



Notice is hereby given, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 that an **ORDINARY MEETING** of Wentworth Shire Council will be held in the **WENTWORTH SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, DARLING STREET, WENTWORTH**, commencing at **5:00PM**.

*The meeting is being livestreamed and/or recorded for on-demand viewing via Council's website. Attendance at the meeting is to be taken as consent by a person to their image and/or voice being webcast.*

*All speakers should refrain from making any defamatory comments or releasing personal information about another individual without their consent. Council accepts no liability for any damage that may result from defamatory comments made by persons attending meetings – all liability will rest with the individual who made the comments.*

*The meeting must not be recorded by others without prior written consent of the Council in accordance with the Council's code of meeting practice.*

*Councillors & staff are obligated to declare Conflicts of Interest as required under the Local Government Act 1993 and Councils adopted Code of Conduct.*

*Councillors are reminded of their Oath of Office whereby they have declared and affirmed that they will undertake the duties of the Office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of Wentworth Shire and the Wentworth Shire Council and that they will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of their ability and judgment.*

**KEN ROSS**  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

# **ORDINARY MEETING**

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**1 OPENING OF MEETING**

THE MAYOR REQUESTS THAT THE GENERAL MANAGER MAKES ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING THE LIVE-STREAMING OF THE MEETING.

**2 PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we live and work, and pay our respects to their elders past, present, and emerging.

**3 APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS**

**5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Recommendation**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 14 August 2024 be confirmed as circulated.

**Recommendation**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 11 October 2024 be confirmed as circulated.

**Recommendation**

That the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held 15 October 2024 be confirmed as circulated.





**ORDINARY MEETING  
MINUTES**

**14 AUGUST 2024**

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## 1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:00 pm.

## 2 PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

### PRESENT:

**COUNCILLORS:** Councillor Daniel Linklater  
Councillor Steve Cooper  
Councillor Peter Crisp  
Councillor Tim Elstone  
Councillor Susan Nichols  
Councillor Jo Rodda

**STAFF:** Ken Ross (General Manager)  
George Kenende (Acting Director Health and Planning)  
Geoff Gunn (Director Roads and Engineering)  
Simon Rule (Director Finance and Policy)  
Gayle Marsden (Executive Assistant to General Manager)  
Hannah Nicholas (Business Support Officer)

## 3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

## 4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

## 5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

### Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 17 July 2024 be confirmed as circulated.

### Council Resolution

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held 17 July 2024 be confirmed as circulated.

**Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr Crisp**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### Council Resolution

That Standing Orders be suspended for the purpose of a Public Forum.

**Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Cooper**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Public Forum

Glenis Beaumont spoke in regard to Item 9.13.

James Golsworthy spoke in favour of Item 9.10.

**Council Resolution**

That Standing Orders be resumed.

**Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Nichols**

**CARRIED**  
**UNANIMOUSLY**

## 6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

### 6.1 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

File Number: RPT/24/523

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
 Reporting Officer: Hannah Nicholas - Business Support Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

#### Summary

The Outstanding Actions report provides details of activities raised at previous Council meetings that remain outstanding.

#### Officer Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the list of outstanding matters as at 6 August 2024.

#### Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the list of outstanding matters as at 6 August 2024.

**Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr Cooper**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 7 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

### 7.1 MAYORAL REPORT

File Number: RPT/24/522

#### Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the information contained in the Mayoral report.

#### Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the information contained in the Mayoral report.

**Moved Cr Linklater, Seconded Cr. Elstone**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Further to the correspondence received from Mr Bennett in relation to Council Resolution from item 9.3 of the July Council meeting, I propose the following Mayoral Minute.

#### Mayoral Minute

#### Council Resolution

That council waive campsite fees (in-kind support) to the value of \$3,500.

Based on Mr Bennetts estimated requirement of 38 campsites at the Wentworth Showgrounds for a portion of the period of the 2024 Sunraysia Safari Cross Country Rally, this would result in camping fees of \$6,840 payable to Council.

After partial fee waiver this would result in charges to Mr Bennett (Sunraysia Safari Cross Country Rally) of \$3,340.

**Moved Cr Linklater**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

### 8.1 HERITAGE AND HISTORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE - 24 JULY 2024

File Number: RPT/24/537

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
Reporting Officer: Hannah Nicholas - Business Support Officer

Objective: 2.0 Wentworth Shire is a great place to live  
Strategy: 2.5 To have a strong sense of place

#### Summary

A meeting of the Heritage and History Advisory Committee was held on 24 July 2024 and the Minutes of the meeting are attached to this report for the information of Councillors.

The Committee has requested that the Reporting Officer seeks resolutions of Council on the following items:

- Endorse Cr Nichols as Chair for the Wentworth Heritage and History Advisory Committee until after the upcoming NSW Local Government Elections
- Apply to Heritage NSW to have PS Ruby registered as a State Heritage Item
- Investigate funding opportunities to support the future preservation of the PS Ruby.

#### Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- a) Receives and notes the minutes of the Heritage and History Advisory group for the 24 July 2024 meeting
- b) Endorse Cr Nichols as Chair for the Wentworth Heritage and History Advisory Committee until after the upcoming NSW Local Government Elections
- c) Apply to Heritage NSW to have PS Ruby registered as a State Heritage Item
- d) Investigate funding opportunities to support the future preservation of the PS Ruby.

#### Council Resolution

That Council:

- a) Receives and notes the minutes of the Heritage and History Advisory group for the 24 July 2024 meeting
- b) Endorse Cr Nichols as Chair for the Wentworth Heritage and History Advisory Committee until after the upcoming NSW Local Government Elections
- c) Apply to Heritage NSW to have PS Ruby registered as a State Heritage Item
- d) Investigate funding opportunities to support the future preservation of the PS Ruby.

**Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Cr Crisp**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



## 9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

### 9.1 GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT

File Number: RPT/24/513

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
 Reporting Officer: Hannah Nicholas - Business Support Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

#### Summary

The General Manager's report details information pertaining to meetings attended and general information which are of public interest, and which have not been reported elsewhere in this agenda. Items of note in this report are:

1. OLG Circulars  
Circular 24-13.
2. Meetings  
As listed.
3. Upcoming meetings or events  
As listed.
4. Other items of note  
Nil.

#### Recommendation

That Council receive and note the information contained within the report from the General Manager.

#### Council Resolution

That Council receive and note the information contained within the report from the General Manager.

**Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Cr Rodda**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Cr Rodda gave a verbal report from the Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc meeting.

## 9.2 UNION PICNIC DAY

File Number: RPT/24/384

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
 Reporting Officer: Glen Norris - Manager Human Resources

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.3 An effective and efficient organisation

### **Summary**

Union Picnic Day is an entitlement under the Local Government (State) Award for employees who are financial members of Union(s) only. Council is required to determine which day shall be regarded as the Union Picnic Day and the arrangements for the non-union members on the determined Union Picnic Day.

### **Recommendation**

That Council:

- a) Approves Tuesday 5 November 2024 as the Award holiday known as Union Picnic Day for those employees who are financial members of the United Services Union
- b) Authorise the closure of Council Offices, Council Depots, Libraries, Landfills and Visitor Information Centre
- c) Requires Non-union members to apply for 5 November 2024 from leave entitlements to enable the above arrangements

### **Council Resolution**

That Council:

- a) Approves Tuesday 5 November 2024 as the Award holiday known as Union Picnic Day for those employees who are financial members of the United Services Union
- b) Authorise the closure of Council Offices, Council Depots, Libraries, Landfills and Visitor Information Centre
- c) Requires Non-union members to apply for 5 November 2024 from leave entitlements to enable the above arrangements

**Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Rodda**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### 9.3 CHRISTMAS LEAVE ARRANGEMENTS

File Number: RPT/24/385

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
 Reporting Officer: Glen Norris - Manager Human Resources

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.3 An effective and efficient organisation

#### **Summary**

This report sets out the proposed staffing arrangements for Council offices/areas closing over the Christmas and New Year period.

#### **Recommendation**

That Council approves the Christmas and New Year holiday arrangements.

#### **Council Resolution**

That Council approves the Christmas and New Year holiday close-down between 20 December 2024 and 30 December 2024.

**Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr Cooper**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### 9.4 DRAFT WENTWORTH REGION TOURISM & EVENTS STRATEGY 2024-2029

File Number: RPT/24/524

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
 Reporting Officer: Lexi Stockman - Manager Tourism and Promotion

Objective: 1.0 Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving Region  
 Strategy: 1.2 Promote the Wentworth Region as a desirable visitor and tourism destination

##### **Summary**

The draft *Wentworth Region Tourism & Events Strategy 2024-2029* has been developed after it was identified that Wentworth Shire Council does not currently have an updated Tourism & Events Strategy, with the last strategy completed in 2012.

The draft *Wentworth Region Tourism & Events Strategy 2024-2029* provides a framework to provide direction and consistency to all organisations and businesses within the tourism sector. The strategy includes a high-level plan that identifies the challenges currently faced within the local tourism industry as well as the main priorities and aspirations for the future, and how to achieve these goals.

The draft *Wentworth Region Tourism & Event Strategy 2024-2029* was presented at the 26 June Council meeting. It was requested that a Councillors workshop was to be held with Customer Frame for Councillors to review and discuss the strategy in more detail before community consultation commenced. The workshop was held on Thursday 25 July with Customer Frame and subsequently, the requested changes discussed have been made.

##### **Recommendation**

That Council endorses the updated draft *Wentworth Region Tourism & Events Strategy 2024-2029* for community consultation for 28 days.

##### **Council Resolution**

That Council endorses the updated draft *Wentworth Region Tourism & Events Strategy 2024-2029* for community consultation for 28 days.

**Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr. Nichols**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 9.5 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT - JULY 2024

File Number: RPT/24/521

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Vanessa Lock - Finance Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring , supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

### Summary

Rates and Charges collections for the month of July 2024 were \$818,775.21. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 7.97%. For comparison purposes 9.34% of the levy had been collected at the end of July 2023. Council currently has \$47,975,228.09 in cash and investments.

### Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the Monthly Finance Report.

### Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the Monthly Finance Report.

**Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr Cooper**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 9.6 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT - JULY 2024

File Number: RPT/24/533

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Bryce Watson - Accountant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.5 Adopt practices of prudent asset, financial and human resource management across Council to ensure long-term sustainability and efficiency

### Summary

As of 31 July 2024, Council had \$42 million invested in term deposits and \$5,975,228.09 in other cash investments. Council received \$131,098.63 from its investments for the month of July 2024.

In July 2024 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 5.06% and it currently has \$7,675,628.75 of internal restrictions and \$33,592,340.22 of external restrictions.

### Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the monthly investment report.

### Council Resolution

That Council receives and notes the monthly investment report.

**Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Rodda**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 9.7 QUARTERLY OPERATIONAL PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

File Number: RPT/24/486

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

### **Summary**

In accordance with the Local Government Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, Council develops a Four Year Delivery Program and a One Year Operational Plan, which details the actions to be undertaken by Council to implement the strategies established in the Community Strategic Plan.

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires that progress is reported to Council with respect to the principal actions detailed in its Operational Plan at least every six months. To better align with the Quarterly Budget Review Process, the Operational Plan progress report is also compiled on a quarterly basis.

### **Recommendation**

That Council receives and notes the report.

### **Council Resolution**

That Council receives and notes the report.

**Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr Crisp**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 9.8 JUNE QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW - FOURTH QUARTER 2023-2024

File Number: RPT/24/535

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Bryce Watson - Accountant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.5 Adopt practices of prudent asset, financial and human resource management across Council to ensure long-term sustainability and efficiency

### Summary

A full analysis of Council's Income, Operating Expenditure and Capital Expenditure has been undertaken. Several variations have been identified against the original budget as outlined in this report. Council's revenue and expenditure is reviewed on a quarterly basis to identify any potential areas requiring a variation.

In the June Quarter the result of net variances if approved are an unfavourable operational variance of \$1,035,000 and a favorable capital variance of \$1,035,000. Note all June figures are prepared prior to accruals posting and prepared on a cash basis for budget purposes only.

### Recommendation

That Council:

- a) Note the 2023/2024 Fourth Quarter Budget Review
- b) Approve the proposed revised 2023/2024 Changes to Operational and Capital Expenditure Budgets.

### Council Resolution

That Council:

- a) Note the 2023/2024 Fourth Quarter Budget Review
- b) Approve the proposed revised 2023/2024 Changes to Operational and Capital Expenditure Budgets.

**Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Cr Rodda**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



**9.9 AF003 REQUESTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

File Number: RPT/24/530

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy  
 Responsible Division: Finance and Policy  
 Reporting Officer: Annette Fraser - Team Leader Customer Service

Objective: 2.0 Wentworth Shire is a great place to live  
 Strategy: 2.4 A well informed, supported and engaged community

**Summary**

Council has provided an allocation of \$200,000.00 for the 2024/25 financial year for the funding of requests from the community for financial assistance. In this financial year, \$110,337.00 has been granted to a variety of organisations through the annual fees and charges "Exemptions from the Application" process.

The total value of requests granted this financial year so far under delegated authority is \$2,000.00.

The total value of requests approved at the March 2024 Council Meeting for payment this financial year as event (Wentworth Christmas Eve Street Party) is happening this financial year, is \$7,700.00.

The total value of requests for this August 2024 funding application period totals \$29,342.22 which, if granted in full, would leave a balance in the financial assistance program of \$50,620.78.

<b>Financial Assistance Program starting balance 2023/24</b>	<b>\$200,000.00</b>
Annual fees & charges annual exemptions granted	\$110,337.00
Granted under delegated authority to 1 - 31 July 2024	\$ 2,000.00
Wentworth Regional Community Project Association Inc granted \$7,700.00 March 2024 Council Meeting	\$ 7,700.00
Available balance as at 1 August 2024	<b>\$ 79,963.00</b>
Financial request applications received 1 July – 31 July 2024	\$ 29,342.22
Remaining balance if all approved	<b>\$ 50,620.78</b>

**Recommendation**

That Council having considered the current requests for financial assistance, makes appropriate recommendations on the level of funding to be provided to each of these applications from the Financial Assistance program.

**Council Resolution**

That Council grant the full value of all requests for a total of \$29,342.22 from the financial assistance fund. Funding being Wentworth Show Society Inc \$5,000, Wentworth District Racing Club Inc \$5,000, Wentworth Pioneer Homes Inc \$4,342.22, Pomona Public School \$5,000, Pooncarie Racing Club Inc \$5,000, RFDS Operation Pelican Inc \$5,000.

**Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr Crisp**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**9.10 DA2023/031 BOATING FACILITY WITH VERANDAH SHED, BOATSHED, JETTY AND PONTOON 185 BOEILL CREEK ROAD LOT 1 DP 1215859 BOEILL CREEK**

File Number: RPT/24/405

Responsible Officer: George Kenende - Acting Director Health & Planning  
Responsible Division: Health and Planning  
Reporting Officer: Kerrie Copley - Planning Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment  
Strategy: 3.1 Ensure our planning decisions and controls enable the community to benefit from development

**Summary**

A development application (DA2023/031) was received by Council on 17 March 2023 for a boating facility including a verandah shed, boatshed, jetty and pontoon to be located at 185 Boeill Creek Road Lot 1 DP 1215859 Boeill Creek on the outside bend of the Murray River.

Under the *Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 (WLEP 2011)*, this type of development is permitted with consent when located within the RU1 Primary Production and W1 Natural Waterway zones.

The proposed development is to be located on site as ancillary development to the existing dwelling and other supporting structures. The proposed developments consist of a verandah shed to be located 30m from the Murray River, a boat shed located approximately 9.15m from the edge of the Murray River and a jetty with a pontoon on the river, facilitating access to and from the facilities. The proposed development does not meet the required criteria under clause 7.8 the WLEP 2011 as it occurs on the outside bend of the Murray River. Due to this non-compliance, a variation to the standard is required (usually referred to as a 4.6 variation).

Due to the variation being a non-numerical variation, the application cannot be determined under delegated authority, and must be determined by Council.

**Recommendation**

That Council:

1. Approve DA2023/031 being for a boating facility with verandah shed, boatshed, jetty and pontoon located at 185 Boeill Creek Road Lot 1 DP 1215859 Boeill Creek.
2. Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)

**Council Resolution**

That Council:

1. Approve DA2023/031 being for a boating facility with verandah shed, boatshed, jetty and pontoon located at 185 Boeill Creek Road Lot 1 DP 1215859 Boeill Creek.
2. Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)

**Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Cr Crisp**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*In accordance with Section 375A of the Local Government Act the Mayor called for a division.*

***For the Motion :***                      ***Clr.s Beaumont, Cooper, Crisp, Elstone, Linklater, Nichols and Rodda.***

***Against the Motion:***              ***Nil.***

**9.11 DA2024/046 DEMOLITION OF EXISTING DWELLING AND REPLACEMENT DOUBLE STOREY DWELLING WITH SWIMMING POOL AND SAFETY BARRIER 175A WEST ROAD LOT 2 DP 1196467 BURONGA**

File Number: RPT/24/323

Responsible Officer: George Kenende - Acting Director Health & Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Kerrie Copley - Planning Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.1 Ensure our planning decisions and controls enable the community to benefit from development

**Summary**

A development application (DA2024/046) was received by Council on 11 April 2024 for demolition of the existing dwelling & replacement double storey dwelling with swimming pool and safety barrier to be located at 175A West Road Lot 2 DP 1196467 Buronga within the river front setback.

Under the *Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 (WLEP 2011)*, this development is permitted with consent when located within the RU1 Primary Production zone, despite the lot being below the Minimum Lot Size of 10,000ha as the proposal is intended to replace the existing lawfully constructed dwelling on the site.

The proposed development is to be located within the same footprint as the existing dwelling, completely within the high bank or river front area of the Murray River. The high bank in this case being an artificial high bank located in the position of the existing dwelling. The proposed double storey dwelling and swimming pool with safety barrier is to be located no closer to the river than the existing dwelling. The required river setback under clause 7.6 the WLEP 2011 is 30m from the high bank of the river. As part of the 7.6 assessment, a variation to the 30m river setback standard was required (usually referred to as a 4.6 variation).

Due to the variation being greater than 10%, the application cannot be determined under delegated authority, and must be determined by Council.

**Recommendation**

That Council:

1. Approve DA2024/046 for the demolition of the existing dwelling and replacement with double storey dwelling and swimming pool with safety barrier located at 175A West Road Lot 2 DP 1196467 Buronga.
2. Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)

**Council Resolution**

That Council:

1. Approve DA2024/046 for the demolition of the existing dwelling and replacement with double storey dwelling and swimming pool with safety barrier located at 175A West Road Lot 2 DP 1196467 Buronga.
2. Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)

Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr. Elstone

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

*In accordance with Section 375A of the Local Government Act the Mayor called for a division.*

*For the Motion :*                      *Clr.s Beaumont, Cooper, Crisp, Elstone, Linklater, Nichols and Rodda.*

*Against the Motion:*              *Nil.*

## 9.12 EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - DISPOSAL OF 3 TRACTORS

File Number: RPT/24/520

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.2 Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained

### **Summary**

Council at its December 2023 meeting approved the replacement of 3 Council owned Massey Ferguson Tractors Plant Items 34,39 & 51, Council also decided not to accept any of the trade in prices submitted for the tractors as part of this tender response, opting to undertake an Expression of Interest for the disposal of the three tractors, gifting the 3 surplus tractors to interested local users or sporting groups. 5 responses have been received.

### **Recommendation**

That Council consider the expressions of interest received and approve allocation of surplus Plant Items 34,39 & 51 to User/Sporting groups of their choosing.

### **Council Resolution**

That Council accept submissions from the Australian Inland Botanic Gardens, Wentworth Showgrounds User Group and the Pooncarie Recreation User Group to receive the plant, with the Pooncarie Recreation User Group receiving plant 51.

**Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr Rodda**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### 9.13 DARLING STREET FOOTPATH UPGRADE

File Number: RPT/24/450

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering  
 Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering  
 Reporting Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment  
 Strategy: 3.2 Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained

#### **Summary**

Council secured funding through the Resources for Regions Program for various Council projects. One of the projects that will be funded by the Program is the Darling Street footpath upgrade. In May 2024, Council undertook community consultation for the project, as a result Council has produced a Consultation Report pertaining to the Darling Street footpath upgrade that includes findings and recommendations for the project going forward.

#### **Recommendation**

That Council:

- a) Receive and note the information in this report.
- b) Select one of the options available with regards to the London Plane Trees.

#### **Council Resolution**

That Council proceeds to develop the Darling Street footpath upgrade based on retaining the London Plane Trees and that the upgrade include a connection to the Caravan Park.

**Moved Cr Crisp, Seconded Cr Cooper**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### 9.14 PROJECT & WORKS UPDATE - AUGUST 2024

File Number: RPT/24/463

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Jamie-Lee Kelly - Administration Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.2 Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained

#### **Summary**

This report provides a summary of the projects and major works undertaken by the Roads and Engineering Department which have been completed during the months of July 2024 and the planned activities for August 2024.

#### **Recommendation**

That Council receives and notes the major works undertaken in July 2024 and the scheduled works for the following month.

#### **Council Resolution**

That Council receives and notes the major works undertaken in July 2024 and the scheduled works for the following month.

**Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr Cooper**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



### 9.15 TCORP LOAN ACCEPTANCE - BURONGA LANDFILL EXPANSION

File Number: RPT/24/569

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule

Responsible Division:

Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.4 Use and manage our resources wisely

#### **Summary**

At the March 2024 Ordinary Council meeting, Council endorsed the future direction of the Buronga Landfill including the borrowing of \$12,000,000 to fund stage 1 of the Landfill Expansion.

#### **Recommendation**

That Council:

- a) Admits the late supplementary report for consideration.
- b) Accepts the Loan Offer from NSW TCorp.
- c) Delegates authority to the Mayor and the General Manager to sign loan documents and affix the Council Seal.

#### **Council Resolution**

That Council:

- a) Admits the late supplementary report for consideration.
- b) Accepts the Loan Offer from NSW TCorp.
- c) Delegates authority to the Mayor and the General Manager to sign loan documents and affix the Council Seal.

**Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Cr Crisp**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 10 NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Cr Rodda asked if there could be an investigation into the Modikerr Way and Wilga Road intersection. Is there an opportunity to widen the road or traffic calming infrastructure?

The Director Roads and Engineering advised he will take the question on notice.

Cr Elstone congratulated the Mayor on a job well done and thanked the senior staff and fellow Councillors. He also paid special thanks and recognition to the Coomealla Memorial Sporting Club and Wentworth District Community Bank for their huge support of the community and Council.

Cr Crisp thanked his fellow Councillors for their work and wished those standing again good luck and those not a thank you for serving your community.

Cr Cooper thanked his fellow Councillors and wished those nominating all the best.

Cr Nichols thanked the Council staff for all their work during the term of Council. It was great to see the work that has been done by Council for the ratepayers.

## 11 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

7:56pm.

## NEXT MEETING

.....  
CHAIR



## **ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES**

**11 OCTOBER 2024**

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## 1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer at 10:00am.

## 2 PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

### PRESENT:

**COUNCILLORS:** Councillor Daniel Linklater  
Councillor Jon Armstrong  
Councillor Peter Crisp  
Councillor Tim Elstone  
Councillor Greg Evans  
Councillor Susan Nichols  
Councillor Jo Rodda  
Councillor Jody Starick

**STAFF:** Ken Ross (General Manager)  
Simon Rule (Director Finance and Policy) (Via Video Conference)  
Hannah Nicholas (Business Support Officer)

## 3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

### Council Resolution

That Council notes the apology from Cr Weeding.

Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Cr. Nichols

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Nil

## 5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Carried over until 30 October 2024 meeting.

## 6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Nil

## 7 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Nil

## 8 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

Nil

## 9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

### 9.1 STATUTORY MEETING ITEM - OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE

File Number: RPT/24/575

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner  
Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

#### **Summary**

The requirement for Councillors to take an oath or affirmation of office came into effect on 30 August 2016 (the date of assent of the Local Government Amendment (Governance and Planning) Bill 2016). The Oath must be taken by Councillors at or before the first meeting of Council after being elected. Councillor Michael Weeding undertook the Oath of office on Tuesday 8 October 2024.

#### **Recommendation**

That Council:

- a) Receives and notes the General Manager's report on the taking of an oath or affirmation of office by individual Councillors
- b) Notes the taking of the Oath from all Councillors and their signed Statements containing the oath.

#### **Council Resolution**

That Council:

- a) Receives and notes the General Manager's report on the taking of an oath or affirmation of office by individual Councillors
- b) Notes the taking of the Oath from all Councillors present and their signed Statements containing the oath. It is noted that Councillor Weeding took his oath in front of the General Manager and Councillors Elstone and Nichols on Tuesday 8 October 2024.

**Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Cr. Nichols**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 9.2 STATUTORY MEETING ITEM - ELECTION OF MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR

File Number: RPT/24/574

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner  
Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

### **Summary**

Councils that elect their Mayors are required under section 290(1)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) at the first meeting after an ordinary election of councillors, and within 3 weeks after the ordinary election, hold an election for Mayor and decide if Council wishes to have a Deputy Mayor.

Schedule 7 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, provides for the election of Mayor by Councillors by either ordinary ballot, open voting or by preferential ballot.

This procedure is overseen with the returning officer duties performed by the General Manager.

### **Recommendation**

1. That Council determines in the event of two or more nominations being received for Mayor the process to elect the Mayor either by ordinary ballot **or** open voting **or** preferential ballot;
2. That the General Manager receives nominations for the position of Mayor for the next two years and declares whether an election is required, and if so conducts the election.
3. That Council determines if the position of Deputy Mayor will be elected for the Mayoral term being two years.
4. That the General Manager receives nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor and declares whether an election is required, and if so conducts the election.

### **Council Resolution**

1. That Council determines in the event of two or more nominations being received for Mayor the process to elect the Mayor will be by open voting
2. That the General Manager received one nomination for the position of Mayor for the next two years and declared that an election is not required
3. That Council determines if the position of Deputy Mayor will be elected for the Mayoral term being two years.
4. That the General Manager received nomination for the position of Deputy Mayor and declared whether an election is not required.

**Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Cr. Nichols**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Cr Linklater was nominated for the position of Mayor for the next two years by Cr Elstone and Cr Nichols. There being no other nominations for Mayor, Cr Linklater was declared Mayor unopposed.

Cr Crisp was nominated for the position of Deputy Mayor for the next two years by Cr Elstone and Cr Nichols. There being no other nominations for Deputy Mayor, Cr Crisp was declared Deputy Mayor unopposed.



**9.3 STATUTORY MEETING ITEM - DELEGATIONS TO MAYOR AND GENERAL MANAGER**

File Number: RPT/24/578

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner  
Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

**Summary**

The purpose of this report is to establish the delegated authority of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. Council Policy GOV009 sets the delegations for these positions. The policy is attached for reference to the schedules. There have been no amendments made to the delegation schedules.

**Recommendation**

That Council;

- a) Retains all functions, duties and responsibilities outlined in schedule 1 of Council Policy GOV009
- b) Pursuant to Section 377 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, delegates to the Mayor, as elected at the Council Meeting on 11 October 2024, the powers, duties, authorities and functions of the position as listed in schedule 2 of the Delegation Policy (GOV009).
- c) Resolves that in the absence of the Mayor, and when officially acting in the position of Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, as elected at the Council Meeting on 11 October 2024 is authorised to exercise delegations of the Mayor as listed in schedule 2 of the Delegation Policy (GOV009).
- d) Pursuant to Section 377 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, delegates to the General Manager, the powers, duties, authorities and functions of the position as listed in schedule 3 of the Delegation Policy (GOV009).
- e) Resolves that in the absence of the General Manager and when officially acting in the position of Acting General Manager, that staff member is authorised to exercise delegations of the General Manager as listed in schedule 3 of the Delegation Policy (GOV009).
- f) Resolves that the delegations to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor remain in place for a period of 2 years (the Mayoral term), or until revoked or amended by Council.

**Council Resolution**

That Council;

- a) Retains all functions, duties and responsibilities outlined in schedule 1 of Council

## Policy GOV009

- b) Pursuant to Section 377 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, delegates to the Mayor, as elected at the Council Meeting on 11 October 2024, the powers, duties, authorities and functions of the position as listed in schedule 2 of the Delegation Policy (GOV009).
- c) Resolves that in the absence of the Mayor, and when officially acting in the position of Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, as elected at the Council Meeting on 11 October 2024 is authorised to exercise delegations of the Mayor as listed in schedule 2 of the Delegation Policy (GOV009).
- d) Pursuant to Section 377 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, delegates to the General Manager, the powers, duties, authorities and functions of the position as listed in schedule 3 of the Delegation Policy (GOV009).
- e) Resolves that in the absence of the General Manager and when officially acting in the position of Acting General Manager, that staff member is authorised to exercise delegations of the General Manager as listed in schedule 3 of the Delegation Policy (GOV009).
- f) Resolves that the delegations to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor remain in place for a period of 2 years (the Mayoral term), or until revoked or amended by Council.

**Moved Cr Rodda, Seconded Cr. Elstone**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### 9.4 USING COUNTBACKS TO FILL CASUAL VACANCIES

File Number: RPT/24/577

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner  
Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

#### **Summary**

Council has the option of using a countback of votes cast at the last ordinary election to fill casual vacancies occurring in the office of Councillors in the first 18 months after the election.

This will allow Council to use a countback to fill vacancies at a lower cost than the cost of holding a by-election.

If Council does not resolve this at the first meeting after the election, all casual Councillor vacancies will need to be filled via a by-election.

#### **Recommendation**

That Council pursuant to section 291A (1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act), resolves that casual vacancies occurring in the office of a Councillor with 18 months after the last ordinary election of Councillors for the Council on 14 September 2024 are to be filled by a countback of votes cast at that election for the office in accordance with section 291A of the Act and directs the General Manager to notify the NSW Electoral Commissioner of Council's decision within 7 days of this resolution.

#### **Council Resolution**

That Council pursuant to section 291A (1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act), resolves that casual vacancies occurring in the office of a Councillor with 18 months after the last ordinary election of Councillors for the Council on 14 September 2024 are to be filled by a countback of votes cast at that election for the office in accordance with section 291A of the Act and directs the General Manager to notify the NSW Electoral Commissioner of Council's decision within 7 days of this resolution.

**Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr Crisp**

**CARRIED**

**For the Motion :** *Clr.s Armstrong, Crisp, Elstone, Evans, Linklater, and Nichols and Starick*

**Against the Motion:** *Clr. Rodda.*

**9.5 COUNCIL MEETING DATES AND TIMES**

File Number: RPT/24/576

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner  
Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

**Summary**

The purpose of this report is to set the date and time for the Ordinary Meetings of Council.

**Recommendation**

That Council determines the following in relation to Ordinary Meetings of Council:

1. Ordinary Council meetings will be held on a day to be determined in all months excluding June
2. The June 2025 meeting will be held on the selected day in the last week of June
3. The January will/will not be held
4. All Ordinary meetings of Council will commence at a time to be determined
5. Pre-meeting Briefings will/will not be held

**Council Resolution**

That Council determines the following in relation to Ordinary Meetings of Council:

1. Ordinary Council meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of each month
2. All Ordinary meetings of Council will commence at 5:00pm

**Moved Cr. Crisp, Seconded Cr Nichols**

**CARRIED**

***For the Motion :*** ***Clr.s Armstrong, Crisp, Elstone, Evans, Linklater, Nichols and Starick***

***Against the Motion:*** ***Clr. Rodda.***

**Council Resolution**

That Council determines the following in relation to Ordinary Meetings of Council:

- 1 The January 2025 meeting will not be held
- 2 The June 2025 meeting will be held on the 25 June 2025

**Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Armstrong**

**CARRIED**

***For the Motion :Clr.s Armstrong, Crisp, Elstone, Evans, Linklater, Nichols, Starick and Weeding.***

***Against the Motion: Clr. Rodda.***

**Council Resolution**

That Council determines the following in relation to Ordinary Meetings of Council:

1. Pre-meeting Briefings will be held at 4:00pm prior to the Ordinary Meeting.

**Moved Cr. Nichols, Seconded Cr Crisp**

**CARRIED**

***For the Motion :Clr.s Crisp, Elstone, Evans, Linklater, Nichols, Starick and Weeding.***

***Against the Motion: Clr.s Armstrong and Rodda.***

**Council Resolution**

That Council determines the following in relation to Ordinary Meetings of Council:

1. The October 2024 meeting will be held on 30 October 2024 at 5:00pm and a Pre-meeting briefing will be held at 4:00pm

**Moved Cr. Elstone, Seconded Armstrong**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**9.6 STATUTORY MEETING ITEM - INTERNAL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATION**

File Number: RPT/24/581

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
 Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner  
 Strategy: 4.4 Provide strong leadership and work in partnership to strategically plan for the future

**Summary**

The Statutory meeting of Council is an opportunity for Council to review the committee structure that it requires for the upcoming 12 month period. Council is able to review the existing Internal Committees and determine Councillor representation for these committees.

**Recommendation**

That Council considers the current list of Internal Committees and determines appropriate representation.

**Council Resolution**

That Council considers the current list of Internal Committees and has determined the appropriate representation as listed in the table below.

**Moved Cr. Armstrong, Seconded Cr Crisp**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Listing of Internal Committees and User Groups**

<b>Advisory Committees</b>	<b>Meeting Frequency</b>	<b>Council Delegate(s)</b>	<b>Other Advisory Officers</b>
Floodplain Risk Management Committee	When required	Mayor, Cr Elstone, Cr Nichols and Cr Evans	General Manager, Director Health and Planning, Robert Rigby, David Buck, SES
Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee	Min Quarterly	Cr Starick	General Manager, Director Corporate Services, Roseanne Kava (Chair) Diane

			Schmidt, Caroline Smith
Heritage and History Advisory Committee	When required	Cr Nichols, Cr Evans and Cr Armstrong (Alternate)	Greg Harrison, Russell James, Robert Hannaford, Nikita Vanderbyl, Tony Bruce-Mullins & Staff
General Managers Performance Review Committee	When Required	Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Council Representative, General Manager Representative	
User Groups	Meeting Frequency	Delegate(s)	Alternate Councillor(s)
Carramar Drive Sporting Complex User Group	When required	Mayor, Cr Armstrong, Cr Rodda	N/A
George Gordon Oval User Group	When required	Cr Crisp, Cr Elstone and Cr Weeding	N/A
James King Park User Group	When required	Cr Rodda, Cr Starick	N/A
Wentworth Showgrounds User Group	When required	Cr Nichols and Cr Evans	N/A
Wentworth Sporting Precinct User Group	When required	Cr Weeding and Cr Evans	N/A
Pooncarie Sporting Reserve User Group	When required	Cr Rodda and Cr Elstone	N/A



**9.7 STATUTORY MEETING ITEM - REVIEW OF EXTERNAL COMMITTEES**

File Number: RPT/24/582

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
 Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring , supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

**Summary**

In order to respond to the needs of its community, Council annually reviews the External Committees to which it has appointed representatives.

The nominated representatives on each committee are responsible for providing a Delegate's Report to Council.

**Recommendation**

That Council considers the list of External Committees and determines appropriate representation.

**Council Resolution**

That Council considers the list of External Committees and determined the appropriate representation as per the table below.

**Moved Cr Armstrong, Seconded Cr. Elstone**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

External Committee	Meeting Frequency	Nominated Representative(s)
Australian Inland Botanic Gardens	Monthly	Cr Starick, Cr Rodda
Barkandji Indigenous Land Use Agreement Working Group	As required	Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Cr Elstone and General Manager
Bottle Bend Reserve Land Manager	Monthly	Cr Armstrong, Mayor (Alternate)
Bush Fire Management Committee	Twice per annum	Cr Armstrong, Cr Elstone (Alternate)
ClubGRANTS Category One (1) Funding Committee	Twice per annum	Mayor and the General Manager
Country Mayor's Association of NSW	As required	Mayor
Community Safety Precinct Meeting	As required	Mayor, Cr Evans (Alternate)
Far West Joint Organisation – Broken Hill, Wentworth, Balranald, Central Darling	As required	Mayor and Deputy Mayor
Joint Regional Planning Panel	As required	Cr Crisp, Cr Nichols

Menindee Lakes SDLAM Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG)	As required	Cr Nichols, Cr Elstone and Cr Armstrong
Murray Darling Association (Region 4)	Min. 4 times per annum	Mayor, Cr Nichols, Cr Evans and Cr Elstone
Public Libraries NSW	Twice per annum	Cr Starick
Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc.	Monthly	Cr Rodda, Cr Evans (Alternate)
Wentworth Shire Health Interagency Group (WSIG)	Monthly	Cr Rodda, Cr Armstrong
Wentworth Shire Liquor Accord Committee	As required	Cr Nichols, Cr Weeding (Alternate)
Western Division Group of Councils	Min. 3 times per annum	Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Cr Elstone and Cr Evans
Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Advisory Committee	Min. 3 times per annum	TBC

## 10 Notices of motions / Questions with notice

Nil

**Council Resolution**

That Council resolves that should the Deputy Mayor be absent at the 15 October 2024 Extraordinary Council meeting, Cr Elstone will cosign the Management Statements.

**Moved Cr Elstone, Seconded Cr. Crisp**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**11 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING**

10.47am

**NEXT MEETING**

30 October 2024

.....  
**CHAIR**





## **EXTRAORDINARY MEETING MINUTES**

**15 OCTOBER 2024**

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## 1 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer at 4:01pm.

## 2 PRAYER OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

### PRESENT:

**COUNCILLORS:** Councillor Daniel Linklater  
Councillor Jon Armstrong  
Councillor Tim Elstone  
Councillor Greg Evans  
Councillor Susan Nichols  
Councillor Jody Starick

**STAFF:** Ken Ross (General Manager)  
Simon Rule (Director Corporate Services)  
Gayle Marsden (Executive Assistant to General Manager)

## 3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

### Council Resolution

That Council notes the apologies for Councillors Crisp, Rodda and Weeding.

**Moved Cr. Armstrong, Seconded Cr. Elstone**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 4 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

Nil

## 5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Nil

## 6 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

### 6.1 DRAFT 2023-2024 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

File Number: RPT/24/600

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

#### **Summary**

It is a requirement of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) (the Act) that Council prepare its Annual Financial Statements as soon as practicable after the end of the financial year in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice.

The Financial Statements must be audited and the audit opinion issued by the Audit Office of NSW and lodged with the Office of Local Government by 31 October 2024.

Section 413 and 418 of the Act and Clause 215 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (the Regulation) have a number of specific requirements that Council has to comply with in regards to the production, auditing and finalisation of the Annual Financial Statements and year end reporting requirements.

#### **Recommendation**

That Council certifies:

- a. That the Annual Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with:
  - i. The *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) and the Regulations made there under;
  - ii. The Australian Accounting Standards and other pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board; and
  - iii. The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.
- b. To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:
  - i. Present fairly the Council's operating result and financial position for the 2023/2024 financial year; and
  - ii. Accord with Council's accounting and other records.
- c. That Council is not aware of any matter that would render these Statements false or misleading in any way.

That Council:

- a. Adopt the Councillors and Management Statement and resolves that it be signed by the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, the General Manager and the Responsible Accounting



Officer and that it is attached to the financial statements;

- b. Delegates to the General Manager the authority to “finalise the date” at which the auditor’s report and financial statements are to be presented to the public; and
- c. Delegates to the General Manager the authority to authorise the year end accounts for issue immediately upon receipt of the auditor’s reports.

That Council:

- a. Refer the Draft 2023/2024 Annual Financial Statements to audit.

### **Council Resolution**

That Council certifies:

- a. That the Annual Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with:
  - i. The *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) and the Regulations made there under;
  - ii. The Australian Accounting Standards and other pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board; and
  - iii. The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.
- b. To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:
  - i. Present fairly the Council’s operating result and financial position for the 2023/2024 financial year; and
  - ii. Accord with Council’s accounting and other records.
- c. That Council is not aware of any matter that would render these Statements false or misleading in any way.

That Council:

- a. Adopt the Councillors and Management Statement and resolves that it be signed by the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, the General Manager and the Responsible Accounting Officer and that it is attached to the financial statements;
- b. Delegates to the General Manager the authority to “finalise the date” at which the auditor’s report and financial statements are to be presented to the public; and
- c. Delegates to the General Manager the authority to authorise the year end accounts for issue immediately upon receipt of the auditor’s reports.

That Council:

- a. Refer the Draft 2023/2024 Annual Financial Statements to audit.

**Moved Cr. Armstrong, Seconded Cr. Starick**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**7 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING**

Meeting closed at 4:04pm.

**NEXT MEETING**

30 October 2024

.....  
**CHAIR**

## 6 OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

NIL

## 7 MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS

### 7.1 MAYORAL REPORT

File Number: RPT/24/591

#### **Summary**

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of meetings, conferences and appointments undertaken by Mayor Linklater for the period of 11 October 2024 – 30 October 2024.

#### **Recommendation**

That Council receives and notes the information contained in the Mayoral report

#### **Report**

The following table lists the meetings attended by Mayor Linklater for the period of 11 October 2024 – 30 October 2024.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Location</b>
11 October 2024	Statutory Council Meeting	Wentworth
14 and 15 October 2024	Councillor Induction Training	Wentworth
15 October 2024	Extraordinary Council Meeting	Wentworth
16 October 2024	Mayoral Induction Training	Wentworth
21 October 2024	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
22 October 2024	Meeting NSW Treasurer and Minister Hoenig	Sydney
25 October 2024	La Trobe University Opening of Dr Deb Neal Wing	Wentworth
29 October 2024	Sturt Highway Taskforce Meeting	Wentworth
30 October 2024	Pre Meeting Briefing	Wentworth
30 October 2024	Ordinary Council Meeting	Wentworth

#### **Attachments**

Nil

**8      REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

Nil

## 9 REPORTS TO COUNCIL

### 9.1 GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT

File Number: RPT/24/593

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
Reporting Officer: Hannah Nicholas - Business Support Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

#### **Summary**

The General Manager's report details information pertaining to meetings attended and general information which are of public interest, and which have not been reported elsewhere in this agenda. Items of note in this report are:

1. OLG Circulars  
Circular 24-15, 24-16, 24-17 and 24-18.
2. Meetings  
As listed.
3. Upcoming meetings or events  
As listed.
4. Other items of note  
Nil.

#### **Recommendation**

That Council receive and note the information contained within the report from the General Manager.

#### **Detailed Report**

##### **1. Circulars**

##### **Circular 24-15 Post Election Guide Launched on the Office of Local Government's Website**

- The Post-Election Guide provides guidance to Councils, County Councils, and Joint Organisations on key tasks that need to be completed at the first 2 meetings of Council and in the first 12 months following the local government elections.

##### **Key Points**

- The Post-Election Guide also contains a checklist of tasks. Some of the tasks covered in the Post-Election Guide include:
  - oaths and affirmations of office
  - Mayoral and Chairperson elections
  - appointment of a Councillor member to the audit, risk and improvement committee

- 
- induction and refresher training for Mayors and Councillors
  - lodgement of written returns of interests
  - Integrated Planning and Reporting obligations
  - review and adoption of the code of conduct and code of meeting practice.
- OLG has previously published a pre-election guide for councils (Pre-Election Guide) which provides guidance on the rules, restrictions and other considerations that apply to the decisions councils make and the way they exercise their functions in the lead up to the local government elections.

**Circular 24-16 Councillor Handbook 2024**

- The Office of Local Government (OLG) has issued a 2024 edition of the Councillor Handbook to assist and inform new and returning Councillors in the exercise of their functions.
- The Councillor Handbook is a “how to” guide to being a Councillor and provides comprehensive guidance to Councillors on all aspects of their role and responsibilities.
- The Councillor Handbook can be accessed under ‘Key Resources’ on OLG’s Being a Councillor webpage.

Key Points

- The Councillor Handbook provides guidance and information on a range of topics including:
  - an overview of local government in NSW
  - a Councillor’s role, responsibilities and relationships
  - the code of conduct and guidance for acting ethically
  - how to make the most of meetings
  - strategic planning and reporting
  - financial management
  - support for Councillors.

**Circular 24-17 Councillor Conduct and meeting practices – a discussion paper**

- The Councillor Conduct Framework is under review with the aim to facilitate and support local decision making.
- The Councillor conduct and meeting practices – A new framework discussion paper (discussion paper) has been prepared to seek the views of the community, key stakeholders, and the local government sector about the proposed changes.

Key Points

- Strong and thriving communities need effective local government.

- The Councillor Conduct Framework is under review to ensure that it delivers on the need for transparency and ensures that Councillors are visibly in control of their Councils.
- Councillors should act fairly, ethically and without bias in the interests of the local community. They should be responsible employers and provide a consultative and supportive working environment for staff.
- It is intended that the revised Councillor Conduct Framework will be based on the following principles of change:
  - council leadership and decision making is paramount
  - freedom of speech is fundamental
  - transparency and accountability are maintained
  - issues are dealt with at the most immediate or local level
  - a strong and proportionate local government regulator
  - justice is timely and proportionate
  - significant penalties should only be imposed by a judicial or quasi-judicial body.

**Circular 24-18 Mutual Recognition – Council’s Local Approvals for mobile businesses**

- As part of the NSW Vibrancy Reforms, the Office of Local Government (OLG) is developing a mutual recognition framework.
- This will allow an approval granted to a business under Section 68 of the Local Government Act 1993 by one council to be recognised across multiple local government areas.
- This will initially apply to approvals granted for the following mobile businesses:
  - food trucks
  - market stall holders
  - buskers
  - outdoor fitness trainers
- Councils are invited to provide input into the development of the mutual recognition framework by completing an online survey.

Key Points

- Currently mobile businesses must seek a separate approval in each council area they wish to operate.
- The Local Government Amendment Act 2019 makes provisions for the mutual recognition framework however, the provisions will not commence until regulations and guidance material have been developed.

- The survey seeks to gather initial input from key stakeholders including councils, mobile businesses (in the 4 categories mentioned above) and the general public, focusing on high-level issues to consider when developing the framework.
- The survey can be completed via the OLG Website:  
<https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/programs-and-initiatives/mutual-recognition>
- Responses to the survey will inform the development of a policy, regulations, and guidance materials for councils.
- Further opportunities for feedback such as a via a discussion paper and online workshops may be made available later this year as the framework is being developed.

### **Circular 24-19 2024/2025 “Hit the Ground Running” Webinars**

- To assist councils in the delivery of councillor induction and refresher training, the Office of Local Government (OLG) will be holding a series of “Hit the Ground Running” webinars beginning in October 2024 and continuing into early 2025.
- These webinars will provide councillors with essential information to serve their community and fulfil their civic responsibilities.
- “Hit the Ground Running” webinars will be held online once a week on Thursdays from 4.00 – 6.00 pm. The webinar on the Governing Body and Financial Management will start at 4.30 pm.
- Recordings of the webinars will be made available on OLG’s website.
- Session details, dates and how to register are provided on the “Hit the Ground Running” webpage in the Council Portal.

## **2. Meetings**

Following is a list of meetings or events attended by the General Manager for the period of 11 October 2024 – 30 October 2024.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Location</b>
11 October 2024	Ordinary Council Meeting	Wentworth
14 - 15 October 2024	Councillor Induction Training	Wentworth
14 October 2024	Extraordinary Council Meeting	Wentworth
21 October 2024	Mayoral Meeting	Wentworth
22 October 2024	Meeting NSW Treasurer and Minister Hoenig	Sydney
28 October 2024	Project Steering Group LightState Meeting	Wentworth
30 October 2024	Local Rescue Committee Meeting	Buronga
30 October 2024	Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting	Buronga



30 October 2024	Pre Meeting Briefing	Wentworth
30 October 2024	Ordinary Council Meeting	Wentworth

### 3. Events

Following is a list of upcoming events, conferences, or committee meetings, including out of region meetings where the Shire has been requested to attend in an official capacity from 30 October 2024 – 20 November 2024.

Date	Meeting	Proposed Attendees	Location
4 November 2024	Wentworth Regional Tourism Incorporated Meeting	Cr Rodda	Dareton
4 November 2024	Community Strategic Plan Consultation - Dareton	Councillors and General Manager	Dareton
7 November 2024	Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee	Cr Starick	Wentworth
8 November 2024	Community Cabinet: Meet the Minister Stakeholder Meeting	Mayor and General Manager	Broken Hill
12 November 2024	Community Strategic Plan Consultation - Curlwaa	Councillors and General Manager	Curlwaa
14 November 2024	Country Mayors Association Meeting	Mayor and General Manager	Sydney
21 November 2024	Wentworth Shire Interagency Group Meeting	Cr Rodda and Cr Armstrong	Buronga

### 4. Other Items of Note

Nil

### Attachments

1. 24-15[↓](#)
2. 24-16[↓](#)
3. 24-17[↓](#)
4. 24-18[↓](#)
5. 24-19[↓](#)

## Circular to Councils

Subject/title	Post-Election Guide launched on the Office of Local Government's website
Circular Details	Circular No 24-15/ 15 August 2024 / A902689
Previous Circular	24-04 New local government elections webpage launched on the Office of Local Government's website
Who should read this	Councillors / general managers / council governance staff
Contact	Council Governance Team / 02 4428 4100 / <a href="mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au">olg@olg.nsw.gov.au</a>
Action required	Council to Implement

### What's new or changing?

- There are several key decisions and activities that need to occur at the first meetings of councils, county councils, and Joint Organisations following the upcoming local government elections and in the 12 months that follow.
- The Office of Local Government (OLG) has prepared a post-election guide for councils, county councils, and Joint Organisations (Post-Election Guide) to assist them to comply with these requirements.
- The Post-Election Guide can be found under 'Information for councils' on OLG's [Local Government Elections](#) webpage.

### What will this mean for council?

- The Post-Election Guide provides guidance to councils, county councils, and Joint Organisations on key tasks that need to be completed at the first 2 meetings of council and in the first 12 months following the local government elections.
- The Post-Election Guide also contains a checklist of tasks. Some of the tasks covered in the Post-Election Guide include:

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## Key points

- oaths and affirmations of office
- mayoral and chairperson elections
- appointment of a councillor member to the audit, risk and improvement committee
- induction and refresher training for mayors and councillors
- lodgement of written returns of interests
- Integrated Planning and Reporting obligations
- review and adoption of the code of conduct and code of meeting practice.
- OLG has previously published a pre-election guide for councils (Pre-Election Guide) which provides guidance on the rules, restrictions and other considerations that apply to the decisions councils make and the way they exercise their functions in the lead up to the local government elections.

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## Where to go for further information

- For more information, visit the [Local Government Elections](#) webpage on OLG's website.
- Download the [Post Election Guide](#) on OLG's website.
- Download the [Pre-Election Guide](#) on OLG's website.
- For further information, contact the Council Governance Team on 02 4428 4100 or [olg@olg.nsw.gov.au](mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au).

**Brett Whitworth**  
**Deputy Secretary**  
**Office of Local Government**

## Circular to Councils

Subject	Councillor Handbook 2024
Circular Details	Circular No 24-16 / 4 September 2024 / A903792
Previous Circular	24-15 Post-Election Guide launched on the Office of Local Government's website
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / Council Governance Staff
Contact	Council Governance/ (02) 4428 4100 / <a href="mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au">olg@olg.nsw.gov.au</a>
Action required	Council to Implement

## What's new or changing?

- The Office of Local Government (OLG) has issued a 2024 edition of the Councillor Handbook to assist and inform new and returning councillors in the exercise of their functions.
- The Councillor Handbook is a “how to” guide to being a councillor and provides comprehensive guidance to councillors on all aspects of their role and responsibilities.
- The Councillor Handbook can be accessed under ‘Key Resources’ on OLG’s [Being a councillor](#) webpage.

## What will this mean for council?

- Councils are encouraged to include the Councillor Handbook in the induction packs for new and returning councillors.
- Holding an induction program for councillors each council term is a mandatory requirement under the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021.
- OLG has issued Councillor Induction and Professional Development Guidelines to guide councils on how to develop and deliver induction programs for newly elected and returning mayors and councillors.

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## Key points

- The Councillor Handbook provides guidance and information on a range of topics including:
  - an overview of local government in NSW
  - a councillor's role, responsibilities and relationships
  - the code of conduct and guidance for acting ethically
  - how to make the most of meetings
  - strategic planning and reporting
  - financial management
  - support for councillors.

---

## Where to go for further information

- For more information, visit the 'Key Resources' section on OLG's [Being a councillor](#) webpage.
- For more information on inducting new and returning councillors, see the [Councillor Induction and Professional Development Guidelines](#) on OLG's website.
- For further information please contact OLG's Council Governance Team on 02 4482 4100 or by email at [olg@olg.nsw.gov.au](mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au).

A blue ink signature of Brett Whitworth.

Brett Whitworth  
Deputy Secretary  
Office of Local Government

## Circular to Councils

Subject/title	Councillor conduct and meeting practices – a discussion paper
Circular Details	24-17 / 05 September 2024 / A913035
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / All council staff
Contact	Strategic Policy Unit / 02 4428 4100 / <a href="mailto:councillorconduct@olg.nsw.gov.au">councillorconduct@olg.nsw.gov.au</a>
Action required	Response to OLG

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### What's new or changing?

- The Councillor Conduct Framework is under review with the aim to facilitate and support local decision making.
- The Councillor conduct and meeting practices – A new framework discussion paper (discussion paper) has been prepared to seek the views of the community, key stakeholders, and the local government sector about the proposed changes.

---

### What will this mean for council?

- The general public, councils, individual councillors and council staff, are encouraged to make written submissions in response to the discussion paper.
- The discussion paper provides information about how to make a submission.
- Submissions should be made by **15 November 2024**.

---

### Key points

- Strong and thriving communities need effective local government.
- The Councillor Conduct Framework is under review to ensure that it delivers on the need for transparency and ensures that councillors are visibly in control of their councils.

- Councillors should act fairly, ethically and without bias in the interests of the local community. They should be responsible employers and provide a consultative and supportive working environment for staff.
- It is intended that the revised Councillor Conduct Framework will be based on the following principles of change:
  - council leadership and decision making is paramount
  - freedom of speech is fundamental
  - transparency and accountability are maintained
  - issues are dealt with at the most immediate or local level
  - a strong and proportionate local government regulator
  - justice is timely and proportionate
  - significant penalties should only be imposed by a judicial or quasi-judicial body.

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### Where to go for further information

- A copy of the discussion paper and information about how to provide feedback is available on OLG's website [here](#).
- For further information about the Councillor Conduct Framework review, please contact OLG's Strategic Policy Unit on 02 4428 4100 or by email at [councillorconduct@olg.nsw.gov.au](mailto:councillorconduct@olg.nsw.gov.au).

**Brett Whitworth**  
**Deputy Secretary**  
**Office of Local Government**

## Circular to Councils

Subject	Mutual Recognition – Councils’ Local Approvals for mobile businesses
Circular Details	24-18 /12 September 2024/ A909286
Previous Circular	N/A
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / All council staff / Environmental Health teams, Local business approval teams
Contact	OLG Policy Team / 02 4428 4100 / <a href="mailto:vibrancy@olg.nsw.gov.au">vibrancy@olg.nsw.gov.au</a>
Action required	Response to OLG

### What’s new or changing?

- As part of the NSW Vibrancy Reforms, the Office of Local Government (OLG) is developing a mutual recognition framework.
- This will allow an approval granted to a business under Section 68 of the *Local Government Act 1993* by one council to be recognised across multiple local government areas.
- This will initially apply to approvals granted for the following mobile businesses:
  - food trucks
  - market stall holders
  - buskers
  - outdoor fitness trainers
- Councils are invited to provide input into the development of the mutual recognition framework by completing an online survey.

### What will this mean for council?

- Mutual recognition aims to reduce red tape, time, cost, and resourcing required for both councils and mobile businesses when preparing and assessing Section 68 approvals.



- Councils are requested to provide input through the online survey by 5pm 24 October 2024.

---

## Key points

- Currently mobile businesses must seek a separate approval in each council area they wish to operate.
- The *Local Government Amendment Act 2019* makes provisions for the mutual recognition framework however, the provisions will not commence until regulations and guidance material have been developed.
- The survey seeks to gather initial input from key stakeholders including councils, mobile businesses (in the 4 categories mentioned above) and the general public, focusing on high-level issues to consider when developing the framework.
- The survey can be completed via the OLG Website:  
<https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/programs-and-initiatives/mutual-recognition>
- Responses to the survey will inform the development of a policy, regulations, and guidance materials for councils.
- Further opportunities for feedback such as a via a discussion paper and online workshops may be made available later this year as the framework is being developed.

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## Where to go for further information

- Further information on the review is available on the Office of Local Government's website - <https://www.olg.nsw.gov.au/programs-and-initiatives/mutual-recognition>, or by contacting the Policy team on 02 4428 4100 or via email at [vibrancy@olg.nsw.gov.au](mailto:vibrancy@olg.nsw.gov.au)

**Brett Whitworth**  
Deputy Secretary, Office of Local Government

## Circular to Councils

Subject/title	2024/25 “Hit the Ground Running” Webinars
Circular Details	24-19 / 26 September 2024/ Doc ID A925233
Previous Circular	<u>24-16 Councillor Handbook 2024</u>
Who should read this	Councillors / General Managers / Council Governance staff
Contact	Council Governance / (02) 4428 4100 / <a href="mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au">olg@olg.nsw.gov.au</a>
Action required	Council to Implement

### What’s new or changing?

- To assist councils in the delivery of councillor induction and refresher training, the Office of Local Government (OLG) will be holding a series of “Hit the Ground Running” webinars beginning in October 2024 and continuing into early 2025.
- These webinars will provide councillors with essential information to serve their community and fulfil their civic responsibilities.
- “Hit the Ground Running” webinars will be held online once a week on Thursdays from 4.00 – 6.00 pm. The webinar on the Governing Body and Financial Management will start at 4.30 pm.
- Recordings of the webinars will be made available on OLG’s website.
- Session details, dates and how to register are provided on the “Hit the Ground Running” webpage in the Council Portal.

### What will this mean for council?

- Under the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (the Regulation), councils must ensure that induction training is delivered to councillors who have been elected for the first time and refresher training for councillors who are re-elected, within 6 months of their election. Councils are also required to provide supplementary training to mayors.
- Councils are encouraged to incorporate the webinars into the councillor induction and refresher program they are required to deliver to elected members after the September 2024 council elections.

- General managers and council staff should widely promote the webinars and strongly encourage attendance by providing relevant session dates in the council calendar and assisting councillors with their registration.

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## Key points

- The “Hit the Ground Running” webinars will focus on the key elements of a councillor’s role and responsibilities.
- All councillors are strongly encouraged to participate in the “Hit the Ground Running” webinars. They will provide essential information to support councillors in serving their community and fulfilling their responsibilities.
- Councillors will receive a certificate of attendance to provide to their councils for each of the webinars they attend to assist councils to comply with their reporting obligations under the Regulation in relation to councillor participation in training.

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## Where to go for further information

- Session details, dates and how to register are provided on the “[Hit the Ground Running](#)” webpage on the Council Portal.
- To register for the Council Portal, go to [Council Portal Registration](#) on OLG’s website. Please note that registration must be based upon a government email address (i.e. ...@\_.nsw.gov.au).
- For more information on inducting new and returning councillors, see OLG’s [Councillor Induction and Professional Development Guidelines](#) on its website.
- To access the 2024 Councillor Handbook, visit the ‘Key Resources’ section on OLG’s [Being a councillor](#) webpage.
- For further information, contact OLG’s Council Governance Team on (02) 4428 4100 or by email at [olg@olg.nsw.gov.au](mailto:olg@olg.nsw.gov.au).

**Brett Whitworth**  
**Deputy Secretary, Office of Local Government**

## 9.2 MAY 2025 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

File Number: RPT/24/657

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
 Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.3 An effective and efficient organisation

### **Summary**

Council has an obligation to place the Operational Plan and Delivery Plan on public consultation for a period of 28 days. Currently the May 2025 council meeting is scheduled for 21 May 2025. To meet Councils obligations for public consultation and review of any submissions, the May 2025 meeting will need to be rescheduled to 14 May 2025.

### **Recommendation**

That Council hold the May 2025 Ordinary meeting of Council on Wednesday 14 May 2025.

### **Detailed Report**

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to advise that Council has an obligation to place the Operational Plan and Delivery Plan on public consultation for a period of 28 days. To achieve this and provide time for submissions to be considered and the agenda be prepared for the June 2025 meeting, the May 2025 meeting will need to be brought forward by one week.

#### **Report Detail**

At the 11 October 2024 Council meeting the meeting dates were set to be the third Wednesday monthly. It has come to our attention that the May 2025 meeting will need to be scheduled a week earlier to allow Council to comply with the obligations of community consultation for the Operational Plan and Delivery Plan and to allow time for any submission to be considered prior to the agenda being available for the June 2025 meeting.

#### **Conclusion**

To meet Councils obligations for 28 day community consultation for the Operational Plan and Delivery Plan and to review submissions the May 2025 meeting is required to be held on 14 May 2025.

### **Attachments**

Nil

### 9.3 CHRISTMAS LEAVE ARRANGEMENTS

File Number: RPT/24/656

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
 Reporting Officer: Gayle Marsden - Executive Assistant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.3 An effective and efficient organisation

#### **Summary**

At the August 2024 Ordinary Council meeting it was resolved that the Council shut down over Christmas would be from close of business 20 December 2024 reopening 30 December 2024.

A few staff were not happy with this arrangement and requested that staff be surveyed to decide when the shut down should occur. Subsequently, a survey of staff was undertaken and indicated that the staff would prefer the dates be changed.

#### **Recommendation**

That Council approve the Christmas shutdown to occur from close of business Tuesday 24 December 2024 reopening Thursday 2 January 2025.

