

cl217(1)(a3) Summary of the amounts incurred by the Council in relation to legal proceedings -

\$11,000 – Defamation (completed)

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

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

cl217(1)(a5) Total amount contributed or otherwise granted under section 356 (financially to assist others) -

\$29,722

Statutory Report (Cont'd)

cl217(1)(a6) Statement of all external bodies that exercised functions delegated by Council -

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

cl217(1)(a7) Statement of all corporations, partnerships, trusts, joint ventures, syndicates or other bodies in which Council held controlling interest -

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

cl217(1)(a8) Statement of all corporations, partnerships, trusts, joint ventures, syndicates or other bodies in which Council participated -

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

cl217(1)(a9) Statement of activities to implement Council's EEO management plan -

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

cl217(1)(b) Statement of total remuneration comprised in the remuneration package of the General Manager -

Total remuneration package for the General Manager for the year was \$255,357. This includes bonus, performance or other payments that do not form part of the salary component; total amount payable by way of employer's contribution or salary sacrifice to any superannuation scheme to which the General Manager may be a contributor; total value of any non-cash benefits for which the General Manager may elect under the package and total amount payable by way of fringe benefit tax for any such non-cash benefits.

Basic salary:	\$195,115
Superannuation:	\$ 20,482
Non-cash benefit (car/house rental):	\$ 18,489
Sub Total	\$234,086
Fringe benefit tax (payable by Council):	\$ <u>21,271</u>
Total remuneration package	\$255,357

Statutory Report (Cont'd)

cl217(1)(c) Statement of total remuneration comprised in remuneration packages of all senior staff members, expressed as the total (not of individual members) -

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

cl217(1)(e) Statement detailing the stormwater management services provided (if levied) -

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

Properties categorised as Residential

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

Properties categorised as Business

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

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

cl217(1)(e1) Statement detailing coastal protection services provided (if levied) -

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

s428A(1) State of Environment Report -

Refer to Annexure Two (State of Environment Report).

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

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

Statutory Report (Cont'd)

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

Council was successful with their application for a Special Rate Variation of 3.5% for the 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 rating years to address ongoing operating deficits caused by the loss of grant funds.

Council has minimised the impact to ratepayers by limiting the time period and percentage increase while ensuring financial sustainability.

Capital Expenditure Guidelines Report on capital works projects -

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

cl217(1)(f) Statement on activities relating to enforcing and ensuring compliance with the Companion Animals Act and Regulation -

Lodgement of pound data collection returns are submitted to the Office of Local Government as required. Reports relating to dog attacks are also submitted to the Office of Local Government as required. During 2015/2016 Council spent a total of \$183,829.00 on companion animal management and activities. As part of Council's Delivery Program Council has subscribed to a free online Responsible Dog Ownership program to encourage responsible ownership, care of companion animals as well as promoting the de-sexing of companion animals within the Narromine Shire. Council has also promoted responsible pet ownership through social media and Council's website. Council does not have a strategy document in place to seek alternatives to euthanasia for unclaimed animals; however Council does have working relationships with various companion animal rescue agencies, with the primary rescue agency being Pet Rescue. Council has seen a significant increase in re-homing rates since development and partnership with the rescue agencies. Council's re-homing rate for the 2015/2016 period was 64%. A dedicated off leash area is provided in Narromine.

s125(1) & cl7, Schedule 2 Information included on GIPA activity-

1 formal access application was received from members of the public for the 2015/2016 year. Access was granted in part in accordance with the requirements of the Act. There were no invalid applications received. There was no conclusive presumption of overriding public interest considerations used or other public interest considerations against disclosure as listed in section 14 of the Act. The application was decided within the statutory timeframe. There were no applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act and no applications transferred to other agencies.

Statutory Report (Cont'd)

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

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

s31 & cl4 Information on number of public interest disclosures and whether public interest disclosure policy is in place -

In 2015/2016 Council received four public interest disclosure reports made by public officials performing their day to day functions. Of the public interest disclosures received 3 were about corrupt conduct and one was about serious and substantial waste. Four public interest disclosures (received since 1 January 2012) have been finalised in this reporting period. Council has adopted an Internal Reporting Policy for Local Government. Council's General Manager has taken action to meet staff awareness obligations through policy briefings from senior managers, links on staff intranet site, messages in staff newsletters, messages with payslips and posters.

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

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

s220ZT Recovery and threat abatement plans -

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

Contact Information

Contacting Council

Customer Service & Payments Centre

120 Dandaloo Street

Narromine

Open from 8.30 am to 5.00 pm Monday to Friday

Telephone 02 6889 9999

(for payments and general enquiries)

Council Chambers

124 Dandaloo Street

Narromine

Open from 8.30 am to 5.00 pm Monday to Friday

Telephone 02 6889 9999

(for general enquiries)

Correspondence

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

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

Email: mail@narromine.nsw.gov.au

Fax: 02 6889 9998

Website:- www.narromine.nsw.gov.au

Council's Contact Directory

Administration – 6889 9999

Animal Control – 6889 9999

Narromine Public Library – 6889 1088

Trangie Public Library – 6888 7501

Narromine Swimming Pool – 6889 1448

Trangie Swimming Pool – 6888 7536

Narromine Sports Centre – 6889 1180

Narromine Waste Depot – 6889 9957

Macquarie Valley Family Day Care – 6889 1368

Tourist Information – 6889 9980

SES (Floods and Storms) – 13 2500

After Hours – 6889 9999

Community Connection

Provision of Information

Council Column – every Wednesday a “Council Column” is published in the Narromine News and Trangie Advocate, featuring information about upcoming events, draft policies, tenders, public notices, Council Meeting dates and proposed developments. The “Council Column” is also published fortnightly in the FlatChat News.

Council’s website can be accessed at www.narromine.nsw.gov.au. The website includes up to date information about Council services, media releases, public notices, positions vacant and various other documents relating to Council operations.

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

Twitter and Facebook – Narromine Shire Council provides regular updates on social media channels.

Accessing Information

Public Documents

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

Public Officer

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