#### **Detailed Report**

##### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to request council to approve a change to the Christmas shut down period for Council services to close from close of business Tuesday 24 December 2024 reopening Thursday 2 January 2025.

##### **Conclusion**

That Council approve the Christmas shutdown to occur from close of business Tuesday 24 December 2024 reopening Thursday 2 January 2025.

#### **Attachments**

Nil

#### 9.4 DRAFT WENTWORTH REGION TOURISM & EVENTS STRATEGY 2024-2029

File Number: RPT/24/625

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
 Reporting Officer: Lexi Stockman - Manager Tourism and Promotion

Objective: 1.0 Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving Region  
 Strategy: 1.2 Promote the Wentworth Region as a desirable visitor and tourism destination

##### **Summary**

The draft *Wentworth Region Tourism & Events Strategy 2024-2029* was developed after it was identified that Wentworth Shire Council did not currently have an updated Tourism & Events Strategy, with the last strategy completed in 2012.

The draft *Wentworth Region Tourism & Events Strategy 2024-2029* provides a framework to provide direction and consistency to all organisations and businesses within the tourism sector. The strategy includes a high-level plan that identifies the challenges currently faced within the local tourism industry as well as the main priorities and aspirations for the future, and how to achieve these goals.

The draft *Wentworth Region Tourism & Event Strategy 2024-2029* was presented at the 26 June Council meeting. It was requested that a Councillors workshop was to be held with Customer Frame for Councillors to review and discuss the strategy in more detail before community consultation commenced. The workshop was held on Thursday 25 July with Customer Frame and subsequently, the requested changes discussed have been made.

During the 21 August Council meeting, the updated draft of the *Wentworth Region Tourism & Events Strategy 2024-2029* was endorsed by Council for community consultation, for 28 days. No feedback was received from the community during this time and subsequently, no further changes were made to the document.

##### **Recommendation**

That Council adopts the *Wentworth Region Tourism & Events Strategy 2024-2029*.

##### **Detailed Report**

###### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is for Council to adopt the *Wentworth Region Tourism & Events Strategy 2024-2029* produced by Customer Frame in conjunction with Wentworth Shire Council staff.

###### **Background**

Council staff have been working with Customer Frame the consultants who were successful in the panel review completed in November 2023. The completed draft was presented to Council at the 26 June Council meeting and subsequently, it was requested by Councillors, that a workshop be held to discuss and review the draft strategy before going to community consultation.

At the workshop, several changes to the strategy were suggested by Councillors. All changes were reflected in the draft copy, which was endorsed by Council at the August Council meeting, for community consultation.

Report Detail

The *Wentworth Region Tourism & Events Strategy 2024-2029* was put out for community consultation for 28 days and no feedback was received. Therefore, no further changes have been made to the document.

Conclusion

In conclusion, it is the opinion of the author that the *Wentworth Region Tourism & Events Strategy 2024-2029* should be adopted by Council. Adopting the strategy will create consistency, work towards overcoming current challenges faced and improve processes within the tourism sector.

Attachments

1. Draft Wentworth Region Tourism & Events Strategy 2029 [1](#)



# Wentworth Region Tourism & Events Strategy 2029

JULY 2024

C L  
L F

AUTHORS:  
SUEANNE CARR + PETER TURNER, CUSTOMER FRAME  
v.D05

CUSTOMER FRAME





## Purpose

This Strategy aims to reinvigorate and reposition the approach to growing the visitor economy for the Wentworth region.

To meet the needs of customers, both existing and emerging, a new shared vision and strategic focus is required to put in the solid foundations to leverage the region's assets and provide the structures for enhanced collaboration within and across the region.

This is not only a strategy for Council, but for all invested stakeholders to co-own and drive forward.

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### WENTWORTH, WENTWORTH REGION & LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA (LGA)

Any reference to 'Wentworth' or 'Wentworth region' throughout this document represents all towns within the Wentworth Shire LGA, unless otherwise specified.

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## Introduction

This Tourism and Events Strategy is designed to unlock and elevate the unique charm and allure of the Wentworth region, enticing visitors to explore its hidden treasures and participate in exciting events.

Through strategic partnerships, focused actions and innovative initiatives, this strategy seeks to position the Wentworth region as a must-visit destination, fostering sustainable tourism growth while preserving the region's authenticity and charm.

## Background

### ABOUT THE REGION

The Wentworth region in New South Wales, Australia, is a captivating blend of history, natural beauty, and vibrant community life. Situated at the confluence of the Murray and Darling Rivers, the Wentworth region offers a unique glimpse into Australia's pioneering past while embracing modern amenities and recreational opportunities.



At its heart lies the town of Wentworth, a charming settlement with a rich heritage dating back to the mid-19th century. Named after the colonial explorer and politician William Charles Wentworth, the town boasts well-preserved historic buildings, including the iconic Old Wentworth Gaol, which once housed convicts and now serves as a museum detailing the area's convict history.

The region's natural splendour is evident in its vast landscapes, characterised by sweeping riverbanks, lush wetlands, and expansive national parks. The junction of the Murray and Darling Rivers forms a picturesque backdrop for outdoor activities such as boating, fishing, and birdwatching.

The nearby Perry Sandhills, a striking expanse of sand dunes resembling a desert oasis, offers further opportunities for exploration and photography.

The Wentworth region's agricultural sector plays a vital role in the region's economy, with citrus orchards, vineyards, and pastoral land dotting the countryside. Visitors can sample locally grown produce or indulge in fine wines at cellar doors scattered throughout the area. Cultural events and festivals add vibrancy to the Wentworth region's community spirit, with annual celebrations like the Wentworth Show showcasing the region's agricultural prowess and fostering a sense of camaraderie among residents and visitors alike.

In addition to its historical and natural attractions, the Wentworth region serves as a gateway to the iconic Outback, with nearby attractions including World Heritage-listed Mungo National Park.

Whether exploring its storied past, immersing oneself in its natural wonders, or simply enjoying the warmth of its community, the Wentworth region offers a memorable experience that captures the essence of rural Australia.



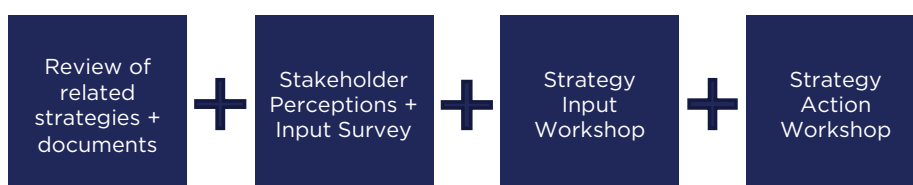
## THE APPROACH TO STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

Collaboration has been central to the development of the Tourism & Events Strategy for the region. Through an intentional process of key stakeholder engagement, the approach has included elements to engage both widely across the stakeholder landscape, then focusing in on key areas with relevant parties to explore the nuances.

Each part of the strategy development process included representatives from:

- Wentworth Shire Council (WSC)
- Wentworth Regional Tourism Incorporated (WRTI)
- Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC)
- Murray Regional Tourism (MRT)
- Destination Riverina Murray (DRM)
- Local tourism operators across accommodation, hospitality, experiential, arts and cultural providers

A list of those involved are included in the Thank you and Acknowledgement section on page 22.



The key steps of strategy development have included:

- An expert review of existing strategies, plans and documents relevant to the region
- An input survey was shared with the entire region, live in field from 31 January 2024 to 14 February 2024, with the results heuristically analysed to reveal sentiment, key themes and needs for the strategy to address
- An industry input workshop, conducted in region with relevant representatives from across the stakeholder community, held on 12 March 2024 in Coomealla.
- An action workshop, building on the foundations of the strategy, conducted virtually to enhance reach, engagement, input and buy-in to the strategic actions required to make the vision and strategy a reality.

## REVIEW OF RELATED STRATEGIES & DOCUMENTS

In developing the new Tourism & Events Strategy to support the growth of the Wentworth region visitor economy, the following documents were reviewed and are considered central to the main 'library' for reference and input:

- Wentworth region VIC statistics
- National Visitor Survey & Regional Expenditure Model, TRA (09/23)
- Mildura Region Events Strategy (2020)
- Murray Region Visitor Servicing Strategy (2019)
- Murray Region Visitor Servicing Transformation Blueprint (2019)
- Murray Region Customer Journey Map (2019)

These documents are available from their relevant source publisher.

As the primary author and architect of the visitor servicing and tourism transformation work across the Murray region, the Customer Frame team also brought subject matter knowledge and expertise to enrich the width and depth of thinking.

## STAKEHOLDER PERCEPTIONS & INPUT SURVEY

Open to all industry delegates across a range of operations and geographies, the input survey was designed to understand the perceptions of where we are today, what's holding the region back in terms of growing the visitor economy and where to focus effort in the future.

Key points:

- In field from 31 January 2024 to 14 February 2024
- 36 responses
- Range of perspectives from Council, tourism organisations and operators (accommodation, attractions, food and beverage, events), non-tourism businesses and Visitor centre team
- Covered the challenges, strengths, weaknesses, perceptions of current approach and insights into where the issues are and where to focus next
- Responses gave insight into the some of the specific internal and external strategic gaps facing the region.

The survey outcomes indicated a range of consistent issues, both common to other regions as well as some specific challenges within the Wentworth region.

The outcomes from the survey provided a solid foundation for robust discussions in the subsequent interactive 'input' and 'action' workshops.

## STRATEGY INPUT WORKSHOP

The strategy input workshop was conducted on 12 March 2024, with a range of representatives across industry and the region.

The input workshop focused on setting a clear vision for where stakeholders want tourism and events to be, with a view to gaining a clear alignment and consistency on the overall context and direction.

Set within the context of a common vision, the group of cross-industry representatives explored the four strategic questions that surfaced from the input survey findings.

These outcomes then formed the basis of refining the vision for Wentworth region's tourism and events approach and the shape of the overall strategy.



*Strategic questions arising from input survey for input workshop*

## STRATEGY ACTION WORKSHOP

This final step of the strategy development process, conducted on 17 April 2024, presented the draft vision, strategy focus and strategic initiatives. Then the stakeholder group worked collaboratively with these to discuss the implications and actions required to close the gap between strategy and reality.

The outcomes of the action workshop formed the basis for the implementation actions that form a part of this strategy.

## Challenges & strategic considerations

Whilst there is a level of positive sentiment towards the existing approach, throughout the strategy process a range of issues were raised by stakeholders.

These included perceptions of:

- ⊗ No shared and clear customer value proposition for the region
- ⊗ Lack of shared understanding of what the whole region offers
- ⊗ Limited resources / structures in place to share knowledge
- ⊗ No clear target customer groups (scattered)
- ⊗ Special interest tourism is an opportunity for the region
- ⊗ Customer experience is not of a consistent standard across the region
- ⊗ Limited shared knowledge of what is available to increase referrals
- ⊗ Some assets in region require investment to become sought after attractions
- ⊗ Indigenous product is limited and is a big opportunity
- ⊗ Events are good, but not fully integrated with local businesses
- ⊗ A need to define Council's role in delivering and fostering events for the region
- ⊗ Single-product, disconnected experience
- ⊗ Opportunity for greater impact through multi-region partnerships (Far West etc)
- ⊗ Limited representation of region with clear CVP at all levels of tourism value chain

In processing the key findings from the survey, the perspectives and views were clustered together to present the following topics to be addressed within the strategy:

- **Knowledge** – knowing what we have - internally and externally
- **Customers** – who they are and their needs
- **Latent opportunities** - existing assets and new ones (indigenous)
- **Cross-region sharing** – information, scheduling and consistency
- **Joined-up and working together** – WSC, WRTI, DRM, MRT, MRCC, VIC, Events, Industry and Community
- **Variability in service delivery** – across industry with room for improvement
- **Experience** – product focus, not integrated
- **Vision** – where are heading = not a shared view

Overall, there is a need to create a strong region identity and solid customer foundations to direct industry collaboration and aligned activity.



## Our Vision: Tourism & Events

“

To be the  
meeting point  
where  
people and place  
come together

### **Captain John Egge**

Pioneer, Paddle Steamer Captain, Businessman  
Born Shanghai, China, c.1830  
Lived in Wentworth 1859-1901  
Died 11 September 1901

*Unveiled 21 June 2009  
by R. J. F. (Jack) Egge*



# Vision, mission, goals & strategic approach

## VISION FOR TOURISM & EVENTS

**“To be the meeting point where people and place come together.”**

The vision is one of synergy between pristine natural beauty and curated experiences, where every visitor finds their own unforgettable journey. We envision a destination that celebrates its rich history, diverse culture, and stunning landscapes, inviting visitors to immerse themselves in authentic encounters and create lasting memories.

The Wentworth region will own its place as the ‘meeting point’ within the Darling and Murray River regions, with ‘meeting point’ grounded in the confluence of Australia’s two iconic rivers. Visitors, industry and community will be connected, with each playing their part in delivering a vibrant, sustainable and growing visitor economy.

## MISSION

**“To drive economic gains for the region by expanding the visitor economy”**

Through our tourism and events activities, we engage with every visitor who considers the Wentworth region with the intent to a valued, long-term relationship - not a one-off transaction - to generate high customer advocacy and drive growth.

## STRATEGIC GOALS

Whilst the vision sets out where we are heading, the following four strategic goals underpin the commercial and cultural impacts that need to be met.

1. **Increase visitation** – provide more reasons for day-tripper and overnight visitors to choose the Wentworth region
2. **Increase visitor spend within the region** – enable a greater level of spend through increased engagement by aligning customer needs with region offerings
3. **Enhance industry collaboration** – improve partnership opportunities and ability to leverage resources through a shared vision, strategy and common working model
4. **Improve customer advocacy** – ensure more visitors leave with positive sentiment towards the Wentworth region, telling others of their experience to drive greater volume of visitation.

## STRATEGIC APPROACH

The strategic approach is to create a shared foundation, leveraging existing efforts in a more coordinated manner with stakeholders across the region and beyond.

The focus is to build a solid industry foundations that establish the Wentworth region with, and alongside, partnering regions to enhance the overall tourism proposition.

### STRATEGIC APPROACH

- ✓ Get clear on the offering
- ✓ Understand target customers and their needs
- ✓ Engage proactively with industry through partnerships
- ✓ Expand industry capability to amplify connection



## Realising the vision: Strategy focus for Tourism & Events

To realise the vision, a transformational strategy is required to align existing activities and focus on closing the strategic gaps from where the region is today and where it wants to be in the future. The strategy is focused on five core areas to help invigorate the growth of the visitor economy across the short, medium and long-term.



For success, it requires a new level of thinking using existing resources, whilst providing for targeted and focused investment to fill the gaps that meet customer needs and drive region prosperity. It presents a range of new opportunities, founded in a greater level of industry participation, collaboration and partnership. It is a reinvention of sorts, with each strategy pillar combining to drive collective growth and success.

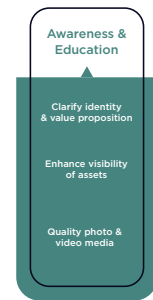
Specifically, the five strategy areas are focused on:

<b>AWARENESS &amp; EDUCATION</b>	Gain a clear, shared value proposition for the region to own a unique space across the Darling/Murray offerings and have that shared across the region
<b>CUSTOMER FOCUS</b>	Get clear on who our customers are, what they need and improve our connection to drive advocacy
<b>INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT</b>	Improve industry knowledge and collaboration to create new experiences to meet the needs of customers
<b>IMMERSIVE EVENTS</b>	Elevate existing efforts in using events to drive region awareness, engagement and growth of the visitor economy
<b>ENHANCED PARTNERSHIPS</b>	Extend region impact and awareness through defining and owning its place, using this to raise awareness at greater scale for greater reach

# 1. Awareness & Education

**Gain a clear, shared value proposition for the region to own a unique space across the Darling/Murray offerings and have that shared across the region.**

Responding to stakeholder issues of: *No shared and clear customer value proposition for the region; lack of shared understanding of what whole region offers; limited resources / structures in place to share knowledge.*



## CLARIFY IDENTITY & VALUE PROPOSITION

One of the largest strategic challenges for the region is to be collectively clear on what the region offers and how it is positioned alongside neighbouring regions and the wider tourism landscape across State and National levels.

By investing in a process to define and develop the identity and customer value proposition for the region, the Wentworth region will be able to own a unique position that is valued by customers and take its place within 'family portrait' of the Murray, Darling and Far West regional areas.

By codifying the identity, it helps stakeholders internally and externally to make informed decisions that impact investment choices, co-promotional opportunities with adjacent regions and helps the right customer audiences to find and value the region for what it can provide for them.

As such, a clear identity is the key foundation piece to build from and set the region up for sustainable, long-term success.

## ENHANCE VISIBILITY OF ASSETS

The Wentworth region is adorned with a large volume and variety of natural, cultural, indigenous and historical assets, with stakeholders clearly expressing a need to improve the awareness and physical visibility of what is available throughout the region.

Customers are seeking multi-point experiences and will choose a region that is perceived to have 'more to see and do' over another.

By reviewing and doing a 'stocktake' of what is available, and the current level of customer engagement afforded by each experience, it is possible to increase the collective awareness and, in turn, open up new opportunities for connected experiences throughout the region.

## QUALITY PHOTO & VIDEO MEDIA

The Wentworth region has some amazing and enticing scenery, with some of the most iconic and unique views to share with the world.

Whilst some resources exist for photo and video media, stakeholders have suggested that there is variability in the quality and consistency of imagery used to promote the visitor economy to intermediaries and customers.

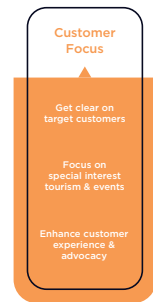
The opportunity is to create a shared library of quality resources that can be curated and added to for use by all stakeholders in promoting the region.

The intent is not to 'lock down' to a select few images that then get repeated, overused and exhausted, but to create a quality library of images that tell the Wentworth region story – the people and the place – that align to the core identity and value proposition.

## 2. Customer Focus

**Get clear on who our customers are, what they need and improve our connection to drive advocacy**

Responding to stakeholder issues of: *No clear target customer groups (scattered); special interest tourism is an opportunity for the region; customer experience is not a consistent standard across the region.*



### GET CLEAR ON TARGET CUSTOMERS

Customers are the backbone of every visitor economy, for without them, there would be no revenue flow. Trying to attract 'everyone' to the region is proven to be ineffective in growing yield and sustainability and requires a targeted approach.

Whilst there are a range of customers currently visiting the region, stakeholders expressed that there are no clear target customer groups that have been defined or shared. As such, it makes alignment and the multiplied effect of collaborative marketing and experiences somewhat limited.

The strategy aims to codify the target customer groups, enabling the region to align efforts to maximise impact and depth of connection, increasing tourism revenue and overall customer advocacy to drive referral visitation.

### FOCUS ON SPECIAL INTEREST TOURISM & EVENTS

Working in harmony alongside the region's offerings, the Wentworth region is well placed to attract and retain the custom of special interest tourism groups. For example, the region is well placed for 'dark sky' tourism offerings, as well as nature, history and indigenous culture.

The strategy seeks to begin this journey of focus by identifying and aligning the region's offerings with the needs of special interest groups.

This focused approach will require a shift in collective and collaborative experience development and marketing, focusing in to reach specific groups through their various associations and membership organisations.

### ENHANCE CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE & ADVOCACY

Customers expect more and have seemingly infinite choice for spending their tourism dollars. No longer is it enough to simply fall back on the features of tourism product – customers are seeking integrated experiences (product and service) that meet and exceed their needs and expectations.

Basic customer service principles are no longer enough. These are a given. The baseline expectation needs to not only be met but exceeded through 'delight moments' for customers. These are moments that are consciously engineered into the whole customer experience to drive satisfaction and advocacy.

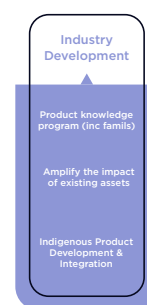
It is through intentionally creating these delight moments with customers that leads to improved customer satisfaction, that forms the basis for high levels of customer advocacy for the region and its operators.

The strategy seeks to address this by helping operators understand who their customers are, what they need, and how they can create delight moments to foster advocacy for the region.

### 3. Industry Development

**Improve industry knowledge and collaboration to create new experiences to meet the needs of customers**

*Responding to stakeholder issues of: Limited knowledge of what is available to increase referrals; some assets in region require investment to become sought after attractions; indigenous product is limited and is a big opportunity.*



#### PRODUCT KNOWLEDGE PROGRAM (INC FAMILS)

The region has a lot to offer. To create the best experience for visitors, operators need to be armed with the knowledge of the breadth and depth of experiences available to share this with visitors to enhance their experience of the region.

Familiarisation programs (famils) have been a foundation of the tourism industry for many decades, used successfully to elevate the Queensland tourism industry in the 1990s. The need to experience it for yourself is something that reading brochures and informal discussions simply cannot achieve.

By constructing and formalising a knowledge and famil program, the Wentworth region can begin to build a new layer of understanding for the region's offerings, across operators, visitor servicing operations, region marketing and inter-business partnership opportunities. This approach would be initially inward facing, with the key purpose of building a deep knowledge and appreciation within the various stakeholder groups.

External famil programs would be specifically out of scope at this stage and would be seen as a logical progression for inclusion in the next strategy wave.

#### AMPLIFY THE IMPACT OF EXISTING ASSETS

In the region, stakeholders suggested that some offerings could be taken from

'good' to 'great' with focused resources and investment.

By improving these 'anchor assets', it is possible to influence the perceived customer experience of that attraction, providing a halo-effect on other operators and the region a whole.

This strategic focus aims to identify those attractions that can be levelled up through a targeted experience development program.

#### INDIGENOUS PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT & INTEGRATION

The opportunity to leverage indigenous history across the region is immense. This is a largely untapped, dormant asset for the region, with a range of unique, compelling stories and experiences available to be unlocked and developed.

With Mungo National Park and a variety of natural features, a deep history can be unlocked to bring a new type of visitor to the region, and, to give previous visitors a reason to return.

The primary strategic challenge at this stage is to locate, engage and encourage first nations people to partner on this initiative from across the Wentworth region and adjoining regions.

A product development roadmap can then be developed to bring a new depth of genuine experiences to compliment the region's offerings.

## 4. Immersive Events

**Elevate existing efforts in using events to drive region awareness, engagement and growth of the visitor economy**

Responding to stakeholder issues of: *Events are good, but not fully integrated with local businesses; A need to define Council's role in delivering and fostering events for the region.*



### DEVELOP & DRIVE ANCHOR EVENTS

Events play a pivotal role in tourism regions, acting as magnets that draw visitors and revenue. They inject vitality into local economies, driving business for hotels, restaurants, and shops.

Beyond economic impact, events enhance a region's cultural appeal, showcasing its heritage, traditions, and creativity.

Leveraging on the success of existing efforts in this space, the strategy poses to create a series of 'anchor events' that support the region identity and bolster the overall value proposition.

It is proposed that Council will play a critical role in delivering these events, in partnership with local suppliers and businesses. Furthermore, these main events will set the calendar and create space for new investments for complimentary events to flourish.

### LEVERAGE ADJACENT REGION ACTIVITY

As a tourism destination today, the Wentworth region does not have the scale of resources to compete with some other larger competitor destinations.

However, it is well placed to partner with adjacent regions and leverage their activities to economic advantage.

The strategy seeks to create the specific linkages with adjacent regions to align events activities and find new opportunities.

By ensuring minimal cannibalisation of the tourism dollar, with complimentary events that support both regions, the overall economic pie will increase to the betterment of all involved.

Furthermore, customers will perceive even greater reasons to visit the region and surrounds, meeting the strategic objective of increased visitation.

### FOSTER PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS & INVESTMENT

The role of Council in managing and delivering events was raised by stakeholders.

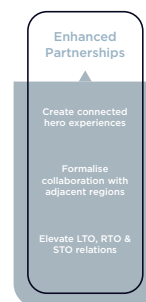
The consensus view was that there are a set of core events for which Council will provide support and leadership to bolster confidence in the private sector to run additional events that complement the realisation of the vision and value proposition, in line with the identity.

The strategy seeks to address this by creating a partnership framework for co-operative events, with support either monetary, skills or in-kind being made available to those supporting the events calendar.

## 5. Enhanced Partnerships

**Extend region impact and awareness through defining and owning its space, using this to raise awareness at greater scale for greater reach**

Responding to stakeholder issues of: *Single-product, disconnected experience; Opportunity for greater impact through multi-region partnerships (Far West etc); Limited representation of region with clear CVP at all levels of tourism value chain.*



### CREATE CONNECTED HERO EXPERIENCES

Hero experiences play a crucial role in tourism by creating memorable moments that resonate deeply with customers. These experiences often revolve around unique encounters, adventurous activities, or cultural immersion that leave a lasting impact. They serve as powerful storytelling tools, inspiring others to embark on similar journeys and explore new destinations.

The opportunity for the Wentworth region is to connect up stand-alone single-product offerings into immersive 'hero experiences'.

The strategy seeks to put in the forum for these innovations to grow. These hero experiences would align to support the identity and value propositions, bringing the efforts of multiple smaller operators together to make a far greater impact.

### FORMALISE COLLABORATION WITH ADJACENT REGIONS

Formalising collaboration with adjacent tourism regions will help maximise the economic, social, and environmental benefits of tourism.

It allows for the pooling of resources, expertise, and marketing efforts, amplifying the visibility and appeal of the entire area.

By working together, the region can create more comprehensive and attractive tourism packages, enticing

visitors to explore a wider range of experiences and activities.

The Wentworth region is in an ideal position to foster positive collaborations across three states, reaching up and across the whole area to create new synergies and leverage collective resources. The strategy seeks to identify and engage with key partners to make this possible and open up a range of new untapped opportunities.

### ELEVATE LOCAL, REGIONAL & STATE REGIONAL TOURISM ORGANISATION RELATIONS (LTO, RTO, STO)

With a clear identity and customer value proposition, combined with having positive cross-region partnerships in place, the Wentworth region will be able to elevate its awareness and position in the wider tourism landscape.

By investing in relationships with upline tourism organisations, the region will gain new levels of insight and access to resources and opportunities.

These organisations serve as vital sources of information and support for the region, offering insights into market trends, visitor preferences, and industry standards.

By staying connected and more embedded with these bodies, the region can continue to adapt its offerings to meet evolving visitor demands and stay ahead of competitors.

## Implementation for action plan

The following Action Plan outlines the priority implementation of critical success initiatives for the Wentworth Region Tourism & Events Strategy to be enacted. It is intended as a working document that is regularly reviewed and updated.

### TIMEFRAMES

The timeframes used for the suggested implementation actions are based on three primary timing groups:

- Short-range 2024 - 2025
- Mid-range 2025 - 2026
- Long-range 2027 - 2029

Notionally based on calendar year, these timeframes overlap to enable compatibility with Council and other partner budgetary cycles. The Long-range planning window is intentionally longer in duration, enabling greater flexibility for actions that are much further in the future and subject to greater estimation and unintended impacts.

### CRITICAL STRATEGIC INITIATIVES FOR SUCCESS

1. AWARENESS & EDUCATION	2. CUSTOMER FOCUS	3. INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT	4. IMMERSIVE EVENTS	5. ENHANCED PARTNERSHIPS
Clarify identity & value proposition	Get clear on target customers	Product knowledge program	Develop & drive anchor events	Create connected hero experiences
Enhance visibility of assets	Focus on special interest tourism & events	Amplify the impact of existing assets	Leverage adjacent region activity	Formalise collaboration with adjacent regions
Quality photo & video media	Enhance customer experience & advocacy	Indigenous Product Development & Integration	Foster private partnerships & investment	Elevate LTO, RTO & STO relations

### ABBREVIATIONS

WSC – Wentworth Shire Council  
 WVIC – Wentworth Visitor Information Centre  
 WRTI – Wentworth Regional Tourism Incorporated  
 MRCC – Mildura Rural City Council  
 MRT – Murray Regional Tourism  
 DRM – Destination Riverina Murray

DNSW – Destination New South Wales  
 VV – Visit Victoria  
 VTIC – Victorian Tourism Industry Council  
 LTO – Local Tourism Organisation  
 RTO – Regional Tourism Organisation  
 STO – State Tourism Organisation

The bolded organisation identified in the stakeholder column of the Action Plan is the lead agency, with other key stakeholders identified as potential partners to help facilitate the action.

1. AWARENESS & EDUCATION		STAKEHOLDERS KPI'S				2024+25	2025-26	2027-29
INITIATIVE ACTION		Reveal the unique identity for the Wentworth region and codify a clear customer value proposition						
Clarify identity & customer value proposition (CVP)	Reveal the unique identity for the Wentworth region and codify a clear customer value proposition							
	Undertake a collaborative process industry to reveal and document the region identity and share the identity back to the region	WSC WRTI Industry	Unique identity for Wentworth region Industry rollout comms plan					
	Work with industry to define the customer value proposition (CVP) for the Wentworth region	WSC Industry	Documented CVP for target customers (linked to focus #2)					
	Upskill industry leaders on how to apply the identity and CVP to their own businesses and operations to drive consistency in application	WSC WRTI Industry	Online/offline program for industry					
Enhance visibility of assets	Amplify the impact of assets across the region to engage with customers and provide more reasons to visit							
	Do a stocktake of existing tourism assets across the region and gather this information into one place for review	WSC, WVIC WRTI MRCC Industry	WSC Tourism Assets Register					
	Examine the assets on the register, examining ways to improve the awareness and customer engagement potential for each asset (inc ATDW listings)	WSC WVIC Industry	Tourism Asset Visibility Improvements plan					
	Identify and prioritise key signage and signposting opportunities to direct visitor traffic to significant assets throughout the region	WSC WVIC	Tourism Wayfinding Improvements plan					
Quality photo & video media	Create an ongoing industry library of quality images to showcase the region to drive quality and consistency in operations							
	Create an images/video bank for industry use, where anyone can use the high quality images for marketing, gathered from existed sources	WSC WVIC Industry	Wentworth Region Images Portal					
	Media Capture course/resources for industry - how to capture great images, what images create impact and emotion in viewers	WSC WRTI Industry	Media Course / resources rolled out					
	Photography competition (possibly annual) to showcase the region, engaging pro-am photographers to the region and release their images into the portal	WSC Event Organisers	Photography Competition Event					



2. CUSTOMER FOCUS						
Aim: Get clear on who our customers are, what they need and improve our connection to drive advocacy						
INITIATIVE	ACTION	STAKEHOLDERS		KPI'S	2024-25	2025-26
Get clear on target customers	Reveal the target customer groups for the region and share this knowledge across the industry					
	Review existing customer profiles developed by MRT to identify matches and gaps in the existing and near-term visitor groups	WSC WRTI		Gap analysis		
	Partner with local university/TAFE to undertake visitor research to qualify primary customer data for the region (partner with MRCC)	WSC MRCC WRTI LaTrobe/TAFE		Primary Customer Research Findings		
	Gather existing data from industry and other sources to create the target customer profile set for the Wentworth region (aim for 5-6 profiles)	WSC WRTI Industry		Wentworth Region Customer Profiles Set		
Focus on special interest tourism & events	Identify special interest groups that align with the region's offerings, now and for the future, to grow visitation					
	Research what special interests draw people to the region, using primary and secondary data from past events and other benchmarking	WSC WRTI MRT		Special interest tourism target list		
	Identify top 3 special interest groups to create integrated campaigns for across events and direct tourism	WSC		Special Interest Campaign		
	Work with industry to create new experiences to serve the needs of the chosen special interest markets	WSC WRTI Industry		3x special interest offerings		
Enhance customer experience & advocacy	Improve the level of customer experience across the industry, with a clear focus on driving customer advocacy for the region					
	Undertake an assessment of current customer sentiment using online reviews as the primary data source and share with industry. (Second time to re-benchmark)	WSC		Sentiment analysis report		
	Deploy an integrated online training program for industry to upskill in the areas of customer service and customer experience	WSC WRTI Industry		CX Online Training Program		
	Deliver a workshop/masterclass on customer service, how to handle complaints, how to make people feel welcome, how to be open and collaborate	WSC WRTI Industry		Masterclass delivery		

3. INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT Aim: Improve industry knowledge and collaboration to create new experiences to meet the needs of customers						
INITIATIVE	ACTION	STAKEHOLDERS	KPI'S	2024-25	2025-26	2027-29
Product knowledge program (inc famils)	Develop a product knowledge and famil program to support knowledge sharing across the industry to enhance the customer experience					
	Host industry networking events that showcase businesses in the region, what they have been doing to improve their offerings and encourage working together	WSC WRTI Industry	Quarterly networking events, shared around the region			
	Leverage the Visitor Inspiration Program format from MRCC to help educate and integrate all businesses in the tourism value chain, including newsletter	WSC MRCC Industry	VIP points set up within region			
	Construct a formal famil (familiarisation) program for operators and industry colleagues to experience each other's offerings, using existing best practice models	WSC WRTI Industry	Famil Program			
Amplify the impact of existing assets	Identify and improve existing assets to level up from 'good' to 'great'					
	Assess existing assets (survey) to identify specific operational gaps and training needs, benchmarking where appropriate	WSC WRTI	Target List			
	Create a training package for existing businesses, focused on taking the top 5 assets from 'good' to 'great' and level up their operations	WSC WRTI	Training package			
	Undertake external onsite 360 degree assessment to further refine. Create case studies to share back to the wider industry to engender growth and change	WSC WRTI	Case studies x 5			
Indigenous Product Development & Integration	Reveal and develop the stories from indigenous heritage to create valued, unique, new experiences that bolster the region					
	Identify target groups, reach out to Elders, to enable further empowerment over their heritage, and the opportunity to work together to share the stories	WSC	Indigenous Stakeholder Engagement Plan			
	Create an Indigenous Tourism forum in which the Indigenous Community can create their own "Indigenous Tourism Strategy" within this strategy, that also stands alone	WSC WRTI Industry	Indigenous Tourism Strategy			
	Identify 3x primary indigenous tourism offerings to develop, sourcing support funding where required, then integrating back into the wider region offering	WSC WRTI Industry	New indigenous tourism experiences			

4. IMMERSIVE EVENTS Aim: Elevate existing efforts in using events to drive region awareness, engagement and growth of the visitor economy						
INITIATIVE	ACTION	STAKEHOLDERS		KPI'S	2024-25	2025-26
Develop & drive anchor events	Build on the current events structure to create a robust platform aligned with the identity and proposition					
	Identify existing major events within region and adjacent regions to find gaps in the calendar and offerings that align with the region identity	WSC MRCC DRM MRT Industry		Events gap analysis		
	Define the parameters of anchor events for Wentworth region, consider combining smaller events and growing existing events to meet the needs	WSC Industry		Anchor events defined		
	Publish the annual events plan in close consultation with neighbouring regions to ensure alignment and low overlap for competing over tourism spend	WSC MRCC DRM MRT WRTI		Events calendar published to stakeholders		
Leverage adjacent region activity	Connect up with neighbouring regions, aligning to their events calendars to maximise reach and impact					
	Actively participate in and initiate meetings with key parties in neighbouring regions including Mildura, Broken Hill, Balranald, Swan Hill and Riverland sharing knowledge between regions	WSC DRM		Quarterly meeting with comms back to the industry		
	Create a consolidated calendar for industry to understand what events are happening where. This is to be a live document that is electronic and updated as required.	WSC MRCC WRTI Industry		Live events calendar shared cross-region		
	Identify co-operative event opportunities that have potential to be multi-region and cross-funded that support low visitation periods and in line with the overall identity	DRM MRT MRCC WSC		New multi-region event		
Foster private partnerships & investment	Council to provide facilitation and support where needed for private events to increase private investment in tourism events and infrastructure					
	Define the supporting event funding application process and policy to be shared with industry and investors	WSC Industry		Policy document		
	Provide mentoring, leadership and in-kind support to co-partnered events that are supported by Council, ensuring their quality, consistency and success	WSC Industry		Industry satisfaction measure		
	Develop a prospectus for attracting event investment into the region as the destination for regional events (the meeting point)	WSC Industry		Prospectus		

5. ENHANCED PARTNERSHIPS Aim: Extend region impact and awareness through defining and owning its space, using this to raise awareness at greater scale for greater reach						
INITIATIVE	ACTION	STAKEHOLDERS		KPI'S		2027-29
Create connected hero experiences	<b>Foster industry collaboration to create connected experiences, beyond the single-product focus and drive greater in-region spend</b>					
	Host an industry expo event, where operators can share with industry what they offer. Facilitated to generate active outcomes and new connections	WSC WRTI Industry	Annual internal expo event			
	Identify three (3x) connected hero experiences that align with the region's identity and story, and codify them through an experience development process	MRT WSC WRTI MRCC	3x new hero experiences			
	Monitor the development and implementation of hero experiences, using these as a template and case study to apply across the region/s	MRT WSC WRTI MRCC	Connected Heroes Case Study			
Formalise collaboration with adjacent regions	<b>Connect in with neighbouring regions to formalise collaborative partnerships and activities for greater momentum</b>					
	Establish collaboration with neighbouring regions including Far West NSW, Darling River Run trail, Mildura, Riverland and Swan Hill, connecting the key stakeholders to a common vision for growing the collective visitor economy	WSC DRM MRT MRCC Media	Group established with Terms of Reference			
	Create cross region packages for short-, medium- and longer-term tourism stays. Share these back to each respective region to improve knowledge and spark innovation	WSC DRM MRT MRCC Media	3x cross region packages developed			
	Collectively advocate for funding from state and other bodies to assist in cooperative tourism developments	DRM MRT	Secured funding for 3x projects			
Elevate LTO, RTO & STO relations	<b>With a clear identity and CVP, invest in relationships with TOs across the tourism ecosystem to raise awareness of the Wentworth region</b>					
	Share the Identity and customer value proposition (CVP) with LTO, RTO and STO in a roadshow format to raise awareness of where the destination is today and where it is going	WSC WRTI, MRT, DRM, DNSW, VV, VTIC	Completed roadshow			
	Engage in key Tourism operator meetings and distribute information up and back from meetings to connect the Wentworth region with the wider tourism landscape, influencing the agenda to include region offerings	WSC WRTI, MRT, DRM, DNSW, VV, VTIC	Wentworth region offerings included in upline TO campaigns and promotions			
	Invite higher level organisations into famil programs to showcase latest experiences and developments	WSC WRTI RTOs, STOs	External famil program for TOs			

## Thanks & acknowledgements

A special thank you to the people who gave time, input and advice into the development and creation of this collaborative strategy.

NAME	ORGANISATION
Aaron Hawkins	Mildura Rural City Council
Alison Stone	Discover Mildura
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Cherie Timmis	Fosseys Gin / Smoke on the Water
Cindy Heley	Monak Wine Co
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David Fry	Wentworth Shire Council
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Hodi Beauliv	Department of Regional NSW
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Jo Rodda	Wentworth Shire Council
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Lyn McKenzie	Mildura Paddlesteamers
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Marina Durban	Mildura Houseboats
Matilda Szentpaly	Wentworth Shire Council
Russell James	Wentworth Military Collection
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Sarah Gilmore	Mildura Airport
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Susan Nichols	Wentworth Shire Council
Yvette Myhill	Destination Riverina Murray

And a final thank you to those across the industry who responded to initial input survey, in addition to those above. It is with your collective support that the Wentworth region can build a sustainable and prosperous visitor economy.

Developed in collaboration with industry  
for & on behalf of:



By the team at:

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## 9.5 DRAFT WENTWORTH SHIRE TOURISM SIGNAGE STRATEGY 2024

File Number: RPT/24/610

Responsible Officer: Ken Ross - General Manager  
 Responsible Division: Office of the General Manager  
 Reporting Officer: Lexi Stockman - Manager Tourism and Promotion

Objective: 1.0 Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving Region  
 Strategy: 1.2 Promote the Wentworth Region as a desirable visitor and tourism destination

### Summary

The draft *Wentworth Shire Tourism Signage Strategy 2024* was developed after it was identified that signage within the Shire was not consistent, featured old branding and had been damaged or worn and in need of repair. Internal funding was sought and an external consultant was appointed, Wayfound, who specialises in conducting signage audits and providing the appropriate recommendations.

The draft *Wentworth Shire Tourism Signage Strategy 2024* includes a complete audit of every sign within the Shire, inclusive but not limited to, directional and way-finding signage, entrance signage and interpretive signage. The strategy was completed in line with an implementation timeline and benchmark report, where Wentworth Shire signage was compared to other regions of a similar size.

### Recommendation

That Council endorses the whole strategy, with 28 days community consultation to take place before each stage is completed.

### Detailed Report

#### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to consider the draft *Wentworth Shire Tourism Signage Strategy 2024* produced by Wayfound in conjunction with Wentworth Shire Council staff and endorse it, with actions within the implementation plan to be completed over the next five years.

#### Background

Over the past few months, Wentworth Shire Council staff have been working with Wayfound, the successful consultants who were selected for their specialty in signage audits. To produce the strategy, a Wayfound consultant visited the area for over a week and travelled on all roads within the Shire to compile an image library of every single sign. These images were then added into an extensive report, which detailed the location, quality, and relevance of each sign. An implementation report was then developed and added into the strategy, based on recommendations from Wentworth Shire Council staff in regard to the overall cost and time required to fulfill each stage. A benchmark report was also produced, with Wentworth Shire Council's current signage rated in comparison to other regions of a similar sizing.

#### Report Detail

The draft *Wentworth Shire Tourism Signage Strategy 2024* provides a framework for decisions to be made on the location and style of all future signage and wayfinding within the Wentworth region. The strategy includes clear guidelines for developing correct and consistent signage and gives direction as to what signage improvements need to be prioritised. Consideration is also given to improving internal processes including signage policies and guidelines.

The signage audit has provided recommendations on including, but not limited to; green directional signage, brown directional signage, blue directional signage, tourist attraction signage, historic town accreditation signage, town visitor services signage, accommodation signage, RV friendly town status signage, reserves & rest area signage, park & facilities signage and regulatory signage.

The audit also includes an evaluation and recommendations relating to destination signage including but not limited to; promotional billboards, event promotion signage, boundary entry signage, town entry signage, visitor information boards and interpretive signage.

The strategy concludes with the implementation plan which outlines a total of 98 actions or recommendations to consider implementing over a five-year period, in line with budget and contracting external consultants.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, it is the opinion of the author that the draft *Wentworth Shire Tourism Signage Strategy 2024* should be endorsed, with the appropriate community consultation to be undertaken as necessary. By endorsing this strategy, the implementation plan can be actioned with the aim to introduce consistent signage throughout the region, repair or replace damaged or old signage and introduce the new tourism branding on all signage throughout the Shire.

### Attachments

1. Draft Wentworth Shire Tourism Signage Benchmark Report - Wayfound [📄](#)
2. Draft Wentworth Shire Tourism Signage Strategy 2024 - Wayfound [📄](#)





**Wentworth**  
SHIRE COUNCIL

Tourism Signage Strategy Benchmark Report



September 2024 V2.0

WSC TOURISM SIGNAGE STRATEGY

BENCHMARK REPORT

In July 2024, Wayfound visited Wentworth Shire Council (WSC) to initiate a tourism signage strategy. During this visit, we conducted a thorough audit of all road signage and tourism infrastructure along major arterial roads and tourist routes throughout the LGA. As part of the

strategy development, we provide a benchmark report assessing how WSC compares to other regional LGAs we've worked with across Australia. We have developed similar strategies for each of the LGAs listed below, all of which share a comparable mix of primary industry and tourism.



**Abbreviation:** WSC  
**State:** New South Wales  
**Area:** 26,269 square kilometres  
**Population:** 7,500 +  
**Main Population Centres:** Wentworth, Buronga, Gol Gol, Dareton & Pooncarie  
**Location:** Far West NSW  
**Site visit & signage audit:** July 2024

Wentworth Shire, located in the far southwest corner of New South Wales, sits at the confluence of the Murray and Darling Rivers. It is known for its rich history, natural beauty, and agricultural significance. The local economy is primarily driven by agriculture, particularly viticulture, horticulture, and livestock farming, with tourism also playing an increasingly important role. Wentworth Shire attracts visitors with its historical landmarks, river-based activities, and its proximity to major centres like Mildura.

**Abbreviation:** NGSC  
**State:** Victoria  
**Area:** 5,730 square kilometres  
**Population:** 11,500 +  
**Main Population Centres:** Stawell, St Arnaud & Halls Gap  
**Location:** North Western VIC  
**Site visit & signage audit:** November 2023

The Northern Grampians region is situated in the western region of Victoria 2.5 hrs north west of Melbourne. It is known for its stunning natural landscapes, including the Grampian Mountains, which attract visitors interested in outdoor activities such as hiking and nature exploration. The region comprises various towns and villages, each contributing to the overall character and charm of the area. Notable destinations include Stawell, St Arnaud, Halls Gap, and several smaller villages.

**Abbreviation:** KSC  
**State:** New South Wales  
**Area:** 3,380 square kilometres  
**Population:** 29,000 +  
**Main Population Centres:** Kempsey, South-West Rocks & Crescent Head  
**Location:** Mid North Coast NSW  
**Site visit & signage audit:** March 2022

Kempsey Shire is located on the Mid North Coast of New South Wales, about 400 kilometres north of the Sydney and 400 kilometres south of the Brisbane. The LGA stretches from the Great Dividing Range in the west to the Pacific Ocean in the east. The LGA takes in the entire catchment of the Macleay River. The local economy is built around grazing, dairy and tourism. The LGA has seen significant “sea changer” growth along its coastal fringe.

**Abbreviation:** WRC  
**State:** South Australia  
**Area:** 3,923 square kilometres  
**Population:** 11,670 +  
**Main Population Centres:** Millicent, Penola & Beachport  
**Location:** South East SA  
**Site visit & signage audit:** September 2021

Wattle Range Council is a local government area in the Limestone Coast region of South Australia. It stretches from the coast at Beachport east to the Victorian border. The local economy is dependent on wide range of activities, with agriculture, fishing, forestry and tourism making up the major components. Viticulture is well established in the council area, with the Coonawarra wine region located within its boundaries.

# WSC TOURISM SIGNAGE STRATEGY BENCHMARK REPORT

Strategy section	LGA	Poor (1)	Fair (2)	Good (3)	Excellent (4)	Score	Comments
Signage Policy & Guidelines	WSC					2	WSC has a signage policy. This policy is very light and does not give a lot of detail. There is currently no application process. WRC has completed the development of council signage policies and guidelines for application but this has not yet been endorsed by council. KSC's new signage policy has been adopted by council, signage guidelines are in development. NGSC currently has no developed signage policy or guidelines for application.
	NGSC					1	
	KSC					4	
	WRC					3	
Signage Consolidation	WSC					2	Signage consolidation is relatively consistent across the four benchmarked LGAs, with each having specific locations where signage needs to be rationalised and consolidated. WSC has a town directional signage plan in place, but its implementation has been poorly executed, leading to an oversaturation of signs in certain areas.
	NGSC					2	
	KSC					2	
	WRC					2	
Green Directional Signage	WSC					3	The green directional signage in Wentworth Shire Council (WSC) is generally in good condition, although some signs on minor roads are nearing the end of their lifespan and require maintenance or replacement, a situation similar to that in KSC. In NGSC, many road signs are overgrown, damaged, and in need of upkeep. Meanwhile, in WRC, all signage requires cleaning and general maintenance (lichen infestation).
	NGSC					2	
	KSC					3	
	WRC					1	
Brown Directional Signage	WSC					3	WSC Brown tourist signs are best described as mixed. Whilst most of the main attractions are well signed this is let down by poor signage to some minor attractions and the miss use of brown signs for non-tourist attraction destinations and services. NGSC and WRC brown tourist signs are inconsistently applied and are generally in a poor condition. KSC is located on the new Pacific Hwy and has benefitted recently with all brown tourist signage upgraded.
	NGSC					1	
	KSC					4	
	WRC					1	
Blue Directional Signage	WSC					1	WSC is generally let down by poorly positioned blue service signs, or in some cases, rest areas are not signed at all. Most signage has been installed in an ad-hoc manner, with additional signs added as needed, leading to inconsistency. Many signs also fail to use Australian standard symbols. This issue is common across the other benchmarked LGAs, though NGSC shows slight improvement with newer signage in place at certain locations.
	NGSC					2	
	KSC					1	
	WRC					1	
Tourist Drive Signage	WSC					1	WSC has only one redundant tourist drive, marked by a single poorly maintained sign. Similarly, NGSC has three redundant tourist drives with outdated signage still in place. In contrast, KSC has re-signed both tourist drives within their LGA. WRC's Wind Farm Tourist Drive signage is neglected, in poor condition, and requires cleaning (lichen infestation) and maintenance.
	NGSC					1	
	KSC					4	
	WRC					2	
Wine Tourism Signage	WSC					4	WSC has two cellar door/winery operations, Trentham Estate and Monak Wine Co. Currently only Trentham Estate qualifies for brown tourism signs and is signed accordingly. Much of NGSC's winery signage is faded and in need of replacement and redundant signage removed. Wine region gateway signage for both Gramplains and Pyrenees is in good condition and well positioned. WRC's Coonawarra region need to install wine region gateway signage, remove redundant signage and properly sign active cellar door businesses.
	NGSC					2	
	KSC	N/A				0	
	WRC					2	

# WSC TOURISM SIGNAGE STRATEGY BENCHMARK REPORT

Strategy section	LGA	Poor (1)	Fair (2)	Good (3)	Excellent (4)	Score	Comments
Main Attractions Signage	WSC					3	Signs to WSC's main attractions are in good condition but are inconsistently applied with advance warning and directional signs (Wentworth Town Attractions) Many of the Mungo NP directional signage is in need of replacement. NGSC's main attractions are all located within Grampians NP. KSC is situated on the Pacific Hwy and gets considerable assistance from Transport for NSW. WRC's main attraction signs are generally in poor condition and in need of maintenance, cleaning or replacement.
	NGSC					4	
	KSC					4	
	WRC					1	
Minor Attractions Signage	WSC					2	WSC's minor attractions are spread across a vast area compared to the other LGAs in this report, leading to inconsistent use and misapplication of brown tourist signs. Similarly, many of NGSC's minor attractions are either poorly signed or lack signage altogether, with existing signs often in correctly placed or needing replacement. KSC is generally well signed. WRC also face challenges with the consistent application of tourist signage.
	NGSC					2	
	KSC					3	
	WRC					2	
Caravan & Camping Signage	WSC					4	Except for Coomealla Caravan Park, all of WSC's caravan and camping sites are well signed with advance warning and directional signage. In NGSC, signage for regional caravan and camping sites is generally good, though inconsistently applied in some areas. KSC's caravan signage is generally poor, similar to that of WRC.
	NGSC					3	
	KSC					1	
	WRC					1	
Accommodation Signage	WSC					3	WSC's signed accommodation is limited, with only three applications, one of which is no longer in operation. Similarly, accommodation signage within NGSC is limited, with the exception of Halls Gap, where almost all options are well signed. In both KSC and WRC, accommodation signage is either poorly implemented or entirely absent.
	NGSC					4	
	KSC					1	
	WRC					1	
Town Services Signage	WSC					2	WSC's town services signs can be described as mixed. While a lot of effort has been put into Wentworth's town signage plan the execution is poor. NGSC's town services directional signage is in poor condition and inconsistently applied with many signs damaged and in need of replacement. KSC towns and villages are consistently well signed. WRC town services signs are generally neglected and in need of cleaning or replacement.
	NGSC					2	
	KSC					4	
	WRC					1	
Promotional Billboards	WSC					4	WSC's promotional billboards are excellent, with all four well-positioned and featuring strong designs and striking images of the Wentworth region. NGSC has one large promotional billboard in Stawell and six smaller ones, though they are all poorly utilised. KSC has some large billboards, but they are located on outdated sections of the Pacific Highway, which has since been bypassed. WRC's promotional billboards are faded and give a poor impression of the area.
	NGSC					2	
	KSC					3	
	WRC					1	
Boundary Entry Signs	WSC					1	WSC has boundary entry signs on all main entry points carrying the old WSC branding. All signs are faded and in need of replacement NGSC has consistent boundary entrance signs on all major road entry points to the LGA. KSC is currently has no entry statements and is working with Transport for NSW to design and install large LGA boundary entry statements on the Pacific Highway. WRC has purpose built entry statements all of which are in excellent condition.
	NGSC					3	
	KSC					1	
	WRC					4	

# WSC TOURISM SIGNAGE STRATEGY BENCHMARK REPORT

Strategy section	LGA	Poor (1)	Fair (2)	Good (3)	Excellent (4)	Score	Comments	
Town Entry Statements	WSC					4	WRC's town entry statements come in two styles, but all are in very good condition. NGSC's entry statements are designed individually by each town, resulting in a variety of styles and conditions. In contrast, KSC and WRC's town entry statements are inconsistent in design and condition, with many needing maintenance or replacement.	
	NGSC					2		
	KSC					2		
	WRC					2		
Visitor Information Bays	WSC					4	WRC's visitor information bays are excellent, with the exception of Pooncarrie, as all other bays are consistent in design and information provided. NGSC's visitor information bays vary significantly, ranging from poor to non-existent. Both KSC and WRC's visitor information bays are in poor condition and require a major overhaul.	
	NGSC					1		
	KSC					1		
	WRC					1		
Visitor Information Centres (Accredited)	WSC x 1					4	WSC has one accredited VIC at Wentworth. This centre will be relocating soon to the new council building and new directional signage will be required. NGSC has three Visitor Information Centre's. Two of which are staffed by volunteers with one being accredited. KSC's Visitor Centre at the Slim Dusty Centre off Pacific Hwy is not open enough to meet accreditation requirements. WRC's three accredited centres also act as council resource and transaction centres and are well manned and resourced.	
	NGSC x 3					4		
	KSC x 1					3		
	WRC x 3					3		
Visitor Maps	WSC					3	WSC has a suite of visitor maps, generally these follow the same styling. These maps would benefit from resizing from A4 to A3. NGSC has a range of visitor maps of varying size and style. None of the 3 VC's have tear-off A3 maps. Both KSC and WRC visitor maps were of a similar nature, either poorly designed or home-made in appearance.	
	NGSC					2		
	KSC					1		
	WRC					1		
Interpretive Signage	WSC					1	WSC's interpretation is mostly in poor condition and in need of replacement. NGSC's has an extensive system of interpretive signage across the LGA. The main centres of interpretation are historical walking tours of the town centres. KSC interpretation is mixed with much of it in need of replacement. WRC additionally suffering from poorly chosen materials and installation.	
	NGSC					3		
	KSC					2		
	WRC					1		
SCORE	Wentworth Shire Council						51	WSC ranks highest in 5 categories These are wine tourism, caravan & camping, promotional billboards, town entry statements & visitor information bays.
	Northern Grampians Shire Council						43	
	Kempsey Shire Council						44	
	Wattle Range Shire Council						31	



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## Wentworth Shire Council Tourism signage strategy

Submitted to:



September 2024 - V4.0





Darling River, Pooncarie

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DEFINITION OF TERMS

- **Promotional billboards** are used in tourism for destination marketing. This type of advertising is often found strategically positioned along roadsides. The object of the roadside promotional billboard is to spark or prompt a spontaneous decision during a traveller's current trip. The signage basically helps them to 'exit and experience'. The promotional message is used remind and reinforce, keep a destination or attraction in the mind, increasing brand awareness over time and influencing future decisions.
- **LGA entry statements** mark and define the entry to the LGA. Well designed, high quality boundary signs do more than define a geographic region. Entry statements can grow tourism, attract investment and even become a destination on their own right. They convey the vibrancy of the local culture and maintain a strong harmony with the surrounding environment.
- **Town entry statements** capture a sense of arrival, beautify the entry point and help to establish the identity of the city or town for tourists and local residents alike. Effective gateway signage has a positive impact on local economic development and tourism.
- **Visitor Information Boards (VIB)** are usually installed at rest areas and in-town stopping points. They provide information that helps with wayfinding and orientation (eg: contain maps of the area), attractions and features, visitor information services, facilities and amenities available in the area.
- **Temporary/Event Banners & signs** are temporary promotional signs and banners that are used to highlight events and activities but are not permanent signs.
- **Interpretive Panels** provide information about attractions, historic sites, lookouts, etc. and can be arranged single signs or groups of signs.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACT	Australian Capital Territory
AS	Australian Standard
CBD	Central Business district
DNSW	Destination NSW
DRM	Destination Riverina Murray
Hwy	Highway
NTSRG	National Tourism Signing Reference Group
NSWP&W	New South Wales - Parks & Wildlife
RV	Recreational Vehicle
VAS	Visitor Attraction Signposting
VIB	Visitor Information Bay
VIC	Visitor Information Centre
TfNSW	Transport for NSW
WSC	Wentworth Shire Council



Great Anabranch Bridge, Silver City Highway



## SECTION 1 - INTRODUCTION

## SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

# 1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

### BACKGROUND

Tourism signage consultancy Wayfound has been commissioned by Wentworth Shire Council (WSC) to develop a whole of destination integrated tourism wayfinding and signage strategy (the Strategy) for Wentworth Shire. The purpose of the Strategy is to ensure that current and future signage facilitates safe and positive journeys and enhances the dispersal of visitors and their connection with the people and the places of Wentworth Shire.

Wentworth Shire covers an area of 26,000km<sup>2</sup> + and a combined population of almost 8,000(2021).

The regional approach to signage has been very ad-hoc over the years with no overall planning to the design and placement of signage in any of the LGA's or across the whole region. Signage has been deployed on an individual basis which has resulted in a mix of different sign types, sizes and placement. The overall effect is a multitude of different signs competing for the visitors attention. The region now wishes to develop a strategy that will provide guidelines for all future signage planning and application.

### WHY DO THIS STRATEGY?

Tourism signage is an extremely important element of any destination's branding, marketing and visitor information strategies. Signage is critically important to presenting a consistent tourism experience and to retaining and dispersing visitors throughout Wentworth Shire. Signage also provides opportunities to raise awareness of the area's attractions and features and encourage people to stop and visit.

Wayfinding is about finding one's way and relates to how a person orientates him/herself and navigates through an area or place.

The existing tourism related signage in Wentworth Shire does not enhance the visitor experience or adequately direct visitors to the area's many attractions. Some of their concerns being:

- Lack of wayfinding and tourism signage to let visitors know the attractions, services and facilities available within Wentworth Shire and it's towns and villages.

- Lack of unique and distinctive signage and imagery that showcases Wentworth Shire's tourism experiences and entices visitors to stop, explore and stay longer.

The Strategy forms part of a suite of initiatives by Wentworth Shire Council to encourage visitors to stop, extend their length of stay and increase expenditure in the region.

### WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THE STRATEGY?

The Strategy is limited to addressing the wayfinding and tourism-related signage needed for visitors who are travelling in vehicles to find their way safely and efficiently to the tourism destinations and attractions within Wentworth Shire.

It does not pertain to pedestrian wayfinding, signage once at the destination/attraction, private/commercial signs, business identification signs, town/village signs (other than entry signs), cycling or walking trails or advertising.

*Signage is critically important to presenting a consistent tourism experience and to retaining and dispersing visitors throughout the Shire.*



Rivegums, West of Wentworth



## SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

# 1.2 WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO ACHIEVE?



The Strategy provides the framework for WSC to make decisions on the location and style of all future tourism signage and wayfinding in the Wentworth region. The Strategy contains clear guidelines for developing a suite of distinctive, innovative and consistent tourism signage and supports the achievement of councils strategic tourism goals. It gives direction for choosing the right signage for the particular circumstance, for locating signs and for further development of signage policies and processes. Priorities for action and an implementation plan are also included. It has a number of objectives which are to:

- Improve how visitors are made aware of, and are guided to, the diverse experiences, attractions and tourism services across the Wentworth Region and its towns and villages.
- Improve access to the Wentworth Region and its destinations, particularly those with tours, products and experiences that visitors can enjoy.
- Enhance the visitor experience and the amenity of the community.
- Enhance the image of the Wentworth Region as a tourism destination by encouraging consistent themes and innovative and distinctive signage across the Council.





## SECTION 2 - ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

## SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

### 2.1 TYPES OF TOURISM SIGNAGE

This section provides information about the purpose of tourism signage, best practice for wayfinding, signage design and the relevant policies and standards for signage. The roles and responsibilities of Transport for NSW and Wentworth Shire Council in determining signage eligibility, priorities and guidelines are also explained. This information is provided because it has been used in the formulation of this Strategy and provides the decision-making process by these regulatory authorities.

**A TOURISM SIGNAGE SYSTEM IS MADE UP OF TWO DISTINCT CATEGORIES OF SIGNS.**

#### Road signage

Road signs are primarily for wayfinding to destinations and attractions and are subject to specific guidelines and standards. These signs are explained further in Section 3 of this strategy.

Green Directional

Brown Tourism

Blue Services

#### Destination Signage

Destination signage supports the tourism road signage and, while being subject to the policy requirements of the relevant road authority, can be designed to reflect the area's unique character and tourism branding. They usually have a standard design, layout, materials and construction to create a seamless journey and enhance the visitor experience. They should be placed in similar locations at sites so that visitors understand where to look for information. These signs are explained further in Section 4 of this Strategy. (See definition of terms page 3)

Promotional Billboards

Entry Statements

Town Entry Statements

Visitor Information Boards (VIBs)

Temporary/Event

Interpretive Panels

SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

2.2 THE PURPOSE OF TOURISM SIGNAGE

Tourist signs are an important part of creating a visitor-friendly destination and defining the community's image.

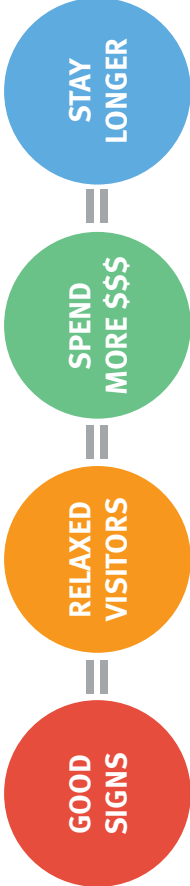
The two main purposes of tourism signs are to:

- 01 Safety and efficiently guide visitors to their destination.
- 02 Inform visitors of the range of attractions and services available at a destination.

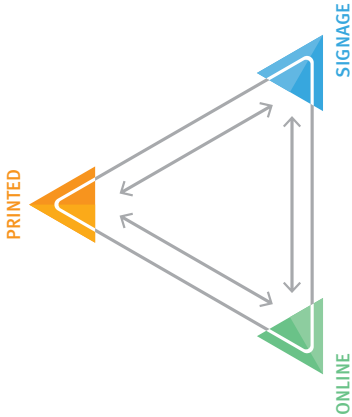
To achieve this, tourist signs have a range of functions that need to be considered in their design and planning including:

- Giving advance notice of experiences and services, particularly where a change in direction is required.
- Giving immediate notice of an attraction or service and facilitating safe access.
- Directing visitors to sources of tourist information (eg. visitor centres, information bays and interpretative centres).
- Reassuring visitors that they are traveling in the right direction.

When visitors know where to find the services and experiences they are looking for, they can focus more on enjoying the experience and less on worrying about how to get there and even worse, how to get back to where they came from if they get lost.



Effective road signage can mean the difference between visitors stopping to explore a town or attraction, or just driving past.



The three sources of tourism information - Signage is only one part of the visitor information system. It is important to understand that signage is only one part of the system that visitors use to learn about a destination and to find their way around. They get information from a variety of sources before and during their visit including online, printed materials, Visitor Information Centres, word of mouth from locals or other visitors, and from road signs.



Accredited Visitor Centre



Non-Accredited Visitor Centre

Wentworth has a mix of accredited and non-accredited Visitor information centres throughout the region. There is also seven Visitor Information Bays (VIB's)

Wentworth Shire	Accredited	Non-Accredited	VIB's
Wentworth	X		X (2)
Gol Gol (Midway Centre)		X	
Dareton (Coomealla Club)		X	
Buronga			X
Curlwaa			X
Dareton			X
Gol Gol			X
Pooncarie			X

SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

2.2 THE PURPOSE OF TOURISM SIGNAGE

The underlying approach emphasised in the state and national signage guidelines is always to limit the number of signs approved and installed on the road network. This is to ensure road safety and to minimise clutter. Generally the maximum allowed at an intersection is four signs. Typically the maximum number of signs that can be installed at an intersection and be able to be read, understood and acted upon with safety is four (depending on the lengths of legends). This would include a road nameplate, a -green/white- geographic destination sign and up to two tourist or service signs. This policy complies with the Australian standard signposting principles.

TfNSW's view is that visitors plan their journey in advance and only key services that benefit the wider community should be signed from the Highway. Australian Standard (AS 1742.5:2017) states there are more effective ways for operators to assist people to reach their destination, including providing a clear address and a map on their printed and online materials. Most people now have access to online maps or GPS and this can frequently be used in place of signage if the address is clearly defined.

The National Tourism Signing Reference Group (NTSRG) document, Tourist Signing Rationalisation: A practical guide for road signing practitioners explains that the purpose of tourism signage is NOT to replace marketing and information provided by tourism businesses and destination.

The NTSRG guidelines specify that:

- A directional sign should be the last link in the communication chain between the business (or destination) and their customer.
- Almost all visitors to a destination arrive armed with some level of awareness and information. So, the primary signing need is directional, and not motivational.
- Visitors are initially motivated to visit a town, city or region because of preconceived knowledge about the destination. This may be acquired through a variety of means, but rarely because of road signage.
- Directional and reassurance signs simply confirm that they're heading in the right direction.

Road signing to tourism attractions and services can be a contentious issue for road authorities. The cause of the tension is often the absence of clear, fair and equitable guidelines for the tourism industry. There is also a misconception by many operators that signs are promotional tools.

(source: NTSRG)



National Tourism Signing Reference Group



Typical brown tourist signs in the Wentworth Shire





## SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

# 2.3 SIGNAGE POLICIES & GUIDELINES

### SIGNAGE POLICY AND GUIDELINES.

Currently Wentworth Shire Council has a formal signage policy for tourist and tourist services signage but this document has not been updated since 2017. Whilst this policy exists, it is very light in detail as is guidelines for applying for signage. This situation can cause problems for council and frustration for tourism related businesses applying for signage.

Developing a tourism signage policy and guidelines for application can bring several benefits to Wentworth Shire and the overall tourism industry in the region. Here are reasons why such a policy is beneficial:

- **Consistency and Aesthetics:** A tourism signage policy ensures that all tourism-related signs across different towns and areas within Wentworth Shire adhere to consistent design standards and aesthetics. This creates a cohesive visual identity that helps visitors recognise and associate the region with specific branding elements.
- **Wayfinding and Navigation:** Well-designed and strategically placed tourism signs assist visitors in finding their way around the region. Clear and informative signage can direct tourists to popular attractions, accommodations, dining options, and other essential amenities, enhancing their overall experience and reducing the likelihood of getting lost.
- **Safety and Compliance:** A comprehensive signage policy can include safety guidelines, ensuring that signs are installed in appropriate locations and don't obstruct traffic visibility. This helps minimise potential hazards for both tourists and local residents.
- **Promotion and Marketing:** Effective tourism signage acts as a form of passive promotion for local attractions and businesses. By having standardised signs that feature branding, logos, and key information, Wentworth Shire can effectively showcase what the region has to offer, attracting more tourists and potentially increasing local business revenue.
- **Cultural and Historical Preservation:** Tourism signage can also play a role in preserving and promoting the region's cultural and historical heritage. Signage at historical sites, landmarks, and museums can provide educational information and raise awareness about the area's rich history.

- **Sustainable Tourism:** A well-planned signage policy can incorporate sustainable practices, such as using eco-friendly materials and minimising light pollution. This aligns with the growing demand for responsible and sustainable tourism.
- **Stakeholder Collaboration:** Developing a signage policy involves engaging with various stakeholders, including local businesses, tourism operators, community members, and government agencies. This collaboration fosters a sense of ownership and pride in the region's tourism industry.
- **Visitor Experience Improvement:** Clear and informative signage enhances the overall visitor experience. When tourists can easily navigate and access attractions, they are more likely to have a positive impression of the region, leading to potential return visits and positive word-of-mouth recommendations.
- **Differentiation from Competitors:** A thoughtfully designed and implemented signage policy can help differentiate the Wentworth region from neighbouring regions and destinations. It can create a unique and memorable experience for tourists, encouraging them to choose the Wentworth region as their preferred destination.

In conclusion, developing a tourism signage policy and guidelines for application is crucial for the Wentworth Shire to promote sustainable tourism, improve visitor experiences, and showcase the region's diverse attractions. By providing clear and consistent signage, Wentworth Shire can enhance its reputation as a welcoming and well-organised tourist destination.

### Recommendation

- Wentworth Shire Council to develop a council signage policy, signage guidelines and an application process.
- Wentworth Shire Council to review all of their shire signage to bring them into alignment with this strategy.
- Conduct regular audits of tourist services and community signs against Council's signage Policy (to be developed) and progressively remove signage that is not compliant.



## SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

# 2.3 SIGNAGE POLICIES & GUIDELINES

There are four main types of road signs used by visitors to find tourist attractions and facilities in Australia. These are:

- Directional signs (white on green)
- Tourist attraction signs (white on brown)
- Services signs (white on blue)
- Community facility signs (white on blue)

These signs are explained in detail in the Transport for NSW (TfNSW) Technical Library/Sign Index/Tourist. The signs are internationally recognised by most visitors, especially when standard universal symbols are used.

### TFNSW AND COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

TfNSW is responsible for authorising, installing and removing signs on state roads. These include highways and other major roads, such as the Sturt Highway. Council is responsible for all other road signs within the shire.

Because TfNSW and Council control different parts of the road network, it is essential that policies, processes and decisions are aligned and coordinated so that, in practice, signage is consistent and makes sense to the travelling public as they navigate the road network.

Council and TfNSW must work together closely to ensure signage facilitates connectivity between highways and local roads. For example, signage on the Silver City Hwy cannot be approved and installed by TfNSW until Council has installed the linking signage to the attraction on council controlled local roads.

### IMPROVING SIGNAGE POLICIES AND PRACTICES

The NTSRG recommends that local government authorities develop a formal structure or committee that assists them to manage all aspects of tourism signage, including identifying requirements and priorities in a collaborative, well-informed way. The committee membership should include:

- A Council officer assigned to manage tourism signage.
- An officer from the TfNSW who has the authority to assist with tourism signage management and decision-making.
- A representative with expertise in tourism.

### TFNSW AND DESTINATION NSW GUIDELINES

In conjunction with TfNSW Destination NSW (DNSW) has developed guidelines for the application and use of brown tourist signs and blue service signs in NSW, this is administered through the Visitor Attraction Signposting (VAS formerly TASAC). The Visitor Attraction Signposting Program has been operating since 1990 and is a partnership between Destination NSW and Transport for NSW;

- to encourage the provision of an efficient information system, designed as a 'family' of co-ordinated and complementary signs throughout the State, which meet the requirements of tourism operators and the travelling public
- to encourage a uniform and consistent approach to the design, construction and erection of signs throughout the State, with a view to eventually eliminating the proliferation of different types of signs, which are becoming increasingly confusing and ineffective to motorists travelling from one area to another.
- to limit the proliferation of road signs to preserve the prime aesthetic values of the landscape and environment.
- to encourage the removal of unauthorised or unnecessary signs which:
  - cannot be read effectively
  - threaten road user safety
  - interfere with the message of legitimate signs
  - clutter the landscape
  - reduce the aesthetic and natural beauty of the State.
- to ensure that, from a road safety point of view, signs incorporate 'glance appreciation' qualities incorporating uniform, elementary shapes and colours, with simple and concise messages using internationally recognised symbols wherever possible.
- 'glance appreciation' means being able to readily interpret the information on a sign with only a momentary 'glance' by the driver at the prevailing road speed.

- to ensure that the fundamental purpose of signposting tourist attractions and service facilities is always maintained. It must be remembered that the main purpose of signs is to confirm the location of, and not advertise, tourist attractions and services.
- to promote the use of TfNSW/Destination NSW standards for signs in preference to individual variations and interpretations which are sometimes developed by Local Government Authorities.
- to rationalise and simplify signage standards, to ensure that all businesses operate under the same controls or restrictions concerning tourist attraction and service facility signs.
- to ensure that signs are uniformly used as a means of confirmation for the motorist of tourist attractions and service facilities in a given area.
- to ensure that existing signs are properly maintained and continue to project a positive image of the area.
- To ensure that the value of tourist attraction and service signs are not diminished by ensuring that only those attractions and services that meet the essential criteria are signed.



Directional signs (white on green)



Tourist attraction signs (white on brown)



Services signs (white on blue)



Community facility signs (white on blue)

## SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

# 2.3 SIGNAGE POLICIES & GUIDELINES

### LAYOUT/CONTENT

- Tourist signs identify the type of attraction (eg. Historic Site) with a symbol. Major attractions usually also note the name of the attraction.
- The signs typically contain two to three words and use of standard internationally recognised symbols.
- Symbols are generally based on Australian Standard AS 2899.1 – 1986 (Public information symbol signs - refer page 15) and international standard ISO 7001.

### THE HIERARCHY OF TOURISM ATTRACTION SIGNS

There is a defined hierarchy (or family) of brown tourist signs that should be used. In their entirety, they create a connectivity from sign to sign, ensuring the visitor's journey to their destination is smooth, safe and efficient.

### DESTINATION NSW - ELIGIBILITY FOR TOURIST ATTRACTION SIGNS

#### Types of attractions

- Commercial/non-commercial tourist operations, e.g. wineries, galleries, craft based;
- Wine regions;
- Primary & secondary industries;
- Architectural & engineering structures;
- Museums;
- National parks;
- Outdoor and nature based attractions;
- Conservation parks/botanic gardens;
- Historic sites/property/buildings/towns/villages;
- Seaside towns or villages;
- Aboriginal cultural centre or site;
- Scenic lookouts; and
- Tourist drives and trails

### Criteria for Tourist Attraction Signage Eligibility requirements

- In order to qualify for tourist attraction signage, a tourist attraction (other than a natural feature) must satisfy all of the following essential criteria. The attraction must:
- Be established, lawful and operating.
  - No pre-booking is required to visit the attraction. It is expected that major tourist attractions operate to a scale and standard that enables them to cater for the demands of casual visitors without the need for pre-booking.
  - There are adequate car parking facilities.
  - There are publicly accessible toilets available.
  - Attractions where the visitor is expected to stay 15 minutes or less are exempted (eg: lookouts).
  - The attraction is open for at least 5 days per week (including both weekend days); 6 hours per day; and 11 months of the year.
  - Opening hours are permanently displayed at the entrance to the property.
  - The attraction has a current brochure available, with opening hours etc.

**The Destination NSW guidelines identify the eligibility requirements for tourism signage.**

**The context for the guidelines and requirements is given as follows -**

*Road users who rely on "white on brown" tourist signs must be assured of the quality of the product and service they are likely to receive at their destination. The visitor experience is therefore the primary consideration when determining eligibility for tourist signage. To maintain visitor confidence in tourist signage, all major tourist attractions must meet these general criteria before tourist signs will be considered..*

For further information about Destination NSW and VAS processes: <https://www.destinationnsw.com.au/destination-nsw-business-support/signposting/factsheets>



Example Trailhead advance warning sign



Reassurance sign



Advance warning sign



Directional sign



Tourist Drive trail markers



Destination NSW - Tourist signposting criteria fact sheets



## SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

## 2.3 SIGNAGE POLICIES & GUIDELINES

## BLUE SERVICES SIGNS

Blue services signs feature on road signs to forewarn motorists of upcoming services. These can include fuel, accommodation, meals etc. These signs usually feature Australian Standard (AS) symbols.

Community facility signs are also white on blue and denote community facilities of a non-commercial nature.

There are two types of signs that fall into this category.

## SERVICE SIGNS

Services signs have white lettering on a blue background. They use Australian Standards symbols and direct motorists to essential facilities and services that may benefit them.

Service signs are used for:

- Accommodation facilities
- Caravan and camping parks/areas
- Visitor information centres
- Tourist information boards/bays
- Service stations
- Public toilets
- Rest areas
- Parking areas

## COMMUNITY FACILITY SIGNS

These signs have white lettering on a blue background and denote facilities of a non-commercial nature which are located on side streets ([refer page 12](#)). Eligible facilities are restricted to those that are likely to be sought by a significant number of strangers to the area. They may be used by visitors and, in some cases, attract visitors in their own right. These signs generally feature Tier 2 listings unless they are a major sports or community facility (see page 18).

Eligible facilities include:

- Town halls, civic centres and municipal offices
- Municipal depots/tips
- Sporting and recreational grounds/facilities
- Hospitals

- Railway and bus stations
- Post Offices
- Tertiary education institutions
- Churches and religious institutions
- Airports
- Shopping centres

## TOURISM ATTRACTION SIGNS

Tourist attraction signs use white lettering on a brown background. They identify tourist attractions of significant recreational and cultural interest, and may make use of tourist attraction symbols. While there are national standards for Australian Tourist Symbols, each state generally has a few additional symbols. In the case for NSW which has introduced an additional symbol for historic towns.

There were also examples of brown signs being used incorrectly. For example private clubs do not qualify for brown tourist signs.



Neither Aviation Club or Golf Club qualify for brown tourist signs



NSW approved tourism symbols

## Australian Standard Service Symbols

SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

2.3 SIGNAGE POLICIES & GUIDELINES

DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

Directional signs use white lettering on a green background. They provide directions to towns and cities and particular locations. Most include reference to a route numbering system or road name. They reassure motorists that they are travelling in the right direction, and facilitate traffic movement in the safest and most direct way.

In general, green signs were found to be functional and clear throughout Wentworth Shire although a few signs are damaged and in need of replacement (see signage audit document).

Green directional signs are subject to the Austroads Guides (Guide to Traffic Management) and Australian Standards (AS 1742, 1743 & 2890), which TfNSW (formerly RMS) adopted in 2011 as its primary technical reference for directional signs.



Directional

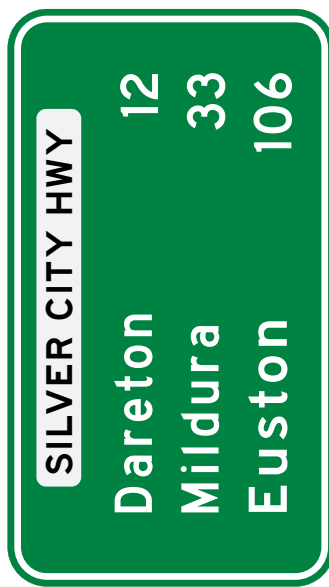


Intersection

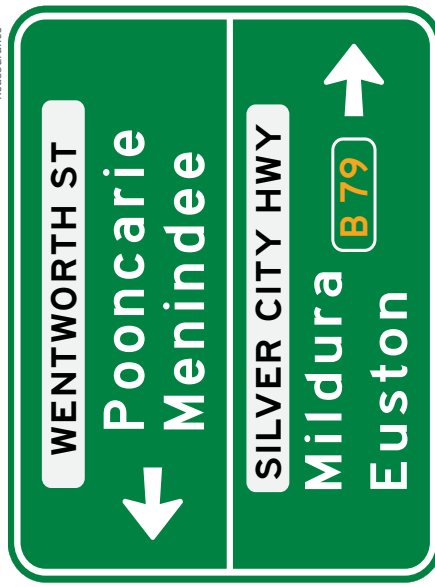
POONCARIE ROAD



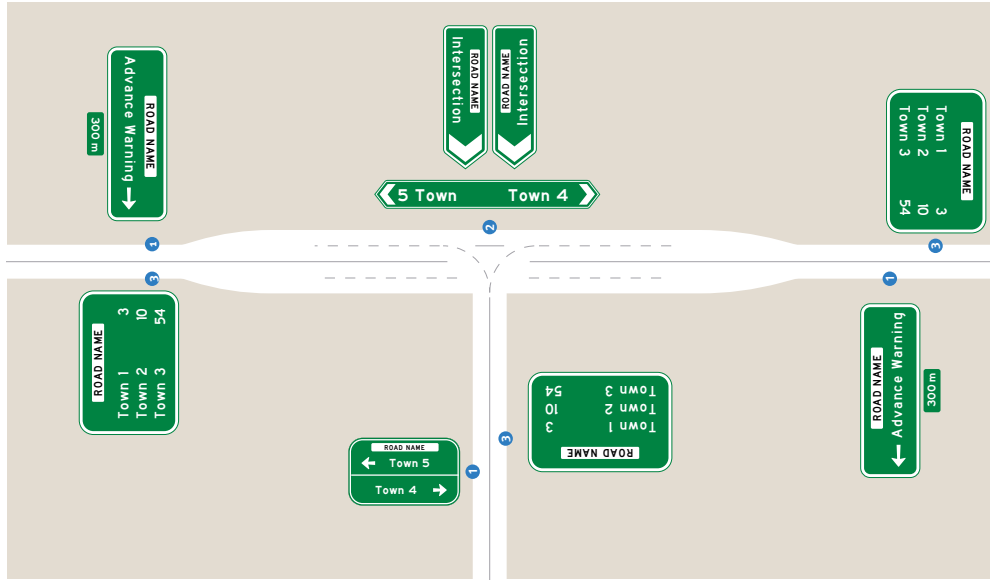
Intersection



Reassurance



Advance Warning



EXAMPLE - Signage placement 1) Advance warning, 2) Intersection 3) Reassurance

SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

2.4 WAYFINDING PRINCIPLES/GUIDELINES

Wayfinding is about finding one's way and relates to how a person orientates him/herself and navigates through an area or place. A wayfinding system is a unified series of related informational, advisory and directional aids to help visitors travel around successfully, safely and with confidence.

A good wayfinding system aims to answer the following basic questions.

- Where am I?
- How do I get where I want to go?
- What is the quickest route? The safest?
- The most attractive?
- How long will it take or how far is it?
- Where can I find amenities I may need or want, such as toilets, places to rest, places to eat, shopping or places of interest?
- Where can I get help or additional information?

*The visitor needs a logical progression of orderly information, which becomes more detailed as they approach their destination.*

Best practice for signage design is guided by the need to be coherent, conspicuous, legible and functional.

SIGNAGE PLANNING

Before undertaking any wayfinding signage project it is critical that the entire proposed route is walked/driven and a signage plan is developed for the project.

DESIGN

- Design, colour palettes and style elements should be locally meaningful and universally appealing.
- Sign background and lettering colours should be high contrast.
- Colours should be chosen to stand-out from the surroundings.
- Clear, legible typefaces that are large enough to be seen at a distance should be used. Title-case is usually the most legible.
- A limited, easily recognisable and consistent palette of symbols and pictograms should be used throughout.

The principles underpinning a tourism signage system

Principle	Description
<b>Compliant</b>	Signs must meet required Australian standards and align with available Roads and Maritime Services manuals, guidelines, policies or other guidance.
<b>Clear and functional</b>	Legible, high contrast, easily recognisable, concise, easily understood.
<b>Consider Journeys</b>	Logical connection and progression between signs to tourism products and experiences, visible, advance warning, safe, limit the number of signs to the minimum necessary.
<b>Minimal impact to environment and visual amenity</b>	Signs should not clutter the landscape or reduce aesthetic beauty or vistas, signs should be attractive and fit well in the environment. Avoid and minimise impacts to the environment e.g. vegetation.
<b>Design</b>	Designs that incorporate sculpture and art considered where reasonable, feasible and add value.
<b>Acknowledgement of Aboriginal cultural heritage</b>	Local traditional names, designs and languages are incorporated where appropriate and in consultation with Aboriginal communities.
<b>Accessibility</b>	Cater for diverse abilities and languages.
<b>Adaptability</b>	Fit for purpose, adaptable to be easily updated or changed.
<b>Cost-effective</b>	Good quality, durable, easily and locally sourced materials, easily accessed and maintained, low whole of life cost.
<b>Maintenance</b>	Assessment, cleaning and maintenance should be scheduled and completed on a regular basis. Outdated, inconsistent signs or those in poor condition should be replaced or removed.

BEST PRACTICE IN WAYFINDING SIGNAGE

DESIGN

Wayfinding signage needs to be coherent, conspicuous, legible and functional.

CONTENT

- Signs should be uncluttered – using the minimum amount of information and text possible.
- Only major landmarks/attractions should be included with detailed interpretation panels provided at sites.
- Terminology should be concise, easily understandable and unabbreviated.
- Information should be provided in different formats to cater to a wide range of user abilities and limitations (such as non-English speakers and people with disabilities).

LOCATION

- Sign location should be decided by documenting trip origin points, destination points, circulation pathways, decision making points and sight lines.
- Information signs should be in logical places where people might expect to find them to be – e.g.: outside of train or bus stations or the visitor information centre.
- Signs should not be obstructed by other signs.
- Point in the right direction.
- Be consistently located so pedestrians know where to expect them throughout the journey.

FUNCTION

- Wayfinding systems generally consist of combinations of signs – information panels, navigation and orientation.
- Sign design and materials are durable, flexible and adaptable to accommodate changes or future requirements.
- Signage fits the environment well – striking the balance between being obvious but not jarring.
- Has a combination of whole journey information and segmented or sequential information.

*By following these practices it is possible to implement a comprehensive wayfinding system for almost every application.*

## SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING &amp; TOURISM SIGNAGE

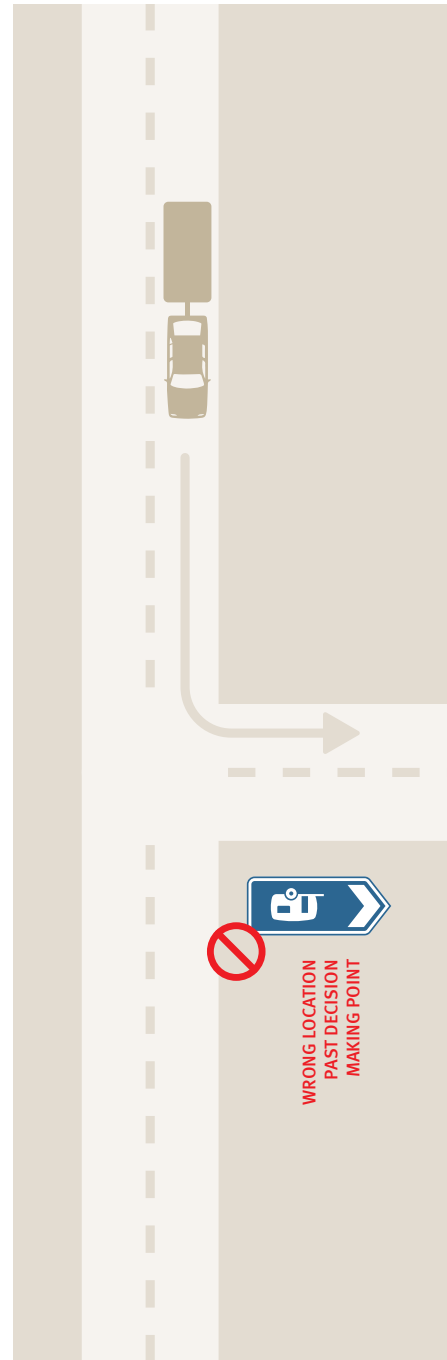
## 2.5 SIGNAGE PLACEMENT

**DECISION MAKING POINTS (EXAMPLE)**

One of the most important steps in signage planning is understanding where the decision making points are. Decision making points are where the navigator must make a wayfinding decision (for example, whether to continue along the current route or to change direction). It is important that signage is placed at these points giving navigators ample time to process the message and make the required directional decision. The higher the speed limit, the more time is required for decision making. At highway speeds a minimum of 300m is required.



Correct decision making point scheme



Incorrect decision making point scheme

SECTION 2. ABOUT WAYFINDING & TOURISM SIGNAGE

2.6 SIGNAGE CONSOLIDATION

When undertaking a signage plan it is also important to see where the new signs can be consolidated with existing sign messages to create one sign. Too often sign clusters are continually added, creating a totem pole effect. When too many signs are added, there are too many competing messages and the intent is lost.

TIME DELAYS & FRUSTRATION CAUSED BY POOR WAYFINDING SIGNAGE

Poor wayfinding signage can result in time delays, frustration and loss of enjoyment. It takes about 15 minutes every time you need to stop, check directions, consult maps and look for signs. This can turn what is supposed to be an enjoyable visit into a frustrating experience taking far longer than it should.



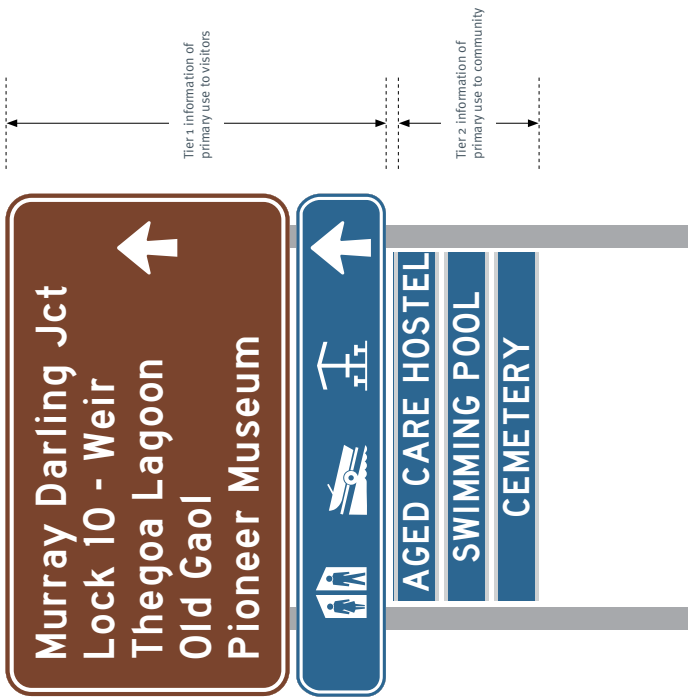
Existing signage at Silver City Hwy/Kookaburra Dr intersection. This sign has numerous problems 1) Golf Clubs are not tourist attractions, 2) This sign should be a chevroned directional sign, 3) Should use Australian Standard symbols.



Suggested replacement sign



Existing signage at Sandwyth/Adams St intersection







## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

## 3.1 WHY DO A TOURISM SIGNAGE AUDIT?

Drive tourism has grown significantly since the arrival of the COVID pandemic in 2019. With the closure of international and state borders Australians started to explore more of their own backyard. In 2023 domestic drive tourism is still growing strongly with the Caravan Industry Association of Australia reporting strong demand for RV's, caravan parks and associated services. It reported in 2022 that 89% of domestic caravan and camping trips take place in regional areas such as the Wentworth region.

Signage is critically important to presenting a consistent tourism experience and to retaining and dispersing visitors throughout the region. Good signage also provides opportunities to raise awareness of the area's attractions and features and encourage people to stop and visit.

Benefits include;

- 1. Increased tourism revenue** Good tourism signage can attract more visitors to a destination, resulting in increased spending on accommodations, food, transportation, and gifts. This generates revenue for local businesses and boosts the local economy.
- 2. Improved customer experience** Clear and informative signage can help visitors navigate a destination more easily, leading to a better overall experience. This can encourage them to return in the future and recommend the destination to others.
- 3. Increased brand recognition** Effective signage can help establish a destination's brand and identity, making it more recognisable and memorable to visitors. This can lead to increased tourism and economic benefits in the long term. It provides an opportunity to promote what your area has on offer.
- 4. Enhanced visitor safety** Good signage can provide important safety information, such as emergency exits, hazard warnings, and directions to medical facilities. This can reduce the risk of accidents and injuries, improving the overall safety of the destination.
- 5. Increased competitiveness** A destination with clear and informative signage can stand out from its competitors, attracting more visitors and generating more revenue. This can also encourage local businesses to invest in their own signage, further enhancing the destination's appeal.



## SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION

# 3.2 ABOUT WENTWORTH SHIRE

### ABOUT WENTWORTH SHIRE

Wentworth Shire Council is located in the far south-western corner of New South Wales. The Shire spans an area at the confluence of the Murray and Darling rivers, encompassing diverse landscapes, including riverine environments, agricultural lands, and semi-arid regions.

The area experiences a semi-arid climate with hot summers and mild winters. Rainfall is low and irregular, making water resources crucial. The Murray and Darling rivers are significant natural features, providing essential water resources for agriculture, drinking water, and recreation.

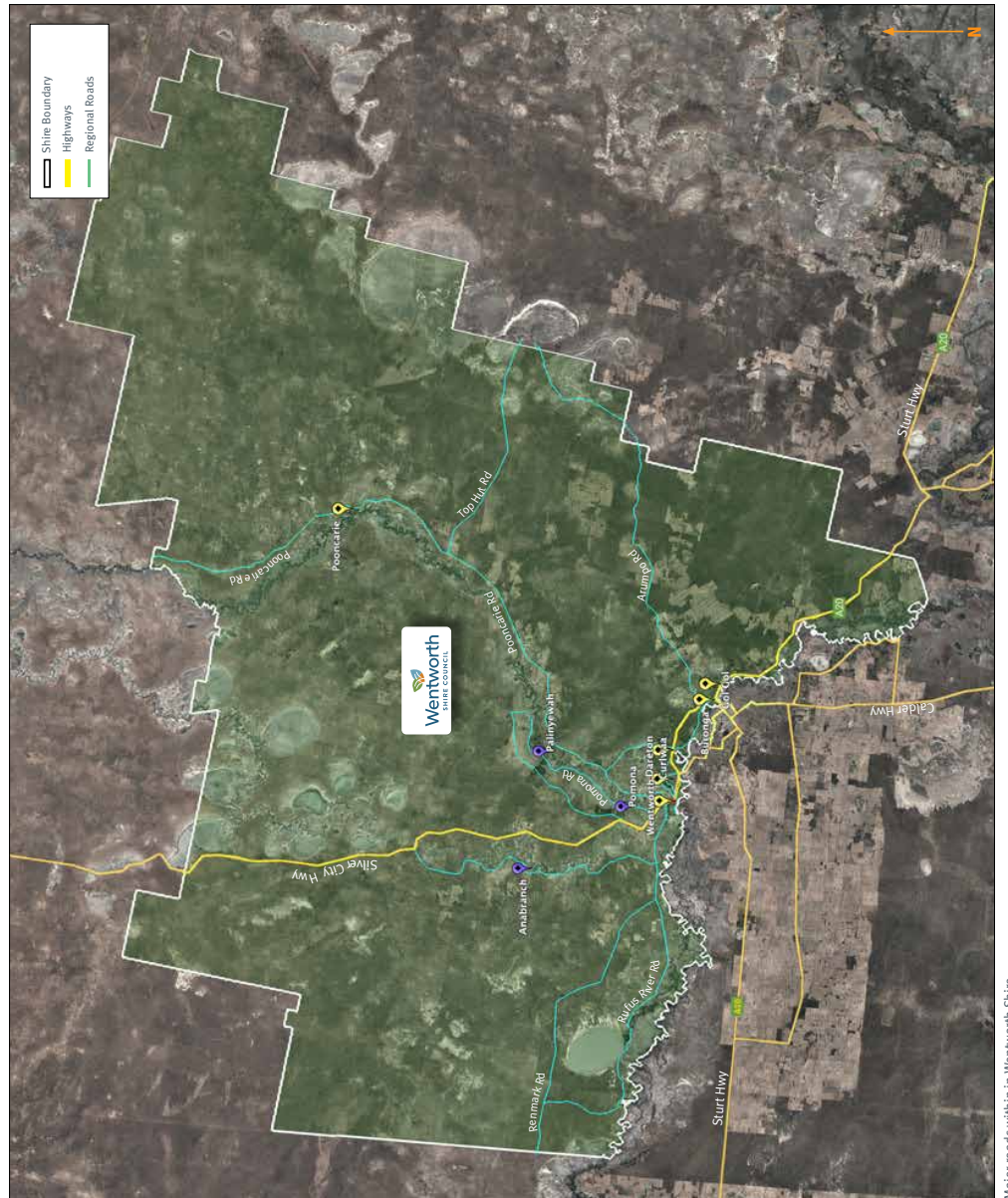
The Shire includes parts of Mungo National Park, known for its archaeological and geological significance. The region supports diverse flora and fauna, with riverine ecosystems supporting unique species.

Agriculture is the backbone of Wentworth Shire's economy, with irrigation farming playing a critical role. Major agricultural activities include horticulture (citrus, grapes, vegetables), broad acre farming (wheat, barley), and livestock (sheep, goats and cattle). The use of water from the Murray and Darling rivers for irrigation is vital, supporting the production of high-value crops and contributing significantly to the local economy.

Tourism is a growing sector, with natural attractions like the Murray and Darling rivers, Mungo National Park, and various historical sites drawing in visitors. Activities such as boating, fishing, and eco-tourism are popular. The Shire hosts various local events and festivals, which also help attract tourists and support local businesses.

### MAIN ROUTES INTO THE REGION

The main routes through Wentworth Shire are the Sturt and Silver City Highways. The Calder Hwy crosses the Murray River at the Abbotsford Bridge and joins the Silver City Hwy at Curlwaa. Other main arterial routes include the Renmark, Pooncarrie and Atumpo Roads.



Major roads within in Wentworth Shire



SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.3 WENTWORTH GREEN DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

GREEN DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE

Green directional signs provide essential navigation guidance to the travelling public. These signs indicate routes, distances, and directions to various destinations such as cities, towns, and important junctions. Their clear, standardised format helps drivers make informed decisions, ensuring smoother and safer journeys by reducing confusion and enhancing traffic flow.

Green directional signage throughout WSC is generally very good with advance warning, intersection and reassurance signs well positioned on the road reserve. Green directional signs on all major roads, within town centres and shire arterial roads were in good condition. We did not locate any gaps in the signage system with all signs generally placed where visitors would expect to find directional signage. In some instances additional signs have been added to the original structures and review and consolidation is required.

There were very few green directional signs overgrown, damaged, faded or in need of some general maintenance and cleaning. (See full signage audit document for details).

Recommendation

- Review intersections with large sign clusters and consolidate signage structure.
- Conduct a regular asset review of all WSC controlled road signage.
- Replace damaged and faded signs.



## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

# 3.3 WENTWORTH BROWN DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

### BROWN DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE

Brown tourist signs guide travellers to points of interest, such as historic sites, parks, and cultural attractions. Their distinct brown colour and standardised symbols (see page 14) make them easily recognisable, helping travellers find destinations efficiently. These signs enhance the travel experience by providing clear directions to notable locations, supporting local tourism, and reducing driver distraction by offering concise, reliable information.

There are numerous application of brown tourist signs throughout the Wentworth region. These signs are applied to tourist attractions and tourist businesses that meet the criteria for brown tourist signs.

In many instances brown tourist signs have been applied to facilities that do not meet the criteria for brown signs (Refer to criteria on page 13).

### Recommendations

- Review all brown tourist signs to determine if they are lawful and meet Destination NSW guidelines eligibility criteria.
- Replace damaged and faded signs.



Most Mungo National Park directional signage is in need of replacement



Strangely positioned advance warning signs on River Rd. Sign position and distance has no clear relationship to the attraction.



Green directional signs should always be placed at the top of the signage stack followed by brown then blue



Sunwaysia Sport Aircraft Club does not meet the criteria for brown tourist signs



Golf Clubs do not meet the criteria for brown tourist signs



Neither club qualifies for brown tourist signs



Trentham Estate's Cellar Door meets the criteria for brown tourist signs



Botanical Gardens fingerboard sign in need of replacement



Sunwaysia entry sign faded and in need of replacement



SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.3 WENTWORTH BLUE DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

BLUE SERVICES SIGNS


Blue tourist service signs, commonly seen along highways and major roads, offer numerous benefits to the travelling public. Their distinct blue colour and standardised symbols (see page 14) make these signs easily recognisable and informative, providing clear guidance about nearby services such as accommodation, toilets, food, and fuel. This clear signage reduces uncertainty for drivers, minimising sudden lane changes or exits and contributing to smoother traffic flow and enhanced safety especially for visitors towing caravans.

This is particularly beneficial on long journeys, allowing travellers to plan their stops in advance. Additionally, blue tourist service signs support the local economy by promoting local businesses, encouraging travellers to visit and spend money locally.


The installation of blue service signs has been widespread throughout Wentworth Shire. While these signs are relatively infrequent on highways and regional roads, they are prolific within towns and villages. Over time, these signs have been added in an ad-hoc manner, resulting in a mix of styles that compete with each other. Many of these signs rely on text rather than the more easily recognised Australian Standard service symbols (see page 14), leading to visual overload and defeating their purpose. Additionally, many signs are now faded and in need of maintenance.

Recommendation


- Review and re access all blue services signs within Wentworth townships.
- Establish a maintenance schedule to ensure that signs remain in good condition. This includes repairing or replacing faded signs and addressing any damage promptly.




Cut back trees - Rest Area advance warning sign on Sturt Hwy




Go! Gol - Rest area Australian Standard Barbecue Symbol is sufficient, text isn't required




Coomealla Caravan Park, Dareton - Replace failed sign, no advance warning signs for this location




Riverview Dr




Dureben - Non standard advance warning with non-standard symbol




Wentworth - Signage overload on Sandwyck Street



Poorcarrie - Signage consolidation required



Pooncarrie - Non standard symbols



Public toilets - AS symbol is sufficient

## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

## 3.4 WENTWORTH SHIRE TOURIST DRIVES

## WENTWORTH TOURIST DRIVES

There are no signed tourist drives within Wentworth Shire, we could only find one sign relating to Tourist Drive 5 & 7, both of which are no longer supported.

The only regional tourist drive is the Darling River Run which is a circuit route stating in either Wentworth or Brewarrina and follows both sides of the Darling River. This drive trail is supported by a website ([www.thedarlingriverrun.com.au](http://www.thedarlingriverrun.com.au)) and interpretive nodes at the major stopping points along the trail. Destination NSW lists a number of routes through Western NSW but none of these have defined routes.

Wentworth Trail - Although it is not listed primarily as a drive trail the Wentworth Trail route should be split into two separate trails. A drive trail should be created around the attractions that are too far apart to walk to e.g. Perry Sandhills, Thegoa Lagoon, Lock 10, Junction Island and the Showground Gates. With a second trail (walking) dedicated to the attractions that are within easy walking distance from the Wentworth Visitor Information Centre.

## THE BENEFITS OF TOURIST DRIVES

Signed tourist drives in Australia offer several economic benefits to local communities, regions, and the broader tourism industry. These signed routes are designed to guide travellers along scenic and culturally significant routes, enhancing their overall experience and encouraging them to explore specific areas.

- Tourist drives attract travellers to specific regions, towns, and attractions along the route. As visitors explore these areas, they are more likely to spend money on accommodations, dining, shopping, and various activities. This spending boosts the local economy and supports businesses, creating jobs and income for residents.
- Signed tourist drives often lead travellers through lesser-known or off-the-beaten-path locations. As a result, visitors may extend their stay to explore these hidden gems, leading to additional nights of accommodation bookings and increased revenue for local lodging establishments.

- Tourism drives can stimulate the growth of new businesses or services that cater specifically to tourists. This might include unique shops, roadside attractions, guided tours, and specialty accommodations, contributing to economic diversification within the community.

- Tourist drives often lead travellers to areas where they can purchase locally produced goods and products, such as crafts, souvenirs, and agricultural products. This supports local artisans and producers, encouraging them to continue creating and selling their wares.

- Tourist drives highlight cultural and historical sites that might otherwise go unnoticed. As visitors stop to explore these sites, they contribute to entrance fees, guided tours, and donations, which help preserve and maintain these important landmarks.

- The influx of visitors due to signed tourist drives can lead to increased demand for a wide range of services, including fuel, rest stops, parking facilities, and convenience stores. This generates revenue for local service providers.

- Tourist drives provide an opportunity for destination marketing. Local governments and tourism organisations can promote the drives through various channels, attracting a broader audience and encouraging more visitors to explore the area.

- The growth in tourism-related activities, such as hospitality, retail, and entertainment, can lead to the creation of new job opportunities within the community. This helps reduce unemployment rates and enhances the local workforce.

- Successful tourist drives can lead to increased demand for real estate and accommodations in the region. This can positively impact property values and potentially attract property investors.

- Signed tourist drives often encourage collaboration and cooperation among different towns and communities along the route. This

can lead to coordinated efforts for regional development, infrastructure improvements, and beautification projects that benefit both residents and visitors.

Signed tourist drives in Australia provide significant economic benefits by boosting local spending, encouraging longer stays, diversifying business opportunities, supporting cultural sites, and driving overall economic growth within the regions they traverse. These drives contribute to a thriving tourism industry and a more vibrant local economy.

Destination NSW has a downloadable Touring route application form (<https://www.destinationnsw.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/TASAC-Form-Touring-Routes.pdf>) This application form is branded under TIASAC (Tourist Attraction Signposting Assessment Committee) which has now been replaced by VAC (Visitor Attraction Signposting).

## Recommendation

- Rework the Wentworth Trail into two trails, one a drive trail and the other a walk trail. Develop the attractions within the Wentworth CBD as a standalone walk trail ideally starting from the front of the Visitor Information Centre following a circuit around Wentworth township.
- All attractions outside of the CBD should form part of a drive trail, these would include Junction Island Walk, Fotherby Park, Murray Darling Junction, Lock 10, Thegoa Lagoon and Perry Sandhills.
- Investigate the development of an all day loop trail through Wentworth Shire beginning and finishing in Wentworth.



Redundant tourist drive trailhead sign - westbound on Silver City Hwy, Curlwaa



Darling River Run Interpretation Murray Darling Junction, Wentworth



Darling River Run Interpretation Pooncarrie Wharf, Pooncarrie



SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.5 WENTWORTH SHIRE TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

WENTWORTH TOURIST ATTRACTIONS
































Wentworth Shire offers a diverse range of attractions for all interests. These range from nature based attraction such as the Murray Darling Junction, Mungo National Park and Perry Sand Hills. Historical attractions include the old Wentworth Gaol, Pioneer Museum and Wentworth Wharf. Other attractions include cellar doors, museums, arts & crafts and flora and fauna.

**Old Wentworth Gaol** - This heritage listed attraction is located on Beverley St in the north west corner of Wentworth. The old gaol features interpretive displays and is open daily to visitors. The attraction is well signed from Adams St via Francis St for both north and south bound traffic. Both approaches have advance warning signs, but there is no directional sign at the actual intersection. Opposite the gaol is a small brown fingerboard sign. The old Gaol has no website but it is well publicised on all WSC marketing channels.

**Wentworth Pioneer Museum** - The Wentworth Pioneer Museum showcases over 3,000 artefacts collected by the Wentworth Rotary Club, covering the region's history. Highlights include replicas of Megafauna, scaled from actual fossils found locally. The museum also features a large paddle steamer display with models and photos of river vessels and reminders of early Wentworth life. The museum is located opposite the gaol on Beverley St, as per the Old Gaol it is signed from Adams St via Francis St. The Pioneer Museum is featured on the Experience Wentworth website.

**Wentworth Military Collection** - This museum is located in a shop front on Sandwyck St. This small museum is bursting at the seams with memorabilia and artefacts. The museum is open 7 days and is supported by a website and brochures at tourist information outlets. This museum is currently not featured on any directional or positional signage.

**Riverboat Rod's Paddle Steamer Display** - This small museum is located on Darling St and contains a large collection of model paddle steamers. The museum is only open Wednesday to Sunday and therefore does not meet the criteria for brown tourist signs. The museum is listed on the Experience Wentworth website under attractions and museums. Signage at the

WENTWORTH SHIRE TOURIST ATTRACTIONS					
NAME OF ATTRACTION	TYPE OF ATTRACTION	LOCATION WITHIN WSC	ATTRACTION TYPE/FACILITIES	COMMENTS	
Old Wentworth Gaol	Heritage Site	Wentworth		Open Daily	
Wentworth Pioneer Museum	Museum	Wentworth		Open Daily	
Wentworth Military Collection	Museum	Wentworth		Open Daily	
Wentworth Wharf/	Heritage Site	Wentworth		Open Daily	
Capt John Egge Statue	Heritage Site	Wentworth			
Wentworth Trail (Heritage Walk)	Tourist Attraction	Wentworth		Open Daily	
Rod's Paddle Steamer Display	Museum	Wentworth		Wed to Sun	
Murray Darling Junction	Natural Feature	Wentworth		Open Daily	
Fotherby Park	Heritage Site	Wentworth		Open Daily	
Possum Statue	Heritage Site	Wentworth			
Junction Island Walk	Natural Feature	Wentworth		Open Daily	
PS Ruby Paddle Steamer	Heritage Site	Wentworth		Exterior viewing only	
Lock to & Weir	Tourist Attraction	Wentworth		Open Daily	
Thegoa Lagoon	Natural Feature	Wentworth		Open Daily	
Perry Sand Hills	Natural Feature	Wentworth		Open Daily	
Wentworth Cemetery & Walk	Heritage Site	Wentworth		Open Daily	
Ferguson Tractor Monument	Heritage Site	Wentworth		Open Daily	
BMEET- Art Gallery	Gallery	Dareton		Open Monday to Friday	
Trentham Estate Winery	Cellar Door	Trentham Cliffs		Open Daily	
Monak Wine Co.	Cellar Door	Monak		Open Friday to Sunday	
Varapodio Estate	Cellar Door	Buronga		Open Tuesday to Sunday	
Mildura Holden Motor Museum	Museum	Buronga		Open Tuesday to Sunday	
Riverfront Nature Playground/Pump	Tourist Attraction	Buronga		Open Daily	
Australian Inland Botanic Gardens	Tourist Attraction	Mourquong		Open Daily	
Orange World	Tourist Attraction	Mourquong		Open Daily	
Mungo National Park	National Park	Mungo		Open Daily	
Mallee Cliffs National Park	National Park	Mallee		Closed to the public	
Kenendok National Park	National Park	Mallee		Open Daily	
Lake Victoria Lookout	Natural Feature	Rufus		Open Daily	
Drings Hill Reserve Lookout	Natural Feature	Gol Gol		Open Daily	
Dareton Centenary	Heritage Site	Dareton		Open Daily	

Meets requirements for brown tourist signs (no symbol)



## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

## 3.5 WENTWORTH SHIRE TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

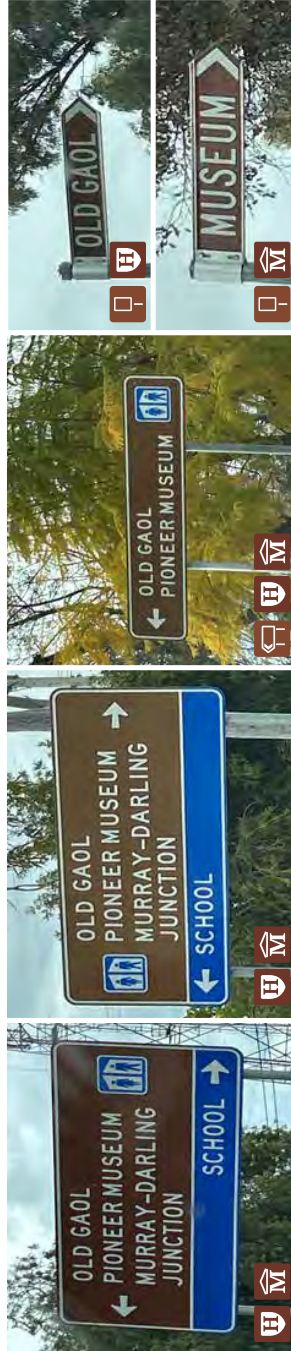
location is almost non-existent and this small museum would benefit from some professionally designed property signage.

**Wentworth Wharf** - Built in 1879 from local timber, Wentworth Wharf was a major landmark and bustling hub at the junction of the Darling and Murray Rivers. During the riverboat era, it was the busiest inland port in New South Wales and the third busiest after Sydney and Newcastle. There is some directional signage to the wharf site from Sandwyck St but it is inconsistently applied. At the wharf site there is some interpretation which is part of Mildura's "Chaffrey Trail" and a statue and interpretation of Captain John Egge. Interpretation at this site could be greatly expanded. All of the existing interpretation is in need of cleaning and maintenance.

**Capt John Egge statue** - Captain John Egge's statue is listed on the Experience Wentworth website. This statue is an important drawcard to bring visitors to the Wentworth Wharf precinct. The current interpretation is poorly laid out and difficult to read as it wraps around one of the wharf post. This interpretation has nothing in common with the attraction text on the Experience Wentworth website.

**Fotherby Park** - This park is located on the eastern side of the Darling river and bordered by Tuckers Creek billabong and the Silver City Highway. The park contains the former historic courthouse building (McClymont House), various historic farming implements, a memorial to the Ferguson tractor and a statue commemorating the reclusive David James Jones, "The Possum" and the paddle steamer PS Ruby. As per Wentworth Wharf, Fotherby Park is a distinct tourist precinct. The various attraction in Fotherby park are spread out around the park and there is need for directional signage to the various attractions within the park.

**Possum Statue** - This statue also contains an audio interpretation of his lifetime along the river. There is one sign "Possum Statue" located on the Sandwyck/Silver City Hwy side of the park. This sign is largely irrelevant as it is positioned past the park entrance.



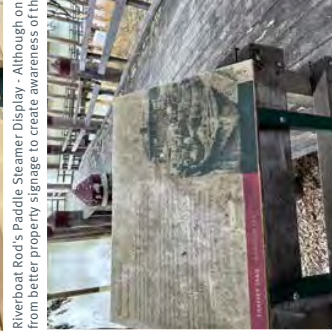
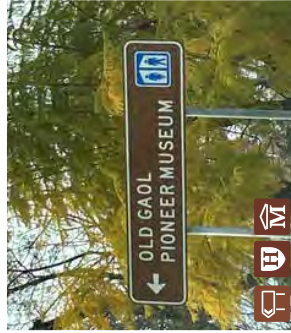
Advance warning signs north and southbound on Adams St but no distance to the turning point (Francis St) and no directional sign at the Francis St intersection. Signs should bear the AS symbol for Museum and Historic Site.



Wentworth Military Museum - open 7 days per week meets all criteria for brown tourist signs. This attraction should have double side positional signs bearing the AS symbol for Museum.



Wentworth Wharf in need of a new entry statement sign.



Wharf interp badly in need of cleaning



Capt John Egge interp. poorly laid out, difficult to read. This interp is completely different to what is written on the Experience Wentworth website.



SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.5 WENTWORTH SHIRE TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

**The Murray Darling Junction Island Walk** - This is located on the eastern side of Wentworth, near the town's entrance. It features extensive indigenous interpretation, picnic areas, and toilet facilities. The parking area serves as the trailhead for the Junction Island Walk. This attraction is signed from Silver City Hwy but the signage contains far too much information. Road signs should be limited to four lines of text, using AS symbols wherever possible.

**PS Ruby Paddle Steamer** - The historic paddle steamer PS Ruby is moored at Fotherby Park. Although the vessel isn't open to the public, it can be viewed from around the perimeter fence. The site has an old interpretive sign that is in poor condition and needs replacement. Proper interpretation of the PS Ruby and its importance to commerce on the Murray River would greatly enhance this attraction.

**Lock 10 & Weir** - Located on the western side of Wentworth this lock and weir make up part of the Murray River navigation system. This attraction would benefit from some interpretation. There is considerable directional signage to this attraction but unless the lock is working there is not a lot to see and do. At the lock is a small monument dedicated to Capt. Charles Sturt but no directional signage to the monument location.

**Thegoa Lagoon** - Is located west of Loch 10 and Wentworth Cemetery. The lagoon is an isolated billabong and is a place of significance to local aboriginal groups and is popular with bird watchers. Directional signage starts as far back as the Sandwyck/Adams St intersection. Once at the attraction directional signage consists of two small fingerboard signs at either end of Lagoon Rd. This attraction has a self guided tour map which is available as a paper brochure from the Wentworth Visitor Centre. Unless you pre-plan a visit to this attraction visitors will not get the full interpretation of the lagoon. Current interpretation relies on visitors coming pre-armed as there is no interpretation at the stopping points, only small numbered markers most of which are faded or overgrown. Currently there is an interpretation node for the lagoon on the eastern side



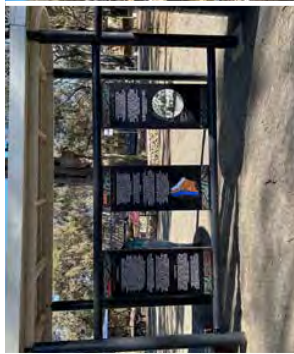
This sign should be a directional sign (page 14) and bear the AS symbols for Historic, toilets, Tourist Info

Old park entry sign in need of replacement

Possum statue and interp. On demand audio needs to be clearly marked, remove old "coin required" sign.



This sign carries far too much information.



Indigenous interpretation at Murray Darling Junction



Canoe Tree interpretation could be improved



Junction Island Trailhead sign



Old interpretive sign at the PS Ruby perimeter fence is in need of replacement



Directional signage to Lock 10 on Cadei Rd



Directional signage to Lock 10 on Cadei Rd



Capt Charles Sturt commemorative monument at Lock 10



## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

## 3.5 WENTWORTH SHIRE TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

of the cemetery. This interpretation node would be better positioned if it was located at the northern end of the cemetery car park on West St. Relocating the interpretive node here would allow visitor to orientate themselves to the Lagoon plus this location could be used as a distribution point for the trail brochure. Trip advisor reviews are mostly negative -

- "We visited here recently and tried to follow the signs that seemed to just disappear after a little way so we had to just take a punt which way to go."
- "Nothing to see here folks....scubby rubbish dump!!! We followed the numbered map we picked up from the information centre and this place was on it. I don't recommend going there. The track was overgrown and the houses in there looked like rubbish dumps."

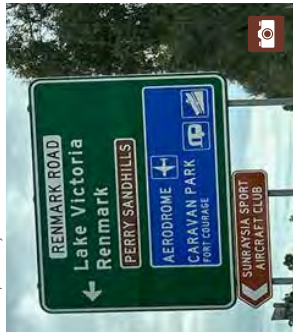
This attraction needs much attention to bring it up to a standard that WSC would want to promote.

**Perry Sandhills** - Located west of Wentworth on the Renmark Rd are the Perry Sandhills a natural wonder featuring vast red sand dunes that have formed over thousands of years. The area is also of cultural significance to local aborigines, with indigenous artefacts and fossils occasionally uncovered, adding to its historical and archaeological value. Directions to this attraction start as far back as Darling St opposite the visitor centre with additional signage place along the route through Wentworth. Once on the Renmark Rd directions are easily followed to the Perry Sandhills turn off. Facilities at the attraction are basic with toilets and a large shelter. Interpretation consists of a single sign which while it explains how the sandhills were formed does not explain where to go and what is accessible by car. This attraction would benefit from a map showing a driving route and places to stop and view the attraction. Trip Advisor reviews confirm these remarks;

- "The sand dune are interesting and great on a nice sunny day. The place is poorly signed and not that well developed, which is a pity but worthy of a visit. Again, as per Thegoa Lagoon unless visitors have made a prior trip to the Visitor Information Centre, they will not have the information required to fully enjoy this attraction. Better information about this attraction should be available on-site."



Directional signage to the lagoon starts as far away as Adams/Sandwyck St intersection



Directional signage at the Silver City Hwy/Renmark Rd intersection.



Directional sign at the Renmark/Perry Sandhills Rd intersection - this sign should be double sided.



Unique regulatory sign at Perry Sandhills



Perry Sandhills interpretation



One of the many directional signs to Murray River Junction Park. Sign should bear the AS lookout symbol.



Murray Darling Confluence entry statement - with hidden interpretation on the reverse side



Hawdon's Ford commemorative plaque





## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

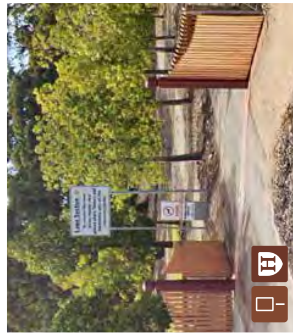
# 3.5 WENTWORTH SHIRE TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

**Murray Darling Junction Park and Viewing Platform** - This park and lookout is located on the southern edge of the Wentworth CBD. This park/lookout is one of the most popular tourist attractions in Wentworth. Facilities at the park include interpretation, picnic shelters and barbecues. The park is well signed from all approaches with numerous wayfinding signs from the main routes to the park.

**Wentworth Cemetery & Walk** - Wentworth Cemetery is a minor historical site that offers visitors a walk through the town's past. Located on the western outskirts of Wentworth, the cemetery features gravestones dating back to the early settlers. The cemetery walk is well marked allowing visitors to explore at their own pace. A small brochure is available at the Wentworth VC. As per Thegoa Lagoon this attraction would benefit from having trail map and interpretation available on site.

**BMEET Gallery** - This small gallery, also known as the BMEET Art Centre and Barkindji Wiimpatya Murra Art Gallery, showcases local Barkindji art and culture. Located at the western end of Dareton on the Silver City Hwy, it is set back from the road and difficult to spot among the trees, with no roadside directional sign and poor building signage. The consultant drove past it three times before finding it. The gallery is only open during weekday business hours, which disqualifies it from brown tourist signs. However, if operating hours could be improved to meet VAS criteria, this attraction could be a valuable asset to both the Barkindji community and WSC.

**Australian Inland Botanic Gardens** - The Australian Inland Botanic Gardens, located on River Rd, Mouruqung, north west of Buronga showcases diverse plant species from Australia's arid regions and beyond. Spanning 150 hectares, the gardens feature native flora, exotic plants, and a rose garden. Visitors can explore walking trails, ancient river red gums, and learn about sustainable practices. The botanic gardens are signed from as far away as Deakin Ave, Mildura. While the attraction is well signed in most instances there is no directional sign for eastbound travellers at Silver City/Calder Hwy



Wentworth Cemetery entrance on West St and historically significant graves



BMEET Gallery-well hidden off Silver City Hwy, no roadside signage, no gallery signage



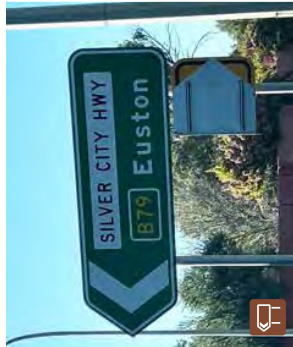
River Road Botanic Gardens sign at the Silver City/Calder Hwy intersection



Strangely positioned reassurance sign, signs should be positioned no more than 300m beyond the turn.



Australian Inland Botanic Gardens signed from as far away as Deakin Ave, Mildura



Australian Inland Botanic Gardens - There should be a brown directional sign at the eastern end of River Rd in Dareton.



Ferguson Tractor memorial at Adams/Adelaide St intersection. This attraction is easily overlooked



Brown fingerboard sign at Silver City Hwy/Link Rd intersection



Australian Inland Botanic Gardens entry statement





## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

## 3.5 WENTWORTH SHIRE TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

intersection prior to the Abbotsford Bridge. Other reassurance signage seems to have been installed at odd places along the River Rd route.

**Ferguson Tractor Monument** - The Ferguson Tractor Monument in Wentworth commemorates the use of Ferguson tractors during the 1956 Murray River flood. These tractors played a crucial role in building levees that protected the town from flooding. The monument features a Ferguson tractor mounted on a plinth located on the roundabout at the Adams/Adelaide St intersection. This small attraction does not have any directional signage but is listed on the Experience Wentworth website and the Wentworth trail brochure.

**Trentham Estate Winery** - Is located off the Sturt Hwy alongside the Murray River. Family-owned Trentham Estate is the only winery in WSC that offers a full cellar door experience that meets the criteria for brown tourist signs. Trentham Estate also features a restaurant making it a popular destination for tourists seeking a relaxed, scenic experience. The winery features advance warning signs on Sturt Hwy and directional signs opposite the winery entrance.

**Monak Wine Co.** - This small winery is located on the eastern side of WSC just off the Sturt Hwy. The winery is only open Friday to Sunday and therefore does not qualify for brown tourist signs. Better property signage would improve this attraction.

**Varapodio Estate** - Varapodio Estate is an olive grove and olive oil producer located near Buronga. Varapodio Estate produces a range of high-quality, extra virgin olive oils, using olives grown on-site. Visitors can tour the olive grove, learn about the olive oil production process, and sample the estate's products at the on-site shop and tasting room. Varapodio Estates open Tuesday to Sunday and therefore meets Destination NSW/VAC criteria under "Primary and Secondary Industry Based Attraction". This attraction would benefit from improved property signage at the property entrance and Varapodio Estate should be encouraged to apply for brown tourist signs.



Trentham Estate - Fully signed with advance warning and directional signs. This is the only cellar door that meets VAC



Mildura Holden Motor Museum meets criteria for Brown tourist signs



Orange World - this attraction has only one brown tourist sign at the Silver City Hwy/Link Rd intersection. There is no reciprocal for east bound traffic and no advance warning signs either side of Link Rd.



Varapodio Estate - This business meets criteria for brown tourist signs



Buronga Riverfront Nature Play and Pump Track - WSC needs to determine if this attraction meets criteria for either brown tourist signs or blue community signs.



Mungo NP - well signed from Silver City Hwy/Arumpo Rd and Pooncarrie/Top Hut Rd intersections.



Sturt Hwy entrance to Monak Wine Co.



Buronga Riverfront Nature Play and Pump Track - WSC needs to determine if this attraction meets criteria for either brown tourist signs or blue community signs.



Mungo NP - well signed from Silver City Hwy/Arumpo Rd and Pooncarrie/Top Hut Rd intersections.



## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

## 3.5 WENTWORTH SHIRE TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

**Mildura Holden Motor Museum** - This private museum is located on Sturt Hwy in Buronga. The museum is well established and is open 6 days per week thus meeting the criteria for brown tourist signs. The museum is signed with advance warning and directional signage from Sturt Hwy to the museums location on West Rd.

**Buronga Riverfront Nature Play and Pump Track** - Located on the Buronga waterfront near the George Casey Bridge in Buronga is the new Nature Play and Pump Track. Apart from an entry sign at the playground this attraction is unsigned. WSC need to determine if the Nature Play and Pump Track qualifies for brown tourist signs or should be designated with blue community signs, several factors should be considered:

- **Tourist Attraction Criteria:** Brown tourist signs are typically reserved for attractions that draw visitors from outside the local community and have a unique appeal. If the Nature Play and Pump Track offer distinctive features or activities—such as specialised play equipment, scenic views, or events—that attract tourists, it might justify brown signage.
  - **Community Asset:** If the park primarily serves the local community and lacks features that distinguish it as a destination for tourists, blue signs would be more appropriate. These signs indicate facilities of local importance, such as parks and playgrounds, that cater mainly to residents.
- Given that the Nature Play and Pump Track is currently unsigned from the Sturt Highway, and its classification as a tourist attraction is under review, a detailed assessment of its appeal to visitors from outside the immediate area should guide the decision. If it's primarily a community resource without broad tourist appeal, blue community signs would likely be the best fit.



Mungo NP - signage quality deteriorates at the approaches to the park on the eastern boundary of WSC. Replace faded signs



Mungo NP - signage quality deteriorates at the approaches to the park on the eastern boundary of WSC. Replace faded signs



Oddly placed reassurance signs for accommodation and meals at Mungo NP 100kms from the park. These signs should form part of the intersection sign suite at Silver City/Arumpo Rd. New Park entry signs



Oddly placed reassurance signs for accommodation and meals at Mungo NP 100kms from the park. These signs should form part of the intersection sign suite at Silver City/Arumpo Rd. New Park entry signs



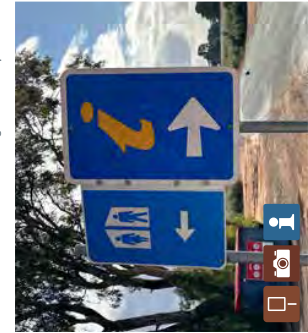
Mallee Cliffs NP - no directional signs and the park is closed to the public



Kemendok NP - No directional signs from Sturt Hwy



Kemendok NP - No directional signs from Sturt Hwy



Incorrect Visitor Information sign at Lake George replace with AS Lookout symbol



Failed interpretive signage at Lake Victoria, replace faded and damaged signs



Lake Victoria Interpretation



SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.5 WENTWORTH SHIRE TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

**Orange World** - Orange World, near Dareton in Mouroung, is a popular working citrus farm offering visitors a glimpse into the region's agricultural heritage. Guests can enjoy guided tractor-train tours, learning about citrus farming and harvesting. The attraction also features a gift shop with fresh produce and local products. Externally the attraction looks to be a bit run down and in need of some maintenance. The attraction is open 7 days a week and meets all criteria for ["Primary and Secondary Industry Based Attraction"](#). Currently this attraction has one brown directional sign at the Silver City Hwy/Link Rd intersection and no advance warning signage prior to the Link Rd intersection. Secondly there is no reciprocal signage at the River/Link Rd intersection.

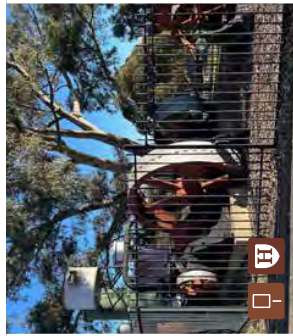
**Mungo National Park** - Mungo National Park is a UNESCO World Heritage site famed for its ancient landscapes and Aboriginal heritage. The park features the iconic Walls of China formations and historic archaeological sites. Visitors can explore its rich history and natural beauty through guided tours, walking trails and camping. The National Park is located on the North Eastern WSC boundary. The two main approach roads from within WSC are Arumpo Rd from Burrenba and Top Hut Rd from Pooncarrie. All routes are well signed but there are a number of directional signs near the park boundary that are faded and in need of replacement.

**Mallee Cliffs National Park** is known for its unique semi-arid landscapes and rich biodiversity. The park protects extensive mallee woodlands, home to diverse wildlife, including endangered species like the Malleefowl. Access to the park is restricted with the park being used for educational activities by schools and colleges.

**Kemendok National Park**, this park features riverine landscapes alongside the Murray River. The park is located in the south eastern corner of Wentworth Shire between the Sturt Hwy and the Murray River. The park is popular for birdwatching, fishing, and nature walks. Facilities are very basic. The park is accessed off the Tapalin Mail Rd but there is no directional signage to this park.



Drings Hill Reserve and lookout, Gol Gol. This lookout is not signed and often overlooked. Views downstream are good, views upstream are obscured by trees growing below the platform



Dareton Centenary Interpretation easily overlooked

**Lake Victoria** - Is a significant freshwater lake and storage reservoir along the Murray River. It plays a crucial role in water regulation for the Murray-Darling Basin and is also rich in Aboriginal cultural heritage. The lake is surrounded by wetlands and is a vital habitat for bird life. It's a popular spot for fishing, boating, and birdwatching, offering visitors natural beauty and cultural significance. The Lake has a viewing and interpretation area on the southern bank and is reached via Rufus River Rd. Facilities comprise of basic picnic facilities and toilets.

**Drings Hill Reserve Lookout** This lookout offers scenic views over the Murray River and surrounding

Coomella Lions Park Irrigation Scheme pump engine. Attraction fenced off and poorly interpreted

countryside. The lookout is perfect for enjoying panoramic vistas of the river. There is ample parking for visitors to pull up and enjoy the lookout. Currently this lookout isn't signed and trees at the lookout are in need of being cutback.

**Dareton Centenary Interpretation** - This well designed interpretation sits within Tapio Park on Tapio St/ Silver City Hwy. This interpretation tells the story of how Dareton was founded after WW1 to present day. This interpretation is well designed, professionally written and unfortunately easily overlooked. This attraction would benefit from basic brown positional signage.

**Coomella Lions Park** - This minor attraction features the original pumping engines for the Coomealla irrigation project. This important part of local history is fenced off and poorly signed with an old faded interpretive sign.

Recommendation

1. Old Wentworth Gaol - Install new positional signs with the AS symbol for historic site in front of this attraction.
2. Wentworth Pioneer Museum - Install new positional signs with the AS symbol for museum in front of this attraction.

## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

## 3.5 WENTWORTH SHIRE TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

3. Wentworth Pioneer Museum - Update the Experience Wentworth website to include a proper overview of the museum and its opening hours.
4. Wentworth Military Collection/Museum - Install a double sided brown positional sign with the AS symbol for museum in front of the attraction.
5. Riverboat Rods Paddle Steamer Display - Work with owner to improve property signage including images of the displays paddle steamer collection.
6. Wentworth Wharf - Clean all interpretive signage.
7. Wentworth Wharf - Update the Experience Wentworth website to list Wentworth Wharf on the "See & Do" page of the website.
8. John Egge Statue - Install a proper interpretive panel and pedestal at John Egge's statue location.
9. Fotherby Park - This park has multiple attractions. Better directional signage to the attractions within the park should be installed.
10. Fotherby Park - Replace the current entry directional sign with the correct chevron type sign (see page 13). The new sign should incorporate the AS symbols for visitor information, historic site and toilets.
11. Possum Statue - Improve the audio interp at the Possum Statue by re-skimming the audio push button panel. In its current form it is not obvious where to turn on the audio. Remove the old 20 cent coin in the slot message.
12. Murray Darling Junction Walk - Replace advance warning sign on Silver City Hwy with a more simplified sign taking advantage of AS symbols instead of text.
13. PS Ruby Paddle Steamer - This attraction should be sub-listed under Fotherby Park main sign (see point 11.)
14. PS Ruby Paddle Steamer - Review and replace interpretive signage at this location.
15. Lock 10 and Weir - Improve directional signage to Capt. Charles Sturt Monument.
16. Thegoa Lagoon - This attraction needs a complete site audit and an assessment made whether to do a complete overhaul or to remove it as an attraction. If WSC wishes to keep Thegoa Lagoon as an attraction considerable work will be required.
17. Thegoa Lagoon - Interpretive node/trailhead. The existing interpretive node should be repositioned at the northern end of West St and the Cemetery car park as this is the obvious start point for this attraction. This location could also be used as a distribution point for maps of the lagoon and its attractions.
18. Thegoa Lagoon - Develop a new brochure and map for this attraction using AS symbols and route markers. The current brochure has far too much information for the casual visitor a lot of which could be made available on line.
19. Perry Sandhills - This attraction is currently over signed. Directional signage should be rationalised to begin at the Silver City Hwy/ Renmark Rd intersection. At the Renmark Rd/Perry Sandhills access road the current directional sign should double sided (currently only single sided).
20. Perry Sandhills - Develop a trailhead sign to make visitors more aware of what attractions are here, what route is suitable for 2WD access. Provide an overview map of the whole attraction.
21. Murray Darling Junction Park and Viewing Platform - List this attraction on the Experience Wentworth website under the "See and Do" section.
22. Wentworth Cemetery Walk - As per Thegoa Lagoon this attraction would benefit from having an trailhead and interp point at the cemetery entrance. This could be a shared trailhead with the repositioned Thegoa Interpretive node/trailhead. This would also encourage crossover visitations at these two attractions.
23. BMEET Gallery - If this gallery can be encouraged to alter their opening days (5 days including both weekend days) then brown tourist signs should be installed. If not a blue double-sided positional sign should be installed with the gallery name.
24. Australian Inland Botanic Gardens - Install brown directional sign at the Silver City/Calder Hwy Intersection.
25. Australian Inland Botanic Gardens - Reposition and re-sign reassurance signs to within 500m of either end of River Rd/Silver City Hwy. Replace fingerboard sign at the Silver City Hwy/Link Rd intersection.
26. Varapodio Estate - Work with this business to improve property signage. signs. Encourage business to improve property signage.
27. Buronga River Front Adventure Play and Pump Track - Determine whether this park is a tourist attraction or community facility, sign accordingly.
28. Orange World - Work with this business to clean up the car park area. Install double sided directional signs at the Silver City Hwy/Link Rd intersection. Install brown advance warning signs zoom either side of the Silver City Hwy/Link Rd intersection. Install double sided directional signs at the River/Link Rd intersection.
29. Mungo National Park - Replace faded and damaged brown directional signs (refer to audit document).
30. Kemendok National Park - Install directional signage from Sturt Hwy to the park entrance.
31. Lake Victoria - Work with SA Water to replace faded and damaged interpretive signage at Lake Victoria Lookout. Install double sided brown positional sign with AS Lookout symbol. Remove the current visitor information signs.
32. Drings Hill Reserve Lookout - Install a brown double sided positional sign adjacent the Lookout with the AS symbol for Lookout. Cut back trees at lookout point.
33. Dareton Centenary Interpretation - Install a brown double sided positional sign adjacent the Tapio Park entrance.
34. Comealla Lions Park - Install a brown double sided positional sign adjacent the Lions Park entrance. Replace old interpretive signage.
35. Experience Wentworth website - review the entire website. Simplify and streamline the attractions pages on the website.



## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

## 3.6 WENTWORTH HISTORIC TOWN ACCREDITATION

**HISTORIC WENTWORTH**

Wentworth is situated at the confluence of the Murray and Darling Rivers and is the oldest settlement in Sunraysia. Founded in the mid-19th century, it became a vital river port during the paddle steamer era, serving as a key hub for the transport of wool and other goods. Named after the explorer and politician William Charles Wentworth, the town flourished as a trading centre due to its strategic location. Today, Wentworth is known for its rich heritage, with many historic buildings and sites reflecting its past as an important frontier town in Australia's colonial history.

**HISTORIC TOWN ACCREDITATION**

Destination NSW offers a specific tourism signage category known as "Historic Towns or Villages." The associated fact sheet, which outlines the eligibility criteria for towns or villages seeking to attain historic town/village status, can be accessed via this link: ([Historic-Town-or-Village-Factsheet](#)). The administration of this program falls under Visitor Attraction Signposting (VAS) which is part of Destination NSW. For a town or village to apply for historic town/village status it must have support of its LGA. Candidate towns are required to satisfy the following criteria:

1. Historical Themes
2. Interpretive/Educational Material
3. Sense of Place
4. Local Council Commitment
5. Community Commitment
6. Promotional Material
7. Current ATDW Listing

An exemplary candidate is Wentworth, as it already fulfils a significant portion of these criteria.

The benefits of Wentworth applying for and being granted historic town status, along with the associated brown tourist signs, are numerous and can have a positive impact on the town's economy, cultural heritage and tourism industry.

- **Preservation of Heritage** - Historic town status acknowledges and celebrates Wentworth's rich history and architectural heritage. It encourages the preservation of historic buildings, landmarks, and cultural traditions, ensuring that the town's unique character remains intact for future generations.
- **Tourist Attraction** - Brown tourist signs are instantly recognisable to travellers, and they provide a clear indication that Wentworth is a significant historic destination. This can attract history enthusiasts, tourists, and day-trippers who are interested in exploring the town's historical sites, museums, and cultural offerings.

- **Increased Tourism** - By gaining historic town status and installing brown tourist signs, Wentworth can tap into a broader tourism market. Visitors who are interested in history, heritage, and authentic experiences are more likely to choose Wentworth as a destination, leading to increased footfall and tourism revenue.

- **Economic Growth** - With an influx of tourists, local businesses can experience a boost in revenue. Gift shops, cafés, restaurants, and other retail establishments can benefit from increased patronage. This, in turn, supports the local economy and can potentially lead to the creation of new jobs.

- **Cultural and Educational Opportunities** - Historic town status encourages the development of educational and cultural programs, such as guided tours, historical re-enactments, and heritage festivals. These initiatives not only enrich the town's cultural offerings but also provide learning opportunities for residents and visitors.

- **Community Pride** - Gaining recognition as a historic town can instil a sense of pride among Wentworth's residents. It fosters a stronger connection to the town's history and heritage, encouraging the community to participate in preservation efforts and promote its unique character.

- **Improved Infrastructure and Amenities** - In pursuit of historic town status, Wentworth may invest in improving its infrastructure and amenities, such as better signage, historical markers, and public spaces. This not only benefits tourists but also enhances the quality of life for residents.

- **Historical Education** - Visitors to a historic town often learn about the region's history, which can lead to a greater appreciation of its heritage providing valuable learning experiences.

- **Boost in Property Values** - Historic town status can have a positive impact on property values as the town becomes a more desirable place to live and invest in. This can benefit homeowners and encourage property development.

- **Promotion of Local Art and Culture** - Historic towns often become hubs for local artists, artisans, and cultural events. Brown tourist signs can highlight galleries and craft shops, promoting the town's artistic community.

In summary, achieving historic town status and installing brown tourist signs can bring a range of economic, cultural, and community benefits to Wentworth. It helps in the preservation and promotion of the town's unique heritage while boosting tourism and enhancing the overall quality of life for both residents and visitors.



Transport for NSW - Historic town or village symbol



Hilltops Shire - Murrumburrah



Eurobodella Shire - Central Tilba & Tilba Tilb

## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

## 3.7 WENTWORTH TOWN VISITOR SERVICES

## WENTWORTH TOWN VISITOR SERVICES

When towing a caravan, especially within urban areas, motorists benefit greatly from advanced warning signage to guide them to their intended destinations, whether it's a caravan park, a dump point, or suitable parking for exploring the town or shopping. The general guideline dictates that if traffic is moving at speeds over 80 km/h, advance warning signs should be situated 300 meters from the turning point; when speeds are under 80 km/h, this distance reduces to 200 meters. A fundamental principle to remember is that "Good signage equals relaxed visitors, leading to longer stays and increased spending."

Blue service signs have been installed throughout the town in a fairly ad-hoc fashion this has resulted in an inconsistent approach to the design and application (see page 37).

The only thing worse than no signs is too many signs, this is the case with Wentworth. While Wentworth has made an honourable effort at developing a town wide wayfinding signage scheme the signs installed are trying to do too much.

- **Route planning** - Before any signage is put in the ground a route plan should be developed for each sign. In Wentworth's case there are multiple routes to most of the attractions, the development of the new council offices will require a redesign of the signage plan and provide an opportunity to develop a new signage plan.
- **Information** - In many instances signs are duplicated with the same information repeated only a short distance along the same route (See signs bottom left & top right this page).
- **Australian Standard road signs (AS 1742)** - consists of two standard sign shapes - Rectangular signs used for advance warning and reassurance signs. Chevron signs are used for intersection, positional and directional signs (see page 13 & 15). In many instances this standard has not been followed with rectangular signs being used where the Australian Standard calls for chevron style signs.
- **Readability** - The general rule of thumb is that the average motorist can absorb 4 lines of text on highway signs which are designed to be read in

about 6 to 8 seconds, which is roughly how long a driver has to read the sign before they pass it. Some of Wentworth's in-town road signs contain up to 12 different messages. Much of the information shown on these signs are community assets, most of which have little relevance to visitors and need not be promoted as tier 1 information panels.

- **Decision making point** - In many instances signs are positioned past the decision making point (see page 17). Knowing where the decision making point is particularly important for visitors towing caravans. Signs should be positioned well in advance of where visitors are expected to turn.
  - **Australian Standard symbols (AS 1744)** - wherever possible AS symbols should be used instead of text. In many instances in Wentworth the correct AS symbol is used but the text is included as well e.g. AS Boat Ramp symbol followed by the text "boat ramp".
- Recommendation**
- As WSC is close to moving in to the new Council offices/function centre, this is an ideal time to reassess town directional signage. Develop a new signage plan for access routes to tourist attractions (see next page) the VIC, and designate car/caravan parking.
  - Consolidate all blue signage and use Australian Standard Symbols.
  - Rationalise new signage information to "Is this information important to visitors?"



This sign should be a directional sign (see page 13) and only be signed for the attractions and services which are on Hospital Rd



Information overload - Too many signs, too much information



This sign eastbound on Sandwyck St west of the bridge duplicates the messages as those shown top right this page on the east side of the bridge.



With the exception of Showgrounds most of the blue services listed here are not relevant to visitors.



Apart from the boat ramp most of the services listed on this sign have no relevance to visitors



This sign is unnecessary, all of the information shown here is available around the corner on Sandwyck St



SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.7 WENTWORTH TOWN VISITOR SERVICES



Wentworth - Existing town service signage

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## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

## 3.7 WENTWORTH TOWN VISITOR SERVICES



Silver City Hwy, western approach to Wentworth. Old faded promotional signage mostly all well past it's use by date. WSC needs to have policy and an approval process if this type of signage is to remain.



Southbound Silver City Hwy, business no longer trading, this type of sign should be removed



Old routed directional sign at Murray Darling Junction Island walk



Apart from the Visitor Centre and the Sporting Complex none of the community facilities listed on this sign require Tier 1 signage



This sign could be simplified to a sign just using the AS symbols, rowing club is a community facility and doesn't rate Tier 1 signage, Wharf should be a brown panel



Three different sign types pointing to the same toilet facility near the caravan park at the bottom of Darling St



CMCA has discontinued the RV Friendly Destination program, these signs should be removed



Beverly St. As an example showing the inconsistent application of signage





## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

## 3.7 BURONGA &amp; GOL TOWN VISITOR SERVICES



### BURONGA & GOL TOWN VISITOR SERVICES

Buronga and Gol are located just north of Mildura on the New South Wales side of the Murray River. The main arterial road running through these towns is the Sturt Highway, which also marks the southern terminus of the Silver City Highway. These highways serve as the primary links between SA, western NSW and Victoria.

The two localities offer a range of visitor services, including two caravan parks, a visitor information outlet, two visitor information bays, two rest areas, and four public toilets. While some signage is in place for these facilities, there are significant gaps in the overall signage plan.

There are two caravan parks in this locality, they are the Buronga Riverside Tourist Park (closed for redevelopment) and the River Gardens Caravan Park both of these facilities are signed with advance warning and directional signs from Sturt Hwy.

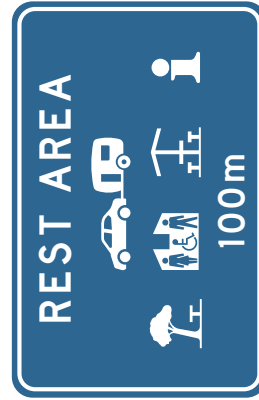
Just north of the Silver City Hwy's starting point in Buronga is a rest area with ample parking for cars and caravans, a visitor information bay, and a couple of picnic tables. However, there is no advance warning or positional signage at the entrance to this facility. Advance warning signs should be installed at least

100 metres on either side of the rest area, featuring the AS symbols for rest areas, car/caravan parking, visitor information, and picnic tables. At a minimum a positional sign with the AS symbol for rest areas should also be placed at the entrance (see example on page 50).

Similarly, the large rest area at James King Park on the Sturt Highway in Gol Gol, which includes a large slip lane, toilets, picnic shelters, visitor information, and barbecues, lacks advance warning and positional signage. Like the Buronga rest area, visitors are not alerted in advance to the presence of this facility. This also applies to the main entrance to James King Park, just east of the rest area slip lane. The only entrance to this park is easily missed as it is a minor roadway between the Gol Gol Hotel and the Alcheringa Tennis Club. Again there is no advance warning or positional signs for this facility.

#### Recommendation

- Install advance warning and positional signs for James King Park, James King Park Rest Area and the Silver City Hwy/Buronga Rest Area.
- Silver City Hwy - Install a large public toilet positional sign (east bound) adjacent the public toilets near the Scout Hall.



EXAMPLE - Rest Area advance warning sign



EXAMPLE - Rest Area positional sign

Buronga/Gol Gol - Existing town service signage

SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.7 BURONGA & GOL TOWN VISITOR SERVICES



Buronga, Eastbound - Install a blue positional sign with AS symbol for public toilets opposite this facility



Buronga, Westbound - Install advance warning sign for this rest stop with the AS Symbols for Rest Area, Picnic table, visitor info and car/caravan parking



Buronga, Westbound - Install double sided directional sign with AS symbol for rest area.



Buronga, Eastbound - Install advance warning sign for this rest stop with the AS Symbols for Rest Area, Picnic table, visitor info and car/caravan parking



Gol Gol, Westbound - Install advance warning sign for James King Park rest area AS Symbols for Rest Area, Picnic table, visitor info and car/caravan parking




Gol Gol, Westbound - Install double sided directional sign for James King Park



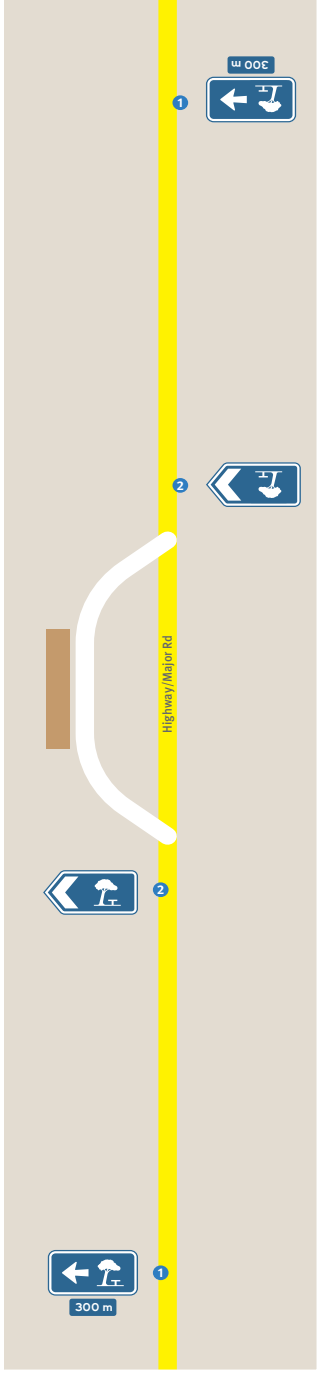
Gol Gol, Westbound - Install double sided directional sign for James King Park Rest Area



Gol Gol, Eastbound - Install advance warning sign for James King Park rest area AS Symbols for Rest Area, Picnic table, visitor info and car/caravan parking



Australian standard rest area symbol



SUGGESTED - Standardised signage plan for Wentworth Rest Areas. The AS Rest Area symbol should be used as a minimum requirement. If the rest area has additional service up to 4 of these should be displayed on the advance warning sign (1)



## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

## 3.7 DARETON TOWN VISITOR SERVICES



Dareton - Existing town service signage

**DARETON TOWN VISITOR SERVICES**

Dareton is a small town located roughly halfway between Buronga and Wentworth on the Silver City Hwy. The town features a number visitor services including a caravan park, RV dump station, 3 x public toilets and a visitor information bay.

Travelling west to east the first of these services is the Coomealla Caravan Park this facility has an old faded positional sign but no advance warning signs. The next visitor facility is Lions Park at the Silver City Hwy/ Kookaburra Dr intersect. This facility has public toilets, a picnic table, a barbecue and a visitor information bay. This facility has no advance warning signs and only a faded public toilets positional sign adjacent to Silver City Hwy on the park boundary. At the Tapio/ Tiltao intersection is the Dareton RV Dump Point, this dump point is located off Tiltao Rd in the Ampol Garage forecourt. This directional sign is set too far back from the roadway and is easily missed, this directional sign should be repositioned closer to the roadway. Opposite this location is Tapio Park, this park contains toilets, picnic shelters and a barbecue. Currently there is no directional signage for the facilities at this location. A double sided positional sign should be positioned opposite this park.

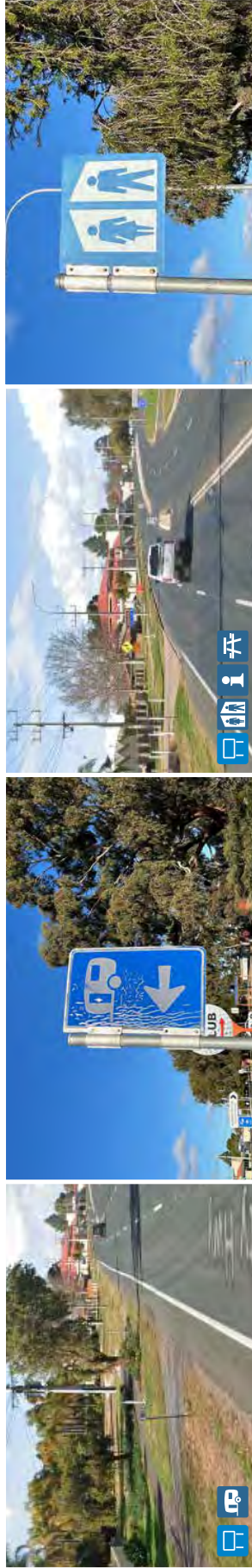
**Recommendation**

- Install advance warning and replace positional signs for Coomealla Caravan Park.
- Install advance warning and replace positional signs for Lions Park.
- Reposition the RV dump point sign closer to the Silver City Hwy roadway.
- Install a double sided positional sign for Tapio Park facilities.
- Reposition the Tapio/Neillpo public toilet sign closer to the Silver City Hwy roadway.



## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

## 3.7 DARETON TOWN VISITOR SERVICES



Eastbound Silver City Hwy - No advance warning signs for Coomealla Caravan Park

Caravan Park positional sign in need of replacement

Eastbound Silver City Hwy - No advance warning signs for Lions Park

Lions Park positional sign in need of replacement

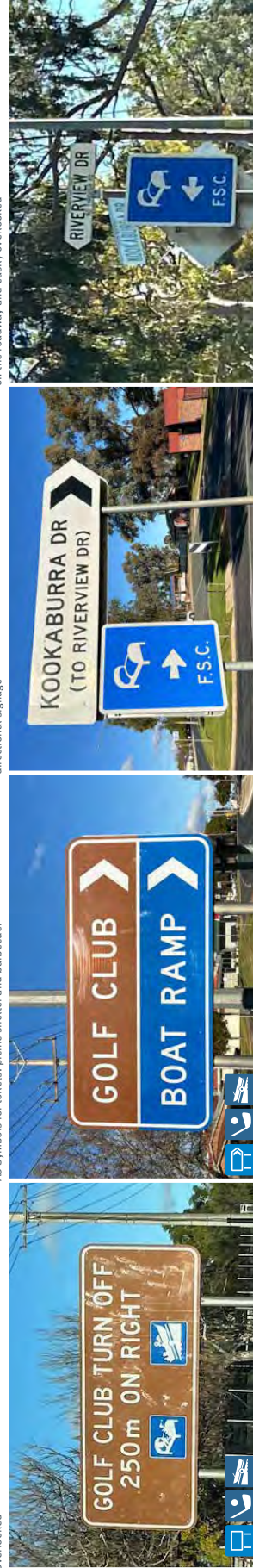


RV Dump point sign - positioned too far off the roadway and easily overlooked

Install a large double sided positional sign opposite Tapio Park bearing the AS Symbols for toilets, picnic shelter and barbecue.

Tapio Park public toilets hidden back behind the treeline with no directional signage

Public toilet signage at the Tapio/Neipo St intersection positioned too far off the roadway and easily overlooked



Coomealla Golf Course is not a tourist attraction, there is no brown sign category for golf courses. Sign should be a blue panel with the AS symbols for golf course and boat ramp

Wrong sign type this should be a blue directional sign with the AS symbols for golf course and boat ramp. (see example page 18)

FSC accommodation is no longer operating, remove all directional signage



### SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

### 3.7 POONCARI TOWN VISITOR SERVICES



Pooncarie - Existing town service signage

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SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.8 WENTWORTH ACCOMMODATION SIGNS



ACCOMMODATION SIGNS

Firstly, all accommodation types come under visitor services, therefore these businesses should have a blue services fingerboard sign with the white bed which is the Australian standard for this type of accommodation.

Generally, the name of the service is not permitted on signs if there are multiple services signed at one location. Otherwise, the name used on the sign should be restricted to the minimum number of words to distinguish the accommodation or service – generally no more than three words plus any relevant symbol.

When installing blue services signs it is important that this is done correctly following Australian Standards.

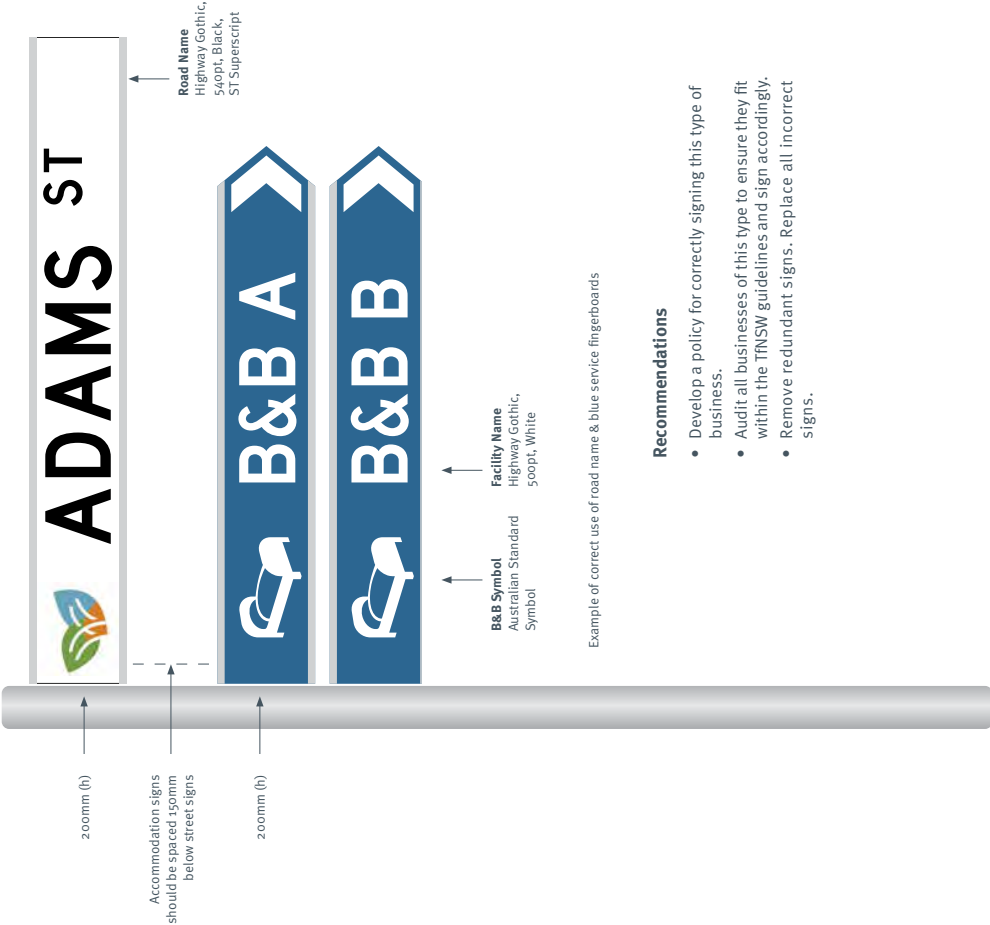
The street name should always feature at the top of the structure, and this should be a standard black on white fingerboard. Text should be in Highway Gothic at 54opt. Street types (e.g. road, street avenue) should use standard abbreviations RD, ST, AVE.

Below the street name sign there should be a gap of 150mm before the next fingerboard.

Blue service fingerboards - these should be in Australian Standard Blue with white text in Highway Gothic at 50opt. Where possible Australian Standard symbols should be used (refer to page 14 for correct symbols). If an accommodation business has a long name e.g. "Panorama Holiday B&B" the name can be abbreviated to just "Panorama" and the B&B symbol.

Tourist accommodation signing can utilise the below symbol types:

Signage should only be positioned from the nearest regional road intersection.



Recommendations

- Develop a policy for correctly signing this type of business.
- Audit all businesses of this type to ensure they fit within the TNSW guidelines and sign accordingly.
- Remove redundant signs. Replace all incorrect signs.



SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

3.9 WENTWORTH CARAVAN & CAMPING

THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF CARAVAN & CAMPING TO REGIONAL AUSTRALIA

The caravan and camping economy plays a significant role in benefiting regional Australia in several ways. This thriving industry provides various economic, social, and environmental advantages to both local communities and the broader Australian economy.

- Caravan parks and camping grounds contribute substantially to regional economies. They create jobs, from maintenance and administration positions to hospitality and tourism-related roles. These jobs help reduce unemployment rates and provide stable income sources for local residents.

- Caravan and camping facilities attract tourists from across Australia and even internationally. This influx of visitors boosts local businesses such as restaurants, grocery stores, garages, and privately owned tourism enterprises. These businesses often rely heavily on the tourism season, helping to diversify the local economy.

- The demand for caravan parks and campgrounds encourages investments in infrastructure like roads, utilities, and recreational facilities.

- Caravan and camping allow for longer tourist seasons. Many tourists opt for camping trips during shoulder seasons, helping to extend the economic benefits beyond the peak summer months.

- Caravan and camping often emphasise sustainable practices, such as minimising waste and respecting natural environments. This aligns with the growing interest in eco-friendly tourism, attracting environmentally conscious travellers and helping to preserve the region's natural beauty.

- Caravan and camping tourists often seek authentic experiences, which can lead to a greater appreciation of local culture and traditions. This, in turn, can encourage cultural events and the preservation of heritage sites.

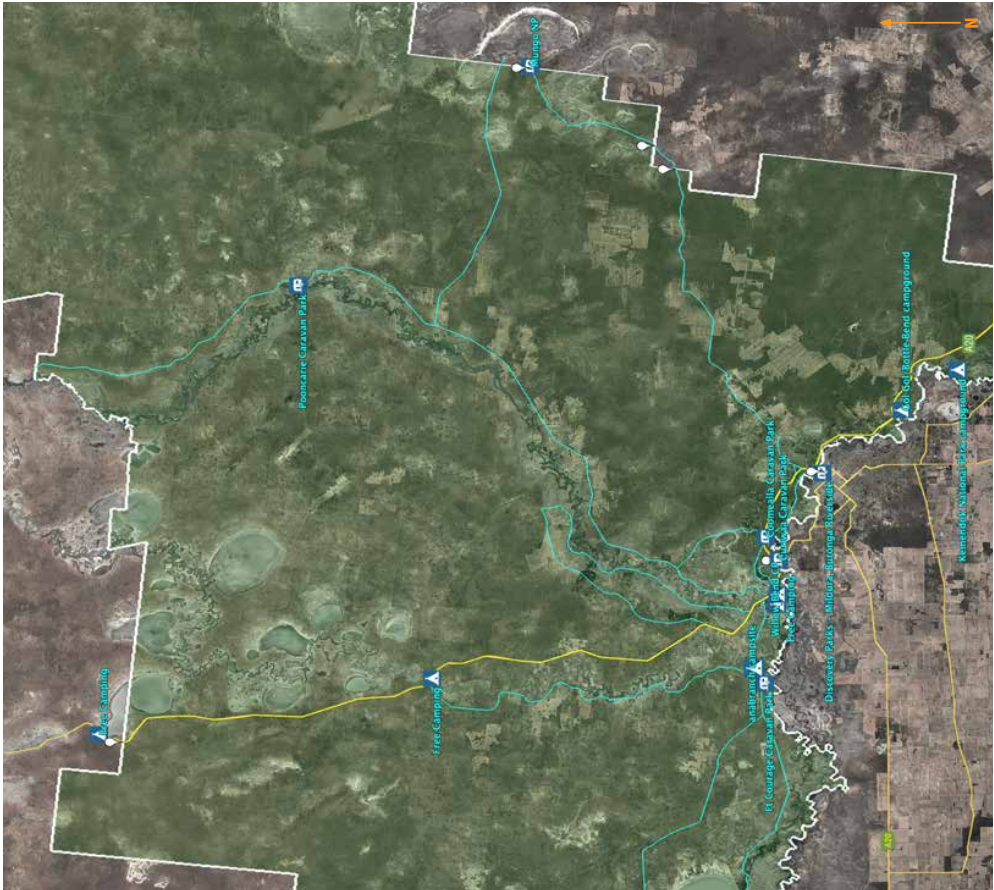
- Local governments benefit from caravan and camping parks through various revenue streams, including property rates, licensing fees, and tourism-related levies. These funds can be reinvested into community development projects.

- Caravan and camping sites often foster a sense of community among travellers and locals alike. Campers often engage in activities and events that promote interaction and cooperation with the local community, creating a more vibrant and welcoming atmosphere.

- By providing an alternative source of income to agricultural activities, the caravan and camping economy can contribute to the diversification of rural economies. This can help rural areas become less vulnerable to economic downturns in specific industries.

In summary, the caravan and camping economy play a vital role in regional Australia by stimulating economic growth, creating jobs, promoting sustainable tourism, and enhancing the overall quality of life for residents. This industry not only supports local communities but also contributes to the broader national tourism sector, making it a valuable asset to regional Australia's development and prosperity.

Wentworth Caravan & Camping Parks	Private	Council	Nat Pk	Other
Coombealla Caravan Park				•
Curlwaa Caravan Park	•			
Buronga Riverside Caravan Park (Due to reopen Dec 24)	•			
Fort Courage Caravan Park				•
Gol Gol State Forest/Bottle Bend Camping			•	
Kemendok National Park			•	
Mungo National Park			•	
Pooncarrie Caravan Park		•		
River Gardens Caravan Park	•			
Trentham Waters (under construction)	•			
Willow Bend Caravan Park (Due to reopen Oct 24)	•			
Wentworth Sports Ground		•		
Public RV Dump Point - Dareton		•		
Public RV Dump Point - Pooncarrie		•		
Public RV Dump Point - Wentworth		•		



Wentworth Shire - Caravan and camping



## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

## 3.9 WENTWORTH CARAVAN &amp; CAMPING

## WENTWORTH CARAVAN &amp; CAMPING

Caravan Parks - When approaching a town on the main arterial routes there should be a blue advance warning sign (with Caravan/camping symbols) announcing "Caravan Park Name - distance" etc. followed by directional signs just prior to each decision making point until the destination is reached (see examples page 17). This approach helps to take the stress out of visitors navigating to their destination through unfamiliar streets.

Wentworth Shire has 10 caravan and camping options. These range from 6x privately owned, 2x council owned, 3x National/State parks and 1 x other. These parks are predominately located along the Murray River/southern border of WSC with 1 located in Pooncarie and another at Mungo National Park. There are also numerous free camping options throughout the shire. Generally directional signage to Wentworth Shire caravan parks is very good. We only sighted one caravan park that lacked advance warning signs, this park, Coomealla Caravan Park lacks advance warning signs and only has an old faded positional sign opposite the caravan park entrance.

## Recommendation

- Install advance warning and directional signage at Coomealla Caravan Park.
- Replace all old timber slab signage at Pooncarie Multi-Purpose Park



Australian Standard Symbols - Caravan, Camping, Self Contained RV Camping, RV Dump point



Two of Wentworth's premier caravan parks are currently closed for redevelopment and another new park is currently under construction

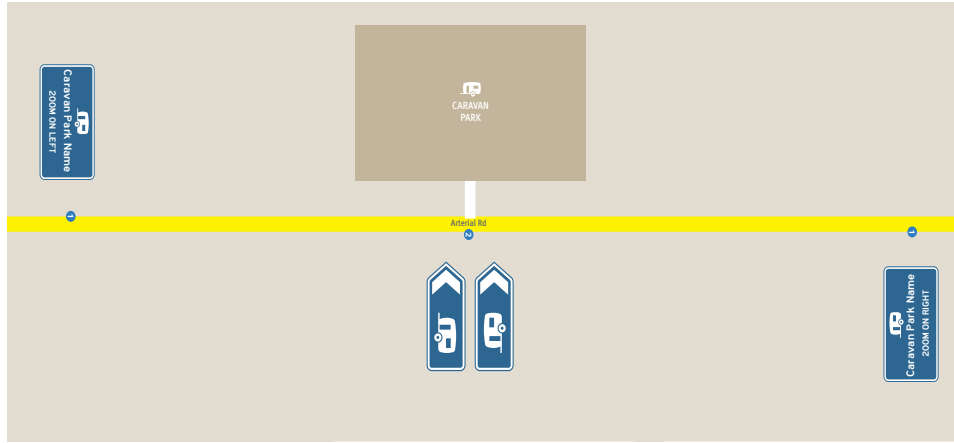


Coomealla Caravan Park at Dareton this park currently has no advance warning signs.



Mungo National Park main camping area just east of Wentworth Shire boundary.

Go! Gol State Forest/Bottle Bend Reserve, entry signage in poor condition.



SUGGESTED - Standard signage suite recommended for singular caravan parks (AS1742.6:2014) 1) Advance warning sign, 2) Positional sign

## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

## 3.10 WENTWORTH SHIRE RV DUMP POINTS

## RV DUMP POINTS

RV dump points are of significant importance to RV and caravanning visitors to regional tourism in Australia for several reasons:

- **Environmental Responsibility** - RV dump points provide a designated location for RV travellers to dispose of their waste, including sewage and grey water. Proper disposal helps protect the environment by preventing contamination of natural water sources and soil, which is especially crucial in ecologically sensitive areas.
- **Convenience for Travellers** - RV travellers need access to facilities that allow them to empty their on-board wastewater tanks, such as toilets and sinks. Dump points offer a convenient and essential service for RV enthusiasts, making it easier for them to manage their waste during their journeys. This convenience encourages longer stays in the region and return visits.
- **Extended Stay and Tourism** - Access to RV dump points can significantly impact the length of time RV travellers spend in a particular region. When RV travellers know that there are well-maintained dump points available, they are more likely to stay longer, explore the local attractions, and spend money in the region.
- **Encouraging Responsible Tourism** - Providing RV dump points encourages responsible and sustainable tourism practices. Travellers are more likely to be environmentally conscious when they have easy access to appropriate waste disposal facilities. This aligns with the broader goals of promoting responsible and ethical tourism, which can lead to a positive reputation for the region.

- **Enhancing the RV and Caravanning Experience** - RV dump points contribute to the overall experience of RV and caravanning visitors. When travellers have access to clean, well-maintained facilities, it enhances their trip and makes them more likely to recommend the region to others. Positive word-of-mouth recommendations and on-line reviews can further boost tourism in the area.
- **Promoting Tourism Infrastructure** - The presence of RV dump points reflects a region's commitment to catering to the needs of RV and caravanning tourists. It signals that the region is RV-friendly,

which can attract a higher volume of visitors who are specifically looking for locations with these amenities.

- **Supporting Local Businesses** - RV dump points often bring travellers to nearby towns or communities, where they may purchase supplies, dine at local restaurants, and engage in various activities. This patronage supports local businesses and stimulates the regional economy.
- **Data Collection and Planning** - The presence of RV dump points can help regional tourism authorities collect data on visitor numbers and preferences. This information is valuable for planning and improving tourism infrastructure and services in the region.

In conclusion, RV dump points play a crucial role in promoting regional tourism in Australia. They offer a convenient and responsible waste disposal solution for RV travellers, encourage longer stays, support local businesses, and contribute to the region's reputation as a welcoming and sustainable destination.

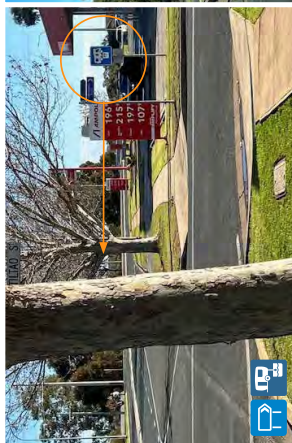
## WENTWORTH RV DUMP POINTS

Wentworth has three RV dump points, located in Wentworth, Dareton, and Pooncarrie. RV dump points are essential for towns to qualify as "RV Friendly Towns," a designation currently met only by Pooncarrie. Although all dump points are correctly set up, the signage directing visitors to these locations is mostly poorly planned and inadequate.

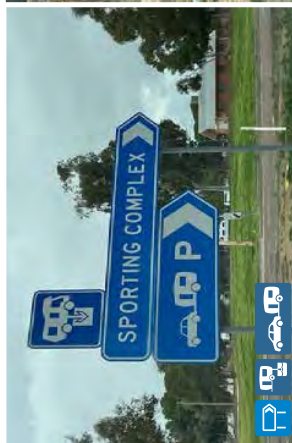
Of the three, Pooncarrie has the best signage, with directional signs from the Jarcoola/Cemetery Road intersection leading to the dump point. However, adding a new sign at the Cemetery Road/Park entrance would further improve navigation.

The Dareton RV dump point is situated in the forecourt of the Dareton Ampol Service Station. While the location is suitable, the signage is poorly positioned. The main directional sign is set too far from the roadway, making it difficult to see, even in winter when trees are bare.

The Wentworth dump point is located at the back of the Sporting Complex car park, accessed via Beverly Street. At the entrance, there are two positional signs,



Dareton RV Dump Point directional at the Tapio/Tillao St intersection is positioned to far off the road and obscured by the fuel price sign



Wentworth RV dump point is located at the Sporting Complex, there is no directional signage to this location from Adams St.



Dareton RV Dump Point location on Tillao St



Wentworth RV dump point is located at the back of the Sports Complex car park with no further directional or positional signage at the location



Australian Standard RV Dump Point symbol

but beyond this, visitors must guess their way to the dump point as there are no further directional signs and no positional sign at the actual location.

## Recommendations

- **Pooncarrie** - Install new RV dump point directional sign at the entrance to the Wakefield Oval entrance.
- **Dareton** - Reposition the RV dump point closer to the Tapio St roadway.
- **Wentworth** - Re-plan directional signage to the dump point from Beverly St.
- **Gol Gol** - Investigate the installation of an RV dump point in Gol Gol or Burrong.



## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

## 3.11 WENTWORTH RV FRIENDLY TOWN STATUS

## WENTWORTH RV FRIENDLY TOWNS

Campervan & Motorhome Club of Australia (CMCA) list Pooncarie as an RV Friendly Town™ on their website (<https://rvfriendly.cmca.net.au/Map/RVFriendlyMap>). This is the only town within Wentworth Shire that has this accreditation. Other towns such as Wentworth meet both the essential and most desirable criteria requirements to be accredited as an RV Friendly Town™. Other towns such as Dareton and Gol Gol with some work could also meet the essential criteria to gain RV Friendly Town™ status.

#### What is the advantage to WSC towns of gaining RV Friendly Town accreditation

Gaining RV Friendly Town™ status offers regional towns several advantages. It attracts more tourists, particularly those travelling in recreational vehicles, who tend to stay longer and spend money locally on fuel, groceries, dining, and other services. This status also enhances the town's reputation as a welcoming and convenient destination for travellers, boosting local businesses and stimulating the economy. Additionally, it encourages infrastructure improvements, making the town more attractive not only to RV travellers but also to other visitors. Overall, it helps regional towns increase tourism and economic growth.

#### What is an RV Friendly Town?

An RV Friendly Town™ is one that has met a set of guidelines to ensure they provide a certain amount of amenities, and a certain level of services for these travellers. When RV tourists enter a town displaying the RV Friendly Town™ sign, they know they will be welcome, certain services will be provided for them that may not be available in other centres, and they will have access to a safe place to stay overnight, and possibly for a longer period.

#### Essential Criteria

- Provision of appropriate parking within the town centre, with access to a general shopping area for groceries and fresh produce.
- Provision of short term, low cost overnight parking (24/48 hours) for self-contained recreational vehicles, as close as possible to the CBD.

- Access to potable water.
- Access to a free dump point at an appropriate location.

#### Desirable Criteria

- Provision of long term parking for self-contained recreational vehicles.
- Access to medical facilities or an appropriate emergency service.
- Access to a pharmacy or a procedure to obtain pharmaceutical products.
- Visitor Information Centre (VIC) with appropriate parking facilities.
- VIC to provide a town map showing essential facilities, such as short and long term parking areas, dump point and potable water.
- RV Friendly Town™ signs to be erected within the town precinct.

#### Recommendations

- Review Pooncarie's RV Friendly Town status to make sure that they still comply with CMCA's criteria.
- Ensure CMCA updates its RV Friendly Town listings accordingly.
- Apply for RV Friendly Town Accreditation for Wentworth.



Pooncarie- RV Friendly Town signs displayed at both entrances to Pooncarie township



Wentworth- RV Friendly Destination signs - this program is no longer supported and was discontinued sometime ago.

## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

## 3.12 WENTWORTH RESERVES &amp; REST AREAS

## WENTWORTH REST AREAS AND RESERVES

Well-maintained rest areas provide a comfortable and convenient place for tourists and visitors to take a break from their journeys. This is especially important for long-distance travellers who need to rest, stretch their legs, use the toilet, or have a quick meal. Rest areas often serve as gateways to a region providing information about local attractions which can encourage travellers to explore the area, leading to increased tourism and revenue for local attractions and events. A region that takes pride in its rest areas and provides excellent facilities can enhance its image as a tourist-friendly destination, potentially attracting more tourists in the long run.

Wentworth has numerous rest areas throughout the LGA these can be split into two categories in town and out of town rest stops. Most of the out of town rest areas are on Sturt and Silver City Hwy's, these rest areas are controlled by Transport for NSW. These rest areas provide minimal facilities but are usually well signed with advance warning signs 5km, 2km and 500m out and positional signs at the rest area entrances.

In town rest areas are under the control of WSC. All of the rest areas we visited were in excellent condition with well maintained facilities and amenity, some of the best we have seen across Australia. Where WSC let's itself down is that all of these facilities are poorly signed or not signed at all. In it's current state it is very easy for visitors to drive by and miss the facilities on offer.

Regional councils should promote their rest area facilities because these amenities play a crucial role in attracting travellers to stop and explore the town. Well-promoted rest areas can increase visitor foot traffic, leading to greater spending on local businesses such as cafes, shops, and petrol stations. Additionally, highlighting these facilities can enhance road safety by encouraging drivers to take breaks, reducing fatigue-related accidents. Promoting rest areas also improves the town's image as a welcoming and convenient stopover, potentially leading to longer stays and return visits. In essence, rest areas are an important asset for boosting tourism and supporting the local economy in regional areas.

## Recommendation

- Conduct a regular inspection of all rest areas and reserves.
- Audit services and facilities available each rest area and reserves
- Plan and install advance warning and directional signage for all rest areas with the correct AS symbols.



O'Donnell Park, Curlwaa - This park is only signed for public toilets



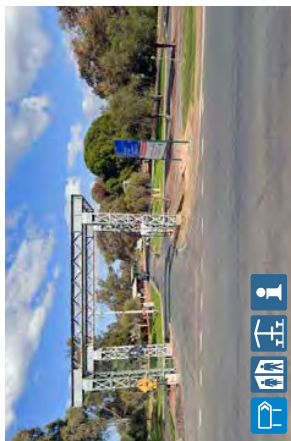
Junction Park, Wentworth - This park is only signed for public toilets



Curlwaa Rest Area - No service signs for this rest area



Wentworth Wharf - This park is not signed at all



Forherby Park, Wentworth - this park is only signed for public toilets



Silver City Hwy, Wentworth - This rest area is not signed



Bilbarka Park, Pooncarrie - This park is not signed



Pioneers Memorial Park, Pooncarrie - This park is only signed for public toilets



## SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

# 3.13 WENTWORTH PARK & FACILITY SIGNAGE

## WENTWORTH PARK & FACILITY SIGNAGE

The best thing that can be said about WSC's park and facility signage is that it is varied. There is not two parks/facility with the same style of signage. There seems to be no overall style with some signage looking almost home-made. Another key element missing on nearly all park signs is the WSC logo. Wentworth Shire Council has recently undergone a rebrand. This new brand and logo have been adopted by council and should now be integrated into WSC's signage.

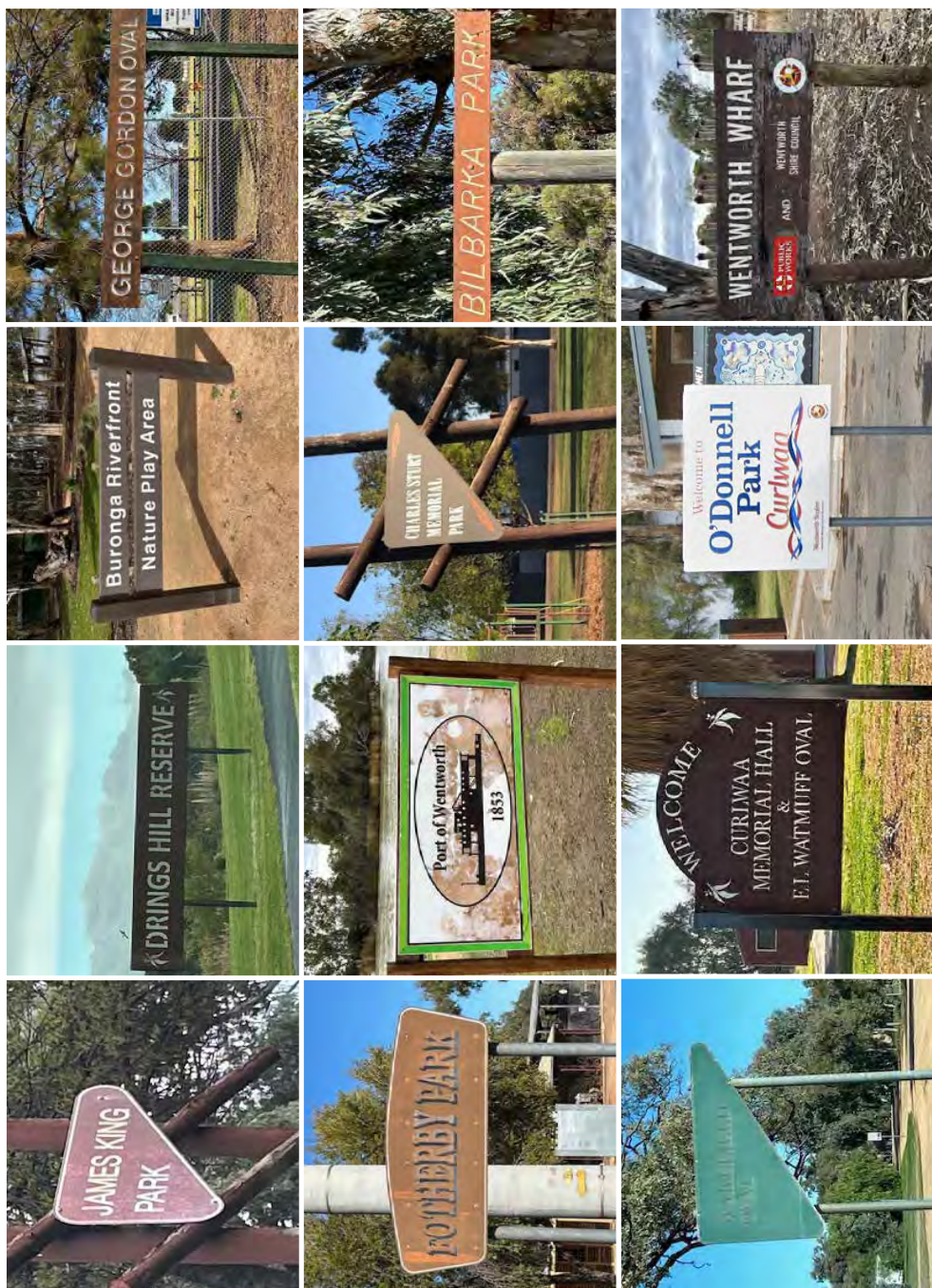
Good quality and well-branded park and facility signage offer numerous benefits to regional councils:

1. Clear and attractive signage makes it easier for visitors to navigate parks and facilities, improving their overall experience and satisfaction.
2. Well-branded signage draws attention to lesser-known parks and facilities, increasing their visibility and usage. This helps councils maximise the value of their investments in public spaces.
3. High-quality signage provides essential information about facilities, such as toilets, walking paths, and emergency contacts, making parks safer and more accessible for all users, including those with disabilities.
4. Consistent branding across signage can reinforce a Shire's identity and pride, creating a cohesive and memorable image for visitors. This helps build a strong community brand that can attract more tourists.
5. By improving the attractiveness and usability of parks and facilities, councils can boost local tourism, leading to increased spending in the area.
6. Investing in durable, well-designed signage reduces the need for frequent replacements, saving councils money in the long term. It also ensures that the signage remains effective and appealing over time.

Overall, quality signage is a key tool for regional councils to enhance community assets, support local economies, and promote a positive image of the area.

## Recommendation

- Develop and adopt a signage style guide and roll out new signage across all WSC parks & facilities.





### SECTION 3. WENTWORTH SHIRE SIGNAGE AUDIT

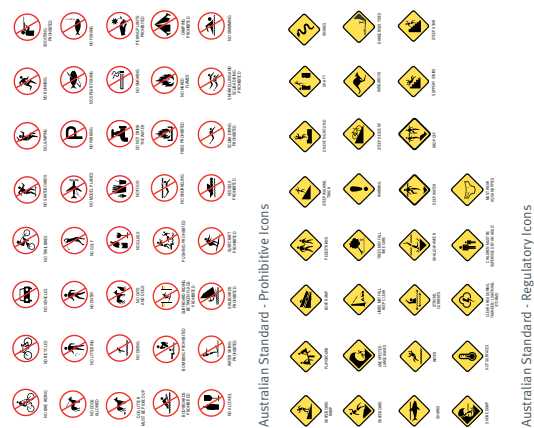
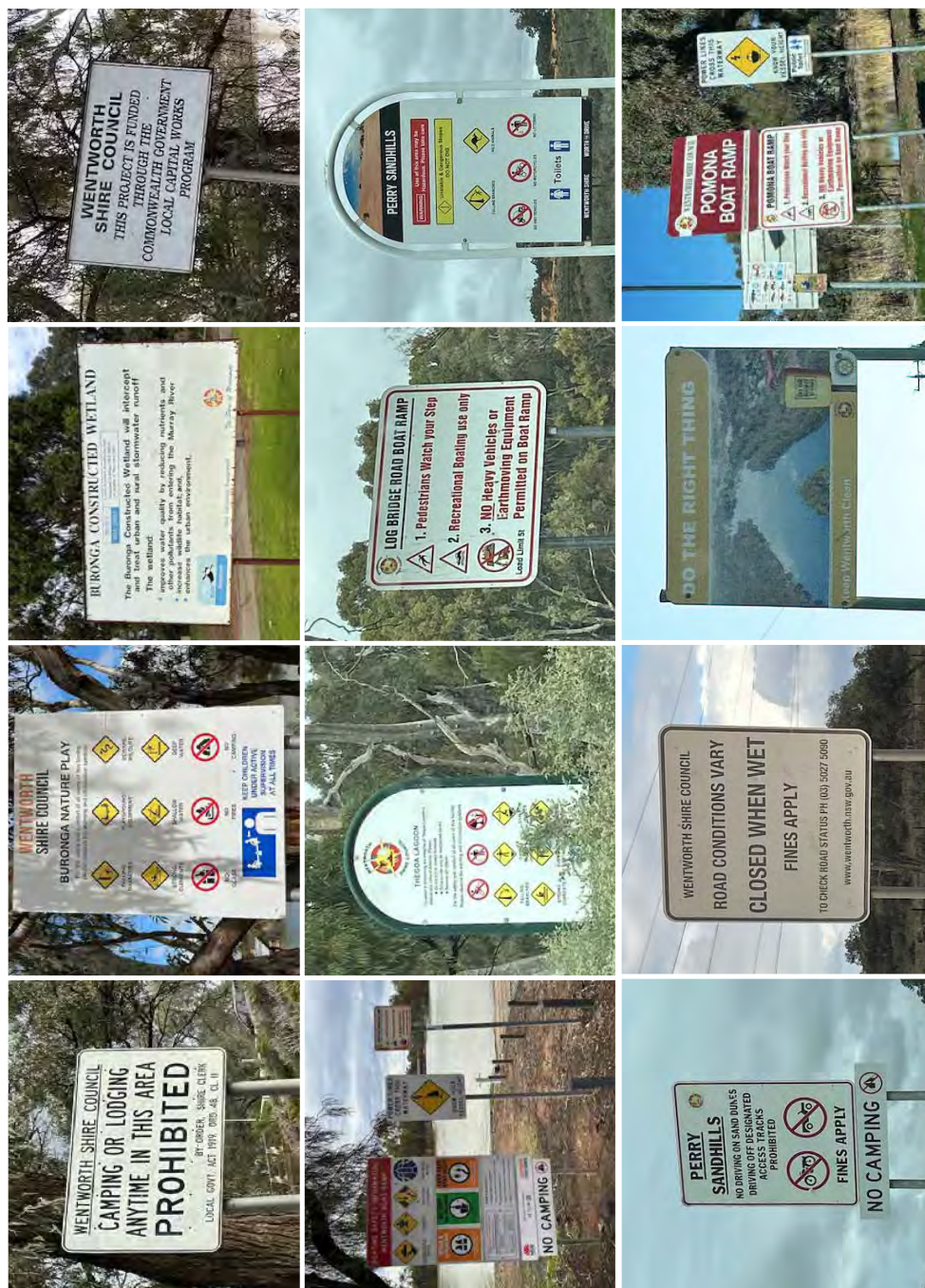
### 3.14 WENTWORTH REGULATORY SIGNAGE

## WENTWORTH REGULATORY SIGNAGE

Developing a standard suite of regulatory signs for Wentworth Shire Council ensures consistency, improves compliance, and enhances safety across the region. Standardised signs make it easier for residents and visitors to understand and follow regulations, reducing confusion and promoting orderly conduct. This uniformity also reinforces the Shire's brand identity, creating a cohesive look throughout the area. Additionally, standardisation simplifies maintenance and replacement, leading to cost savings and efficient management of signage across the Shire.

## Recommendation

- Develop and adopt a signage style guide and roll out new regulatory signage across WSC.





## SECTION 4 - THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM



SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

# 4.1 BACKGROUND

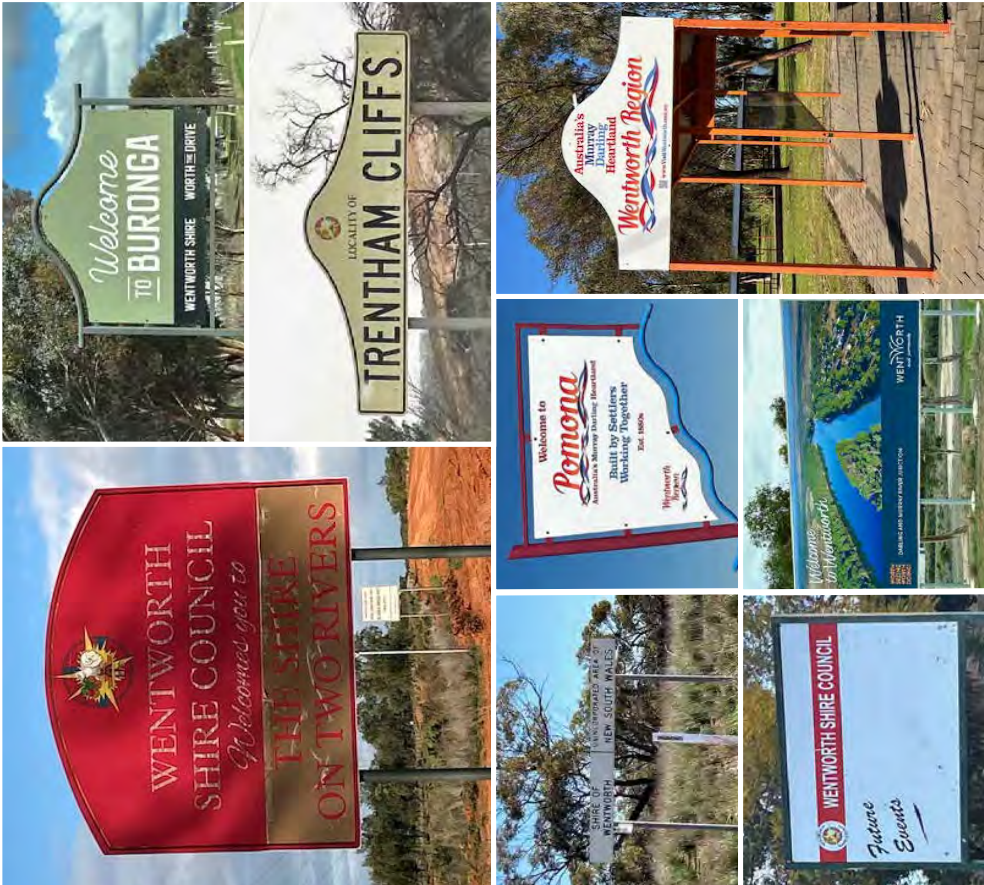
Road signage	Destination Signage
Green Directional	Promotional Billboards
Brown Tourism	Shire Entry Statements
Blue Services	Town Entry Statements
	Visitor Information Boards (VIBs)
	Temporary/Event
	Interpretive Panels

This section provides background information on the destination signs and how they can be used to promote the WSC's attractions and experiences.

While there is little opportunity to influence the design of green, brown and blue road signs, there is scope to create a suite of unique and well-designed destination and marketing tourism-related signs for WSC.

A suite of destination signs can include the following types of signage.

- Promotional Billboards** – these can be used for promoting and providing directional information for the area and specific attractions. They are aimed at encouraging visitors to stop and stay longer.
- Shire Entry Statements** – these are also referred to as gateway signs. They create a sense of arrival to a region or LGA and identify an area as a destination (i.e. a place worth stopping). They should reflect the character of the place.
- Town Entry Statements** – these are at the entrance to a town or village. They usually reflect the destination's branding but with a regional approach they might include the regional and Shire council brand.
- Visitor Information Boards (VIBs)** – provide information that helps with wayfinding and orientation (e.g. contain maps of the area), attractions and features, visitor information services and services, facilities and amenities available in the area.
- Temporary/Event** – these signs are used to highlight events and activities but are not permanent signs.
- Interpretive Panels** – these signs provide information about attractions, historic sites, lookouts, etc. and can be arranged single signs or groups of signs.



Examples of existing destination signage in Wentworth Shire Council

SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

4.2 WENTWORTH PROMOTIONAL BILLBOARDS

PROMOTIONAL BILLBOARDS

Billboards placed strategically along highways and major roads can help raise awareness about lesser-known regional destinations. This increased visibility can pique the interest of travellers who may not have considered visiting these areas otherwise. Billboards can capture the attention of travellers passing through an area. They serve as a quick and visually appealing way to showcase the unique attractions, natural beauty, or cultural experiences that a region has to offer. This can encourage tourists to make impromptu stops and explore the region.

Billboards are effective tools for promoting seasonal events, festivals, and activities unique to a region. They can inform tourists about upcoming events, encouraging them to plan trips around these attractions. Consistent use of billboards can help build a region's brand as a tourist destination over time. Travellers may begin to associate the region with specific experiences or qualities, encouraging repeat visits and word-of-mouth recommendations.

In summary, promotional billboards play a valuable role in boosting regional tourism in Australia by increasing awareness, attracting passing tourists, extending stays, and stimulating economic growth. When strategically designed and placed, billboards can have a lasting impact on the tourism industry and the overall prosperity of regional communities.

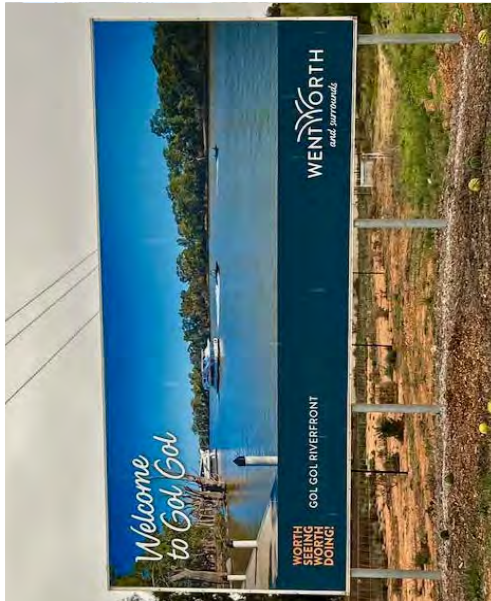
WENTWORTH BILLBOARDS

Normally in this section I would be writing about the lack of promotional billboards or their poor state of repair. It's refreshing to see what a good job WSC has done with their promotional billboards. Each billboard is well positioned, has great photography and carries a simple easy to read message.

Other billboards sighted include a large billboard at Popiltah Lake Rest Area, Silver City Hwy. This billboard uses the Wentworth tourist brand and promotes Wentworth and it's services. This billboard has been installed by Wentworth Rotary. Another billboard sighted is for the Darling River Run at the Murray Darling Junction Park. This billboard is also a trailhead for the Darling River run with a large trailhead panel on the reverse side of this billboard.

Recommendation -

- Update billboards annually with fresh images and events.



Wentworth promotional billboards



*Billboard advertising is a reminder medium, when other activity tapers off. Cost-effectively reaching audiences that are cost-prohibitive for other media reaches. It provides a path to purchase, reinforce brand messages from other media close to the point-of-purchase. Billboards are a strategic, cost effective way to maintain brand awareness between bursts of other activity*



## SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

## 4.2 WENTWORTH MOBILE BILLBOARDS

**MOBILE BILLBOARDS**

Often overlooked as a marketing tool mobile billboards present a fantastic opportunity to spread the Wentworth/Far West NSW tourism message. These mobile billboards usually take the form of semi-trailer printed curtain sides or maxi-cube rigid trailers with vinyl graphics applied. While a static billboard requires motorists to drive by a typical semi-trailer covers between a 150,000 - 200,000 kilometres annually thus spreading the tourism message to a wider audience. This type of advertising has the potential to travel, capturing local, regional and national audiences. Local governments are beginning to see the potential to this form of destination marketing and are engaging with their local transport companies to develop this form of promotion.

**Recommendation**

- Explore the development of this form of destination marketing with Wentworth/Mildura Transport Operators.

<https://www.narrandera.nsw.gov.au/council/news-and-publications/news-and-media/narrandera-tourism-travels-throughout-eastern-seaboard>



TOP - Bathurst Regional Council/Ballinger Transport co-branded B double set, BOTTOM - Narrandera Shire Council has partnered with local transport company, Hayllar Transport



## SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

# 4.3 WENTWORTH MAJOR EVENT PROMOTIONS

### WENTWORTH MAJOR EVENT PROMOTIONS STREET BANNERS

Banner flags are highly effective for event promotion in regional Australia due to their visibility and versatility. They capture attention easily, making them ideal for attracting both locals and visitors to events. Banner flags can be placed in strategic locations, such as town centres, event venues, and along main roads, helping to increase awareness and drive attendance. Additionally, they are cost-effective, easy to set up and transport, and can be reused for multiple events, providing ongoing promotional value. Overall, banner flags enhance the visibility of regional events, contributing to greater community engagement and economic benefits.

Wentworth has a banner system installed along the George Chaffey Bridge. These banners are used to promote major events within the Wentworth region. As part of this strategy we always look for other locations to extend this type of promotion.

### ADDITIONAL BANNER/FLAG LOCATIONS

- Buronga - Roundabout at Sturt/Silver City Hwy Junction.
- Gol Gol - James King Park Rest Area median strip.
- Dareton - Sturt Park.
- Wentworth - Fotherby Park
- Wentworth - Silver City Hwy north visitor information bay

### Recommendations

- Install banner flags at other Wentworth locations, this could be done in a staged approach.



Buronga - George Chaffey Bridge existing Bannerconcorda system

Fremantle - ANZAC Day promotional banners

## SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

# 4.4 WENTWORTH COMMUNITY EVENT PROMOTION

### WENTWORTH MINOR EVENT PROMOTIONS


Wentworth has a series of community event promotional boards which are positioned along the Silver City Hwy between Buronga and Wentworth. These boards are property of WSC with community groups paying a user fee to promote their event. This fee goes towards the cost of WSC staff installing the promotion. The boards carry the old WSC branding and are all looking a bit tired and in need of replacement.

WSC should develop community event banner locations around Wentworth towns. Each site should be equipped with a rigid frame with tie points for standard size promotional banners (Usually 2.2m x 1.2m). Installing this type of banner frame puts the onus of the community group to book and install their own promotional banners rather than council having to do it. These banner frames should be clearly branded as property of WSC with the WSC logo clearly displayed and contact details for booking a banner site.

#### Guidelines

WSC should develop clear guidelines for using these locations consisting of;

- **Locations** – Identify key sites within the LGA for installation of events and temporary signage. This type of signage should be restricted to these sites only. They should not obstruct views and lines of sight (for vehicle and pedestrian safety).
- **Infrastructure** – At each site, install infrastructure for temporary signage e.g. permanent frames and poles for banners etc.
- **Policy considerations** – Should include clear guidelines about application processes, types of events that are eligible, who can apply (e.g. clubs), time limits and process for removal of unauthorised signs.
- **Design templates** – Create design templates for recommended banner sizes. Include tips for graphic consistency, text size, suggested number of words etc. and suitable colour palettes. Make these templates available online and supply to local signage producers.
- **Provide information about the guidelines for these signs** – This is to raise awareness of what the council is trying to achieve with a firm policy and restrictions to avoid proliferation of signs and protect public safety/amenity.



To attach your banner here contact - [communities@wentworth.nsw.gov.au](mailto:communities@wentworth.nsw.gov.au)

**Community Banners**

**DIMENSIONS**

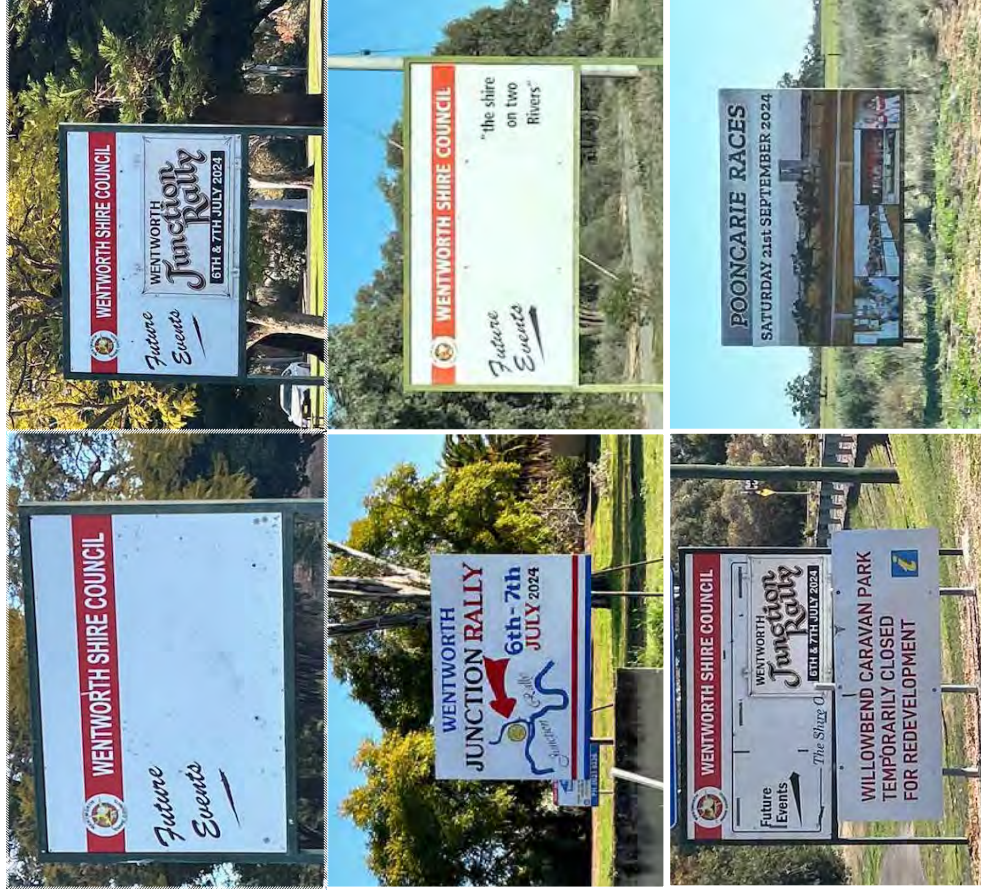
2200mm(w) x 1200mm(h)

Community Banners can be installed to promote non-commercial or non-political events and activities that benefit the community. The Community signs are the property of the WSC.

CONCEPT ONLY - WSC Community Banner Advertising

#### Recommendations

- Explore locations for community events banners in WSC.
- Develop guidelines for community event promotion.





## SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

# 4.5 WENTWORTH LGA BOUNDARY ENTRY SIGNS

## WENTWORTH COUNCIL BOUNDARY ENTRY SIGNS

Local government boundary entry signs clearly mark the entry points into a specific local government area or municipality. They help residents, visitors, and travellers know when they are entering or leaving a particular jurisdiction. This geographic identification is essential for navigation and understanding the administrative boundaries of a region.

Local government boundary entry signs play a multifaceted role in governance, administration, and community identity. They provide valuable information to residents and visitors while assisting local governments in their responsibilities, from resource allocation to emergency response and beyond.

**Wentworth Council entry signs** - These signs all carry the old logo and are generally well past their use by date. WSC successful re-brand will require these signs to be replaced. These signs are located on LGA entry points on Sturt Hwy, Silver City Hwy, Pooncarie Rd and Renmark Rd. Notably there are no boundary entry statements on the Atumpo Rd.

**Welcome to Oasis Country** - This sign is located on Sturt Hwy, east of Gol Gol.

### Recommendation

- Replace all Shire entry signs.
- Determine if the Sunraysia Oasis entry sign is still relevant, if not remove it.



Sturt Hwy, Wentworth LGA Boundary entry sign



Pooncarie Rd, Wentworth LGA Boundary entry sign



Old Welcome to Oasis Country boundary markers on the Sturt Hwy east of Gol Gol



Balranald boundary sign and LGA boundary markers



South Australia border sign, Renmark Rd

## SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

## 4.6 WENTWORTH TOWN ENTRY STATEMENTS



## WENTWORTH TOWN ENTRY STATEMENTS

Wentworth Shire's town entry statements can be split into two groups. The eastern side of the shire is signed with large two pole structures that feature a previous tourist branding style "Worth the Drive". These signs are featured at the entry to Gol Gol, Buroonga and Dareton. On the western side of Wentworth Shire a different style is used based around a previous marketing theme "Wentworth Region". The sign design is themed around the shape of NSW with Murray River making up the southern boundary. Both sign styles have no commonality which makes one wonder what was the overall plan and why was a second sign style developed?

Wentworth has recently re-branded and all signage will eventually need to be replaced. Of course it would be great to replace all town entry signage with the new branding but with budget constraints and other demands this is unlikely to happen. Therefore WSC needs to decide which way to proceed, this could be complete replacement, re-skin existing signs or a combination of both.

When an LGA re-brands the new logo and associated branding generally has a lifespan of 15-20 years. A marketing campaign and associated slogans generally have a maximum lifespan of five years. Therefore marketing slogans and associated brand styling should not be incorporated into long term fixtures such as LGA signage.

As an extension of the Wentworth LGA re-brand WSC needs to prioritise the design and development of a signage style guide. A signage style guide is the recipe book for all signage design within Wentworth Shire.

## Principals and guidelines

- 1. Community** - Community buy-in must be sought at the start of the process. It cannot be underestimated the importance of getting the community engaged and involved in these type of projects. This will help achieve a successful outcome.
- 2. Design** - Create a memorable design that visitors will recognise and establish the connection between the entry statements and the broader Hilltops experience. Local materials should be sourced whenever possible.
- 3. Size and scale** - They should be of an appropriate scale for the size of the location and be able to be seen from a reasonable distance (about 200 meters) by people traveling in vehicles.
- 4. Visibility** - Lighting and power supply e.g. mains power or solar should be carefully considered for night time viewing.
- 5. Site location** - Locations should be chosen so the entry statement can be clearly viewed but is not a distraction or safety hazard for motorists. Entry signs should not interfere with other road safety and regulatory signs and be placed in locations to convey a positive image of the location.

- 6. Construction** - High quality construction and use of materials that are durable, high quality and replaceable.

## Recommendation

- Replace or re-skin all WSC town entry statements with signage that reflect the new WSC corporate brand and secondary graphics.
- Develop a Wentworth Shire signage style guide.



## SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

# 4.7 WENTWORTH VISITOR INFORMATION BOARDS

### WENTWORTH VISITOR INFORMATION BOARDS

In certain circles, visitor information boards are viewed as somewhat outdated in the age of on-line content. However, it's important to recognise that well-maintained, up-to-date visitor information boards still hold value within the tourism information tool-kit. Two critical factors contribute to the success of these boards: currency and strategic placement.

**Currency of information:** Visitor information boards typically convey two main types of information – details about attractions and essential services. Attractions, especially those of a natural or heritage nature, tend to remain consistent over time. However, it's the information regarding tourism services such as tour operators, restaurants, and accommodations that often becomes outdated due to the dynamic nature of the tourism industry. To address this, we recommend focusing on digital platforms for tourism service details, accessible via QR codes or website URLs. This on-line information can be seamlessly integrated into the LGA tourism website, allowing for easy management and quick updates as needed. Typically, information managed in this manner remains relevant for up to five years, after which time, the physical panels will also require replacement.

**Strategic Placement:** An essential consideration is determining the most effective locations to engage with the visiting public. It's worth noting that not every traveller passing through the LGA will visit a Visitor Information Centre. Hilltops has recently made improvements to several in-town rest areas, often equipped with amenities like toilets and picnic shelters. These rest areas are frequently sought out by travellers as convenient places to take a break. Therefore, they serve as ideal locations to install visitor information boards. By doing so, casual visitors have the opportunity to discover attractions they may not have previously considered or were unaware of, enhancing their overall experience.

In conclusion, while the digital age has transformed how we access information, visitor information boards, when properly maintained with up-to-date information and strategically placed, remain a valuable tool for enhancing the tourism experience in the Wentworth region.

#### Principals and guidelines

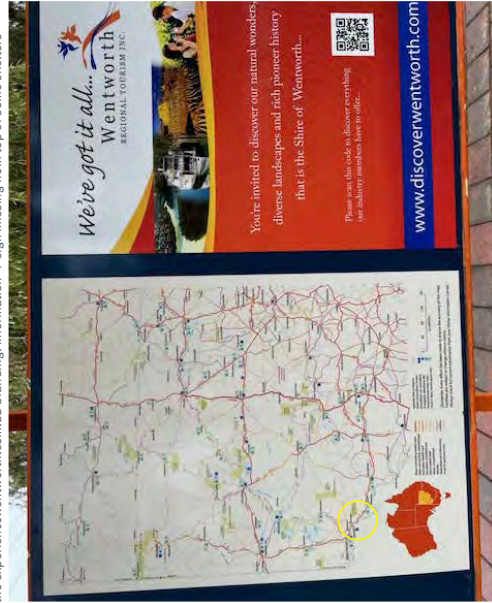
Visitor Information Boards should contain the following information:

**Be on brand** – The design and layout should reflect the tourism brand and style adopted by WSC.

**Develop a suite** – There should be a suite of sizes and types so that information can be provided in staggered and complementary ways. For example, near the entry to the Shire, large boards with comprehensive information should be provided, medium sized boards can be used in larger towns and smaller ones can be used in small towns and villages.



Wentworth, Silver City Hwy north, Visitor Information Bay. End panels should be updated to reflect the experiencewentworth.com.au branding. Information "I" sign missing from top of some shelters



Orientation - The regional map should contain a "You are here" pin for visitors to better orientate themselves



Gol Gol, Sturt Hwy, Visitor Information Bay - One size does not fit all. The Gol Gol town map should feature as the main map



Pooncarie VIB in need of replacement



SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

# 4.7 WENTWORTH VISITOR INFORMATION BOARDS

- Locations** – Locate Visitor Information Boards in conjunction with access to facilities (eg: toilets and rest areas) as this is a good way to get people to stop and check out what’s on offer in Wentworth.
- Content** – The key requirements for a Visitor Information Board are broken down into three basic categories:
- What can I see & do? (local history & attractions, activities & events, walk & drive trails),
  - What services & facilities are available? (services & amenities, accommodation options, key contacts - link to Wentworth’s tourism website via QR Code and/or URL)
  - How do I find what I’m looking for? (local area and regional maps).

The most important thing when planning the content for a Visitor Information Board is to ask yourself “Is this information relevant to visitors?”

**Advertising** – If Wentworth’s VIB’s are to include advertising, guidelines should be established and all artwork approved before an advertising panel is approved for production and installation. All advertising should be for a set period of time and renewable every twelve months.

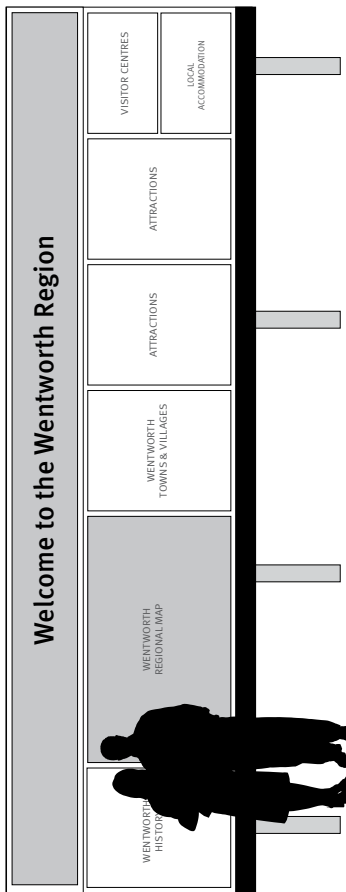
**NOTE:** Generally we recommend against advertising as the return on investment is usually not worth the hassle of chasing up advertisers for print suitable content.

**Maintenance** – Implement an annual maintenance schedule for all of your Visitor Information Boards.

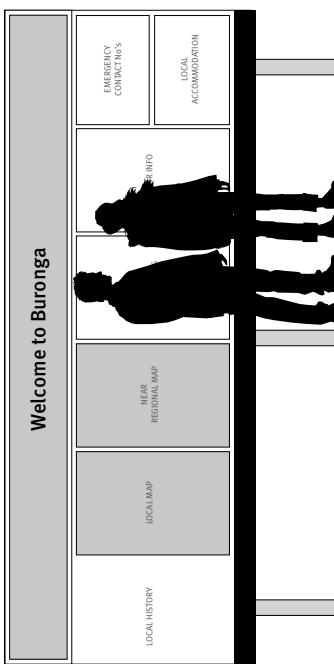
Recommendation

- Redesign the VIB maps to take into account the points we’ve made in this section.
- Install advance warning and positional signs for all VIB locations
- Replace the Pooncarie VIB.

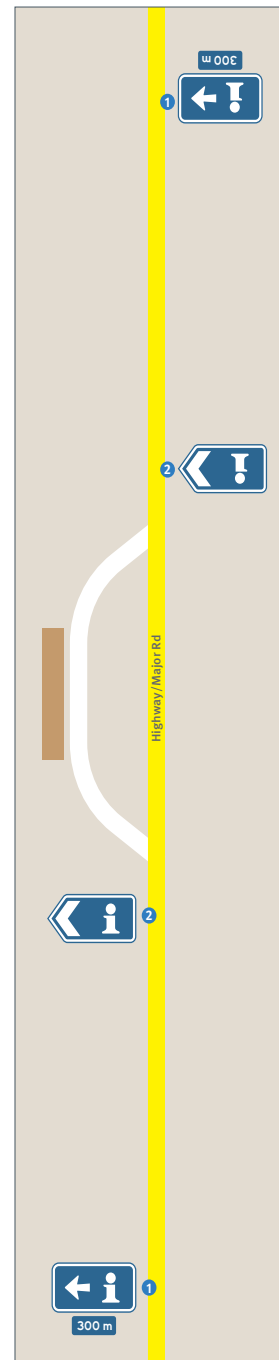
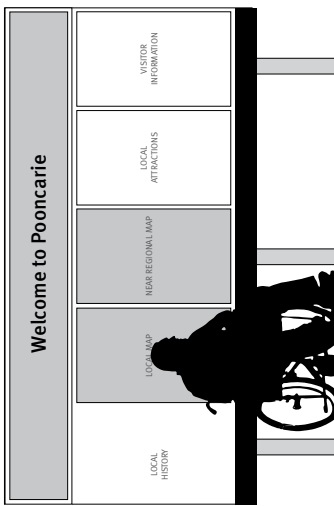
Example 1 - TIER 1 - Main entry points visitor information boards 6.0m X 1.5m



Example 2 - TIER 2 - Large Town Visitor Information Boards 4.0m X 1.5m



Example 3 - TIER 3 - Village Visitor Information Boards 3.0m X 1.5m



Example – Correct signage for directions to roadside Visitor Information Bays

## SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

### 4.8 WENTWORTH VISITOR CENTRE

#### WENTWORTH VISITORS CENTRE

Wentworth has an accredited visitor information centre in Wentworth located on Darling St. This centre is well staffed and carries all local and regional visitor information. The centre is well signed from both north and east approaches to Wentworth. Although well signed, there is no consistency in sign style with different sign types being used throughout the town. In some instances a larger "Yellow i" sign has been attached alongside the original Yellow i. Signage at the actual centre is a mix of a pole sign, an A frame and a banner flag. There is an actual sign board but it's so small that it is easily overlooked - hence the temporary signage.

The centre will relocate across the road when the new shire offices open so any signage for the new visitor information centre will become part of the new Wentworth signage plan (see recommendations page 36).

#### Recommendation

- Develop a new signage plan for all of Wentworth's brown attractions and blue services.
- Review and update information on the Experience Wentworth website.
- Develop new maps and brochures for for Thegoa Lagoon, Wentworth Cemetery and Perry Sand Hills.





## SECTION 4. THE DESTINATION SIGNAGE SYSTEM

## 4.9 WENTWORTH INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE

**WENTWORTH INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE**

Interpretation is the act of explaining, re-framing, or otherwise showing your own understanding of something. Good quality interpretation raises awareness of the history, culture and experiences of a place. Good interpretation is a key plank in good tourism experiences. It can lead to repeat visitation and also positive endorsements (through word of mouth and social media sharing platforms). This is particularly important with sites like Trip Advisor where photos and comments can be posted instantly and shared with friends.

Interpretation in WSC is a very mixed bag. The majority of interpretation work in this area was carried out at a community level, leading to a wide array of styles and applications. In numerous cases, an excessive amount of detail has been incorporated, often resulting in sub-par writing and design. Unfortunately, a significant number of interpretive panels have become faded and are swiftly approaching their expiration date, necessitating replacement (see audit doc).

**Principals and Guidelines**

There are six basic steps to follow for a high-quality interpretive experience.

- 1. Planning** – Planning is the KEY to using limited resources effectively and to producing attractive, quality signs and creating a worthwhile experience. What is the purpose of the experience? What do you want people to learn?
- 2. Content** – The written content and images must be interesting and engaging. A professional writer with experience in researching and writing interpretive content should be engaged.
- 3. Design** – Engage a professional graphic designer with experience in interpretive signage design to work with you on this step. They will understand how to make the layout interesting and easy to read.  
**NOTE - Always ensure that WSC retains full ownership of all artwork and it is properly archived. This will make it much easier to produce replacement panels.**
- 4. Materials and fabrication** – Consider the final selection of the sign materials based on the environment, durability, ease of maintenance and longevity along with the fit and requirements for the type of experience at the site. For example,

drive trails will have different needs, options and opportunities to say, a historic site. Consider using local materials such as stone or timber whenever possible and is cost effective.

- 5. Installation** – This stage should be carefully planned and managed by the signage contractor and the designer to ensure the process is safe, efficient and there is minimal disruption to the public. This stage should not be left to an installer without clear instructions or direction.

- 6. Maintenance** – The need for maintenance and cleaning is often overlooked. This will affect the life of the sign and give visitors a negative impression of the place and experience. It simply doesn't make sense to invest time, effort and money in an interpretive signage project to then neglect its maintenance. Establishing roles/agreement and resources needed for maintenance of signage should be established during planning phase.

**Recommendations**

Develop guidance for community groups to assist them with developing effective interpretation of the area that could include:

- Encouraging creative alternatives to interpretive signage that do not involve panels of information.
- Criteria for when interpretive signage would be supported e.g. significant story and interesting to a wide audience.
- Text must be professionally written.
- Must be professionally designed.
- Specifications for materials that should be used.
- Installation must be compliant with relevant Australian standards.
- Clear agreement on maintenance responsibilities and ownership of interpretive signs.
- Templates for interpretive panels.
- Location principles e.g. accessible, does not deter from visual amenity.



Wentworth Wharf - Interp damaged and in need of cleaning



Great Anabranch Interp at 1 to mile bridge, Renmark Rd



Indigenous Interp, Fotherby Park, Wentworth



Wentworth town Interpretive - This interpretation is in a very poor state



The only Interp we sighted with the new logo, WSC needs to develop an overall style for Interp and replace as required



Damaged Interp Sturt Hwy, Monak



## SECTION 5 - IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGY



## SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGY

Actions will be rolled out progressively and subject to funding and resources. Wentworth Shire Council will seek funding opportunities to implement the Strategy where budgets do not allow for them.

Some of the actions and recommendations require a significant commitment of resources, will require time to plan and consult with the community. But, there are some actions that could result in substantial improvements and

address the issues raised in the community consultations that Wentworth Shire Council can implement in the near future to begin to progress this Strategy. Quick wins are identified in the implementation table.

Page No./ Strategy Section	Action Ref	Actions/Recommendations	Priority	Indicative Timeframe to start	Indicative Costs	Quick Wins	Financial years	Responsibility
Page 11 - 2.3 Signage Policies & Guidelines	1	WSC to develop a council signage policy, signage guidelines and an application process.	High	Immediate	N/A	No	2024/25	WSC
	2	WSC to review all of their shire signage to bring them into alignment with this strategy.						
	3	Conduct regular audits of tourist, services and community signs against Council's signage Policy (to be developed) and progressively remove signage that is not compliant.						
	4	Develop a signage style guide to address all signage needs across the LGA including parks, facilities, entry statements etc.	Medium	12 months	\$25,000	No	2025/26	
	5	WSC to establish a formal committee, made up of representatives from WSC and local tourism groups to manage all aspects of tourism signage within WSC.	Low	24 Months	N/A	No	2026/27	
Page 22 - 3.3 Green Directional Signs	6	Review intersections with large sign clusters and consolidate signage structure.	Medium	Ongoing	\$15,000 pa	No	Annually	WSC/TfNSW
	7	Conduct a regular asset review of all WSC controlled road signage						WSC
	8	Replace damaged and faded signs						WSC/TfNSW
Page 23 - 3.3 Brown Tourist Signs	9	Review all institutions/attractions and tourist drives with brown tourist signs to determine if they are lawful and meet Destination NSW guidelines eligibility criteria.	Medium	Ongoing	\$10,000 pa	No	Annually	WSC/TfNSW
	10	Replace damaged and faded signs.						
Page 24 - 3.3 Blue Directional Signs	11	Standardisation - Develop a standardised design for blue signs, include the use of Australian Standard service symbols.	Medium	Ongoing	\$15,000 pa	No	Annually	WSC/TfNSW
	12	Replace damaged and faded signs.						
	13	Rework the Wentworth Trail into two trails, one a drive trail and the other a walk trail.	Low	24 Months	\$5,000	No	2026/27	WSC
Page 25 - 3.4 Tourist Drives	14	Investigate the development of an all day loop trail through Wentworth Shire beginning and finishing in Wentworth.	Low	24 Months	\$25,000	Yes	2026/27	WSC
	15	Old Wentworth Gap - Install new positional signs with the AS symbol for historic site in front of this attraction.	Medium	12 months	\$500.00	No	2025/26	WSC
	16	Wentworth Pioneer Museum - Install new positional signs with the AS symbol for museum in front of this attraction.	Medium	12 months	\$500.00	Yes	2024/25	WSC
	17	Wentworth Pioneer Museum - Update the Experience Wentworth website to include a proper overview of the museum and its opening hours.	High	Immediate	N/A	Yes	2024/25	WSC
	18	Wentworth Military Collection/Museum - Install a double sided brown positional sign with the AS symbol for museum in front of the attraction.	Medium	12 months	\$500.00	Yes	2024/25	WSC

## SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGY

Page No./ Strategy Section	Action Ref	Actions/Recommendations	Priority	Indicative Timeframe to start	Indicative Costs	Quick Wins	Financial Years	Responsibility
Page 33/34 - 3.5 Tourist Attractions	18	Wentworth Military Collection/Museum - Install a double sided brown positional sign with the AS symbol for museum in front of the attraction.	Medium	12 months	\$500.00	Yes	2024/25	WSC
	19	Riverboat Rods Paddle Steamer Display - Work with the owner to improve property signage including images of the displays' paddle steamer collection.	Low	24 Months	\$1,500.00	Yes	2026/27	WSC
	20	Wentworth Wharf - Clean all interpretive signage.	Medium	12 months	\$1,000.00	Yes	2025/26	WSC
	21	Wentworth Wharf - Update the Experience Wentworth website to list Wentworth Wharf on the "See & Do" page of the website.	High	Immediate	N/A	Yes	2024/25	WSC
	22	John Egge Statue - Install a proper interpretive panel and pedestal at John Egge's statue location.	Medium	12 months	\$1,500	No	2025/26	WSC
	23	Fotherby Park - This park has multiple attractions. Better directional signage to the attractions within the park should be installed.	High	Immediate	N/A	Yes	2024/25	WSC
	24	Fotherby Park - Replace the current entry directional sign with the correct chevron type sign (see page 13). The new sign should incorporate the AS symbols for visitor information, historic site and toilets.	High	Immediate	\$250	Yes	2024/25	WSC
	25	Possum Statue - Improve the audio interp at the Possum Statue by re-skinning the audio push button panel.	Medium	12 months	\$1,500.00	Yes	2025/26	WSC
	26	Murray Darling Junction Walk - Replace advance warning sign on Silver City Hwy with a more simplified sign taking advantage of AS symbols instead of text.	Medium	12 months	\$1,500.00	No	2025/26	WSC
	27	PS Ruby Paddle Steamer - This attraction should be sub-listed under Fotherby Park main sign (see point 11.)	Medium	12 months	N/A	Yes	2025/26	WSC
	28	PS Ruby Paddle Steamer - Review and replace interpretive signage at this location.	Medium	12 months	\$1,500.00	No	2025/26	WSC
	29	Lock 10 and Weir - Install directional signage to Capt. Charles Sturt Monument.	Medium	12 months	\$500.00	No	2025/26	WSC
	30	Thegoa Lagoon - This attraction needs a complete site audit and an assessment made on whether to do a complete overhaul or remove it as an attraction. If WSC wishes to keep Thegoa Lagoon as an attraction considerable work will be required.	Low	24 Months	N/A	No	2026/27	WSC
	31	Thegoa Lagoon - Interpretive node/trailhead. The existing interpretive node should be repositioned at the northern end of West St and the Cemetery car park as this is the obvious starting point for this attraction. This location could also be used as a distribution point for maps of the lagoon and its attractions.	Low	24 Months	\$10,000.00	No	2026/27	WSC
	32	Thegoa Lagoon - Develop a new brochure and map for this attraction using AS symbols and route markers. The current brochure has far too much information for the casual visitor a lot of which could be made available on line.	Low	24 Months	\$2,000.00	No	2026/27	WSC
	33	Perry Sandhills - This attraction is currently over-signed. Directional signage should be rationalised to begin at the Silver City Hwy/Renmark Rd intersection. At the Renmark Rd/Perry Sandhills access road the current directional sign should double sided (currently only single sided).	Medium	12 months	\$2,500	Yes	2024/25	WSC
	34	Perry Sandhills - Develop a trailhead sign to make visitors more aware of what attractions are here, and what route is suitable for 2WD access. Provide an overview map of the whole attraction.	Medium	12 months	\$3,000	No	2025/26	WSC



## SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGY

Page No./ Strategy Section	Action Ref	Actions/Recommendations	Priority	Indicative Timeframe to start	Indicative Costs	Quick Wins	Financial Years	Responsibility
	35	Murray Darling Junction Park and Viewing Platform - List this attraction on the Experience Wentworth website under the "See and Do" section	High	Immediate	\$2,500	N/A	2024/25	WSC
	36	Wentworth Cemetery Walk - As per Thegoa Lagoon this attraction would benefit from having a trailhead and interpoint at the cemetery entrance. This could be a shared trailhead with the repositioned Thegoa Interpretive node/trailhead. This would also encourage crossover visitations at these two attractions.	Low	24 Months	\$2,500.00	No	2026/27	WSC
	37	BMEET Gallery - If this gallery can be encouraged to alter its opening days (5 days including both weekend days) then brown tourist signs should be installed. If not a blue double-sided positional sign should be installed with the gallery name.	Medium	12 months	\$2,500.00	No	2025/26	WSC
	38	Australian Inland Botanic Gardens - Install brown directional sign at the Silver City/Calder Hwy intersection.	Medium	12 months	\$2,500.00	No	2025/26	WSC/TINNSW
	39	Australian Inland Botanic Gardens - Reposition and re-sign reassurance signs to within 500m of either end of River Rd/Silver City Hwy. Replace the fingerboard sign at the Silver City Hwy/Link Rd intersection.	Low	24 Months	\$5,000.00	No	2026/27	WSC
	40	Varapodio Estate - Work with this business to apply for brown tourist signs. Encourage business to improve property signage.	Low	24 Months	\$5,000.00	No	2026/27	WSC/TINNSW
	41	Buronga River Front Adventure Play and Pump Track - Determine whether this park is a tourist attraction or community facility, sign accordingly.	Low	24 Months	\$2,500.00	No	2026/27	WSC/TINNSW
	42	Orange World - Work with this business to clean up the car park area. Install double-sided directional signs at the Silver City Hwy/Link Rd intersection. Install brown advance warning signs zoom on either side of the Silver City Hwy/Link Rd intersection. Install double-sided directional signs at the River/Link Rd intersection.	Low	24 Months	\$10,000.00	No	2026/27	WSC/TINNSW
	43	Mungo National Park - Replace faded and damaged brown directional signs (refer to audit document).	Medium	12 months	\$7,000.00	No	2025/26	WSC/NSW Parks
	44	Kemendok National Park - Install directional signage from Stuart Hwy to the park entrance.	Low	24 Months	\$5,000.00	Yes	2026/27	WSC/NSW Parks
	45	Lake Victoria - Work with SA Water to replace faded and damaged interpretive signage at Lake Victoria Lookout. Install a double-sided brown positional sign with the AS Lookout symbol. Remove the current visitor information signs.	Medium	12 months	\$5,000.00	No	2025/26	WSC/SA Water
	46	Drings Hill Reserve Lookout - Install a brown double-sided positional sign adjacent to the Lookout with the AS symbol for Lookout. Cut back trees at the lookout point.	Medium	12 months	\$1,500.00	Yes	2024/25	WSC/TINNSW
	47	Dareton Centenary Interpretation - Install a brown double-sided positional sign adjacent to the Tapio Park entrance.	Medium	12 months	\$1,500.00	Yes	2024/25	WSC/TINNSW
	48	Coomaalla Lions Park - Install advance warning and blue double-sided positional sign adjacent to the Lions Park entrance. Replace old interpretive signage.	Medium	12 months	\$5,000.00	No	2025/26	WSC/TINNSW
	49	Experience Wentworth website - review the entire website. Simplify and streamline the attractions pages on the website.	High	Ongoing	N/A	Yes	2024/25	WSC
Page 35 - 3.6 Historical Town Accreditation	50	Explore the process of applying for Wentworth to obtain historic town accreditation.	Low	24 Months	N/A	No	2026/27	C/Destination N

## SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGY

Page No./ Strategy Section	Action Ref	Actions/Recommendations	Priority	Indicative Timeframe to start	Indicative Costs	Quick Wins	Financial Years	Responsibility
Page 37 - 3.7 Town Visitor Services	51	Wentworth - Develop a new town signage plan for access routes to tourist attractions, the VIC, town services and designate car/caravan parking. Consolidate all blue signage and use Australian Standard Symbols. Rationalise new signage information to "Is this information important to visitors?"	Medium	12 months	\$25,000.00	No	2025/26	External Consultant
	52	Gol Gol - Install advance warning and positional signs for James King Park, James King Park Rest Area and the Silver City Hwy Buronga Rest Area.	Medium	12 months	\$10,000.00	Yes	2024/25	WSC/TINSW
	53	Burong - Silver City Hwy, Install a large public toilet positional sign (eastbound) adjacent to the public toilets near the Scout Hall.	Medium	12 months	\$500.00	Yes	2024/25	WSC/TINSW
	54	Dareton - Install advance warning and replace positional signs for Lions Park.	Medium	12 months	\$5,000.00	No	2025/26	WSC/TINSW
	55	Dareton - Install advance warning and replace positional signs for Coomealla Golf Course and Dareton boat ramp.	Medium	12 months	\$5,000.00	No	2025/26	WSC/TINSW
	56	Dareton - Reposition the RV dump point sign closer to the Silver City Hwy roadway.	Medium	12 months	\$500.00	Yes	2024/25	WSC/TINSW
	57	Dareton - Install a double-sided positional sign for Tapio Park facilities.	Medium	12 months	\$1,500.00	Yes	2024/25	WSC/TINSW
	58	Dareton - Reposition the Tapio/Neilpo public toilet sign closer to the Silver City Hwy roadway.	Medium	12 months	\$500.00	Yes	2024/25	WSC/TINSW
	59	Pooncarie - Install town service advance warning signs 2 km on either side of Pooncarie.	Medium	12 months	\$10,000.00	Yes	2024/25	WSC/TINSW
	60	Pooncarie - Install a new double-poled sign structure at the Tarcoola/McKinley St intersection.	Medium	12 months	\$1,500.00	Yes	2024/25	WSC/TINSW
Page 44 - 3.8 Accommodation Signs	61	Pooncarie - Replace blue directional sign panels at the Tarcoola/ Cemetery Rd intersection.	Medium	12 months	\$5,000.00	No	2025/26	WSC/TINSW
	62	Pooncarie - Replace blue fingerboard sign with a proper directional sign at the campground turn-off on Cemetery Rd.	Medium	12 months	\$1,500.00	Yes	2024/25	WSC
Page 46 - 3.9 Caravan & Camping	63	Develop a policy for correctly signing this type of business.	Low	24 Months	N/A	No	2026/27	WSC
	64	Audit all businesses of this type to ensure they fit within the TINSW guidelines and sign accordingly. Remove redundant signs. Replace all incorrect signs.	Medium	Ongoing	N/A	No	2025/26	WSC
Page 47 - 3.10 Wentworth RV Dump Points	65	Dareton - Install advance warning and directional signage at Coomealla Caravan Park.	Medium	12 months	\$5,000.00	Yes	2024/25	WSC/TINSW
	66	Pooncarie - Replace all old timber slab signage at Pooncarie Multi-Purpose Park	Medium	12 months	\$10,000.00	Yes	2024/25	WSC
	67	Pooncarie - Install new RV dump point directional sign at the entrance to the Wakefield Oval/Pooncarie Caravan Park. (Combine with line item 62)	Low	24 Months	N/A	No	2026/27	WSC
Page 47 - 3.10 Wentworth RV Dump Points	68	Dareton - Reposition the RV dump point closer to the Tapio St roadway.	Low	24 Months	\$1,500.00	Yes	2024/25	WSC
	69	Wentworth - Re-plan directional signage to the dump point from Beverley St. (Combine with line item 51)						
	70	Gol Gol - Investigate the installation of an RV dump point in Gol Gol or Buronga.	Low	24 Months	N/A	No	2026/27	WSC
	71	RV Dump Points - List WSC Free RV dump points on the Sanidumps website (www.sanidumps.com)	High	Immediate	N/A	Yes	2024/25	WSC



## SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGY

Page No. / Strategy Section	Action Ref	Actions/Recommendations	Priority	Indicative Timeframe to start	Indicative Costs	Quick Wins	Financial Years	Responsibility
Page 48 - 3.11 Wentworth RV Friendly Town Status	72	Apply for RV Friendly Town Accreditation for Wentworth	Medium	12 months	N/A	No	2025/26	WSC/CMCA
	73	Remove RV Friendly Destination signs - This program no longer supported by CMCA	Low	24 Months	N/A	No	2026/27	WSC
Page 49 - 3.12 Wentworth Reserves & Rest Areas	74	Audit services and facilities available at each rest area and reserves	High	Ongoing	N/A	Yes	2024/25	WSC
	75	Plan and install advance warning and directional signage for all rest areas with the correct AS symbols.	Medium	12 months	\$30,000.00	No	2025/26	WSC/TINSW
Page 50 - 3.13 Wentworth Park & Facility Signage	76	Develop and adopt a signage style guide and roll out new signage across all WSC parks & facilities. (Combine with line item 4)						
Page 51 - 3.14 Wentworth Regulatory Signage	77	Develop and adopt a signage style guide and roll out new regulatory signage across WSC. (Combine with line item 4)						
Page 53 - 4.2 Wentworth Promotional Billboards	78	Update billboards annually with fresh images and messaging	Medium	12 months	\$20,000.00	No	2025/26	External Consultant
	79	Explore the development of this form of destination marketing with Wentworth/Mildura Transport Operators.	Low	24 Months	\$30,000.00	No	2026/27	External Consultant
Page 56 - 4.3 Wentworth Major Event Promotions	80	Install banner flags at other Wentworth locations.	Low	24 Months	\$15,000 p/unit	no	2026/27	External Consultant
Page 57 - 4.4 Wentworth Community Events Promotion	81	Explore locations for community event banners and develop clear guidelines for their use.	Low	24 Months	N/A	No	2026/27	WSC
Page 58 - 4.5 Wentworth LGA Boundary Entry Signs	82	Replace all WSC LGA Entry Signs	Medium	12 months	\$10,000 p/unit	Yes	2024/25	WSC
Page 59 - 4.6 Wentworth Town Entry Statements	83	Replace or re-skin all WSC town entry statements with signage that reflect the new WSC corporate brand and secondary graphics.	Low	24 Months	N/A	No	2026/27	WSC
Page 61 - 4.7 Wentworth Visitor Information Boards	84	Install advance warning and positional signs for all Visitor Information Bay locations	Medium	12 months	\$30,000	No	2025/26	WSC
	85	Redesign the Visitor Information Bay maps (Refer to the strategy)	Medium	12 months	\$2,000	No	2025/26	External Consultant
Page 62 - 4.8 Visitor Information Centre	86	Replace the Poona Visitor Information Bay	Low	24 Months	\$35,000	No	2026/27	External Consultant
	87	Develop a new signage plan for all of Wentworth's brown attractions and blue services. (Combine with line item 51)						
	88	Review and update information on the Experience Wentworth website.	High	Ongoing	N/A	Yes	2024/25	WSC
	89	Develop new professionally produced maps and brochures for the Iagoa Lagoon, Wentworth Cemetery and Perry Sand Hills.	Low	24 Months	\$15,000	No	2026/27	External Consultant

## SECTION 5. IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGY

Page No. / Strategy Section	Action Ref	Actions/Recommendations	Priority	Indicative Timeframe to start	Indicative Costs	Quick Wins	Financial Years	Responsibility
Page 65 - 4.7 Interpretive Signage	90	Encouraging creative alternatives to interpretive signage that do not involve panels of information.						
	91	Criteria for when interpretive signage would be supported e.g. significant story and interesting to a wide audience.						
	92	Text must be professionally written.						External Consultant
	93	Must be professionally designed.						
	94	Specifications for materials that should be used.						
	95	Installation must be compliant with relevant Australian standards.						
	96	Clear agreement on maintenance responsibilities and ownership of interpretive signs.						
	97	Templates for interpretive panels.						
	98	Location principles e.g. accessible, does not deter from visual amenity.						



**9.6 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT - AUGUST 2024**

File Number: RPT/24/583

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Vanessa Lock - Finance Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring , supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

**Summary**

Rates and Charges collections for the month of August 2024 were \$3,075,366.50. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 32.91%. For comparison purposes 42.41% of the levy had been collected at the end of August 2023. Council currently has \$60,334,558.18 in cash and investments.

**Recommendation**

That Council receives and notes the Monthly Finance Report for the month of August 2024.

**Detailed Report**

The purpose of this report is to indicate to Council the position in relation to the rate of collections and the balance of cash books.

**Reconciliation and Balance of Funds held as at 31 August 2024**

The reconciliation has been carried out between the Cash Book of each fund and the Bank Pass Sheet as at 31 August 2024.

	Combined Bank Account
Cash Balance as at 1 August 2024	\$ 3,721,132.02
Add: Receipts for the Period Ending 31 August 2024 Rates, Debtors, Miscellaneous	\$ 18,175,129.56
Less: Payments for the Period Ending 31 August 2024 Cash Book entries for this Month	\$ 18,821,387.24
Cash Balance of Operating A/C as at 31 August 2024	\$ 3,074,874.34
Trust Fund Balance	\$ 1,718,643.15
Total Investments as at 31 August 2024	\$ 55,541,040.69
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE</b>	<b>\$ 60,334,558.18</b>



Collection of Rates and Charges

Rates and Charges collections for the month of August 2024 were \$ 3,075,366.50. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 32.91%. A summary of the Rates and Charges situation as at 31 August 2024 is as follows:

Note: For comparison purposes 42.41% of the levy had been collected at the end of August 2023.

LEVIES	RATES & CHARGES	
Balance Outstanding at 30 June 2024 - Rates / Water	673,790.42	
Rates and Charges Levied 22 July 2024	11,066,559.48	\$ 11,740,349.90
+ Additional Water Charges	580,784.54	
+ Supplementary Rates and Charges	6,307.16	
+ Additional Charges	9,149.97	
- Credit Adjustments	1,100.71	
- Abandonments	116.00	\$ 12,335,374.86
DEDUCTIONS		
- Payments	3,894,141.71	
- Less Refunds of Payments	4,437.06	\$ 3,889,704.65
		\$ 8,445,670.21
- Pensioner Subsidy		
Government Subsidy	93,693.25	
Council Subsidy	76,658.11	\$ 170,351.36
RATES/WATER CHARGES OUTSTANDING 31 JULY 2024		\$ 8,275,318.85

Rates/Water write offs and adjustments

The following rates or charges have been written off or adjusted under the delegated authority of the General Manager for the month of August 2024.

Account	Date	Amount	Comment
<b>Rates</b>			
1848	13/08/2024	\$ 298.31	Credit- cancelled 2nd Garbage Service
<b>Debtors</b>			
Mildura Waste & Recycling	12/08/2024	\$ 459.43	Credit- overcharged waste account

### Council Loans Report

Name	Institution	Purpose	Interest Rate	Loan Amount	Amount Outstanding	Due Date
Loan 201	National Australia Bank	Buronga Landfill	4.55% Fixed	\$ 920,000.00	\$ 82,535.04	30/01/2025
Loan 202	ANZ Bank	Civic Centre	3.47% Fixed	\$ 850,000.00	\$ 520,707.31	21/10/2026
Loan 203	National Australia Bank	Midway Centre	3.586% Fixed	\$ 1,900,000.00	\$ 1,286,085.42	1/06/2033
Loan 204	Bendigo Bank	Buronga Landfill	5.29% Fixed	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,122,320.70	12/05/2037
CFWC310604	T-Corp	Trentham Cliffs Sewer	1.82% Fixed	\$ 750,000.00	\$ 538,910.03	4/06/2031
CFWC310624	T-Corp	Burong/Gol Gol Stormwater	1.79% Fixed	\$ 1,250,000.00	\$ 898,314.37	24/06/2031
Loan 205	National Australia Bank	Willowbend Caravan Park	2.2% Fixed	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,162,068.57	25/01/2027
Loan 206	Bendigo Bank	Buronga Landfill #3	1.85% Fixed	\$ 900,000.00	\$ 555,943.94	25/09/2028
Loan 207	National Australia Bank	Willowbend Caravan Park	1.933% Fixed	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,272,549.41	31/03/2028
Loan 207	National Australia Bank	Civic Centre	1.933% Fixed	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,500,000.00	31/03/2028
CFWC440209	T-Corp	Civic Centre	5.45% Fixed	\$ 4,000,000.00	\$ 3,943,558.52	9/02/2044
CFWC440523	T-Corp	Stormwater	5.73% Fixed	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 2,000,000.00	23/05/2044
CFWC440822	T-Corp	Buronga Landfill	5.48% Fixed	\$ 12,000,000.00	\$ 12,000,000.00	22/08/2044
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 26,882,983.31</b>	

### Overtime and Travelling

Month	August	Pay Periods	3 & 4			
Overtime from	20 July 2024 to 16 August 2024					
Overtime						
	Time and a Half		Double Time		Total	2024/25 Accumulative Total
Department	Hours	Amount	Hours	Amount		
Animal Services	21.50	1,096.19	24.25	\$ 1,686.68	\$ 2,782.87	\$ 5,779.99
Assets	6.00	469.56			\$ 469.56	\$ 469.56
Building Maintenance	0.50	33.60	3.50	\$ 313.62	\$ 347.22	\$ 347.22
Civil					\$ -	\$ 1,494.02
Finance	4.00	320.97	20.25	\$ 2,167.20	\$ 2,488.17	\$ 2,796.44
GM's Office	7.50	505.15	1.00	\$ 78.66	\$ 583.81	\$ 1,601.39
Indoor Engineers	17.75	1,192.87			\$ 1,192.87	\$ 2,016.59
IT Support	10.00	844.74	22.50	\$ 2,527.33	\$ 3,372.07	\$ 3,372.07
Landfill Transfer Stations	2.00	93.50	6.50	\$ 405.15	\$ 498.65	\$ 1,227.45
Library					\$ -	\$ 374.37
Parks & Gardens	8.00	383.32	12.00	\$ 766.68	\$ 1,150.00	\$ 2,280.54
Roads - Council	379.50	18,534.81	189.50	\$ 12,499.26	\$ 31,034.07	\$ 52,910.18
Roads - RMS	3.50	163.10			\$ 163.10	\$ 163.10
Subdivision Officer	2.00	159.76			\$ 159.76	\$ 159.76
Tourism & Promotion	2.00	112.31	10.25	\$ 767.46	\$ 879.77	\$ 879.77
Water & Waste Water	67.50	3,749.27	85.50	\$ 6,607.39	\$ 10,356.66	\$ 15,932.16
Workshop					\$ -	\$ 365.12
Workshop/Mechanics	11.00	680.90			\$ 680.90	\$ 799.86
<b>Total</b>	<b>542.75</b>	<b>28,340.05</b>	<b>375.25</b>	<b>\$ 27,819.43</b>	<b>\$ 56,159.48</b>	<b>\$ 92,969.59</b>
<b>Travel Allowance</b>						
Department	Kms	Amount				
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>				
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$ 56,159.48</b>				

### Conclusion

The report indicates to Council that its finances are in a favourable position.

### Attachments

Nil

## 9.7 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2024

File Number: RPT/24/624

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Vanessa Lock - Finance Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth is a caring , supportive and inclusive community that is informed and engaged in its future

Strategy: 4.1 Provide strong and effective representation, leadership, planning, decision-making and service delivery

### Summary

Rates and Charges collections for the month of September 2024 were \$1,615,444.61. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 45.9%. For comparison purposes 47.77% of the levy had been collected at the end of September 2023. Council currently has \$60,334,558.18 in cash and investments.

### Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the Monthly Finance Report.

### Detailed Report

The purpose of this report is to indicate to Council the position in relation to the rate of collections and the balance of cash books.

### Reconciliation and Balance of Funds held as at 30 September 2024

The reconciliation has been carried out between the Cash Book of each fund and the Bank Pass Sheet as at 30 September 2024.

	Combined Bank Account
Cash Balance as at 1 September 2024	\$ 3,074,874.34
Add: Receipts for the Period Ending 30 September 2024 Rates, Debtors, Miscellaneous	\$ 5,027,343.30
Less: Payments for the Period Ending 30 September 2024 Cash Book entries for this Month	\$ 6,769,128.01
Cash Balance of Operating A/C as at 30 September 2024	\$ 1,333,089.63
Trust Fund Balance	\$ 1,718,643.15
Total Investments as at 30 September 2024	\$ 54,546,220.66
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE</b>	<b>\$ 57,597,953.44</b>

Collection of Rates and Charges

Rates and Charges collections for the month of September 2024 were \$ 1,615,444.61. After allowing for pensioner subsidies, the total levies collected are now 45.9%. A summary of the Rates and Charges situation as at 30 September 2024 is as follows:

Note: For comparison purposes 47.77% of the levy had been collected at the end of September 2023.

LEVIES	RATES & CHARGES	
Balance Outstanding at 30 June 2024 - Rates / Water	673,790.42	
Rates and Charges Levied 22 July 2024	11,066,559.48	\$ 11,740,349.90
+ Additional Water Charges	580,784.54	
+ Supplementary Rates and Charges	24,203.08	
+ Additional Charges	21,717.52	
- Credit Adjustments	4,154.44	
- Abandonments	127.91	\$ 12,362,772.69
DEDUCTIONS		
- Payments	5,509,586.32	
- Less Refunds of Payments	4,437.06	\$ 5,505,149.26
		\$ 6,857,623.43
- Pensioner Subsidy		
Government Subsidy	93,384.15	
Council Subsidy	76,405.21	\$ 169,789.36
RATES/WATER CHARGES OUTSTANDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2024		\$ 6,687,834.07

Rates/Water write offs and adjustments

The following rates or charges have been written off or adjusted under the delegated authority of the General Manager for the month of September 2024.

Account	Date	Amount	Comment
<b>Rates</b>			
898-5	16/09/2024	\$ 402.01	Exempt from General Rates - property is occupied by police
2044	25/09/2024	\$ 188.00	Incorrect water charges were calculated
88-1	16/06/2024	\$ 1,963.65	Adjusted General rate due to change of rate category



Council Loans Report

Name	Institution	Purpose	Interest Rate	Loan Amount	Amount Outstanding	Due Date
Loan 201	National Australia Bank	Buronga Landfill	4.55% Fixed	\$ 920,000.00	\$ 55,400.64	30/01/2025
Loan 202	ANZ Bank	Civic Centre	3.47% Fixed	\$ 850,000.00	\$ 508,561.95	21/10/2026
Loan 203	National Australia Bank	Midway Centre	3.586% Fixed	\$ 1,900,000.00	\$ 1,254,177.69	1/06/2033
Loan 204	Bendigo Bank	Buronga Landfill	5.29% Fixed	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,117,217.78	12/05/2037
CFWC310604	T-Corp	Trentham Cliffs Sewer	1.82% Fixed	\$ 750,000.00	\$ 538,910.03	4/06/2031
CFWC310624	T-Corp	Burong/Gol Gol Stormwater	1.79% Fixed	\$ 1,250,000.00	\$ 898,314.37	24/06/2031
Loan 205	National Australia Bank	Willowbend Caravan Park	2.2% Fixed	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,123,502.42	25/01/2027
Loan 206	Bendigo Bank	Buronga Landfill #3	1.85% Fixed	\$ 900,000.00	\$ 545,926.12	25/09/2028
Loan 207	National Australia Bank	Willowbend Caravan Park	1.933% Fixed	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,225,438.10	31/03/2028
Loan 207	National Australia Bank	Civic Centre	1.933% Fixed	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ 1,500,000.00	31/03/2028
CFWC440209	T-Corp	Civic Centre	5.45% Fixed	\$ 4,000,000.00	\$ 3,943,558.52	9/02/2044
CFWC440523	T-Corp	Stormwater	5.73% Fixed	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 2,000,000.00	23/05/2044
CFWC440822	T-Corp	Buronga Landfill	5.48% Fixed	\$ 12,000,000.00	\$ 12,000,000.00	22/08/2044
				<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 26,711,007.62</b>	

Overtime and Travelling

Month	Sept	Pay Periods	5, 6 & 7			
<b>Overtime from 17 August 2024 to 27 September 2024</b>						
<b>Overtime</b>						
	<b>Time and a Half</b>		<b>Double Time</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>2024/25 Accumulative Total</b>
<b>Department</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Amount</b>		
Animal Services	41.25	2,173.53	24.00	\$ 1,738.64	\$ 3,912.17	\$ 9,692.16
Building Maintenance	1.50	100.80	0.50	\$ 44.80	\$ 145.60	\$ 492.82
Civil	13.50	719.02	10.25	\$ 728.61	\$ 1,447.63	\$ 2,941.65
Indoor Engineers	3.25	248.29			\$ 248.29	\$ 2,264.88
IT Support	10.00	738.38	8.00	\$ 805.31	\$ 1,543.69	\$ 4,915.76
Landfill Transfer Stations	16.00	845.94	51.00	\$ 3,442.59	\$ 4,288.53	\$ 5,515.98
Parks & Gardens	17.00	855.38	20.00	\$ 1,277.80	\$ 2,133.18	\$ 4,413.72
Private Works	16.00	880.07	75.00	\$ 5,090.93	\$ 5,971.00	\$ 5,971.00
Roads - Council	621.00	30,246.63	402.00	\$ 26,263.09	\$ 56,509.72	\$ 109,419.90
Roads - RMS	6.50	294.92	20.00	\$ 1,355.96	\$ 1,650.88	\$ 1,813.98
Tourism & Promotion	5.25	294.81	6.50	\$ 486.69	\$ 781.50	\$ 1,661.27
Water & Waste Water	68.00	3,759.60	137.50	\$ 10,651.02	\$ 14,410.62	\$ 30,342.78
Workshop	9.50	588.05	3.00	\$ 247.60	\$ 835.65	\$ 1,200.77
<b>Total</b>	<b>828.75</b>	<b>41,745.42</b>	<b>757.75</b>	<b>52,133.04</b>	<b>\$ 93,878.46</b>	<b>\$ 186,848.05</b>
<b>Travel Allowance</b>						
<b>Department</b>	<b>Kms</b>	<b>Amount</b>				
Water & Waste Water	28.3	27.73				
<b>Total</b>	<b>28.3</b>	<b>27.73</b>				
<b>Grand Total 5,6 &amp; 7</b>						
		<b>\$ 93,906.19</b>				

Conclusion

The report indicates to Council that its finances are in a favourable position.

Attachments

Nil

## 9.8 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT - AUGUST 2024

File Number:	RPT/24/585
Responsible Officer:	Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy
Responsible Division:	Finance and Policy
Reporting Officer:	Bryce Watson - Accountant
Objective:	4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner
Strategy:	4.5 Adopt practices of prudent asset, financial and human resource management across Council to ensure long-term sustainability and efficiency

### Summary

As of 31 August 2024, Council had \$46 million invested in term deposits and \$14,334,558.18 in other cash investments. Council received \$160,543.26 from its investments for the month of August 2024.

In August 2024 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 5.02% and it currently has \$7,172,429.85 of internal restrictions and \$48,395,565.96 of external restrictions.

### Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the monthly investment report.

### Detailed Report

#### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the current status of its investments as required by the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) and the associated regulation.

#### Matters under consideration.

As of August 2024, Council had \$60,334,558.18 invested with Twelve (12) financial institutions and One (1) Treasury Corporation. This is an increase of \$12,359,330 from the previous month.

The investment of surplus funds remains in line with Council's Investment Policy. This ensures sufficient working capital is retained and restrictions are supported by cash and investments that are easily converted into cash.

#### Interest Received from Cash Investments in August 2024

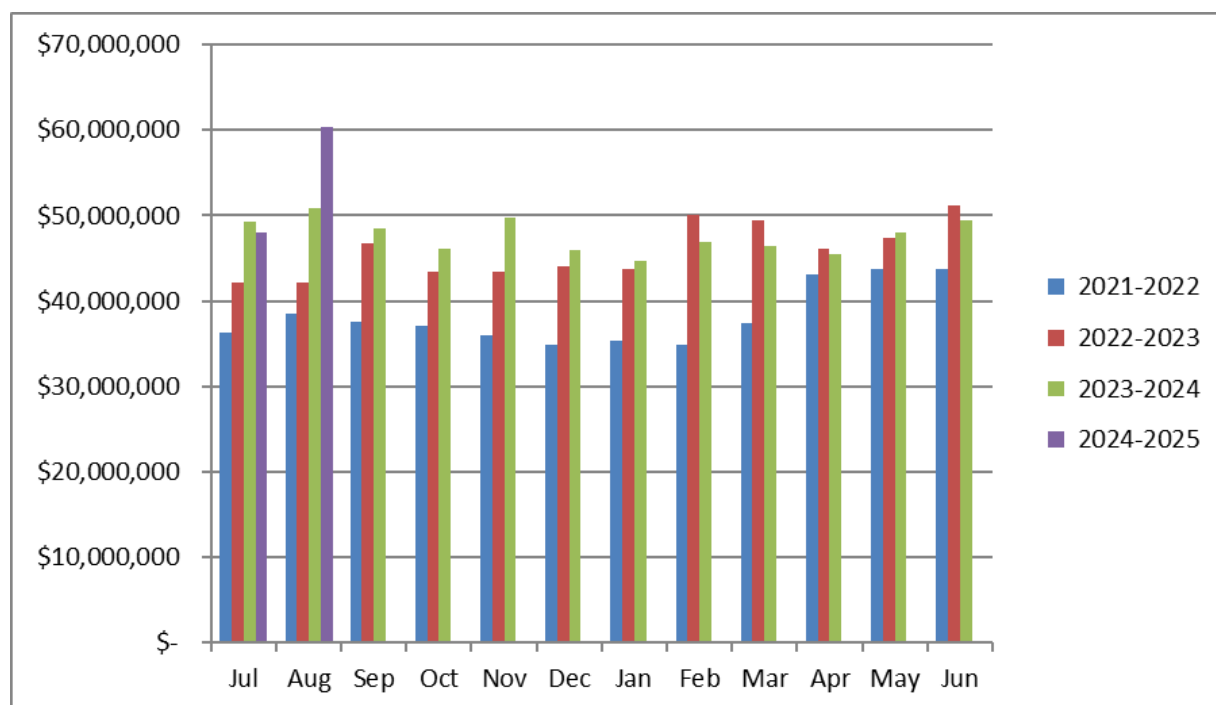
Three (3) deposits and Two (2) other account matured or provided interest in August earning Council \$160,543.26 in interest. The budget for August was \$166,667. Year to date Council has received \$291,641.89 in interest based on cash accounting. Expired investments are now shown in the attached report along with a summary of accrued interest. The budget for the financial year was set at \$2,000,000.

*\*Note the difference in interest received between this report and the Yield Hub report is from Council's at-call cash account which is paid monthly.*

Restrictions

<b>Internal Restrictions</b>		
- Employee Entitlements	\$2,300,920.90	
- Doubtful Debts	\$24,669.00	
- Future Development Reserve	\$576,217.20	
- Trust Account	\$1,770,622.65	
- Capital Projects	\$1,000,000.00	
- Plant Replacement Reserve	\$1,500,000.00	\$7,172,429.85
<b>External Restrictions</b>		
- Water Fund	\$11,855,615.30	
- Sewer Fund	\$6,276,767.05	
- T-Corp Loan Balance	\$2,496,751.02	
- Developer Contributions Reserve	\$1,085,000.00	
- Landfill Expansion Loan	\$11,810,471.71	
- Unexpended Grants	\$14,067,302.89	
- Crown Reserves Reserve	\$208,296.22	
- Prepayments Cemeteries	\$595,361.77	\$48,395,565.96
<b>Day to Day Liquidity</b>		\$4,766,562.37
<b>Total Funds Available</b>		<b>\$60,334,558.18</b>

Total Funds Invested



Summary – Unexpended Grants as at 31 August 2024

<b>Grant</b>	<b>Amount</b>
R4R Round 9	\$2,169,850.63
OLG Flood Grants	\$621,325.61
LRCIP Phase 4	\$399,596.30
Planning Cadet Grant	\$20,536.00
API Grant	\$80,000.00
Mosquito Grants	\$22,013.56
CRIF Astronomy Park	\$656,000.21
R4R Round 8	\$84,230.71
R2R	\$25,286.78
Main Roads Block Grant	\$170,293.26
Pothole Repair Program	\$162,184.56
RLRRP/ RERRF	\$7,582,380.39
FLR Round 3	\$75,156.84
Arumpo Road	\$1,888,544.27
Drought Resilience Funding	\$86,540.00
Regional Leakage Reduction Program	\$23,363.77
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$14,067,302.89</b>

Conclusion

The Director Corporate Services has certified that all investments have been made in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW), Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 and Council's Investment Policy. Council is investing its funds prudently to optimise returns and reduce exposure to risk in accordance with legislation and its own investment policy.

Attachments

1. Yeild Hub Investment Report - August 2024 [u](#)



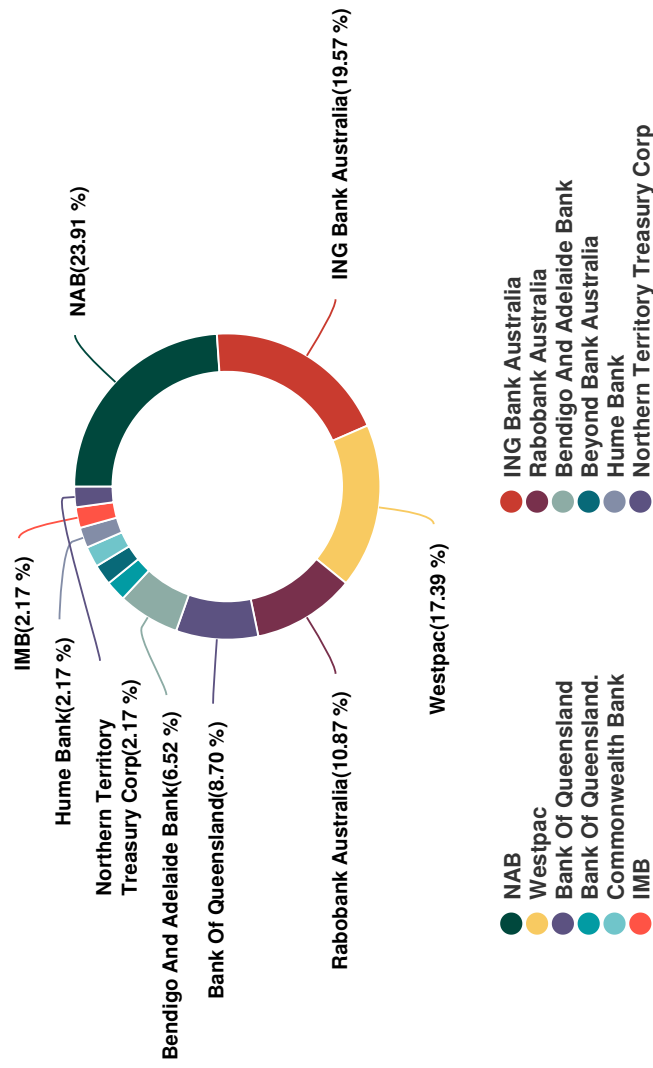


31 August 2024  
Wentworth Shire Council - Monthly Report

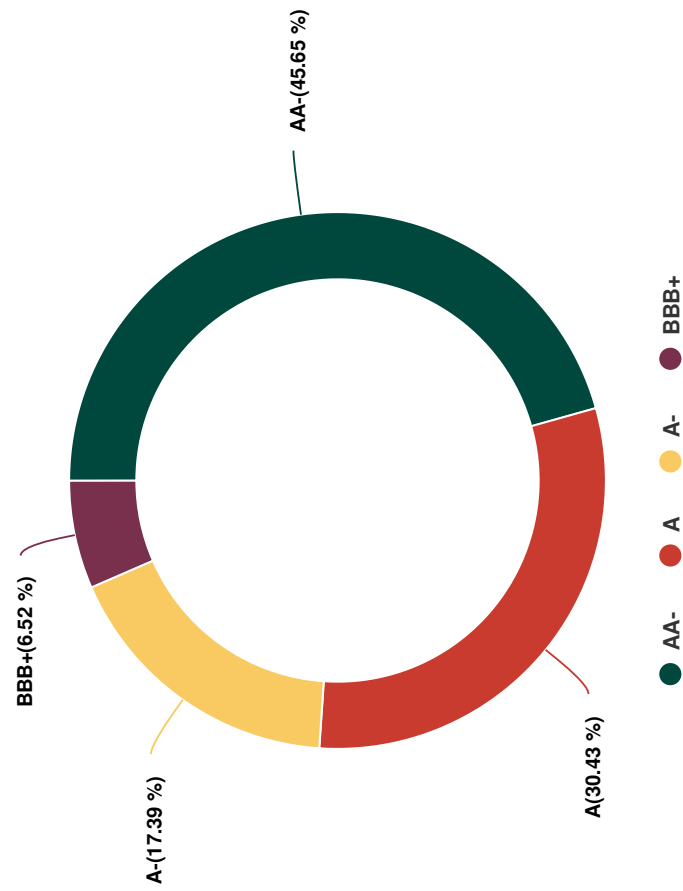
## Summary

Total Cost	\$46,000,000.00
Total Portfolio Value	\$47,082,831.77
Weighted Average Term	217
Weighted Average Yield	5.05 %
90 day BBSW	4.39 %
Unrealised Capital Gain/Loss	\$0
Total Monthly Accrued Interest	\$173,068.76
Total Interest Received this month	\$154,838.36
Total Interest Received this FY	\$260,615.35
Total Interest Expected this FY	\$2,190,181.38
Interest Payments this month	3
Matured Investments this month	3
Total Funds Matured this month	\$3,000,000.00
Investments this month	7
Total Funds Invested this month	\$7,000,000.00
Compliant Portfolio	Yes

Counterparty



## Long Term Credit Rating





## Wentworth Shire Council - Monthly Report

Report Date: 31 August 2024

Investment Type	ADI/Security Name	Amount	Settlement Date	Maturity Date	Term in Days	Yield	Short Term Rating	Long Term Rating
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	04/09/2023	03/09/2024	365	5.12 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	07/03/2024	03/09/2024	180	5.07 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	05/09/2023	04/09/2024	365	5.17 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	IMB	\$1,000,000	11/06/2024	09/09/2024	90	5.14 %	NR	NR
Term Deposit	Bank Of Queensland	\$1,000,000	14/03/2024	10/09/2024	180	5.12 %	A-2	A-
Term Deposit	Beyond Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	11/09/2023	10/09/2024	365	5.200 %	A-2	BBB+
Term Deposit	Bank Of Queensland	\$1,000,000	03/10/2023	02/10/2024	365	5.200 %	A-2	A-
Term Deposit	Hume Bank	\$1,000,000	05/10/2023	04/10/2024	365	5.25 %	NR	NR
Term Deposit	Bank Of Queensland	\$1,000,000	09/02/2024	05/11/2024	270	5.0 %	A-2	A-
Term Deposit	Bendigo And Adelaide Bank	\$1,000,000	07/03/2024	20/11/2024	258	5.03 %	A-2	A-
Term Deposit	Bendigo And Adelaide Bank	\$1,000,000	23/02/2024	20/11/2024	271	5.02 %	A-2	A-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	27/11/2023	27/11/2024	366	5.47 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	04/12/2023	03/12/2024	365	5.28 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	15/12/2023	16/12/2024	367	5.100 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	19/12/2023	18/12/2024	365	5.23 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	Bendigo And Adelaide Bank	\$1,000,000	22/12/2023	23/12/2024	367	5.0 %	A-2	A-
Term Deposit	Bank Of Queensland	\$1,000,000	01/07/2024	28/01/2025	211	5.300 %	A-2	A-
Term Deposit	Commonwealth Bank	\$1,000,000	30/01/2024	29/01/2025	365	5.02 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	09/02/2024	10/02/2025	367	5.100 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	12/02/2024	12/02/2025	366	5.15 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	12/02/2024	12/02/2025	366	5.15 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	20/02/2024	19/02/2025	365	5.14 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	27/02/2024	27/02/2025	366	5.14 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	29/02/2024	28/02/2025	365	5.14 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	11/03/2024	11/03/2025	365	5.03 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	19/03/2024	19/03/2025	365	5.13 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	02/04/2024	02/04/2025	365	5.0 %	A-1	A

## Wentworth Shire Council - Monthly Report

Report Date: 31 August 2024

Investment Type	ADI/Security Name	Amount	Settlement Date	Maturity Date	Term in Days	Yield	Short Term Rating	Long Term Rating
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$2,000,000	04/04/2024	04/04/2025	365	5.0 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	NAB	\$2,000,000	01/07/2024	14/05/2025	317	5.37 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Rabobank Australia	\$1,000,000	24/05/2024	23/05/2025	364	5.33 %	NR	A
Term Deposit	Rabobank Australia	\$1,000,000	27/08/2024	26/05/2025	272	4.95 %	NR	A
Term Deposit	Rabobank Australia	\$1,000,000	27/08/2024	26/05/2025	272	4.95 %	NR	A
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	27/05/2024	27/05/2025	365	5.27 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	Rabobank Australia	\$2,000,000	01/07/2024	25/06/2025	359	5.43 %	NR	A
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	27/06/2024	26/06/2025	364	5.47 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	26/08/2024	28/07/2025	336	4.76 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	26/08/2024	28/07/2025	336	4.76 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	27/08/2024	27/08/2025	365	4.91 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	27/08/2024	27/08/2025	365	4.91 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	28/08/2024	28/08/2025	365	4.97 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	04/01/2024	05/01/2026	732	5.14 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	Bank Of Queensland	\$1,000,000	04/12/2023	03/12/2026	1,095	5.25 %	A-2	A-
Term Deposit	Northern Territory Treasury Corp	\$1,000,000	16/09/2021	15/12/2026	1,916	1.35 %	NR	NR
		\$46,000,000						

Wentworth Shire Council - Monthly Report

Report Date: 31 August 2024

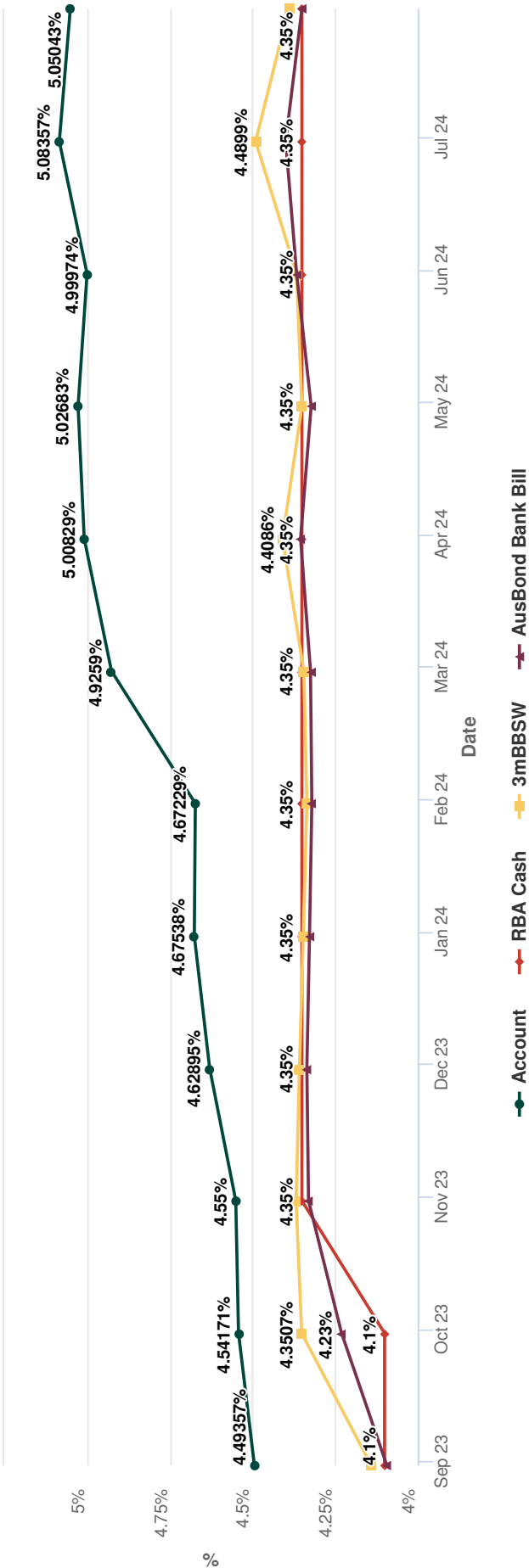
Transaction Date	Contract Number	ADI/Security Name	Type	Amount	Credit/Debit	Long Term Rating	Designation	Comments	Maturity Date
28/08/2024	066868	NAB	Interest	\$52,000	Debit	AA-	Unclassified		28/08/2024
26/08/2024	066833	Westpac	Interest	\$51,419.18	Debit	AA-	Unclassified		26/08/2024
26/08/2024	066834	Westpac	Interest	\$51,419.18	Debit	AA-	Unclassified		26/08/2024
Total				\$154,838.36					



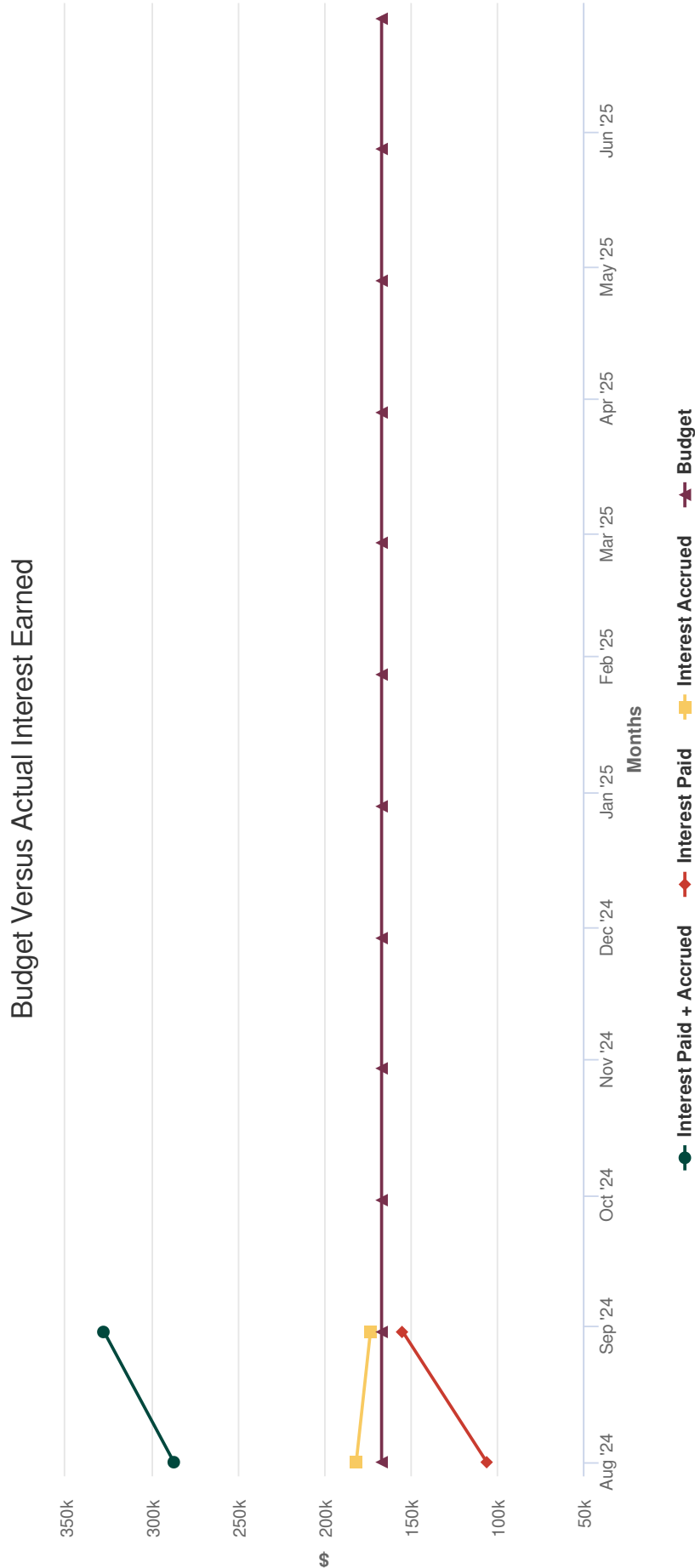
Account vs RBA Cash vs 3m BBSW vs Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index

Term	Account	RBA Cash	3m BBSW	Outperformance	AusBond Bank Bill	Outperformance
1m	5.08 %	4.35 %	4.37 %	0.70 %	4.35 %	0.73 %
3m	5.05 %	4.35 %	4.41 %	0.64 %	4.37 %	0.68 %
6m	5.00 %	4.35 %	4.38 %	0.61 %	4.35 %	0.65 %
12m	4.80 %	4.31 %	4.34 %	0.46 %	4.31 %	0.49 %

Month End Performance







## 9.9 MONTHLY INVESTMENT REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2024

File Number: RPT/24/635

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Bryce Watson - Accountant

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.5 Adopt practices of prudent asset, financial and human resource management across Council to ensure long-term sustainability and efficiency

### Summary

As of 30 September 2024, Council had \$46 million invested in term deposits and \$11,597,953.44 in other cash investments. Council received \$221,970.89 from its investments for the month of September 2024.

In September 2024 Council investments averaged a rate of return of 5.00% and it currently has \$7,195,934.85 of internal restrictions and \$46,986,532.66 of external restrictions.

### Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the monthly investment report.

### Detailed Report

#### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the current status of its investments as required by the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) and the associated regulation.

#### Matters under consideration.

As of September 2024, Council had \$57,597,953.44 invested with Twelve (12) financial institutions and One (1) Treasury Corporation. This is a decrease of \$2,736,604.74 from the previous month.

The investment of surplus funds remains in line with Council's Investment Policy. This ensures sufficient working capital is retained and restrictions are supported by cash and investments that are easily converted into cash.

#### Interest Received from Cash Investments in September 2024

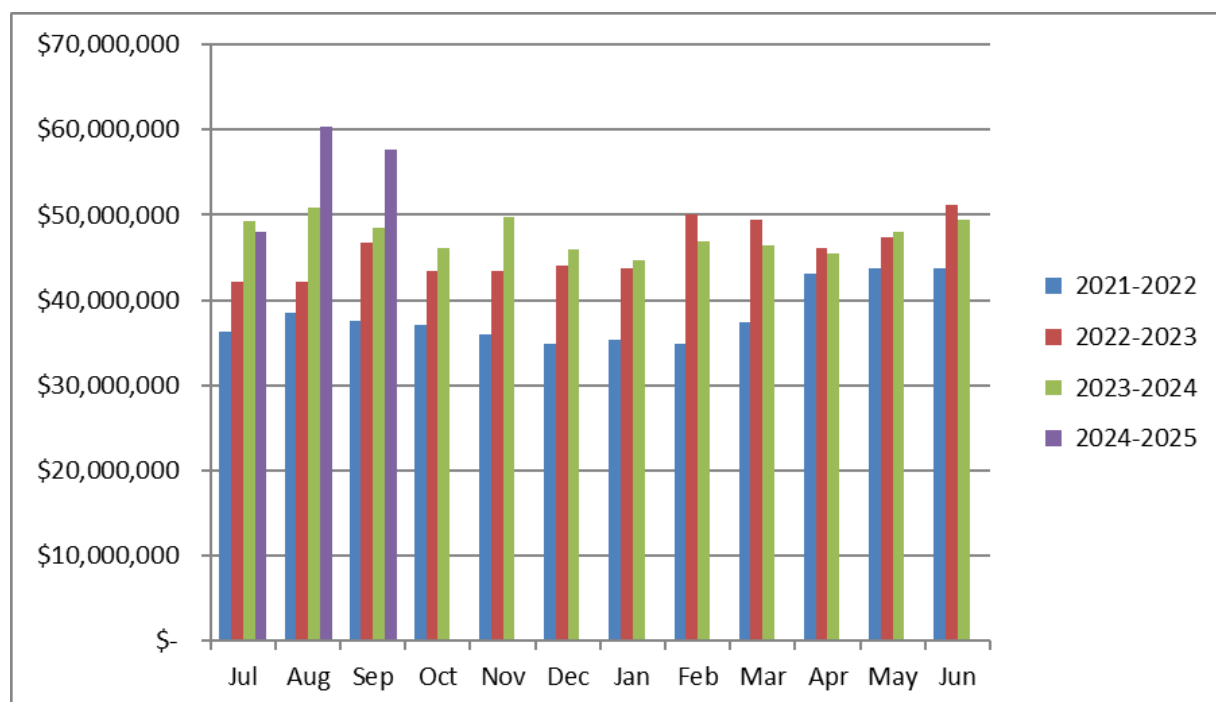
Seven (7) deposits and Two (2) other accounts matured or provided interest in September earning Council \$221,970.89 in interest. The budget for September was \$166,667. Year to date Council has received \$513,612.78 in interest based on cash accounting compared to the budget to September of \$500,000. Expired investments are now shown in the attached report along with a summary of accrued interest. The budget for the financial year was set at \$2,000,000.

*\*Note the difference in interest received between this report and the Yield Hub report is from Council's at-call cash accounts which are paid monthly.*

Restrictions

<b>Internal Restrictions</b>		
- Employee Entitlements	\$2,300,921.00	
- Doubtful Debts	\$24,669.00	
- Future Development Reserve	\$576,217.20	
- Trust Account	\$1,794,127.65	
- Capital Projects	\$1,000,000.00	
- Plant Replacement Reserve	\$1,500,000.00	\$7,195,934.85
<b>External Restrictions</b>		
- Water Fund	\$11,865,132.72	
- Sewer Fund	\$6,405,616.99	
- T-Corp Loan Balance	\$2,496,751.02	
- Developer Contributions Reserve	\$1,085,000.00	
- Landfill Expansion Loan	\$11,298,432.91	
- Unexpended Grants	\$13,030,774.67	
- Crown Reserves Reserve	\$208,296.22	
- Prepayments Cemeteries	\$596,528.13	\$46,986,532.66
<b>Day to Day Liquidity</b>		\$3,415,485.93
<b>Total Funds Available</b>		<b>\$57,597,953.44</b>

Total Funds Invested



Summary – Unexpended Grants as at 30 September 2024

Grant	Amount
R4R Round 9	\$2,163,705.56
OLG Flood Grants	\$621,325.61
LRCIP Phase 4	\$294,929.59
Planning Cadet Grant	\$20,536.00
API Grant	\$80,000.00
Mosquito Grants	\$22,013.56
Shade Sail & Fitness Grant	\$15,874.55
CRIF Astronomy Park	\$656,000.21
R4R Round 8	\$84,230.71
R2R	\$15,988.49
Main Roads Block Grant	\$140,165.37
Pothole Repair Program	\$152,990.08
RLRRP/ RERRF	\$7,582,380.39
FLR Round 3	\$75,156.84
Arumpo Road	\$907,073.94
Drought Resilience Funding	\$86,540.00
DCCEEW Safe & Secure Funding	\$88,500.00
Regional Leakage Reduction Program	\$23,363.77
Total	\$13,030,774.67

Conclusion

The Director Corporate Services has certified that all investments have been made in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW), Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 and Council's Investment Policy. Council is investing its funds prudently to optimise returns and reduce exposure to risk in accordance with legislation and its own investment policy.

Attachments

1. Yeild Hub - September 2024 Monthly Report [↓](#)



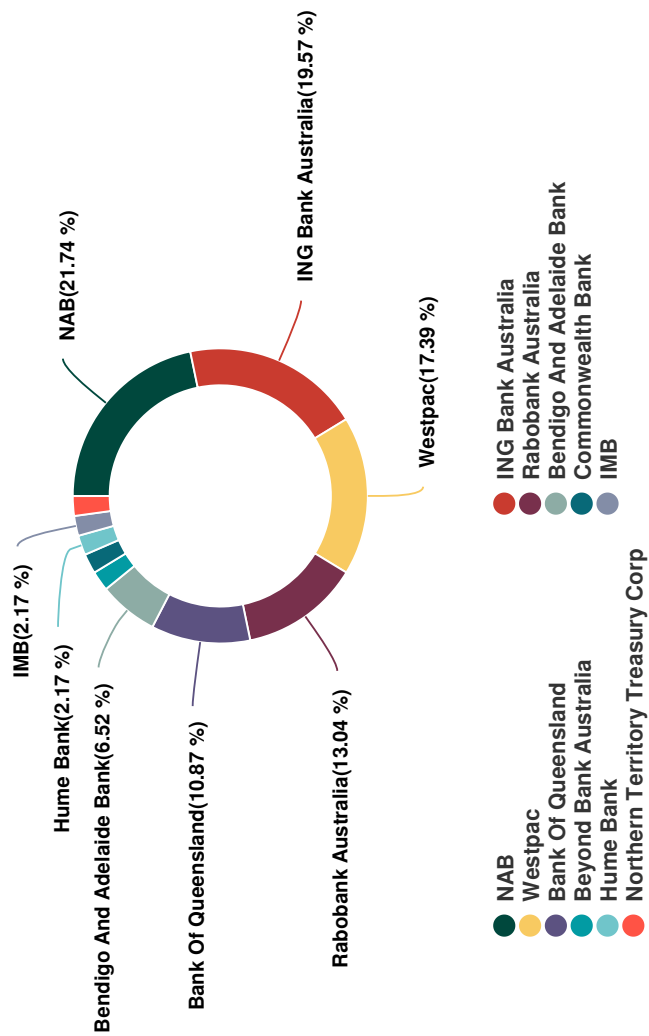


30 September 2024  
Wentworth Shire Council - Monthly Report

## Summary

Total Cost	\$46,000,000.00
Total Portfolio Value	\$47,055,496.44
Weighted Average Term	219
Weighted Average Yield	5.03 %
90 day BBSW	4.43 %
Unrealised Capital Gain/Loss	\$0
Total Monthly Accrued Interest	\$185,836.20
Total Interest Received this month	\$217,826.03
Total Interest Received this FY	\$478,441.38
Total Interest Expected this FY	\$2,290,169.33
Interest Payments this month	6
Matured Investments this month	6
Total Funds Matured this month	\$6,000,000.00
Investments this month	6
Total Funds Invested this month	\$6,000,000.00
Compliant Portfolio	Yes

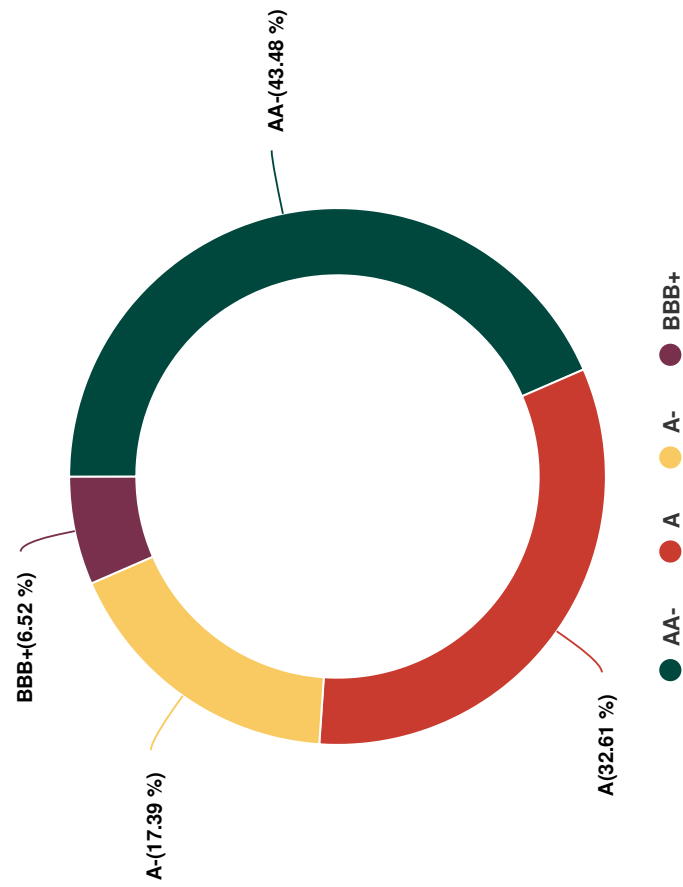
## Counterparty



Report Date: 30 September 2024

Wentworth Shire Council - Monthly Report

## Long Term Credit Rating



Wentworth Shire Council - Monthly Report

Report Date: 30 September 2024

Investment Type	ADI/Security Name	Amount	Settlement Date	Maturity Date	Term in Days	Yield	Short Term Rating	Long Term Rating
Term Deposit	Bank Of Queensland	\$1,000,000	03/10/2023	02/10/2024	365	5.200 %	A-2	A-
Term Deposit	Hume Bank	\$1,000,000	05/10/2023	04/10/2024	365	5.25 %	NR	NR
Term Deposit	Bank Of Queensland	\$1,000,000	09/02/2024	05/11/2024	270	5.0 %	A-2	A-
Term Deposit	Bendigo And Adelaide Bank	\$1,000,000	07/03/2024	20/11/2024	258	5.03 %	A-2	A-
Term Deposit	Bendigo And Adelaide Bank	\$1,000,000	23/02/2024	20/11/2024	271	5.02 %	A-2	A-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	27/11/2023	27/11/2024	366	5.47 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	04/12/2023	03/12/2024	365	5.28 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	IMB	\$1,000,000	09/09/2024	09/12/2024	91	5.36 %	NR	NR
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	15/12/2023	16/12/2024	367	5.100 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	19/12/2023	18/12/2024	365	5.23 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	Bendigo And Adelaide Bank	\$1,000,000	22/12/2023	23/12/2024	367	5.0 %	A-2	A-
Term Deposit	Bank Of Queensland	\$1,000,000	01/07/2024	28/01/2025	211	5.300 %	A-2	A-
Term Deposit	Commonwealth Bank	\$1,000,000	30/01/2024	29/01/2025	365	5.02 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	09/02/2024	10/02/2025	367	5.100 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	12/02/2024	12/02/2025	366	5.15 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	12/02/2024	12/02/2025	366	5.15 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	20/02/2024	19/02/2025	365	5.14 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	27/02/2024	27/02/2025	366	5.14 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	29/02/2024	28/02/2025	365	5.14 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Bank Of Queensland	\$1,000,000	10/09/2024	11/03/2025	182	4.900 %	A-2	A-
Term Deposit	Beyond Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	10/09/2024	11/03/2025	182	5.0 %	A-2	BBB+
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	11/03/2024	11/03/2025	365	5.03 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	19/03/2024	19/03/2025	365	5.13 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	02/04/2024	02/04/2025	365	5.0 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$2,000,000	04/04/2024	04/04/2025	365	5.0 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	NAB	\$2,000,000	01/07/2024	14/05/2025	317	5.37 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Rabobank Australia	\$1,000,000	24/05/2024	23/05/2025	364	5.33 %	NR	A





## Wentworth Shire Council - Monthly Report

Report Date: 30 September 2024

Investment Type	ADI/Security Name	Amount	Settlement Date	Maturity Date	Term in Days	Yield	Short Term Rating	Long Term Rating
Term Deposit	Rabobank Australia	\$1,000,000	27/08/2024	26/05/2025	272	4.95 %	NR	A
Term Deposit	Rabobank Australia	\$1,000,000	27/08/2024	26/05/2025	272	4.95 %	NR	A
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	27/05/2024	27/05/2025	365	5.27 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	Rabobank Australia	\$1,000,000	04/09/2024	03/06/2025	272	5.0 %	NR	A
Term Deposit	Rabobank Australia	\$2,000,000	01/07/2024	25/06/2025	359	5.43 %	NR	A
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	27/06/2024	26/06/2025	364	5.47 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	26/08/2024	28/07/2025	336	4.76 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	Westpac	\$1,000,000	26/08/2024	28/07/2025	336	4.76 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	27/08/2024	27/08/2025	365	4.91 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	27/08/2024	27/08/2025	365	4.91 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	28/08/2024	28/08/2025	365	4.97 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	03/09/2024	03/09/2025	365	4.95 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	NAB	\$1,000,000	03/09/2024	03/09/2025	365	4.95 %	A-1+	AA-
Term Deposit	ING Bank Australia	\$1,000,000	04/01/2024	05/01/2026	732	5.14 %	A-1	A
Term Deposit	Bank Of Queensland	\$1,000,000	04/12/2023	03/12/2026	1,095	5.25 %	A-2	A-
Term Deposit	Northern Territory Treasury Corp	\$1,000,000	16/09/2021	15/12/2026	1,916	1.35 %	NR	NR
		\$46,000,000						

Wentworth Shire Council - Monthly Report

Report Date: 30 September 2024

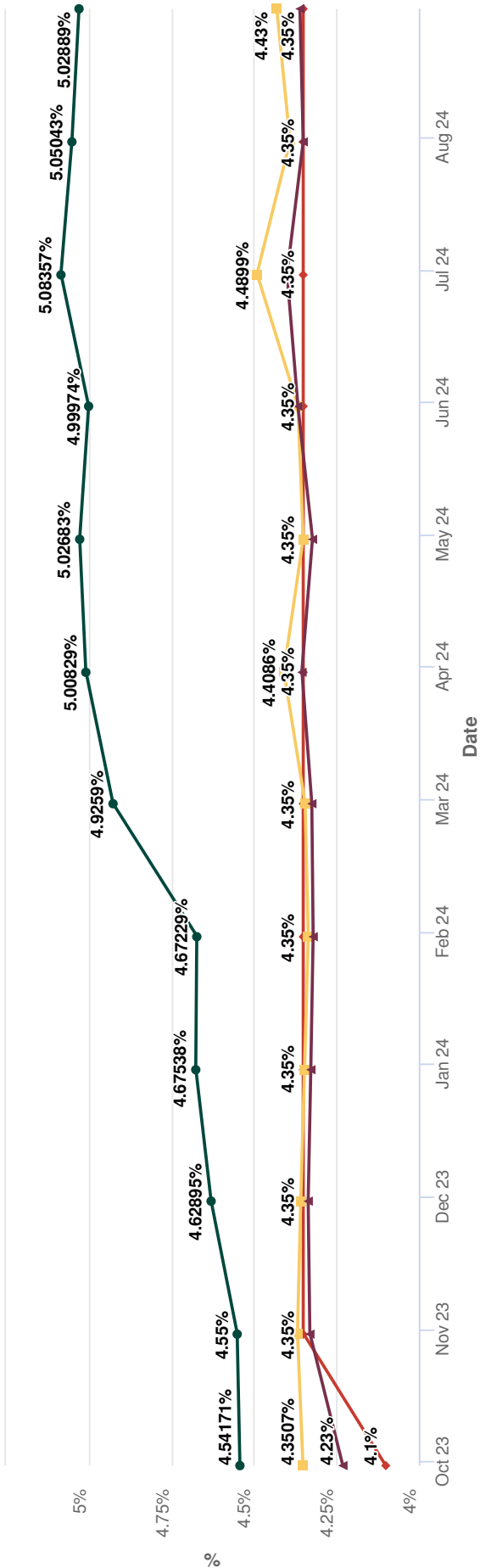
Transaction Date	Contract Number	ADI/Security Name	Type	Amount	Credit/Debit	Long Term Rating	Designation	Comments	Maturity Date
10/09/2024	067138	Beyond Bank Australia	Interest	\$52,000	Debit	BBB	Unclassified		10/09/2024
10/09/2024	070721	Bank Of Queensland	Interest	\$25,249.32	Debit	BBB+	Unclassified		10/09/2024
09/09/2024	075976	IMB	Interest	\$12,673.97	Debit	NR	Unclassified		09/09/2024
04/09/2024	067027	NAB	Interest	\$51,700	Debit	AA-	Unclassified		04/09/2024
03/09/2024	066986	NAB	Interest	\$51,200	Debit	AA-	Unclassified		03/09/2024
03/09/2024	070606	NAB	Interest	\$25,002.74	Debit	AA-	Unclassified		03/09/2024
Total				\$217,826.03					

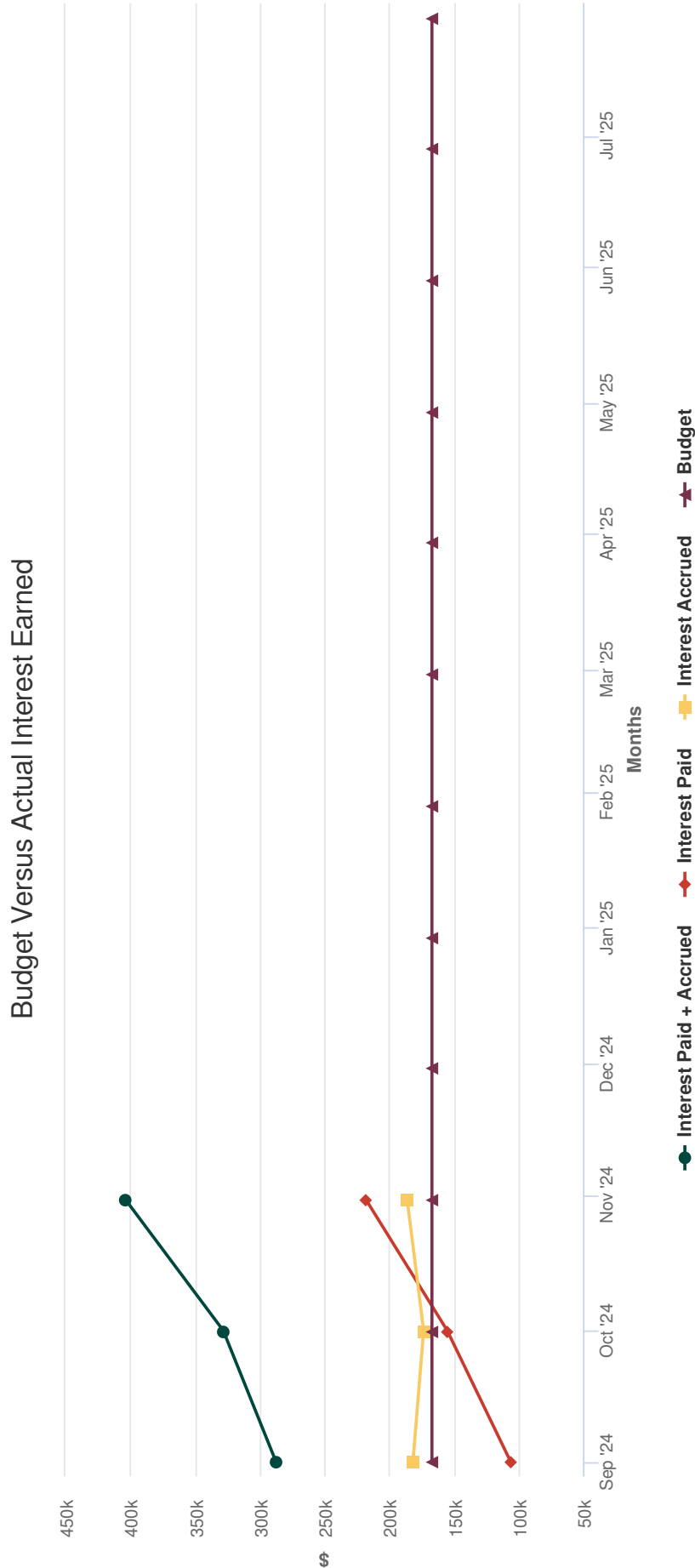


Account vs RBA Cash vs 3m BBSW vs Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index

Term	Account	RBA Cash	3m BBSW	Outperformance	AusBond Bank Bill	Outperformance
1m	5.03 %	4.35 %	4.42 %	0.61 %	4.36 %	0.67 %
3m	5.05 %	4.35 %	4.42 %	0.63 %	4.36 %	0.69 %
6m	5.03 %	4.35 %	4.40 %	0.63 %	4.36 %	0.67 %
12m	4.84 %	4.33 %	4.36 %	0.48 %	4.34 %	0.50 %

Month End Performance





## 9.10 STATE OF OUR SHIRE REPORT

File Number: RPT/24/628

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

### **Summary**

A report on the progress of implementation and the effectiveness of the Community Strategic Plan must be presented to and endorsed at the second meeting of a newly elected Council.

The aim of the report is to assist the new Council when reviewing the Community Strategic Plan as required by the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework.

The report is not only a reflection of the Council's achievements to date but also a tool to guide future actions, ensuring that Council remains responsive, accountable and aligned with the evolving needs and aspirations of our community.

While significant progress has been made across various community outcomes, and with projects still in progress, there remains ongoing pressures that will continue to challenge Council and our community moving forward. These challenges if not carefully managed, could impact our ability to sustain growth, foster social cohesion, and preserve our natural environment.

### **Recommendation**

That Council endorses the State of our Shire Report for the end of Council term 2024.

### **Detailed Report**

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to present the State of our Shire Report

#### **Background**

A report on the progress of implementation and the effectiveness of the Community Strategic Plan must be presented to and endorsed at the second meeting of a newly elected Council.

#### **Matters under consideration**

The report covers the term of the previous Council and will objectively track Council's progress against the Community Strategic Plan.

The aim of the report is to assist the new Council when reviewing the Community Strategic Plan as required by the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework.

The report is not only a reflection of the Council's achievements to date but also a tool to guide future actions, ensuring that Council remains responsive, accountable and aligned with the evolving needs and aspirations of our community.

Council continues to work hard to ensure that all of its services and infrastructure contributes to achieving the aspirations and priorities of the community and, in doing so, this will contribute to the health and wellbeing of the community.



Council is mindful that the Community Strategic Plan is the community's document with the community being Council's most important external stakeholder.

Some of the notable achievements include:

- Ongoing support of the activities of Murray Regional Tourism, Destination NSW-Riverina Murray and Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc
- Post COVID Economic Recovery Program incorporating the Wentworth Winedown Music, Food & Wine Festival
- Supported a broad program of Civic and Community Events
- Contributed \$598,684 to community groups and organisations via the Financial Assistance Program
- 40kph speed limit reduction in the Wentworth CBD area
- Wentworth Extended Day Care
- Various Resources for Regions, Stronger Country Community Fund and Local Roads and Community Infrastructure grant projects
- Health One Buronga
- Support for Coomealla Health Aboriginal Corporation and Wentworth Community Medical Clinic Inc to expand medical services in Wentworth
- Ongoing support for the activities of the Murray Darling Association
- Continued advocacy for the sustainable management of the Darling River and the Menindee Lakes
- Trentham Water and Sewer Installation
- Pooncarie-Menindee Road Upgrade
- Wentworth Aerodrome Upgrade
- Wentworth & Buronga Effluent Disposal Stations Replacements
- Buronga Landfill Regulatory Approval and Licence Upgrade
- Introduction of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee and Internal Audit Function.

The community eagerly anticipates the completion of the redevelopment of the old Wentworth Services Club, the Willowbend Caravan Park and the new Wentworth Hospital. Each of these projects represents a major investment in the region's future and will play a pivotal role in enhancing both the social and economic fabric of the community.

While significant progress has been made across various community outcomes, and with projects still in progress, there remains ongoing pressures that will continue to challenge Council and our community moving forward. These challenges if not carefully managed, could impact our ability to sustain growth, foster social cohesion, and preserve our natural environment. These include but are not limited to the following:

- Financial sustainability
- Workforce recruitment and retention
- Development and population growth
- Renewable Energy & Critical Mineral Developments
- Access to services
- Community expectations and engagement

Legal, strategic, financial or policy implications

Presentation of this report is a required obligation of the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework under the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW).

Conclusion

The achievements outlined in the State of our Shire Report demonstrate significant progress towards fulfilling the outcomes set out in the Community Strategic Plan. While challenges remain, the foundations have been laid that indicates the region is well positioned to meet the evolving needs and aspirations of its residents.

As is required by the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework the State of our Shire Report will be an attachment to Council's Annual Report.

Attachments

1. State of our Shire Report 2024 [↓](#)



ANABRANCH  
BURONGA  
COOMEALLA  
CURLWAA  
DARETON  
ELLERSLIE  
GOL GOL  
MONAK  
POMONA  
POONCARIE  
RUFUS RIVER  
TRENTHAM CLIFFS  
WENTWORTH

# State of our Shire Report

2024



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**Midway Community Centre**  
3 Midway Drive  
Buronga NSW 2739



**Wentworth Visitor Centre  
Main Administration Office**  
61 Darling Street  
Wentworth NSW 2648





We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we live and work, and pay our respects to their elders past, present, and emerging.



The Kiilalaana group (Shantelle Thompson dancers) portraying the connection of the land and water through dance at Namatjira Water Tank Commissioning event, Dareton.



# Our Objectives



*Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving region*

**ECONOMIC**



*Wentworth Shire is a great place to live*

**SOCIAL**



*Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment*

**ENVIRONMENTAL**



*Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civil leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner*

**CIVIC LEADERSHIP**



**Wentworth LGA**

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Images in this document were sourced from Council's Image Library unless otherwise stated. Cover image: Wentworth Caravan Park Redevelopment.

The State of our Shire Report forms part of the Annual Report 2023/2024. These documents have been prepared in accordance with Section 406 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

This document was compiled by Wentworth Shire Council.  
Copies of this program can be viewed online at [wentworth.nsw.gov.au](http://wentworth.nsw.gov.au)

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**Our Values:** Honest & Integrity | Accountability & Transparency | Respect | Quality & Commitment

## Introduction

This term of Council has been marked by the end of the COVID-19 pandemic, but just as we were starting to recover, a significant flood event struck in late 2022 and early 2023. The community's response to these challenges demonstrated remarkable passion and resilience.

Due to the postponement of the 2020 Council elections until December 2021, this Council's term has been shortened to 33 months instead of the usual 48. Throughout this time, our plans have been shaped by the voices of our residents, prioritising what matters most to the people of the Shire. As this term draws to close and we prepare for the next four-year term, it is an ideal moment to reflect on both our achievements and the works still ahead.

Whilst maintaining essential infrastructure and services, Council also delivered a range of high-quality projects aimed at creating long-term benefits to the community. By working closely with governments, financial institutions and businesses, Council secured over \$53 million in funding, which enabled the delivery of transport and infrastructure projects. To date, more than \$81 million has been spent on new and renewed capital works, with an additional \$26 million allocated for future projects.

These initiatives, along with a sound financial strategy, ensure Council's continued financial sustainability and reflect the community's current and future needs.

The State Government has also contributed to community aspirations through projects like the

HealthOne facility in Buronga, completed in 2022, and the ongoing construction of a \$30 million hospital in Wentworth, set to replace the 80 year facility by 2025.

Recognising the vital role of community groups, Council provided \$598,684 in financial assistance to support these organisations over the term, improving the quality of life for residents, workers and visitors alike.

Additionally, collaboration between Wentworth Shire Council and Mildura Rural City Council was strengthened, with both working towards mutually beneficial outcomes for the region.

Looking forward, Council remains committed to engaging with the community to fulfill Wentworth Shire's vision, ensuring continued progress and value. Being a Councillor offers a unique opportunity to contribute to decision-making and shapes the strategic direction of the Shire.

The incoming Council faces the important task of adopting a Community Strategic Plan in 2025, ensuring it reflects the views and aspirations of the Shire's residents. By securing further funding and building on existing partnerships, Council can continue delivering projects that improve the community's future.

It is essential that social, environmental, economic and civic leadership goals remain at the forefront of Council's agenda.



*Ken Ross*

Ken Ross  
**General Manager**  
Wentworth Shire Council



*Daniel Linklater*

Daniel Linklater  
**Mayor**  
Wentworth Shire Council

# Wentworth at a glance



**8.04%** of our population identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (State average is 3.44%)

Area (sq. km)  
**26,256**

Proclaimed a Shire on 23 January  
**1879**

**27.9%**

**Mining** is the largest industry sector with (\$363,285,000) gross revenue



Largest industry of Employment is Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing with **23.5%** of the population



**7,487**  
Estimated Residential Population (2021)



**3** Libraries



**1** Hospital



**8** Schools



**1** TAFE Campus



**2** Aerodromes



**29.51%**



of homes are owned outright

**45.48%**

Working age Residents (30-64 yrs old) : **2,860**  
(state average is 45.46%) : Employed Residents

**4.5%** Unemployment Rate (2022)



Year 12 education as the highest form of education

Wentworth Shire residents

**28.7%**

vs.

Other areas of NSW

**52.13%**

**\$75,544**  
per capita Gross Regional Product



The Median Wage for Households:

Wentworth  
**\$1,066/wk**



State (excl. Greater Sydney)  
**\$1,434/wk**



Greater Sydney  
**\$2,077/wk**

The individual median wage is **\$716** per week with **28.1%** of people earning over **\$1,500** per week.

**43 years old**

is the Median Resident age (State median is 39)

**28.54%** of Residents are aged under 25 (State average is 30.05%)

**20.42%** of Residents are aged over 65 (State average is 17.59%)



**29.99%**

of families earn over \$130,000 vs. state average of 43.86%

**WORTH SEEING WORTH DOING!**

WENTWORTH and surrounds



**422km**  
ADELAIDE

**583km**  
MELBOURNE

**1,044km**  
SYDNEY

**599km of sealed road**

**1,429km of unsealed road**

Based on data from the 2021 Census data. \*Data collected from Remplan and ABS

## Purpose and Context of Report

The State of our Shire Report focuses on how effective Council has been in delivering the community's aspirations and visions as articulated in the Community Strategic Plan 2032 – Wentworth Shire: Our Future in Focus.

This report is a snapshot of Council's performance during the term and how we moved towards achieving the long-term goals and aspirations of the Community.





## Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

In line with the Local Government Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Framework each NSW Council is required, by legislation, to prepare a range of plans and integrate them to obtain the maximum leverage from their effects to plan for the future.

The IP&R Framework includes the Community Strategic Plan, Resourcing Strategy, Delivery Program, Operational Plan and the Annual Report.

The aim of the IP&R Framework is to ensure each Council takes a long term, strategic approach to its activities and that these represents the needs of the community.

The relationship between community input and Council's plan is outlined in the following diagram of the IP&R Framework.



## Councillors

Wentworth Shire is represented by nine Councillors who are elected every four years.

The Councillors elect the Mayor every two years.

As the community's representative the role of a Councillor is to:

- Be an active and contributing member of the governing body;
- Make considered and well-informed decisions as a member of the governing body;
- Participate in the development of the Integrated Planning & Reporting Framework;
- Represent the collective interests of residents, ratepayers and the local community;
- Facilitate communication between the local community and the governing body;
- Uphold and represent accurately the policies and decisions of the governing body;
- Make all reasonable efforts to acquire and maintain the skills necessary to perform the role of a Councillor



**Cr Daniel Linklater**  
Mayor



**Cr Susan Nichols**  
Deputy Mayor



**Cr Brian Beaumont**  
Councillor



**Cr Steve Cooper**  
Councillor



**Cr Peter Crisp**  
Councillor



**Cr Jane MacAllister**  
Councillor



**Cr Tim Elstone**  
Councillor

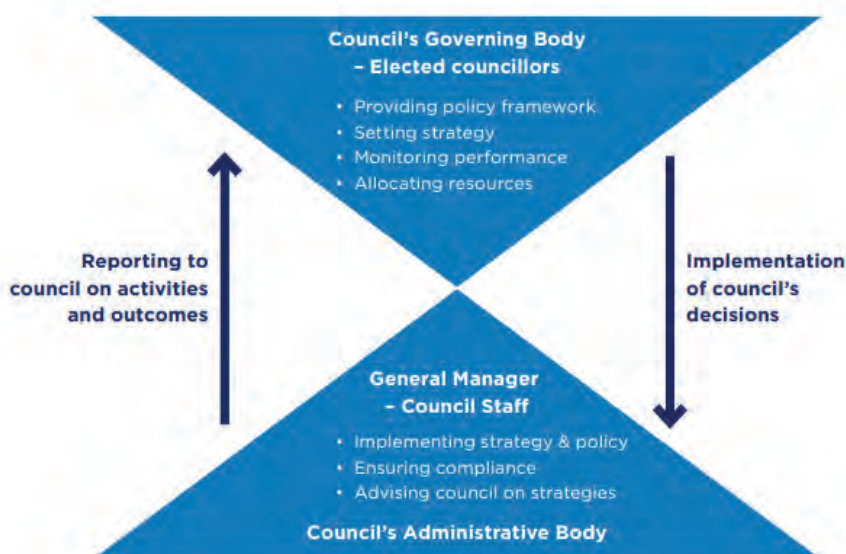


**Cr Jo Rodda**  
Councillor



**Cr Steve Heywood\***  
Councillor

\* Cr Heywood passed away  
7 February 2024



## CSP Themes

The purpose of the Community Strategic Plan is to outline the future vision and aspirations of the community to assist with long term planning, prioritisation and decision making. Council does not have sole ownership of all actions. Most are completed in partnership between government, businesses and the community to ensure that the community's hopes and aspirations are at the heart of everything we do.

### Community consultation is integral to the preparation of the Community Strategic Plan.

In reviewing past versions of the Community Strategic Plan and developing Wentworth Shire: Our Future in Focus 2022-2032, Council provided numerous opportunities for the community and key stakeholders to provide formal and informal comment and feedback.

The consultation process allowed the community and relevant stakeholders to identify various pertinent issues as being important for the future development, growth and sustainability of the Shire. An outline of the consultation process is outlined below.

#### Engagement Strategy

In April and May 2021 Council reviewed and updated its Community Engagement Strategy. Through its Community Engagement Strategy, Wentworth Shire Council works hard to establish opportunities for valuable two-way communication with the community.

#### Community Survey

An online survey was placed on Council's website for a six-week period from 1 November 2021 to 12 December 2021. The survey asked respondents to rank Council's performance and service delivery, how they feel about living in the Wentworth Shire, and the opportunities, threats, strengths and weaknesses for the community and where they would like to see the community in ten years' time. There were 112 respondents.

#### Community Consultation Sessions

A series of 8 consultation sessions were held between November 2021 and March 2022 in the following locations:

- Wentworth
- Dareton
- Gol Gol / Buronga
- Curlwaa
- Anabranah
- Pooncarie
- Pomona
- Ellerslie

A total of 106 residents attended the sessions which provided an opportunity to discuss the future of the Wentworth Shire and the actions required to achieve this future. Attendees were asked to identify what they felt were the top priorities going forward.

#### Targeted Consultation

Workshops and/or focused meetings were held with the following organisations:

- Bendigo Community Bank Board
- BMEET
- Coomealla High School
- Coomealla Memorial Sporting Club Board
- Coomealla Working Party Namatijira
- Dareton Senior Citizens
- Dareton Public School
- Gol Gol Public School
- Gol Gol Senior Citizens
- Mildura Base Public Hospital
- Mildura Rural City Council

**Targeted Consultation (continued)**

- Murray House Board
- Wentworth Shire Interagency Group
- Wentworth Public School
- Wentworth Senior Citizens

In addition to above, the General Manager also undertook a number of individual consultation sessions with residents.

Feedback was collated and sorted into a series of themes which have been the source of the future directions outlined in the Community Strategic Plan.



The consultation and engagement activities resulted in the formation of the following concise and ambitious vision for the region:

**WENTWORTH SHIRE WILL WORK TOGETHER TO CREATE A THRIVING,  
ATTRACTIVE AND WELCOMING COMMUNITY.**







## Strategy 1

# Our Economy

*Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving region*



In order to have a strong, sustainable economy it is important that existing core businesses and industries are enabled and encouraged to grow and prosper and that businesses are attracted to the region. Further economic development can be achieved by seeking out opportunities to increase tourism and innovation, which will in turn provide more local employment, urban renewal and economic growth.

The visitor economy is a significant economic contributor for the Wentworth Region with a number of local tourist attractions and events. The community is concerned that more needs to be done to promote the benefits of the region

and to clearly define a clear point of difference in order to continue to attract tourist and visitors.

In terms of economic development, Council has both a direct and indirect role. Council provides employment for many residents as an employer of choice. Indirectly, Council can assist development by providing infrastructure and advocating on behalf of the business community.

Wentworth Shire is a growing region with an expanding sense of opportunity and there is a desire to capitalise on those possibilities for the benefit of all.

### Community Outcome

We are a growing region with an expanding sense of opportunity, and we want to capitalise on those possibilities for the benefit of all.

Economic opportunities and partnerships facilitate growth of our local and regional economy, attracting investment to the region and fostering local business and employment.



### Objectives

1. Promote the Shire as an ideal location for investment and the establishment of innovative, sustainable and diversified industries.
2. Promote the Wentworth Region as a desirable visitor and tourism destination.
3. High Quality connectivity across the region.
4. Encourage lifelong learning opportunities
5. Encourage and support initiatives that improve local employment opportunities.

“

### ***You told us what you wanted***

- Major employment opportunities for businesses.
- Build other infrastructure and services to attract visitors to enhance the tourist experience.
- Make our riverfront a feature.
- Promote the natural attractions within the Shire.
- More riverfront attractions and improved wetlands and national parks.
- Completion of the Willow Bend Caravan Park as it's vital for tourism in the region.
- Bring tourist dollars to the town and the local community and business.
- Continuing to grow as it has over the last three years.
- Bigger and more developed with additional services.
- We need money spent here and not in Victoria.
- Larger population, more tourists.
- The vision must be for economic change to the community.

”

#### **What is done on an annual basis**

- Advocate for the local business on issues which further business and career opportunities for all.
- Ensure that land is suitably zoned, sized and located to facilitate a variety of development that is supported by a strategic and affordable infrastructure.
- Provide Visitor Information Centre Services.
- Support the activities of Murray Regional Tourism, Destination NSW-Riverina Murray and Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc.
- Advocate for the ongoing provision of quality transport and freight links.
- Advocate for improved region-wide internet and mobile phone connectivity.
- Undertake a program of activities and services that facilitate learning opportunities at Council's Library services.
- Advocate for community access to a wide range of learning spaces, resources and activities for education and employment pathways that support local growth.
- Advocate for and promote initiatives that promote sustainable and resilient economic growth.

### Specific achievements

- ✓ Advocating for post flood recovery relief and support for local business impacted by the 2022 flood.
- ✓ Far South West Joint Organisation Destination Management Plan
- ✓ Post COVID Economic Recovery Program incorporating Wentworth Winedown Music, Food & Wine Festival
- ✓ Successful grant application with the Department of Planning to employ a cadet planner.
- ✓ Renewed Memorandum of Understanding with Murray Regional Tourism
- ✓ Contributed funds to Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc for the production of Wentworth & Darling Outback Official Visitor Information Guide and the Why Not Winter in Wentworth Campaign

### Projects in progress

- Fibre Optic Symphonic Orchestra – Bruce Munro Art Installation
- Wentworth Economic Development Strategy
- Wentworth Tourism and Events Strategy
- PS Ruby State Heritage Recognition and Preservation opportunities
- Willowbend Caravan Park Redevelopment
- Willowbend Caravan Park Lease



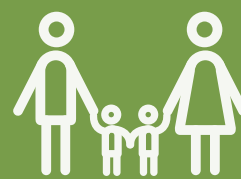




## Strategy 2

# Our Community

*Wentworth Shire is a great place to live*



We have a unique community with a strong desire to have an input into the future of the region. While there are many common features and pastimes which people enjoy, there are also many differing needs and priorities across a variety of demographics and segments of the community.

It is essential that all people, wherever they live, have access to services which enable them to feel included, to do what they love and to participate in cultural, sporting and social activities. It is through these interactions that we are able to maintain a strong sense of community.

The community expect to live in a safe and healthy community that offers equitable access to health and specialist services and supports the needs of the aged, disabled and disadvantaged. We all need to provide opportunities for people to contribute to their community to build our sense of place and connection.

The challenge for Council is how we adapt to the changing requirements of our evolving community while advocating for the provision of essential social services in an equitable and affordable manner.

### Community Outcome

We are committed to strengthening our diverse population by creating new opportunities for connection, creativity and inclusion by encouraging initiatives that strengthen our collective sense of self.

Social connectedness is a very strong indicator of perceived quality of life and happiness in a community. Council hopes through the Delivery Program, to contribute to community connectedness in the Shire.

This will be reflected in the pride that residents have in telling people where they live, their good relationships with their neighbours, their participation in community life, how safe they feel, how much they volunteer, and their sense of history and identity.



### Objectives

1. Continue to create opportunities for inclusion where all people feel welcome and participate in community life.
2. Work together to solve a range of social and health issues that impact community wellbeing and vulnerable people.
3. To have a safe community.
4. A well informed, supported and engaged community.
5. To have a strong sense of place.



“

### ***You told us what you wanted***

- Better access to healthcare services and facilities.
- Another school in Buronga or Gol Gol to accommodate growth in the area.
- More aged care facilities to accommodate our aging population.
- Stronger police presence.
- An enhanced events calendar so residents have more to do.
- Childcare facilities for families.
- Better communication and engagement with the community.
- Continued improvement of the Shire's presentation.
- More public artwork that improves Wentworth's presentation.

”

#### **What is done on an annual basis**

- Acknowledge and celebrate the contribution that people from all backgrounds make to our community
- Support opportunities to promote and celebrate Wentworth Shire as a welcome and inclusive community focusing on diversity, access, inclusion and capacity building.
- Actively engage with and include the perspectives and knowledge of the local indigenous community.
- Support a broad program of Civic and Community Events
- Support cultural, recreational and community interaction opportunities through the Financial Assistance Program
- Deliver a program of activities and services that facilitate opportunities for vulnerable members of the community at Council's library services
- Collaborate with Government Agencies and other organisations to support the provision of health services across the Region.
- Advocate for the provision of social services that meet the needs of all our community including families, children, youth, people with disability and the aged.
- Our buildings and spaces are designed to be inclusive and accessible to all community members.
- Regulatory Compliance functions
- In partnership with Rural Fire Service to undertake hazard reduction works
- Engage with the Local Area Command on key community safety issues
- Facilitate the Local Emergency Management Committee to ensure a co-ordinated approach by all agencies having responsibilities and functions in emergencies.
- In partnership with transport for NSW identify and resolve road and pedestrian safety issues.
- Communicate the role of Council, its achievements, activities, services, policies and plans to the community.
- Community funding opportunities available to the community
- Maintain and update the amenity of the Shire to meet community expectations for clean and well-presented public spaces and townships that enhance health living and promote active lifestyles.

### Specific achievements

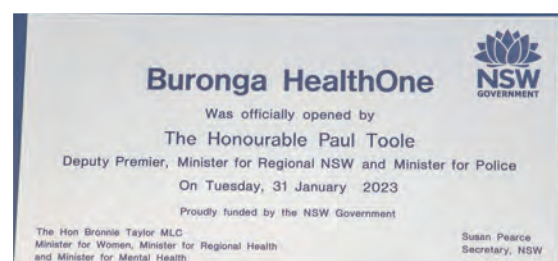
- ✓ Introduction of a Heritage and History Committee
- ✓ Active NSW footpath upgrades in Buronga and Gol Gol
- ✓ Wentworth Extended Day Care
- ✓ \$598,684 contributed via the Financial Assistance Program
- ✓ 40kph speed limit reduction - Wentworth CBD
- ✓ Wentworth Riverfront Mooring Sites/BBQs
- ✓ Dareton Travellers Rest
- ✓ Buronga Pump Track Stage 1
- ✓ PRAM Ramp Upgrades
- ✓ Dareton Men in a Shed Building
- ✓ Buronga Wetlands Sharedway
- ✓ Flood Preparation, Response and Recovery works
- ✓ New Rural fire Service Fire Station at Para
- ✓ Namatjira Water Tower Public Art Project
- ✓ Junction Island Bridge Replacement
- ✓ Supported Coomealla Health Aboriginal Corporation and Wentworth Medical Clinic Inc for improved medical services in Wentworth
- ✓ Buronga HealthOne
- ✓ Council and Wentworth Pioneer Homes Memorandum of Understanding approved
- ✓ Murray House agreed to purchase old Council Chambers and Library site to expand operations

### Projects in progress

- New Wentworth Hospital
- Implementation of NSW Child Safe Standards
- Wentworth & Balranald Drought Resilience Plan
- Dareton Active NSW Footpath upgrade
- James King Park Beach upgrade
- Buronga and Pooncarie Toilet Block Installation
- Ski Reserve Rehabilitation
- Council is working with Broken Hill University Department of Rural Health to lease the old Council Administration building in Adelaide Street, Wentworth, to establish a Health Workforce Education and Learning Hub
- New Rural Fire Service Station at Boree Spring Hill

### What hasn't been done

- ✗ PCYC facility in Dareton
- ✗ Buronga Wetlands Standpipe
- ✗ Buronga Pump Track Stage 2
- ✗ Open Spaces Upgrades
- ✗ Greater Junction Viewing Platform









### Strategy 3

# Our Environment

*Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment*



The distinctive landscape and environment across the region is a key part of our lifestyle. It is important that measures and programs are in place to help our community adapt to ensure that future generations can enjoy the environment in which we live.

Council plays an important role in adopting sustainable practices itself and promoting them in the community. The community has expressed a desire to live more sustainably through improved resource management.

As a community there is a concern with the effect that the Region's growing population is having on the existing amenity of the Shire. Council's strategic planning will focus on protecting the community from the effects of development and the need for infrastructure that reflects our current population profile and anticipated demographic changes.

Our infrastructure makes daily life possible, and it is essential that our infrastructure is maintained in a way which enables us to function in an effective and efficient manner as a community.

#### Community Outcome

Creating liveable communities means striking a balance between activities that support infrastructure development and others that enhance our quality of life.

As custodians of this land for future generations, we have an obligation to treat the natural environment with care and to minimise human impact on the surrounding environment to ensure a sustainable and healthy community.



#### Objectives

1. Ensure our planning decisions and controls enable the community to benefit from development.
2. Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained.
3. Minimise the impact on our natural environment.
4. Use and manage our resources wisely.
5. Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire.



“

### ***You told us what you wanted***

- Better planning for infrastructure to support growth
- An environmentally sustainable Shire
- Proper monitoring and management of projects to ensure timely progression and reporting
- A better waste management system that incorporates recycling and green waste bins
- More green spaces included in new developments
- Better maintenance of Council assets and infrastructure
- Stronger effort to protect our natural environment and waterways
- Better water pressure and quality

”

#### **What is done on an annual basis**

- Delivering timely services for the assessment of Development Applications and planning proposals
- Maintaining transport network including Roads, Bridges and Footpath
- Maintaining community facilities including halls, ovals, pools and other sporting facilities
- Undertaking actions identified in the Western Weeds Action Plan
- Monitor and investigate Illegal Dumping Activities as required
- Supporting the activities of the Murray Darling Association
- Advocating for the sustainable management of the Darling River and the Menindee Lakes
- Provision of Water, Waste Water and Stormwater Management infrastructure
- Providing and promoting resources recovery and recycling initiatives
- Encourage business and the community to be socially and environmentally responsible
- Advocate to the Federal and State governments for adequate funding for the delivery of key projects and the provision of essential infrastructure for the Region
- Planning for appropriate infrastructure and services that support current and future needs.

### Specific achievements

- ✓ 2,698 free green waste vouchers and 94 free hard waste collections provided to residents and rate payers
- ✓ Trentham Water and Sewer Installation
- ✓ Rezoning of Thegoa Lagoon
- ✓ Fixing Local Roads Projects
  - Punt Road
  - Fletchers Lake Road
  - Bridge Road
  - Little Manly Road
  - Native Ridge Lane
  - High Darling Road
  - Old Wentworth Road
  - Fletchers Lake Road
  - Keenans Drive
- ✓ Pooncarie Menindee Road Upgrade
- ✓ Lighting Upgrade - Wentworth & Dareton Pools
- ✓ Pooncarie Telegraph Building Renovation
- ✓ Wentworth Showgrounds
  - Running Rail
  - Female Jockey Change Rooms
  - Sewer Extension
  - Tower & Shade Extension
- ✓ Pooncarie Aerodrome Lighting
- ✓ Wentworth Aerodrome Upgrade
- ✓ George Gordon Oval Carpark, Netball Courts and Female Changerooms
- ✓ Wentworth & Buronga Effluent Disposal Stations
- ✓ Alcheringa Tennis Courts and Lighting
- ✓ Wentworth Sporting Complex upgrade
- ✓ Carramar Drive Sporting Complex Cricket Nets and Electronic Scoreboard
- ✓ Buronga Landfill Regulatory Approval and Licence Upgrade
- ✓ Mourquong Filtered Water Main
- ✓ Flood Preparation, Response and Recovery works
- ✓ Stormwater Upgrades
  - Wurlong Drive
  - Midway
- ✓ Sewer Infrastructure
  - Sewer Pump Station #5
  - Wood Street & Kingridge Sewer Main
  - Darling & Beverly Street Main Repairs
- ✓ Worked in partnership with Mildura Rural City Council around a regional approach to Waste Management.

### Projects in progress

- Wentworth Shire Council Flood Study
- Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan
- Buronga Landfill Expansion
- Pink Lake, Rose Street and 3 Sisters Stormwater
- Wentworth Rowing Club Extension
- Arumpo Road Upgrade
- Wentworth Civic Centre Redevelopment
- Buronga/Gol Gol Sporting Master Plan
- Dareton Main Street Upgrade
- George Gordon Oval Lighting
- Community education regarding introduction of Food & Organics Collection
- Tender with NSW LG Procurement to secure a 7 year renewable energy supply contract
- Water Leakage and District Metering Program

### What hasn't been done

- ✗ Rural Residential Strategy
- ✗ Stormwater Upgrades
  - Crane Drive
  - Wilson Drainage Reserve
  - Kingfisher Road
- ✗ Sewer Upgrades
  - Corbett Avenue Sewer Pump Station
  - Kingfisher Road Sewer Pump Station









## Strategy 4

# Our Leadership

*Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment*



The community will benefit from a strong Council which delivers tangible outcomes, advocates and builds successful partnerships, with the leadership, culture, people and capabilities to meet community expectations. It is important that opportunities are available for people to have a say in decision making, and that access to local representation is made possible.

The community have expressed the need for timely, improved and transparent communications and community engagement from Council in decisions that impact everyone and the need for Council to be responsive to community needs.

The Local Government Act provides guiding principles for Council in terms of its functions, decision-making and community participation, as well as principles for sound financial management and integrated planning and reporting. Council is required to ensure that it:

- Is accountable and makes sound decisions;
- Meets its statutory obligations;
- Is sustainable as an organisation;
- Provides effective and efficient services; and
- Consults, involves and is accountable to the community.

### Community Outcome

We are a responsible Council, committed to building strong relationships. We value transparent and meaningful communication and use community feedback to drive strategic decision-making.

In order to operate a large organisation with a diverse range of services, a large portfolio of assets and a multitude of statutory requirements, Council must have a robust and well-managed governance framework and administration functions.

Council is committed to creating a well-managed and operated organisation that is equipped with the resources required to deliver effective services.



### Objectives

1. Consistently engage and consult the whole community to ensure feedback is captured and considered as part of decision making and advocating processes.
2. A strong, responsible and representative government.
3. An effective and efficient organisation.
4. Provide strong leadership and work in partnership to strategically plan for the future.
5. Adopt practices of prudent asset, financial and human resources management across Council to ensure long term sustainability and efficiency.



“

### ***You told us what you wanted***

- A council that's in tune with the needs of the community
- Transparency, honesty, integrity in the Council and its staff
- A council that looks after all its constituents in a similar manner
- A more diverse council to reflect the current Shire demographics
- Good decision-making by all who are in charge of our future
- More community boards to support local businesses
- Inform the community and get community input
- Staff who are capable and passionate about the area
- Proactive councillors, those who can make a vision reality, and be willing to influence change
- Broader community consultation

”

#### **What is done on an annual basis**

- Support local decision making through transparent communication and inclusive community engagement
- Ensure that Council is accountable to the community, meets legislative requirements and supports the Councillors to undertake their civic responsibilities
- Support Councillors to undertake ongoing professional development
- Engage the community on a regular basis to ensure that Council is providing services that deliver value for money and are relevant in meeting the changing needs of the community.
- Staff are supported to deliver high quality services to the community
- Ensure the organisation is well led and managed through the implemented of Good Governance, Risk Management and Compliance Frameworks
- Support the work of the Wentworth Shire Interagency Group
- Foster strong partnership with all levels of government, peak bodies, agencies and the community
- Maintain a strong financial position that supports the delivery of services and strategies and ensures long term financial sustainability
- Be the best employer that we can by attracting, developing and retaining skilled to ensure a capable and effective workforce
- Implement sound asset management practices to ensure adequate provision is made for the maintenance and long-term replacement of Council's infrastructure assets.

### Specific achievements

- ✓ Audited Council website to ensure compliance with Website Accessibility Guidelines
- ✓ Procurement & Purchasing Service Review
- ✓ Waste Management Operations Service Review
- ✓ Implemented Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee
- ✓ Implemented Internal Audit Function
- ✓ Health & Well Being Strategy

### Projects in progress

- Monitoring compliance with NSW Modern Slavery Guidelines









## Financial information

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Inflows:</b>					
Rates and annual charges revenue	10,410	9,755	9,529	9,164	8,822
User charges revenue	10,109	8,807	9,600	7,582	7,798
Interest and investment revenue (losses)	2,318	1,706	280	245	586
Grants income - operating and capital	26,271	32,759	20,828	22,088	18,463
<b>Total income from continuing operations</b>	<b>50,354</b>	<b>54,578</b>	<b>41,855</b>	<b>40,306</b>	<b>36,921</b>
Sale proceeds from Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	412	164	272	314	279
New loan borrowings and advances	8,000	1,000	2,400	2,000	-
<b>Outflows:</b>					
Employee benefits and on-cost expenses	10,066	9,964	9,665	8,792	8,790
Borrowing costs	578	343	316	375	206
Materials and contracts expenses	12,665	13,118	11,235	9,553	10,623
<b>Total expenses from continuing operations</b>	<b>34,135</b>	<b>33,463</b>	<b>30,478</b>	<b>27,985</b>	<b>29,286</b>
Total cash purchases of IPPE	33,891	20,539	15,577	18,280	15,711
Total loan repayments (incl. leases)	983	829	625	273	245
Operating surplus/(defecit) (excl. capital income)	528	4,022	2,662	597	(665)
<b>Financial position figures</b>					
Current assets	56,932	57,431	48,634	42,700	34,656
Current liabilities	21,164	16,892	12,009	11,985	7,385
Net current assets	35,768	40,539	36,625	30,715	27,271
Available working capital (unrestricted net current assets)	2,385	4,496	6,670	4,675	4,813
Cash and investments - unrestricted	2,282	4,063	6,523	5,284	4,337
Cash and investments - internal restrictions	14,318	15,897	14,089	10,928	10,583
Cash and investments - total	49,482	51,211	43,708	38,393	28,418
<b>Total borrowings outstanding (loans, advances and finance leases)</b>	<b>14,984</b>	<b>7,967</b>	<b>7,796</b>	<b>6,021</b>	<b>4,294</b>
Total value of IPPE (excl. land and earthworks)	662,607	595,375	551,096	497,777	473,938
Total accumulated depreciation	305,361	283,187	236,169	245,423	234,023
Indicative remaining useful life (as a % of Gross Book Value)	54%	52%	52%	51%	51%



## Challenges

The local government sector faces a range of interconnected challenges. As these challenges intensify, councils will need to adopt innovative solutions, collaborate with other levels of government, and engage with their communities to ensure that they can continue to provide essential services and infrastructure. The ability of councils to adapt to these pressures will be crucial in determining long term sustainability and success.

### Financial sustainability

Good financial management means ensuring sufficient resources are available to deliver on the community's vision and aspirations for the area for years to come. The local government sector plays a critical role in delivering essential services and infrastructure to communities. Some of the key financial challenges that can prevent councils fulfilling this critical role include:

- **Rate Capping**

While rate capping aims to protect residents from sharp rate hikes, it restricts councils' ability to generate revenue, particularly in growing communities where demand for services and infrastructure is increasing. As a result councils often struggle to cover rising costs associated with delivering services, maintaining infrastructure and addressing community needs.

- **Cost Shifting**

Cost-shifting occurs when higher levels of government transfer responsibilities to local councils without providing adequate funding to support these additional responsibilities. Local government frequently face the challenge of absorbing the costs of delivering services or maintaining assets that were once funded or managed by state or federal governments. This places additional financial pressure on councils as they are required to fund these services from their own limited budgets. Cost shifting forces councils to either divert funds from other areas or increase their reliance on grants and other external funding, which may not always be sufficient or reliable.

- **Economic Pressures in Regional Area**

Regional and rural councils face distinct financial challenges due to the economic conditions in their communities. These areas often have higher service delivery costs due to geographic isolation and the need to maintain an extensive network of assets across vast regions. Regional economies are also heavily dependent on industries such as agriculture, mining, and tourism, which can be vulnerable to economic downturns, changing climactic conditions and market fluctuations.

- **Revenue Diversification Challenges**

Local government is heavily reliant on property rates as their primary source of revenue. However, the capacity to increase rates is limited by rate capping and the economic capacity of ratepayers, particularly in low-income areas. Added to the growing reliance on grant funding from state and federal governments to finance major projects and support core services can impact on councils ability to plan for long term financial sustainability.



**Workforce recruitment and retention**

Councils across NSW are currently facing significant challenges in both recruiting and retaining skilled workers. Some of the challenges include:

- **Skills shortages**

One of the most critical challenges is the shortage of skilled workers in key areas such as engineering, town planning, environmental health and finance. The rapid growth in infrastructure projects and the increasing demands on councils to deliver complex services have led to high competition for workers with specialised skills, particularly in rural and regional areas with positions for qualified professionals often remaining vacant for extended periods.

- **Competition with the Private Sector**

The local government sector often struggle to compete with the private sector in terms of salaries and benefits, especially for highly sought after positions. This makes it difficult for Council to attract and retain workers, as many potential candidates opt for private-sector roles that offer higher pay and more flexibility.

- **Rural and Regional Disparities**

Councils in rural and regional areas face greater challenges in recruitment and retention than metropolitan councils. Geographic isolation, limited access to services and fewer career opportunities for family members often deter potential candidates from moving to these areas. This cycle of turnover places ongoing pressure on rural and regional councils to continuously recruit and train new employees.

- **Workforce Flexibility and Work Life Balance**

While local government often offers stable employment, they often lag behind other sectors in terms of flexible working

arrangement and work-life balance.

Many councils are working to adapt to the evolving expectations of a modern workforce that increasingly values remote work options, flexible hours and better work life balance.

- **Workload Pressures and Stress**

Council staff are often required to handle a broad range of responsibilities, particularly in smaller councils with limited staff. The complexity and scope of local government functions can place significant stress on workers. High workloads, tight deadlines, and limited resources can contribute to burnout and dissatisfaction, leading to higher turnover rates.

- **Changing Workforce Expectations**

The expectations of workers in terms of job satisfaction, corporate culture and values are shifting. Today's workforce, particularly younger generations, tends to prioritise job roles that align with their values, offer purpose, and contribute to societal outcomes. While councils inherently provide community-focused work, they often need to more actively promote these aspects to attract purpose-driven candidates. This challenge is compounded by councils traditional structures, which may not always align with modern expectations around workplace culture and innovation.

- **Funding and Budget Constraints**

The capacity of councils to recruit and retain staff is often restricted by limited resources. Many councils operate under tight budgets, with wage increases and recruitment efforts constrained by rate capping, cost shifting from other levels of government, and the rising cost of service delivery. These financial limitations restrict councils ability to offer competitive remuneration packages that could attract and/or retain talent.

### Development and population growth

While growth can drive economic opportunities and enhance community vibrancy, it also creates significant pressures on infrastructure and services. These challenges are particularly pronounced in fast growing areas where councils must manage the balance between development and maintaining livability.

- **Infrastructure Strain and Funding Shortfalls**

One of the primary challenges is the increasing pressure on existing infrastructure which often struggles to keep pace with rapid growth, where existing assets are aging and new infrastructure is required to accommodate additional population. Funding this infrastructure relies on a combination of developer contributions, government grants and councils own limited budgets. The gap between what councils can afford and the cost of providing infrastructure and services is widening which can lead to long-term sustainability risks and concerns about the quality of services provided.

- **Social Services and Community Facilities**

As the population grows, so does the demand for community services and facilities. Councils are responsible for providing and maintaining many of these facilities, yet often lack the resources to expand services in line with population growth. Furthermore, urban development can sometimes create social fragmentation, with new communities often lacking a sense of cohesion. Councils play a key role in fostering community inclusion, ensuring that residents of new developments have access to opportunities that promote a sense of belonging. However, achieving this in rapidly changing environments can be difficult without adequate resources.

- **Balancing community expectations with development across the Shire**

Councils often face resistance from local residents concerned about the impact of new developments on neighborhood character. Striking the right balance between supporting growth and maintaining liveability requires careful planning, community engagement and a long term vision for urban development.



### Renewable Energy & Critical Mineral Developments

The rapid growth of renewable energy projects and the exploration of critical minerals are reshaping local economies across NSW. These developments present significant opportunities for regional growth and the transition to a low carbon economy, but they also pose challenges for councils.

- Infrastructure and Service Delivery**  
 Renewable energy and critical mineral projects often require new infrastructure. The development of this infrastructure can place additional strain on councils who are responsible for maintaining local infrastructure and managing the impact of construction activities on communities. In some cases councils may not have the resources or capacity to support the scale of infrastructure development required for these projects.
- Community Consultation and Social Licence**  
 Renewable energy projects and critical mineral developments can face opposition from local communities concerned about the potential social and environmental impacts. Gaining a social licence to operate – the broad community approval or acceptance of a project is a significant challenge for both developers and councils. Councils play a key role in facilitating community consultation, ensuring that residents are informed about the benefits and potential risks of these developments. Councils must strike a balance between supporting economic development and addressing community concerns.

### Economic Development and Local Benefits

One of the key challenges for councils is ensuring that renewable energy and critical mineral developments deliver tangible economic benefits for local communities. While these industries can create jobs and stimulate economic growth, the distribution of benefits is often uneven, with many of the economic gains flowing to external investors or large corporations rather than local residents and businesses. Councils must work to maximise the local employment opportunities and supply chain benefits, however in many cases the workforce required for these projects are not available locally, leading to an influx of external workers and limiting the direct economic benefits for the community.

### Access to Services

Regional and rural communities face numerous challenges in accessing essential services. These communities often experience geographic isolation, limited infrastructure and economic constraints which can exacerbate inequality and reduce opportunities for residents.

Councils are often responsible for providing or facilitating access to a range of services which are critical to the social and cultural fabric of the community, however the geographic spread of these rural populations makes it challenging to deliver these services efficiently and equitably. These constraints can limit the ability of residents to access essential services.

As a result many councils are being asked to step in and fill gaps in service delivery that have traditionally been the responsibility of other agencies, to ensure that their communities needs are met. While councils are often the closest to the people they serve, this added responsibility strains already limited resources.



The added burden of delivering these services leads councils with limited capacity to address local priorities. This mismatch between the provision of services and service expectations often puts councils in a position where they must choose between investing in new services or maintaining core functions leading to unsustainable financial practices.

### Community Expectations and Engagement

Councils are often tasked with meeting rising community expectations for improved services, infrastructure, and amenity, while simultaneously working with constrained budgets and resources. This growing complexity of service delivery requires councils to be more responsive, efficient and transparent.

Engaging with diverse community groups and managing conflicting interest can be difficult, especially in areas where populations are growing or changing rapidly. Councils need to find innovative ways to engage with their communities, ensure public participation in decision making, and maintain a strong connection to local needs and expectations.





**Wentworth Shire Council**

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## 9.11 ANNUAL DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST RETURNS

File Number: RPT/24/615

Responsible Officer: Simon Rule - Director Finance and Policy

Responsible Division: Finance and Policy

Reporting Officer: Deborah Zorzi - Governance Officer

Objective: 4.0 Wentworth Shire is supported by strong and ethical civic leadership with all activities conducted in an open, transparent and inclusive manner

Strategy: 4.2 A strong, responsible and representative government

### **Summary**

Council's Code of Conduct Policy requires Councillors and Designated Persons to disclose their personal interests by completing a publicly available return of interests.

The annual returns are required to be lodged within three (3) months following 30 June and must be tabled no later than the first available Council meeting in October.

As required by the Office of Local Government and the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* (NSW) the returns will be made available on Council's website after they have been noted by Council.

### **Recommendation**

That Council notes the tabling of the Disclosure of Interest Returns for Councillors and Designated Persons for the period 01/07/2023 to 30/06/2024.

### **Detailed Report**

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to table the annual Disclosure of Interest Returns for Councillors and Designated Persons as required by the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW).

#### **Background**

Council's Code of Conduct Policy requires Councillors and Designated Persons to disclose their personal interests by completing a publicly available return of interest.

As per the requirement of the Code of Conduct members of Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee are considered Designated Persons of Council.

#### **Report Detail**

The following disclosures have been received and are now tabled for the consideration of Council:

#### **Councillors** (see attachment 1)

- Mayor Daniel Linklater
- Cr Brian Beaumont
- Cr Steve Cooper
- Cr Peter Crisp
- Cr Tim Elstone
- Cr Jane MacAllister

- Cr Susan Nichols
- Cr Jo Rodda

**Designated Persons** (see attachment 2)

- Ken Ross – General Manager
- Simon Rule – Director Corporate Services
- Geoff Gunn – Director Roads & Engineering
- George Kenende – Acting Director Health & Planning
- Richard Waters – Manager Technology Services
- Lexi Stockman – Manager Tourism & Promotion
- Glen Norris – Manager Human Resources
- Jarrod Roberts – Manager Works
- Scott Barnes – Manager Engineering Services
- Rosanne Kava – Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee
- Diane Schmidt – Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee
- Caroline Smith – Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee

**Conclusion**

By tabling this report Council has met its annual compliance obligations as required by its Code of Conduct Policy and the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW).

**Attachments**

1. Disclosure of Interest Returns - Councillors[↓](#)
2. Disclosure of Interest Returns - Designated Persons[↓](#)



# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by

Daniel James Linklater

*[full name of councillor or designated person]*

as at 14/8/2024 in respect of the period from 1/7/2023 to 30/6/2024

*[insert return date]*

Signed:

Date: 14/8/2024

*[councillor's or designated person's signature]*

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
See Appendix 1	

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Primary Producer	Self	Daniel James Linklater & James Edward Linklater

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
Nil	

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
Nil	

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
Nil	

**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
Nil		

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
Refer to Appendix 2			

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

YES

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
Nil	

## H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June

Nil

## I. Dispositions of property

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

Nil

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

Nil

## J. Discretionary disclosures

Nil



## Appendix 1

**Real Property**

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date	Nature of Interest
9 Wilga Road South Gol Gol NSW 2738 Lot 3 DP 1060701	Direct
Alfred Elms Road Trentham Cliffs NSW 2738 Lot 7 DP 1256363	Direct
Sturt Highway Mallee NSW 2738 Lot 1728 DP 763589	Indirect
29-39 Hendy Road Sturt highway Buronga NSW 2739 Title Reference 1/536983 and 2/536983	Indirect
5a and 17 Dawn Avenue Gol Gol NSW 2738 Lot 1 DP 1121446 Lot 2 DP 1121446 Lot 3 DP 1121446	Indirect
19-23 Deakin Avenue Mildura VIC 3500	Indirect

## Appendix 2

**Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date	Nature of Interest	Description of Position	Description of principal objects of corporation
Trentham Farms Pty Ltd		Director	
Trentham Holdings (NSW) Pty Ltd		Director	
Trentham Projects Pty Ltd		Director	
Rosewood Ridge Investments Pty Ltd		Director	
SGP Developments Pty Ltd		Director	
KLS Consortium Pty Ltd		Director	
KLS Independent Living Pty Ltd		Director	
Mildura City Garden Apartments Pty Ltd		Director	

# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by **Brian Fredrick Beaumont**  
[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 17/07/2024 in respect of the period from 1/7/2023 to 30/6/2024  
[insert return date]

Signed:

[councillor's or designated person's signature]

Date:

17th July 2024.

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
9 Wharf Street, Wentworth NSW	Joint Owner with Glenis
2 2 David Street, Box Hill South VIC	Joint Owner with Glenis

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Self Employed Small Business	Joint Owner	BF & GF Beaumont

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
N/A	

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
Nil	



**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
Nil		

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

NO

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
N/A	

## H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June

Nil

## I. Dispositions of property

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

Nil

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

Nil

## J. Discretionary disclosures

President, Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc.,

Committee Member, Wentworth District Racing Club

Committee Member, Murray Darling Junction Interpretive Centre Inc

Board Member, Wentworth District Community Medical Centre  
Volunteer, NSW Wentworth Standard

# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by **Stephen Charles Cooper**  
[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 17/07/2024 in respect of the period from 1/7/2023 to 30/6/2024  
[insert return date]

Signer

[Redacted signature]

[councillor's or designated person's signature]

Date: 17-7-2024

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
31 Syndicate Road Curlwaa NSW 2648	Family Home
129 Darling Street Wentworth NSW 2648	Investment Property
12 SHORT STREET	INVESTMENT PROPERTY

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Real Estate Agent	Director	Wentworth & District Real Estate

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
Nil	

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
Nil	

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
Nil	



**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
Nil		

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
Nil			

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

NO

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
Nil	

## H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June
Nil - Personal

## I. Dispositions of property

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time
Nil

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

Nil

## J. Discretionary disclosures

Director/Partner of Wentworth & District Real Estate
Wentworth & District Real Estate Pty Ltd acts as managing agent on behalf of Wentworth Shire Council for a property at 64 Beverley Street under a standard Agency Management Agreement.

# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by

Peter Lawrence Crisp

*[full name of councillor or designated person]*

as at 15/7/24 in respect of the period from 1/7/2023 to 30/6/2024

*[insert return date]*

Signed:



*[councillor's or designated person's signature]*

Date:

15/7/24  
P.

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
271 Reserve Road Coomealla NSW 2717	Dwelling/Rural Residence
12 Settlement Road Merbein West VIC 3505	Dwelling/Rural Residence
61 Little Manly Road Curlwaa NSW 2648	Farm
310V/162 Albert Street East Melbourne VIC 3002	Unit

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Dunn Trading Trust	81 Darling Street Wentworth NSW 2648	
Crisp Services	12 Settlement Road Merbein West VIC 3505	

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
Nil	

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
Rental 310V/162 Albert Street East Melbourne	\$20,000.00
Share Portfolio	\$2,000.00
WSC	\$13,029.00
Water Sales	\$100,000.00

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
Nil	



**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
Nil		

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
Nil			

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

NO

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
N/A	

## H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June

Nil - personal

## I. Dispositions of property

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

Nil

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

## J. Discretionary disclosures

Member of the Victorian National Party

# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by

Timothy Elstone

*[full name of councillor or designated person]*

as at 5/8/24 in respect of the period from 1/7/2023 to 30/6/2024

*[insert return date]*

Signature

*[councillor's or designated person's signature]*

Date: 5/8/24

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
Shops 1 & 2 61 Darling Street Wentworth NSW 2648	Director of Owners Company
188 Darling View Road Wentworth NSW 2648	Owned by Spouse

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Real Estate Agent	Partner/Director	Wentworth & District Real Estate Pty Ltd
Water Broker	Sole Director	Elstone Agencies Pty Ltd

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
Nil	

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
Nil	

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
Nil	



### D. Contributions to travel

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
Nil		

### E. Interests and positions in corporations

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
Wentworth & District Real Estate Pty Ltd	Shareholder	Director	Real Estate Agency
Elstone Agencies Pty Ltd	Shareholder	Sole Director	Water Broking Agency
Elltim Pty Ltd - Superannuation Fund	Shareholder	Director	SMSF

### F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)

NO

### G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
Nil	

## H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June

Nil - Personal

## I. Dispositions of property

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

Nil

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

Nil

## J. Discretionary disclosures

Director/Partner of Wentworth & District Real Estate Pty Ltd

Wentworth & District Real Estate Pty Ltd acts as managing agent on behalf of Wentworth Shire Council for a property at 64 Beverley Street under a standard Agency Management Agreement.

# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by

Jane MacAllister

*[full name of councillor or designated person]*

as at 04/03/2024 in respect of the period from 01/07/2023 to 04/03/2024

*[insert return date]*

Signed

Date:

15/5/2024

*[councillor's or designated person's signature]*

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
68 William Street Gol Gol	50% Mortgagee

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Board Administrator (from 8 January 2024)	Mallee District Aboriginal Services (MDAS) 120 Madden Ave Mildura VIC 3500	
Acting Company Secretary (from 4 March 2024)	MDAS 120 Madden Ave Mildura VIC 3500	

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
Child Support	\$20 / month

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
Nil	



**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
Nil		

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
North West Rail Alliance Inc.	President		

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

NO

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position

## H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June

Bendigo Bank Wentworth

Mercedes Benz Finance

## I. Dispositions of property

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

Nil

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

Nil

## J. Discretionary disclosures

Nil

# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by

Jane MacAllister

*[full name of councillor or designated person]*

as at 17/9/24 in respect of the period from 05/03/2024 to 30/6/2024  
*[insert return date]*

Signed:

*[councillor's or designated person's signature]*

Date:

17/9/24

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
68 William Street Gol Gol	50% Mortgagee

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Board Administrator (from 8 January 2024)	Mallee District Aboriginal Services (MDAS) 120 Madden Ave Mildura VIC 3500	
Acting Company Secretary (from 4 March 2024)	MDAS 120 Madden Ave Mildura VIC 3500	

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
Child Support	\$20 / month

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
Nil	



**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
Nil		

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
North West Rail Alliance Inc.	President		

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

NO

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
Nil	

## H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June

Bendigo Bank Wentworth

Mercedes Benz Finance

## I. Dispositions of property

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

Nil

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

Nil

## J. Discretionary disclosures

Nil

# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by **Hazel Susan Nichols**  
[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at **13/07/2024** in respect of the period from **1/7/2023** to **30/6/2024**  
[insert return date]

Signed:

Date: **13.7.2024**

[councillor's or designated person's signature]

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
Unit 5 226 Adams Street Wentworth NSW 2648	Owner

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Nil		

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
Nil	

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
Wentworth Shire Council Fees	\$12650

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
Nil	



**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
Nil		

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
Wentworth Bowling Club	Member	President	Promote Lawn Bowls

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

YES / NO

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
Sporting Shooters Australia	Member

## H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June

Nil

## I. Dispositions of property

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

Nil

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

Nil

## J. Discretionary disclosures

Nil

# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by

Jo Rodda

[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at 30/5/2024

[insert return date]

in respect of the period from

1/7/2023

to

9/4/2024

Signed:

[Redacted signature]

Date:

30/5/2024

[councillor's or designated person's signature]

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
10 Rosedale Court Buronga NSW 2739	Own Home

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Event Coordinator	Self Employed	Event Management, Administration & Safety Services (EMASS)
Administration	CoreStaff 324 Argent St Broken Hill NSW	

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
Nil	

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
Self Employment	\$40,000.00 2023-2024 FY
PAYG	\$20,000.00

## C. Gifts

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
Nil	



**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
N/A			

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

NO

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
Mildura Field Days	Contract Coordinator
Mildura Show Society	Contract Coordinator
Tronox	Administration
Mildura Entertainment	Sub-contractor

## H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June
CBA Home Loan

## I. Dispositions of property

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time
Nil

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

Nil

## J. Discretionary disclosures

Nil

# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by

Jo Rodda

*[full name of councillor or designated person]*

as at 14/8/2024 in respect of the period from 9/04/2024 to 30/06/2024

*[insert return date]*

Signed:

Date: 14/8/2024

*[councillor's or designated person's signature]*

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
10 Rosedale Court Buronga NSW 2739	Own Home

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Event Coordinator	Self Employed	Event Management, Administration & Safety Services (EMASS)
Administration	CoreStaff 324 Argent St Broken Hill NSW	

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
Nil	

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
Self Employment	\$40,000.00 2023-2024 FY
PAYG	\$20,000.00

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
Nil	



**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
N/A			

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

NO

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
Mildura Field Days	Contract Coordinator
Mildura Show Society	Contract Coordinator
Tronox	Administration
Mildura Entertainment	Sub-contractor

## H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June

CBA Home Loan

## I. Dispositions of property

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

Nil

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

Nil

## J. Discretionary disclosures

Nil

# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by **KENNETH ANDREW ROSS**

*[full name of councillor or designated person]*

as at 27/08/2024 in respect of the period from 1/7/2023 to 30/6/2024

*[insert return date]*

Signed:



Date: 27 August 2024

*[councillor's or designated person's signature]*

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
5 Casuarina Way Buronga NSW	Joint Owner (disposed of August 2023)
6 Morrison Court Gol Gol NSW	Joint Owner

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
General Manager	Wentworth Shire Council 26-28 Adelaide Street Wentworth NSW	N/A

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
Nil	

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
Nil	

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
Nil	



**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
Nil		

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
Nil			

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

No

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
Nil	

## H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June

Nil

## I. Dispositions of property

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

Nil

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

Nil

## J. Discretionary disclosures

Nil

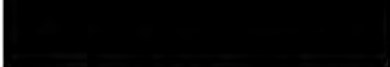
# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by **SIMON PATRICK RULE**  
*[full name of councillor or designated person]*

as at **30/06/2024** in respect of the period from **1/7/2023** to **30/6/2024**  
*[insert return date]*

Signed:  Date: **02/09/2024**  
*[councillor's or designated person's signature]*

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
28 Langtree Parade Mildura VIC	Owner
23 Fyans Street South Geelong VIC	Owner

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Director Corporate Services	Wentworth Shire Council 26-28 Adelaide Street Wentworth NSW	

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
Nil	

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
Rental Income	\$9,100.00

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
Nil	



**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
Nil		

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
Nil			

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

No

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
Nil	

## H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June

Nil

## I. Dispositions of property

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

Nil

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

Nil

## J. Discretionary disclosures

Board Member – Christie Centre Incorporated

# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by

GEOFF GUNN

*[full name of councillor or designated person]*

as at 2/9/2024 in respect of the period from 1/7/2023 to 30/6/2024

*[insert return date]*

Signed:

Date: 2/9/24.

*[councillor's or designated person's signature]*

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
4 Lakeside Drive Cabarita VIC	Owner

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Director Roads & Engineering	Wentworth Shire Council 26-28 Adelaide Street Wentworth NSW	Full time employee

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
Nil	

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
Nil	

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
Nil	



**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
Nil		

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
Nil			

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

No

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
Nil	

**H. Debts**

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June

Nil

**I. Dispositions of property**

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

Nil

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

Nil

**J. Discretionary disclosures**

Nil

# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by **GEORGE KENENDE**  
[full name of councillor or designated person]

as at **28/08/2024** in respect of the period from **01/07/2023** to **30/06/2024**  
[insert return date]

Signed:

Date: 28/08/2024

[councillor's or designated person's signature]

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
N/A	

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Acting Director Health & Planning	Wentworth Shire Council 26-28 Adelaide Street Wentworth NSW	

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
N/A	



**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
N/A		

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
N/A			

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

NO

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
Planning Institute of Australia (PIA)	Member

**H. Debts**

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June

N/A

**I. Dispositions of property**

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

N/A

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

**J. Discretionary disclosures**

N/A

# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by

RICHARD WATERS

*[full name of councillor or designated person]*

as at 28/8/24 in respect of the period from 1/7/2023 to 30/6/2024

*[insert return date]*

Signed:



Date: 28/8/24

*[councillor's or designated person's signature]*

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
5 Stockmans Drive Irymple VIC	Owner
36-38 Darling Street Wentworth NSW	Owner

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Manager Technology Services	Wentworth Shire Council	
Owner/Manager	Waters Computer Consultants	

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
N/A	

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
Rental income (36-38 Darling St Wentworth)	\$10,000

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
N/A	



**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
N/A		

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
N/A			

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

No

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
N/A	

## H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June

## I. Dispositions of property

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

N/A

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

N/A

## J. Discretionary disclosures

N/A

# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by **GLENDON GEOFFREY NORRIS**

*[full name of councillor or designated person]*

as at 27/08/2024 in respect of the period from 1/7/2023 to 30/6/2024

*[insert return date]*

Signed:



Date: 27/08/2024

*[councillor's or designated person's signature]*

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
79 Cadell Street Wentworth NSW	Freehold

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Manager Human Resources	Wentworth Shire Council 26-28 Adelaide Street Wentworth NSW	

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
N/A	

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
N/A	

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
N/A	



**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
N/A		

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
N/A			

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

No

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
N/A	

## H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June

N/A

## I. Dispositions of property

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

N/A

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

## J. Discretionary disclosures

N/A

# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by

SCOTT BARNES

*[full name of councillor or designated person]*

as at 28/8/24 in respect of the period from 01/07/2023 to 30/06/2024

*[insert return date]*

Signed:

Date: 28/8/24

*[councillor's or designated person's signature]*

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
10 Pevensey Grove Mildura VIC	Owner

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Manager Engineering Services	Wentworth Shire Council	

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
Nil	

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
Nil	

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
Nil	



**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
Nil		

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
Nil			

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

No

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
Engineers Australia	Member
Professionals Australia	Member

## H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June

Nil

## I. Dispositions of property

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

Nil

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

Nil

## J. Discretionary disclosures

Nil

# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by

JARROD ROBERTS

*[full name of councillor or designated person]*

as at 23/8/24 in respect of the period from 1/7/2023 to 30/6/2024

*[insert return date]*

Signed:



Date:

23/8/24

*[councillor's or designated person's signature]*

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
16 The Cobb and Co Way Gol Gol NSW	Owner

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Manager Works	Wentworth Shire Council	

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
**	

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
N/A	

## C. Gifts

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
N/A	



**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
N/A		

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
N/A			

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

Yes

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
N/A	

**H. Debts**

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June

N/A

**I. Dispositions of property**

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

N/A

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

N/A

**J. Discretionary disclosures**

N/A

# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by

LEXI MAREE STOCKMAN

*[full name of councillor or designated person]*

as at 28/8/24 in respect of the period from 1/7/2023 to 30/6/2024  
*[insert return date]*

Signed:

Date:

28/8/24

*[councillor's or designated person's signature]*

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
26 Dawn Avenue Gol Gol NSW	Owner
11 Panuccio Rise Gol Gol NSW	Owner

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Manager Tourism & Promotion	Wentworth Shire Council	

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
N/A	

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
N/A	

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
N/A	



**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
N/A		

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
N/A			

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

No

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
N/A	

## H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June

N/A

## I. Dispositions of property

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

N/A

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

N/A

## J. Discretionary disclosures

N/A

# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by

Rosanne Mary KAVA

*[full name of councillor or designated person]*

as at 30/9/2024 in respect of the period from 1/7/2023 to 30/6/2024

*[insert return date]*

Signed:

*[councillor's or designated person's signature]*

Date: 30/9/24

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
194 Minerva Rd, NEWTOWN, VIC 3220	Residence
45 Baker St, BRAY PARK, QLD, 4500	Investment

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Chair, Audit and Risk Committee	Swan Hill Rural City Council. 45 Splatt St, Swan Hill, VIC, 3585	
Management Consultant	Kava Consulting P/L PO Box 7218 GEELONG WEST VIC 3218	

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
	RM Kava Superannuation Fund PO Box 140 FITZROY VIC 3065
Andrew John Millar GMG Accounting SWAN HILL VIC 3585	Rosanne Kava Family Trust Trustee: 194 Minerva Rd NEWTOWN VIC 3220

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme pension	\$45,000

## C. Gifts

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
NIL	



**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
NIL		

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
NIL			

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

No

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
Rotary District 9780	Director, Membership Development

**H. Debts**

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June
NIL

**I. Dispositions of property**

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time
NIL

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

NIL

**J. Discretionary disclosures**


# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by

Diane Joy SCHMIDT

*[full name of councillor or designated person]*

as at 30/6/24 in respect of the period from 23/01/2024 to 30/06/2024

*[insert return date]*

Signed:

Date:

15-8-24

*[councillor's or designated person's signature]*

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
64 Cadell Street WENTWORTH NSW 2640	

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
General Manager Corporate Services	Sunraysia Institute of TAFE 453 Benetook Avenue MILDURA VIC 3500	

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
NIL	

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
NIL	

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
NIL	



**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
NIL		

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
NIL			

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

YES / NO

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
NIL	

**H. Debts**

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June

NIL

**I. Dispositions of property**

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

NIL

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

**J. Discretionary disclosures**

NIL

# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by

Diane Joy SCHMIDT

*[full name of councillor or designated person]*

as at 22/1/24 in respect of the period from 1/7/2023 to 22/01/2024

*[insert return date]*

Signed:

Date:

15-8-24

*[councillor's or designated person's signature]*

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
64 Cadell Street WENTWORTH NSW 2640	
1435 Pooncarie Road WENTWORTH NSW 2648	Sold 22/01/2024

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
General Manager Corporate Services	Sunraysia Institute of TAFE 453 Benetook Avenue MILDURA VIC 3500	

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
NIL	

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
NIL	

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
NIL	



**D. Contributions to travel**

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
NIL		

**E. Interests and positions in corporations**

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
NIL			

**F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)**

YES / NO

**G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations**

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
NIL	

## H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June

NIL

## I. Dispositions of property

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

NIL

2. Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

## J. Discretionary disclosures

NIL

# DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST FORM

REQUIRED TO BE LODGED UNDER CLAUSE 4.21 OF THE  
MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LOCAL COUNCILS IN  
NSW



Disclosure of pecuniary interests and other matters by

Caroline SMITH

*[full name of councillor or designated person]*

as at **18.9.2024** in respect of the period from **1/7/2023** to **30/6/2024**

*[insert return date]*

Signed

Date: **18.9.2024.**

*[councillor's or designated person's signature]*

## A. Real Property

Street address of each parcel of real property in which I had an interest at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest
26 Carramar Drive GOL GOL NSW 2738	Ownership
34 Cooray Street COBRAM VIC 3644	Ownership
U 1468 Cascade Condos, Kuna LAGUNA QUAYS QLD 4800	Beneficiary

## B. Sources of income

### 1. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from an occupation in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from an occupation at any time since 30 June

Description of occupation	Name and address of employer or description of office held (if applicable)	Name under which partnership conducted (if applicable)
Garraway Group / Accounting	Garraway Group 367 Benetook Avenue MILDURA VIC 3500	N/A
PDS Plan Management / Accounting	26 Carramar Drive GOL GOLG NSW 2738	N/A

## 2. Sources of income I:

- reasonably expect to receive from a trust in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of income I received from a trust since 30 June

Name and address of settlor	Name and address of trustee
N/A	N/A

## 3. Sources of other income I

- reasonably expect to receive in the period commencing on the first day after the return date and ending on the following 30 June
- Sources of other income I received at any time since 30 June

Source	Amount
N/A	N/A

**C. Gifts**

Description of each gift I received at any time since 30 June	Name and address of donor
N/A	N/A



### D. Contributions to travel

Name and address of each person who made any financial or other contribution to any travel undertaken by me at any time since 30 June	Dates on which travel was undertaken	Name of States, Territories of the Commonwealth and overseas countries in which travel was undertaken
N/A		

### E. Interests and positions in corporations

Name and address of each corporation in which I had an interest or held a position at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Nature of interest (if any)	Description of position (if any)	Description of principal objects (if any) of corporation (except in case of listed company)
<del>Mallee Accommodation Support Program</del>	<del>Chair of Board</del>	<del>Chair of Board</del>	<del>Volunteer Position</del> N/A.
PDS Automation	Beneficiary	NIL	N/A

### F. Were you a property developer or a close associate of a property developer on the return date? (Y/N)

YES / NO

### G. Positions in trade unions and professional or business associations

Name of each trade union and each professional or business association in which I held any position (whether remunerated or not) at the return date/at any time since 30 June	Description of position
N/A	N/A

## H. Debts

Name and address of each person to whom I was liable to pay any debt at the return date/at any time since 30 June

N/A

## I. Dispositions of property

1. Particulars of each disposition of real property by me (including the street address of the affected property) at any time since 30 June as a result of which I retained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property or the right to re-acquire the property at a later time

N/A

2 Particulars of each disposition of property to a person by any other person under arrangements made by me (including the street address of the affected property), being dispositions made at any time since 30 June, as a result of which I obtained, either wholly or in part, the use and benefit of the property

N/A

## J. Discretionary disclosures

N/A

## 9.12 A64 ANABRANCH HALL & ROAD REALIGNMENT ACQUISITION

File Number: RPT/24/290

Responsible Officer: George Kenende - Acting Director Health & Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Hilary Dye - Property and Land Tenure Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.5 Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire

### Summary

A Council resolution is required to commence the compulsory acquisition from the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (Crown Lands) of:

- Lots 642 and 643 Deposited Plan 1287475 (within Lot 498 Deposited Plan 761441) for the purpose of infrastructure constructed by Council relating to the Anabranh Hall and Tennis Courts Reserve 84989; and
- Lot 641 Deposited Plan 1287475 (within Lot 498 Deposited Plan 761441) for the purpose of a public road creating legal access to the Crown Reserve.

### Recommendation

That Council:

1. Proceed to acquire Lots 642 and 643 Deposited Plan 1287475 by the compulsory process under the terms of the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 (NSW)* by authority contained in the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*, for the purpose of public amenities infrastructure constructed by Council for the use of the community.
2. Proceed to acquire Lot 641 Deposited Plan 1287475 by the compulsory process under the terms of the *Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 (NSW)* by authority contained in the *Roads Act 1993 (NSW)* for the purpose of a public road.
3. Approves any minerals are to be excluded from this acquisition.
4. Confirms the acquisition of the land is not for the purpose of resale.
5. Makes an application submitted to the NSW Minister for Local Government via the Office of Local Government and to the NSW Governor General for approval to compulsorily acquire the Crown land for the public purpose.
6. Authorises the General Manager and Mayor to give effect to this resolution and sign any documentation necessary to finalise the acquisition.

### Detailed Report

#### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to commence the land acquisition of Lots 641, 642 and 643 Deposited Plan 1287475 being part of Crown lease land formally within Lot 498 Deposited Plan 761441, as shown in the attached plan.

### Background

The Anabranh Hall and Tennis Courts Reserve is the hub of the community, a place where the community and remote western land leasehold families have gathered for decades participating in social and recreational activities.

Whilst Council has undertaken improvements to the reserve, it was identified that several key buildings were not within the crown reserve boundary nor was there a legal access road leading to the reserve. Council gained the written support of the adjoining landholder to request a boundary realignment to accommodate the extension to the hall and the toilets.

To address these issues Council engaged Public Works Advisory to prepare a plan of survey to rectify the access road (track in use) that traverses Lot 498 Deposited Plan 761441, being part of a Western Land Lease owned by The State of New South Wales (Crown Land) as well as ownership of land upon which Council infrastructure is constructed (toilet & shower / amenities block).

### Matters under consideration

The intention of the acquisition is to provide a legal access road approximately 1km in length, linking Anabranh Mail Road to the Anabranh Hall and to acquire land surrounding the reserve which contains Councils infrastructure relating to Anabranh Hall & Tennis Courts Reserve in Anabranh South.

Native Title is extinguished from the Western Land Lease holding.

### Legal, strategic, financial or policy implications

The acquisition of Lots 641, 642 and 643 Deposited Plan 1287475 formerly within Lot 498 Deposited Plan 761441 is part of a Western Land Lease, owned by the State of New South Wales (Crown Land). As the land is leased crown land, Native Title is extinguished therefore compensation will only be payable to Crown Land for the market value of the land and loss of income from the lease holding.

To rectify the land tenure issue Council needs to acquire the land that will accommodate essential public infrastructure and provide legal access to the reserve by the way of a public road.

The acquisitions are to occur under two separate Acts as follows:

- Proposed Lot 641 to be acquired pursuant to the *Roads Act 1993*;
- Proposed Lots 642 & 643 to be acquired pursuant to the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Council is required to follow the compulsory acquisition process under the terms of the *Land Acquisition (Just Term Compensation) Act 1991 NSW*.

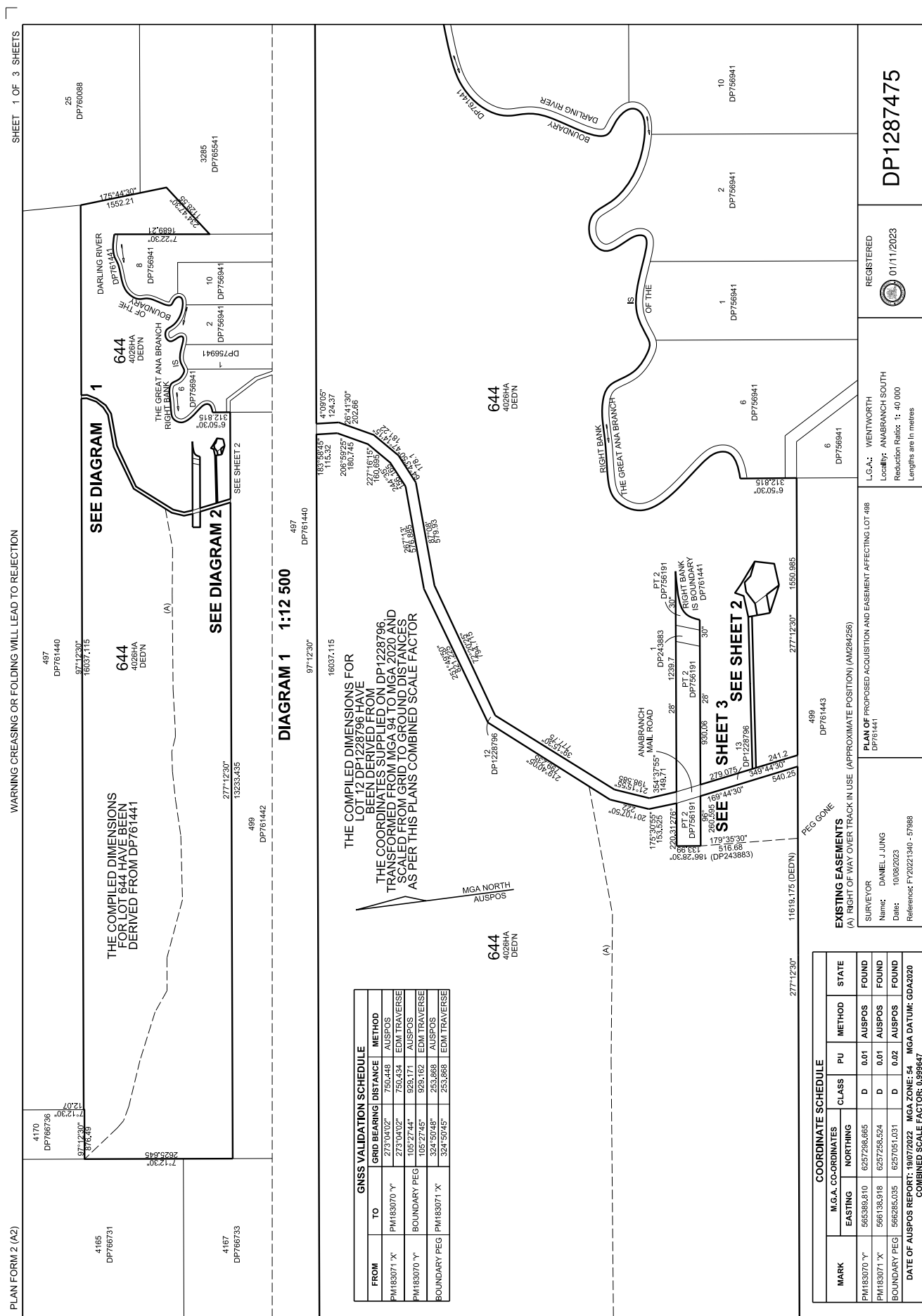
### Conclusion

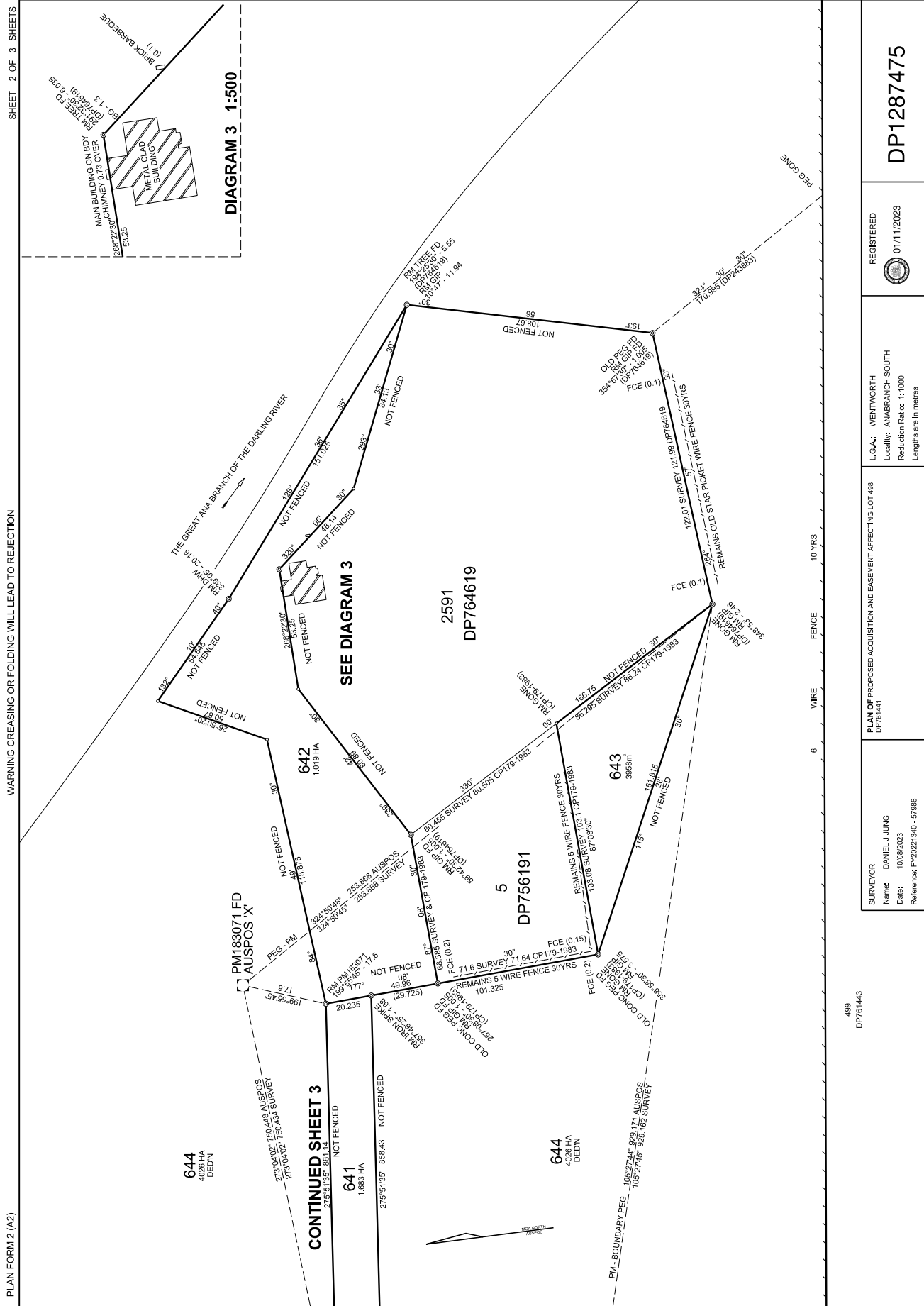
Having consideration to the content of this report it is concluded that the appropriate course of action is to approve the acquisition of the land upon which Council infrastructure is constructed and provide a public access road to the Anabranh Hall and Tennis Courts Reserve 84989.

### Attachments

1. Registered Deposited Plan 761441 [↓](#)
2. Site Map [↓](#)





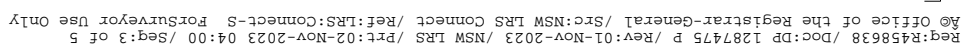


PLAN FORM 2 (A2)

WARNING CREASING OR FOLDING WILL LEAD TO REJECTION

SHEET 2 OF 3 SHEETS

Reg:R458638 /Doc:DP 1287475 P /Rev:01-Nov-2023 /NSW LRS /Prt:02-Nov-2023 04:00 /Seq:2 of 5  
At Office of the Registrar-General /Src:NSW LRS Connect /Ret:LRS:Connect-S ForSurveyor Use Only




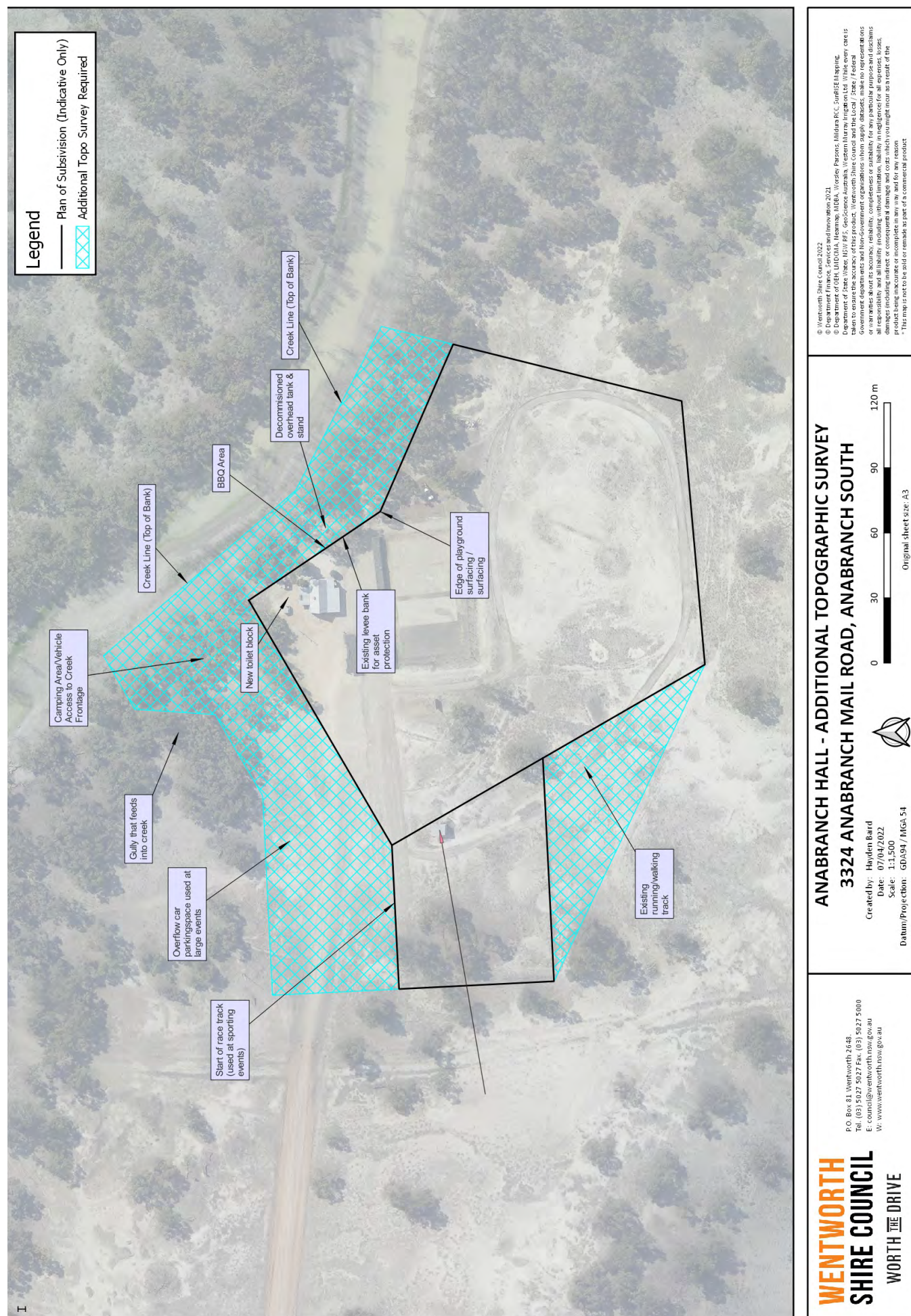
## PLAN FORM 6 (2020)

WARNING: Creasing or folding will lead to rejection

DEPOSITED PLAN ADMINISTRATION SHEET		Sheet 1 of 2 sheet(s)
Registered:  01/11/2023 Title System: TORRENS	Office Use Only <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">DP1287475</div>	
<b>PLAN OF PROPOSED ACQUISITION AND EASEMENT AFFECTING LOT 498 DP761441</b>	LGA: WENTWORTH Locality: ANABRANCH SOUTH Parish: WILTON County: TARA	
<div style="text-align: center;">Survey Certificate</div> <p>I, DANIEL J JUNG.....            of NSW PUBLIC WORKS .....            a surveyor registered under the <i>Surveying and Spatial Information Act 2002</i>, certify that:</p> <p><del>*(a) The land shown in the plan was surveyed in accordance with the Surveying and Spatial Information Regulation 2017, is accurate and the survey was completed on ....., or</del></p> <p><del>*(b) The part of the land shown in the plan (*being/*excluding** ....., LOTS 641 – 643 ..... ) was surveyed in accordance with the Surveying and Spatial Information Regulation 2017, the part surveyed is accurate and the survey was completed on, ... 10/08/2023..... the part not surveyed was compiled in accordance with that Regulation, or</del></p> <p><del>*(c) The land shown in this plan was compiled in accordance with the Surveying and Spatial Information Regulation 2017.</del></p> <p>Datum Line: X-Y .....</p> <p>Type: *Urban/*Rural</p> <p>The terrain is *Level-Undulating / *<del>Steep-Mountainous</del>.</p> <p>Signature: ..... Dated: 31/08/2023....</p> <p>Surveyor Identification No: 8860 .....</p> <p>Surveyor registered under the <i>Surveying and Spatial Information Act 2002</i></p> <p><small>*Strike out inappropriate words.</small></p> <p><small>**Specify the land actually surveyed or specify any land shown in the plan that is not the subject of the survey.</small></p>	<div style="text-align: center;">Crown Lands NSW/Western Lands Office Approval</div> <p>I, ..... (Authorised Officer) in approving this plan certify that all necessary approvals in regard to the allocation of the land shown herein have been given.</p> <p>Signature: .....</p> <p>Date: .....</p> <p>File Number: .....</p> <p>Office: .....</p>	
Plans used in the preparation of survey/compilation. CP24-1983 CP179-1983 DP760520 DP243883 DP761441 DP764619 DP1203445 DP1228796	<div style="text-align: center;">Subdivision Certificate</div> <p>I, .....            *Authorised Person/*General Manager/*Registered Certifier, certify that the provisions of s.6.15 of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> have been satisfied in relation to the proposed subdivision, new road or reserve set out herein.</p> <p>Signature: .....</p> <p>Registration number: .....</p> <p>Consent Authority: .....</p> <p>Date of endorsement: .....</p> <p>Subdivision Certificate number: .....</p> <p>File number: .....</p> <p><small>*Strike through if inapplicable.</small></p>	
Statements of intention to dedicate public roads create public reserves and drainage reserves, acquire/resume land. <b>IT IS INTENDED TO ACQUIRE LOT 641 UNDER THE ROADS ACT, 1993</b> <b>IT IS INTENDED TO ACQUIRE LOTS 642 AND 643 UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1993</b>	Signatures, Seals and Section 88B Statements should appear on PLAN FORM 6A	
Surveyor's Reference: FY20221340 - 57988		



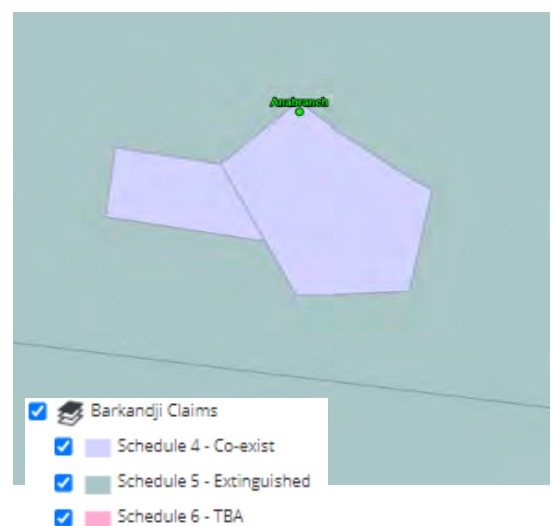
PLAN FORM 6A (2019) DEPOSITED PLAN ADMINISTRATION SHEET		Sheet 2 of 2 sheet(s)
 <b>Registered:</b> 01/11/2023	Office Use Only	Office Use Only
<b>PLAN OF PROPOSED ACQUISITION AND EASEMENT AFFECTING LOT 498 DP761441 .</b>		<b>DP1287475</b>
Subdivision Certificate number: ..... Date of Endorsement: .....		
This sheet is for the provision of the following information as required:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A schedule of lots and addresses - See 60(c) <i>SSI Regulation 2017</i></li><li>• Statements of intention to create and release affecting interests in accordance with section 88B <i>Conveyancing Act 1919</i></li><li>• Signatures and seals- see 195D <i>Conveyancing Act 1919</i></li><li>• Any information which cannot fit in the appropriate panel of sheet 1 of the administration sheets.</li></ul>		
STREET ADDRESSES OF ALL LOTS ARE NOT AVAILABLE		
If space is insufficient use additional annexure sheet		
Surveyor's Reference: FY20221340 - 57988		







Data Layer		CADASTRE DETAILS	
Address			
3324 Anabranch Mail Road			
Anabranch South NSW 2648			
Australia			
Details			
Area	25416.41 m <sup>2</sup>		
Parcel Status	ITS Title		
Parcel Type	-		
Plan Number	2591/764619		
Lot Number	2591		
Locality	Anabranch South		
State	NSW		



### 9.13 TRANSFER OF CROWN ROAD - BURONGA LANDFILL WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY

File Number: RPT/24/616

Responsible Officer: George Kenende - Acting Director Health & Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Allan Graham - Property Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.2 Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained

#### **Summary**

As a result of electrical up-grading work to provide mains power to the Buronga Landfill Waste Management Facility situated at 258 Arumpo Road, Buronga, it has been identified that the road that provides access to the Waste Management Facility from Arumpo Road is a Crown road owned by the State of New South Wales.

To facilitate the electrical up-grading work to the Landfill Facility (underground high voltage cabling and installation of above ground substation) and to ensure Council has effective control over the road into the future, it is proposed that Council officers make application to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (Crown Lands) to transfer the ownership of the road to Council.

#### **Recommendation**

That Council makes an application to Crown Lands requesting that the ownership of the existing Crown road from Arumpo Road, Buronga and through to the Buronga Landfill Waste Management Facility be transferred to Wentworth Shire Council.

#### **Detailed Report**

##### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to seek the Council's approval to make application to Crown Lands for the transfer of the ownership of the existing Crown road that provides access, from Arumpo Road into and through the Buronga Landfill Waste Management Facility to Council. The proposed transfer of the Crown road is to facilitate the electricity supply work to provide mains power to the Waste Management Facility and to enable Council to exercise effective control over the road into the future.

##### **Background**

As outlined above, it is proposed to upgrade the electrical supply infrastructure to provide for mains power at the Buronga Landfill Waste Management Facility situated at 258 Arumpo Road, Buronga. This work replaces the current onsite electricity generator.

The electrical supply upgrading work will comprise of the installation of underground 22kV high voltage cable run from an existing high voltage pole (NP452597) at Arumpo Road to a new dedicated 315kva pad mounted substation located within the Waste Management Facility. It is a requirement of the Network Operator (Essential Energy) that the underground high voltage electrical cabling is be located within the existing Crown road - road reserve (as shown in Fig 2 attached to this report).

As a result of the electrical supply upgrading work for the Buronga Landfill Waste Management Facility it has been identified that the road (from Arumpo Road) that provides



access to and through the Waste Management Facility is a Crown road owned by the State of New South Wales.

To bring this road under Council's ownership and control, it is proposed that Council officers make application to Crown Lands to transfer the current ownership of the road from the State of New South Wales to Wentworth Shire Council.

Matters under consideration

It is Council officers' view, so that effective control can be exercised over the road by Council now and into the future, an application should be made to Crown Lands to transfer ownership of the existing Crown road to Council. This will result in the road coming under Council's control and therefore enable Council to exercise the powers and functions conferred on it as the relevant roads authority pursuant to the *Roads Act 1993*.

Options

Based on the information contained in this report, the options available to address this matter are to:

1. Request the transfer of the Crown road (as shown in Fig 1 attached to this report) from the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (Crown Lands) to Council's ownership and authority.

Conclusion

Council officers have concluded that the appropriate course of action to enable Council to exercise effective control over the existing Crown road that provides access to the Buronga Landfill Waste Management Facility is to make application to Crown Lands to transfer ownership of the road to Wentworth Shire Council. This will result in the road coming under Council's control and authority.

Attachments

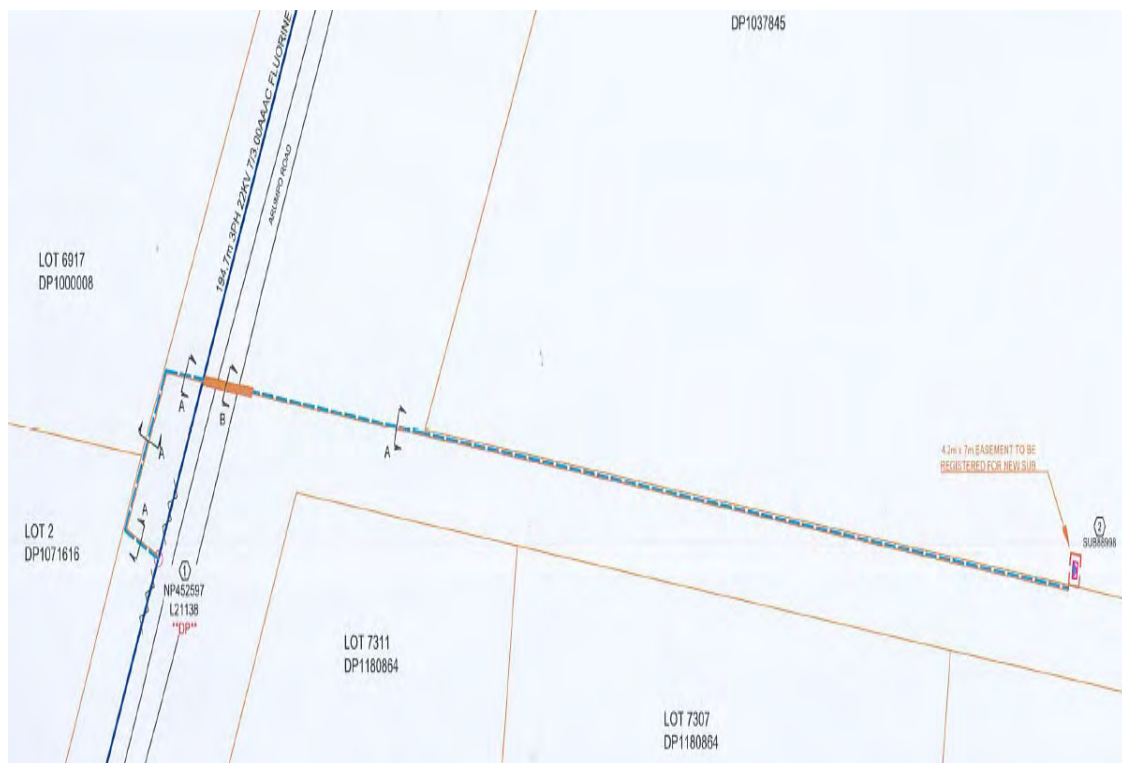
1. Attachments to Report RPT-24-616 - Crown Road Transfer - Buronga Landfill Waste Management Facility [↓](#)

## Attachments to Report RPT/24/616 – Transfer of Crown Road – Buronga Landfill Waste Management Facility

Fig 1 – Existing Crown road to be transferred to Council



Fig 2 – Location of proposed electrical up-grade works



## 9.14 HELENA STREET ROAD CLOSURE

File Number: RPT/24/637

Responsible Officer: George Kenende - Acting Director Health & Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Hilary Dye - Property and Land Tenure Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.2 Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained

### Summary

A Council resolution is sought to approve the closure of the furthest eastern end of Helena Street which crosses Darling Street to the Darling River, for which Council is now the roads authority under the provisions of Division 3 of the *Roads Act 1993*.

In accordance with Section 31(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the land will then be classified as Operational Land providing Council flexibility in its use and any future dealings.

### Recommendation

That Council:

1. Approves the closure of a portion of Council's public road known as Helena Street, Wentworth under the provisions of Division 3 of the *Roads Act 1993*.
2. Confirms that the road closure is not for the purpose of resale.
3. Approves minerals are to be excluded from the acquisition.
4. Upon the road being closed, will classify the land as Operational Land.
5. Authorises the General Manager and Mayor be authorised to sign any necessary documentation.

### Detailed Report

#### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to undertake the process to close a section of Helena Street and classify the land as Operational Land, which Council can use for operational purposes.

Upon closure, Council intends to fence off part of the land for Wentworth Shire Council staff pool car parking enclosure and the remainder providing additional parking to accommodate the patrons of the Wentworth Grand Resort, Council staff and public visiting local shops and access to the Darling River.

#### Background

As part of Council's move to the Civic Centre it was identified a small portion of Helena Street was still a Crown Road, whereby Council was not the current road authority (owner).

In May 2024, Council resolved to make an application to Crown Lands requesting a transfer of the remaining section of Helena Street into Council's ownership. The road transfer process was completed by publication of the NSW Government Gazette Notice on 30 August 2024.

Matters under consideration

*Road Closure*

Following the NSW legislative procedure set out in Division 3 of the *Roads Act 1993*, Council may propose the closure of a council public road for which it is the road authority if the road is not reasonably required as a road for public use, not required to provide continuity for an existing road network and the closure does not exclude vehicular access to the land.

The area to be closed comprises of approximately 2565m<sup>2</sup>

*Classification of Land*

The purpose of classification is to identify clearly land which should be kept for use by the general public (community) and that land which need not (operational).

Section 31(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) notes that before Council acquires land, or within three months after it acquires land, Council may classify the subject land by resolution.

*Public Notice / Advertising*

In accordance with Division 3 of the *Roads Act 1993* & Section 34 of the *Local Government Act 1993* public notices of Council's intention to close and classify the land as Operational Land will be placed in the Sunraysia Daily's Community Noticeboard and posted on Council's website allowing 28 days for written submissions.

After the 28-day statutory period ends, Council staff will consider all submissions received and take appropriate action to resolve any objections.

Options

Based on the information contained in this report, the options available to address each matter are to:

Road Closure Options

1. Proceed with the road closure  
Or
2. Do not proceed with the road closure.

Classification Options if road closure proceeds

1. **Community Land** – land which will be kept for use by the general public eg. Community land would ordinarily comprise land such as public parks.  
Or
2. **Operational Land** – land which facilitates the carrying out by a council of its functions or land which may not be open to the general public, such as a works depot or a pool carpark.

Legal, strategic, financial or policy implications

As set out in the NSW legislative procedure Division 3 of the *Roads Act 1993*, Helena Street is not required to be part of Councils existing road network. The process of closing the road and classifying it as operational land permits Council to fence off an area to develop a staff car parking enclosure and use the residue of the land to extend the existing carpark.



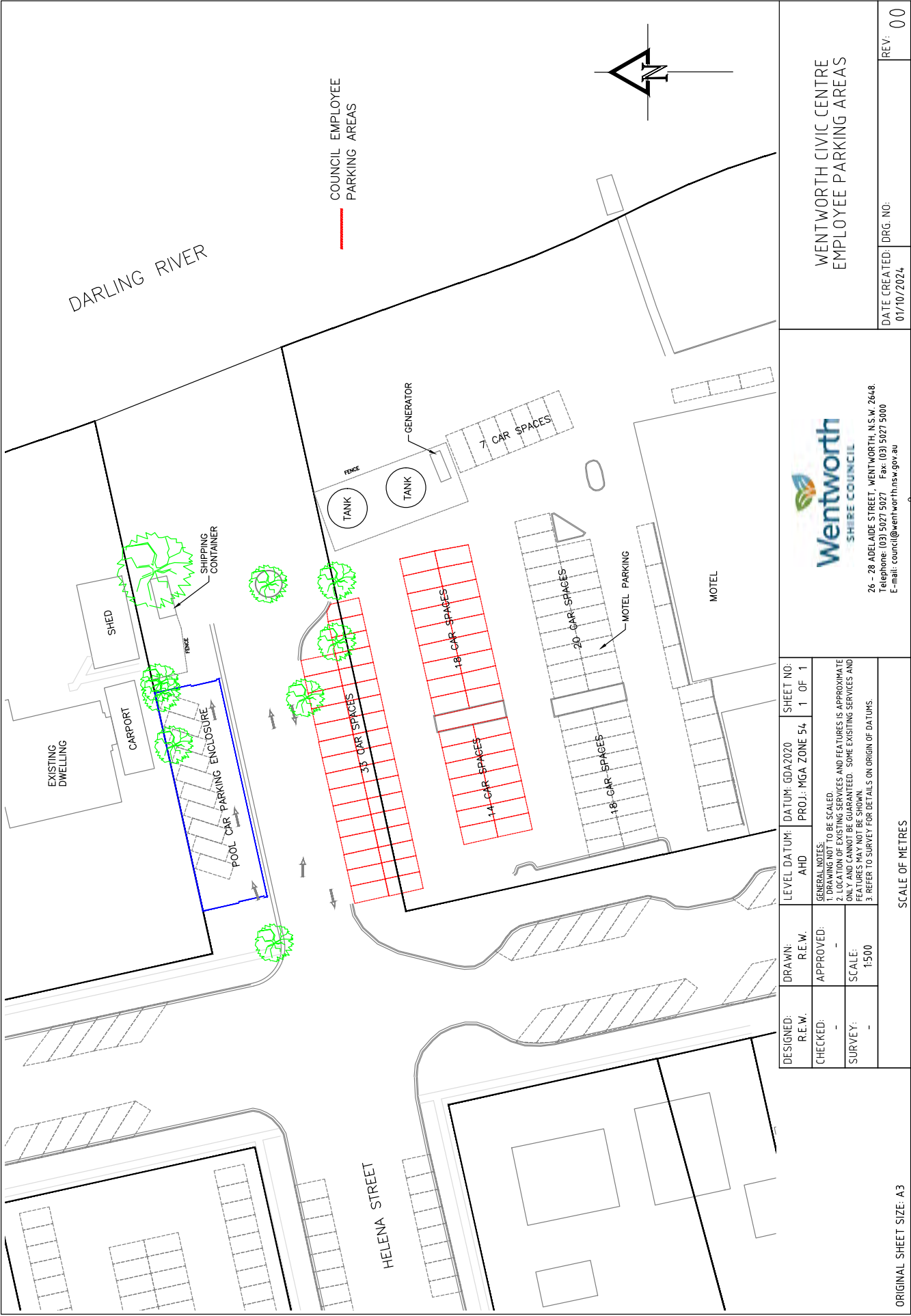
Land incorrectly classified will require reclassification to operational land will involve an application to amend the Local Environmental Plan under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 which is both time and cost prohibitive.

**Conclusion**

After considering the information provided in this report the most appropriate course of action is for Council to approve the recommendations as presented.

**Attachments**

1. Employee car parking area [↓](#)
2. NSW Government Gazette / site location [↓](#)



**ROADS ACT 1993****ORDER****Transfer of Crown Road to a Council**

In pursuance of the provisions of Section 152I of the *Roads Act 1993*, the Crown road specified in Schedule 1 is transferred to the roads authority specified in Schedule 2 hereunder as from the date of publication of this notice and as from that date the road specified in Schedule 1 ceases to be a Crown road.

The Hon. Stephen Kamper, M.P.  
Minister for Lands and Property

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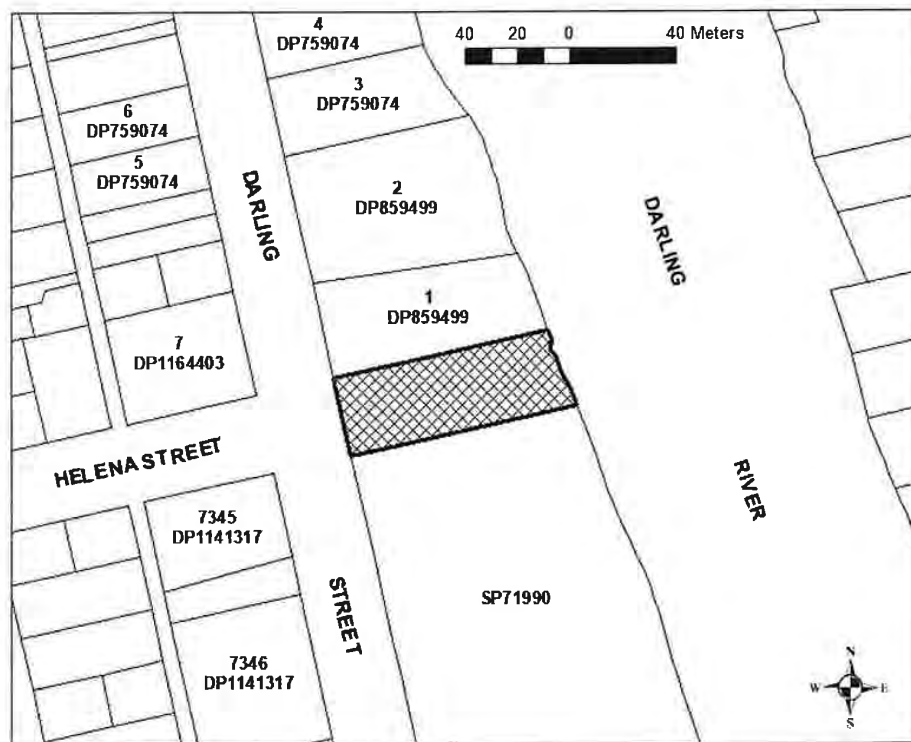
**SCHEDULE 1**

Parish: Wentworth  
County: Wentworth  
Land District: Wentworth  
LGA: Wentworth  
DESCRIPTION: Helena Street between Darling Street and Darling River comprising an area of 2565 m<sup>2</sup>;  
as shown cross hatched outline on the diagram below.

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**SCHEDULE 2**

Roads Authority: Wentworth Shire Council  
Council Ref: DOC/24/15080  
Department File Ref: 13/14225#01; W646538





**9.15 DA2024/093 SINGLE MOORING POLE CREATING 2 MOORING SITES LOT 1 DP 1046256 STURT HIGHWAY, TRENTHAM CLIFFS**

File Number: RPT/24/682

Responsible Officer: George Kenende - Acting Director Health & Planning

Responsible Division: Health and Planning

Reporting Officer: Kerrie Copley - Planning Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.1 Ensure our planning decisions and controls enable the community to benefit from development

**Summary**

A development application (DA2024/093) was received by Council on 27 July 2024 for an additional mooring pole facilitating an additional private mooring site totaling two (2) mooring sites to be located in the riverfront area of Lot 1 DP 1046256 Sturt Highway, Trentham Cliffs.

Under the *Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 (WLEP 2011)*, this development is permitted with consent when located within the W1 Natural Waterways and RU4 Primary Production Small Lots zones.

The proposed development is to be located within the river front area Murray River and be an addition to the existing private mooring on the site. The proposed additional mooring pole is to be located no closer to the river than the existing mooring pole approved under DA12/053. Single mooring sites are acceptable development, however, the development of a second mooring site – through the addition of a mooring pole, will result in more than one mooring on the same lot, owned by the same owners and does not comply with provisions identified under clause 7.8(4c) the WLEP 2011. Therefore, as part of the 7.8 assessment, a variation to the number of mooring sites permitted on the lot was required (usually referred to as a 4.6 variation).

Due to the variation being a non-numerical variation, the application cannot be determined under delegated authority, and must be determined by Council.

**Recommendation**

That Council:

1. Approve DA2024/093 for the additional mooring pole facilitating an additional private mooring site totaling two (2) mooring sites to be located in the riverfront area of Lot 1 DP 1046256 Sturt Highway, Trentham Cliffs.
2. Call a division in accordance with S375A of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)

**Detailed Report**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to provide information to Council to determine Development Application DA2024/093, having consideration to the detail provided both within this report and the attachments provided.

**Background**

A Development Application was lodged with Council on 27 July 2024 seeking consent for the addition of mooring pole effectively facilitating an additional private mooring site (totaling two (2) mooring sites) on the subject lot.

The subject lot is located in the RU4 Primary Production Small Lots zone and the W1 Natural Waterways zones under the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan (WLEP 2011). The proposal seeks the addition of a mooring site to the existing mooring site on the subject lot to be located within the riverfront area. Under Clause 7.8 of the WLEP 2011, single mooring sites are permitted but more than one mooring per lot owned by the same owners is not permitted on the river bed and banks of the Murray River.

The definition of the Murray River in the WLEP2011 is as follows:

***“Murray River includes the Darling River and the Great Darling Anabranch.”***

Where an application cannot achieve the development standards required by a Local Environmental Plan, the applicant may apply to vary the development standards.

An application to vary a development standard is made under clause 4.6 of the WLEP 2011. Under clause 35B of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021, applications involving contravention of development standards must be accompanied by a document that sets out the grounds on which the applicant seeks to demonstrate that –

- compliance with the development standard is unreasonable or unnecessary in the circumstances, and
- there are sufficient environmental planning grounds to justify the contravention of the development standard.

Due to changes made by the NSW Government, Clause 4.6 of the Standard Instrument LEP has been reformed to make the planning system faster, simpler, and more transparent. The reform came into effect on 1 November 2023 and removes the requirement to obtain the Planning Secretary’s concurrence for a variation with new reporting framework. As such, council has authority to approve or refuse 4.6 variation applications.

Under clause 7.8 of the WLEP2011 a single private mooring per lot owned by the same owner is permissible, this application does not adhere to this standard by requesting a second mooring on the lot, owned by the same owner. This presents a non-numerical variation to the standard, with the application unable to be determined under delegated authority and is presented to Council for consideration.

**Refer to attachment 1 – Development Application**

**Refer to attachment 2 – 4.6 Variation request**

**Refer to attachment 3 - Plans**

**Matters under consideration**

In determining a development application that requires consent, the consent authority must take into consideration matters prescribed in Section 4.15 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 as relevant to the development.

The proposed development was assessed and complies with relevant provisions of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021.

The development of moorings is permitted with consent and meets the zone objectives of the RU4 Primary Production Small Lots and W1 Natural Waterways zones under the WLEP 2011.

While a single private mooring per lot per owners is acceptable, the addition of a second mooring on the same lot with the same owners does not meet the standard provisions under clause 7.8(4c), however, the clause 4.6 variation request provided by the applicant provides adequate justification for the contravening of development standards contained in Clause 7.8.

Due to the zoning and WLEP 2011 mapping impacting the land, the development application was assessed against clauses 4.6, 5.21, 7.1, 7.2, 7.4, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, and 7.8. The development application was able to satisfy the matters for consideration under these clauses.

Due to the nature of the proposed development, it was assessed against Chapters 3 and 4 of the Wentworth Development Control Plan (DCP) 2011. The development complies with provisions under Chapters 3 and 4.

Public notification of the development application was conducted as per Council Community Participation Plan for 14 days. No submissions were received during the public notification period.

Based on the assessment of the application, it is determined that the proposed development is compliant with the relevant objectives of the RU4 Primary Production Small Lots zone, and the W1 Natural Waterways zone, relevant provisions of the Wentworth Development Control Plan (DCP) 2011, and is consistent with the State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021. Although the development is inconsistent with matters for consideration under clause 7.8 (4c) of the Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011, this non-compliance is acceptable as appropriate variation under clause 4.6 was provided.

**Refer to attachment 4** – 4.15 Assessment report

**Refer to attachment 5** – 4.6 Variation Assessment report

**Refer to attachment 6** – Conditions of consent

### Options

Based on the information contained in this report, the options available to address this matter are to:

- Approve Development Application DA2024/093 subject to conditions.

### Legal, strategic, financial or policy implications

Should Council issue a determination to the application, the applicant has the right to submit a request for review of determination to Council under Section 8.2 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1987*.

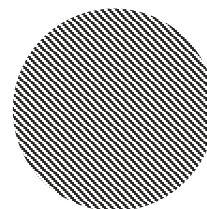
The applicant also has the right to appeal the decision made by Council to the Land and Environment Court pursuant to Section 8.7 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1987*.

### Conclusion

Having consideration of the consent of this report it is concluded that the appropriate course of action is to approve DA2024/093 subject to conditions.

### Attachments

1. Development Application (Under Separate Cover)⇒
2. 4.6 Variation request↓
3. Plans (Under Separate Cover)⇒
4. 4.15 Assessment Report (Under Separate Cover)⇒
5. 4.6 Variation Assessment↓
6. Conditions of Consent↓



# Clause 4.6 Report

## Variation to LEP Standard 7.8(4)

Lot 1 DP 1046256  
Trentham , NSW, 2739



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Proposal	Variation to LEP Standard 7.8(4)
Street Address	6567b Sturt Highway, Trentham Cliffs
Formal Land Description	Lot 1 in Deposited Plan 1046256
Zone	W1 – Natural Waterways
Standard relevant	7.8 Additional provisions – development on river bed and banks of the Murray River

## PLANNING CONTROLS AND VARIATION ASSESSMENT

### Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011 (LEP)

The Subject site is within the W1 Natural Waterways

The objectives of the zone are:

- *To protect the ecological and scenic values of natural waterways.*
- *To prevent development that would have an adverse effect on the natural values of waterways in this zone.*
- *To provide for sustainable fishing industries and recreational fishing.*

### Variation to Standard 7.8

#### The Environmental Planning Instrument that applies to the land?

The Wentworth Local Environmental Plan 2011.

#### Development Standard to be Varied

Additional mooring that is owned by the same owner on one lot.

#### Is the standard to be varied a development standard?

Yes, this standard is considered to be a development standard in accordance with the definition contained in section 1.4 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979; and not a prohibition.

**What are the objectives of the development standard?**

- to manage and maintain the quality of water in the Murray River,
- to protect the environmental values, scenic amenity and cultural heritage of the Murray River,
- to protect the stability of the bed and banks of the Murray River,
- to limit the impact of structures in or near the Murray River on natural riverine processes and navigability of the River.

**What is the proposed numeric value of the development you are proposing?**

The site currently contains one mooring, this development is proposing two moorings.

**Principles of Exceptions to Development Standards**

**Clause 4.6 Exceptions to Development Standards**

Clause 4.6 provides flexibility to vary the development standards specified within the Standard Instrument where it can be demonstrated that the development standard is unreasonable or unnecessary in the circumstances of the case, and where there are sufficient environmental grounds to justify the departure.

Clause 4.6 states the following:

- (2) *Development consent may, subject to this clause, be granted for development even though the development would contravene a development standard imposed by this or any other environmental planning instrument. However, this clause does not apply to a development standard that is expressly excluded from the operation of this clause.*
- (3) *Development consent must not be granted for development that contravenes a development standard unless the consent authority has considered a written request from the applicant that seeks to justify the contravention of the development standard by demonstrating—*
- (a) *that compliance with the development standard is unreasonable or unnecessary in the circumstances of the case, and*
  - (b) *that there are sufficient environmental planning grounds to justify contravening the development standard.*

(4) Development consent must not be granted for development that contravenes a development standard unless—

(a) the consent authority is satisfied that—

- (i) the applicant's written request has adequately addressed the matters required to be demonstrated by subclause (3), and
- (ii) the proposed development will be in the public interest because it is consistent with the objectives of the particular standard and the objectives for development within the zone in which the development is proposed to be carried out, and

(b) the concurrence of the Planning Secretary has been obtained.

#### **Justification for Variation**

The proposed location of the mooring has been significantly disturbed; therefore it is considered that the proposed inclusion of a second mooring will have little to no impact on stability of the existing river bank. Additionally, as per the plans provided to with the submission, the design has incorporated an existing mooring pole to prevent the need for any additional disturbance on the bank.

Additionally, the subject land has the unique benefit of being located on a straight section of the Murray River, thus having no impacts on commuters using the river. This is reinforced with the land directly abutting the site being zoned W2 Recreational Waterways. It is also considered that the subject land could potentially be located within this zone as it meets the characteristics to meet the objectives of the W2 Zone.

In conclusion it is considered that the inclusion of an additional mooring at the subject site will be an acceptable outcome when viewed against the abovementioned standard objectives.

#### **The Five Part Test**

The five ways of establishing that compliance is unreasonable or unnecessary are:

1. The objectives of the development standard are achieved notwithstanding non-compliance with the standard;



2. The underlying objective or purpose is not relevant to the development with the consequence that compliance is unnecessary;
3. The objective would be defeated, thwarted or undermined (*Linfield Developments Pty Ltd v Cumberland Council* [2019] NSWLEC 131 at [24]) if compliance was required with the consequence that compliance is unreasonable;
4. The development standard has been virtually abandoned or destroyed by the Council's own actions in granting consents departing from the standard and hence the standard is unreasonable and unnecessary; and
5. The zoning of the land is unreasonable or inappropriate

**TEST 1: The objectives of the development standard are achieved notwithstanding non-compliance with the standard**

The following table considers whether the objectives of the development standard are achieved notwithstanding the proposed variation (Test 1 under *Wehbe*).

**Table 1: Achievement of Objectives of Clause 7.8 of WLEP2011**

Objective	Discussion/Comment
(a) To manage and maintain the quality of water in the Murray River,	The quality of the water in the Murray River will not be altered by the inclusion of one additional mooring pole.
(b) To protect the environmental values, scenic amenity and cultural heritage of the Murray River,	The proposed development is located within an existing section of the river bank which has been significantly disturbed prior to this application being made. Nonetheless the additional mooring will not result the environmental values, scenic amenity or cultural heritage of the Murray River being further detracted.
(c) To protect the stability of the bed and banks of the Murray River,	As mentioned previously the mooring is proposed to be location in an established section of the Murray River bank.

(d) To limit the impact of structures in or near the Murray River on natural riverine processes and navigability of the River.	As per above, the location of the proposed mooring site has been disturbed previously.
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In this case, it is demonstrated below that Test 1 has been satisfied.

**TEST 2: The underlying objective or purpose is not relevant to the development with the consequence that compliance is unnecessary**

The underlying objective or purpose is relevant to the development and therefore this test is not relied upon.

**TEST 3: The objective would be defeated, thwarted or undermined if compliance was required with the consequence that compliance is unreasonable**

The underlying objective or purpose is relevant to the development and therefore this test is not relied upon.

**TEST 4: The development standard has been virtually abandoned or destroyed by the Council's own actions in granting consents departing from the standard and hence the standard is unreasonable and unnecessary**

The standard has not been abandoned, however it is noted that the adjoining dwelling was approved under the current LEP.

**TEST 5: The zoning of the land is unreasonable or inappropriate**

The zoning of the land is reasonable and appropriate and therefore this test is not relied upon.

**PUBLIC INTEREST**

In this section it is explained how the proposed development will be in the public interest because it is consistent with the objectives of the particular standard and the objectives for development within the zone in which the development is proposed to be carried out.

It has demonstrated that the proposed development overall achieves the objectives of the development standard notwithstanding the variation of the development standard.

The table below considers whether the proposal is also consistent with the objectives of the zone.

**Table 2: Consistency with Zone Objectives**

Objective	Discussion/Comment
(a) To protect the ecological and scenic values of natural waterways.	<p>The inclusion of an additional mooring pole will not further impact the scenic values of the Murray River.</p> <p>This variation does not affect consistency with this objective.</p>
(b) To prevent development that would have an adverse effect on the natural values of waterways in this zone.	<p>As mentioned previously in this report, due to the specific location of the development; the development will not adversely effect the natural values of the waterway.</p> <p>This variation does not affect consistency with this objective.</p>
(c) To protect the stability of the bed and banks of the Murray River,	<p>The proposed development is located on an area that is very stable (from prior development).</p> <p>This variation does not affect consistency with this objective.</p>
(d) To limit the impact of structures in or near the Murray River on natural riverine processes and navigability of the River.	<p>As mentioned previously in this report, due to the specific location of the subject site, the mooring will not impact on users commuting along the river.</p> <p>This variation does not affect consistency with this objective.</p>

 <p><b>Wentworth</b> SHIRE COUNCIL</p>	<p><b>Health &amp; Planning Department</b> 26-28 Adelaide Street PO Box 81 <b>WENTWORTH NSW 2648</b> Tel: 03 5027 5027 <a href="mailto:council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au">council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au</a></p>	<p><b>4.6 Variation Assessment</b></p> <p>Environmental Planning &amp; Assessment Act 1979 as amended</p>
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### Approving 4.6 variations

Under clause 35B of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021*, applications involving contravention of development standards must be accompanied by a document that sets out the grounds on which the applicant seeks to demonstrate that -

- compliance with the development standard is unreasonable or unnecessary in the circumstances (cl 4.6(3)(a)), and
- there are sufficient environmental planning grounds to justify the contravention of the development standard (cl 4.6(3)(b)).

The consent authority must keep a record if its assessment carried out under subclause (3).

The requirement of this written document places the responsibility on the applicant to demonstrate that they understand these requirements.

The variation proposed is a non-numerical contravention of the development standard, due to changes made by the NSW Government, Clause 4.6 of the Standard Instrument LEP has been reformed to make the planning system faster, simpler, and more transparent. The reform came into effect on 1 November 2023 and removes the requirement to obtain the Planning Secretary's concurrence for a variation with new reporting framework. As such, this application will be presented to council (elected) as the consent authority to make a determination to approve or refuse this 4.6 variation application, as council are the determining body council (elected) for both numerical and non-numerical development standard variations.

### Clause 4.6 Exceptions to development standards.

Written request for consideration has been presented by the applicant with reasons for justifying the contravention of this standard and allow the development.

*2. Development consent may, subject to this clause, be granted for development even though the development would contravene a development standard imposed by this or any other environmental planning instrument. However, this clause does not apply to a development standard that is expressly excluded from the operation of this clause.*

*3. Development consent must not be granted for development that contravenes a development standard unless the consent authority has considered a written request from the applicant that seeks to justify the contravention of the development standard demonstrating-*

*(a) that compliance with the development standard is unreasonable or unnecessary in the circumstances of the case, and*

*(b) that there are sufficient environmental planning grounds to justify contravening the development standard.*

### Note—

The *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021* requires a development application for development that proposes to contravene a development standard to be accompanied by a document setting out the grounds on which the applicant seeks to demonstrate the matters in paragraphs (a) and (b).



4. The consent authority must keep a record of its assessment carried out under subclause (3).

Applicant response:

The proposed location of the mooring has been significantly disturbed; therefore it is considered that the proposed inclusion of a second mooring will have little to no impact on stability of the existing river bank. Additionally, as per the plans provided to with the submission, the design has incorporated an existing mooring pole to prevent the need for any additional disturbance on the bank.

Additionally, the subject land has the unique benefit of being located on a straight section of the Murray River, thus having no impacts on commuters using the river. This is reinforced with the land directly abutting the site being zoned W2 Recreational Waterways. It is also considered that the subject land could potentially be located within this zone as it meets the characteristics to meet the objectives of the W2 Zone.

In conclusion it is considered that the inclusion of an additional mooring at the subject site will be an acceptable outcome when viewed against the abovementioned standard objectives.

### **The Five Part Test**

The five ways of establishing that compliance is unreasonable or unnecessary are:

1. The objectives of the development standard are achieved notwithstanding noncompliance with the standard;
2. The underlying objective or purpose is not relevant to the development with the consequence that compliance is unnecessary;
3. The objective would be defeated, thwarted or undermined (Linfield Developments Pty Ltd v Cumberland Council [2019] NSWLEC 131 at [24]) if compliance was required with the consequence that compliance is unreasonable;
4. The development standard has been virtually abandoned or destroyed by the Council's own actions in granting consents departing from the standard and hence the standard is unreasonable and unnecessary; and
5. The zoning of the land is unreasonable or inappropriate.

### **TEST 1: The objectives of the development standard are achieved notwithstanding non-compliance with the standard.**

The following table considers whether the objectives of the development standard are achieved notwithstanding the proposed variation (Test 1 under Wehbe).

**Table 1: Achievement of Objectives of Clause 7.8 of WLEP2011**

Objectives of Clause 7.8	Discussion/Comment
(a) To manage and maintain the quality of water in the Murray River,	The quality of the water in the Murray River will not be altered by the inclusion of one additional mooring pole.

(b) To protect the environmental values, scenic amenity and cultural heritage of the Murray River,	The proposed development is located within an existing section of the river bank which has been significantly disturbed prior to this application being made. Nonetheless the additional mooring will not result the environmental values, scenic amenity or cultural heritage of the Murray River being further detracted.
(c) To protect the stability of the bed and banks of the Murray River,	As mentioned previously the mooring is proposed to be location in an established section of the Murray River bank.
(d) To limit the impact of structures in or near the Murray River on natural riverine processes and navigability of the River.	As per above, the location of the proposed mooring site has been disturbed previously.

In this case, it is demonstrated below that Test 1 has been satisfied.

**Officer comments:** Due to the pre existence of a mooring on the site, impact from the development of an additional mooring pole is anticipated to be minimal.

**TEST 2: The underlying objective or purpose is not relevant to the development with the consequence that compliance is unnecessary.**

The underlying objective or purpose is relevant to the development and therefore this test is not relied upon.

**Officer comments:** The underlying objective remains necessary to prevent multiple moorings from occupying sites without approval throughout the shire.

**TEST 3: The objective would be defeated, thwarted or undermined if compliance was required with the consequence that compliance is unreasonable.**

The underlying objective or purpose is relevant to the development and therefore this test is not relied upon.

**Officer comments:** Compliance with this standard is not unreasonable as this prevents multiple private mooring sites occurring along busy stretches of the Murray River.

**TEST 4: The development standard has been virtually abandoned or destroyed by the Council's own actions in granting consents departing from the standard and hence the standard is unreasonable and unnecessary.**

The standard has not been abandoned, however it is noted that the adjoining dwelling was approved under the current LEP.

**Officer comments:** 4.6 variation to development standards are considered on a case-by-case basis and require adequate justification to support the application. Not all applications to vary development standards are approved.

**TEST 5: The zoning of the land is unreasonable or inappropriate.**

The zoning of the land is reasonable and appropriate and therefore this test is not relied upon.

**Officer comments:** Property with frontage to the Murray River provides the perfect opportunity for landowners to enjoy recreational activities that incorporate the river and access to the waterway. The zoning of the land does not prevent this access or use of this natural resource.

**PUBLIC INTEREST**

In this section it is explained how the proposed development will be in the public interest because it is consistent with the objectives of the particular standard and the objectives for development within the zone in which the development is proposed to be carried out.

It has demonstrated that the proposed development overall achieves the objectives of the development standard notwithstanding the variation of the development standard.

The table below considers whether the proposal is also consistent with the objectives of the zone.

**Table 2: Consistency with Zone Objectives**


<b>Objective</b>	<b>Discussion/Comment</b>
(a) To protect the ecological and scenic values of natural waterways.	The inclusion of an additional mooring pole will not further impact the scenic values of the Murray River. This variation does not affect consistency with this objective.
(b) To prevent development that would have an adverse effect on the natural values of waterways in this zone.	As mentioned previously in this report, due to the specific location of the development; the development will not adversely effect the natural values of the waterway. This variation does not affect consistency with this objective.
(c) To protect the stability of the bed and banks of the Murray River,	The proposed development is located on an area that is very stable (from prior development). This variation does not affect consistency with this objective.
(d) To limit the impact of structures in or near the Murray River on natural riverine processes and navigability of the River.	As mentioned previously in this report, due to the specific location of the subject site, the mooring will not impact on users commuting along the river. This variation does not affect consistency with this objective.

**Officer comments:** This section addressing public Interest is no longer required as per the planning reform issued by the NSW Government effective from 1 November 2023. The reason this criterion is no longer required is to prevent duplication addressed under other relevant statutory provisions.

In summary, the additional mooring pole will facilitate an additional mooring site on the private property allowing a total of two mooring sites on the one property. The application has been provided to external agencies for comment as per requirements. The application will be determined with consideration of these comments.

Wentworth Shire Council will not be setting a precedence should the application for an additional private mooring (resulting in two (2) moorings on the one lot) be approved. The variation to development standard 7.8 accords with the definition contained within section 1.4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* and is not a prohibition. Each application is assessed individually on its own merits with consideration of all information provided along with agency advice.



 <p><b>Wentworth</b> SHIRE COUNCIL</p>	<p><b>Health &amp; Planning Department</b> 26-28 Adelaide Street PO Box 81 WENTWORTH NSW 2648 Tel: 03 5027 5027 <a href="mailto:council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au">council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au</a></p>	<p><b>TEMPLATE CONDITIONS</b></p>
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**DA2024/093 ADDITIONAL PRIVATE MOORING SITE WITH 1 (ONE) ADDITIONAL MOORING POLE**

**STURT HIGHWAY LOT 1 DP 1046256 TRENTHAM CLIFFS**

### GENERAL CONDITIONS

1.	<p><b>Approved development</b></p> <p>Approval is for an additional private mooring site with 1 (one) additional mooring pole to the existing private mooring site. This approval will result in 2 private mooring sites on the one lot.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To ensure all parties are aware of the approved development.</p>
2.	<p><b>Approved Plans and Documentation</b></p> <p>The development shall be in accordance with the following plans, documentation and recommendations made there in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Site Plan</b> by GSD Architects; Project No.: 23-040; Date: 01/08/2024; Drawing Number: 01.</li> <li>• <b>Locality Plan</b> by GSD Architects; Project No.: 23-040; Date: 01/08/2024; Drawing Number: 02; Revision Number: A.</li> <li>• <b>Pole detail and site photos</b> by GSD Architects; Project No.: 23-040; Date: 01/08/2024; Drawing Number: 03.</li> </ul> <p>In the event of any inconsistency between the approved plans and the supporting documentation, the approved plans prevail. In the event of any inconsistency between the approved plans and a condition of this consent, the condition prevails.</p> <p>Note: an inconsistency occurs between an approved plan and supporting documentation or between an approved plan and a condition when it is not possible to comply with both at the relevant time.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To ensure all parties are aware of the approved plans and supporting documentation that applies to the development.</p>
3.	<p><b>Erection of signs</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This section applies to a development consent for development involving building work, subdivision work or demolition work.</li> <li>2. It is a condition of the development consent that a sign must be erected in a prominent position on a site on which building work, subdivision work or demolition work is being carried out: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. showing the name, address and telephone number of the principal certifier for the</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

	<p>work, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. showing the name of the principal contractor, if any, for the building work and a telephone number on which the principal contractor may be contacted outside working hours, and</li> <li>c. stating that unauthorised entry to the work site is prohibited.</li> </ul> <p>3. The sign must be-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. maintained while the building work, subdivision work or demolition work is being carried out, and</li> <li>b. removed when the work has been completed.</li> </ul> <p>4. This section does not apply in relation to-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. building work, subdivision work or demolition work carried out inside an existing building, if the work does not affect the external walls of the building, or</li> <li>b. Crown building work certified to comply with the Building Code of Australia under the Act, Part 6.</li> </ul> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> Prescribed condition under section 70 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021.</p>
4.	<p><b>Lapsing of Approval</b></p> <p>Without the further consent of the Wentworth Shire Council, in writing, this permit shall lapse and have no force or effect unless the use or development hereby permitted is physically commenced within 5 years of the date of this permit.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> Ensure everyone is aware of the lapsing of the approval.</p>
5.	<p><b>Works outside the property boundary</b></p> <p>This development consent does not authorise works outside the property boundaries on adjoining lands.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To ensure all approved works occur within the property boundaries.</p>
6.	<p><b>Required Licensing &amp; Approvals</b></p> <p>The beneficiary of this approval must contact <i>Department of Planning &amp; Environment – Water</i>, prior to any works commencing for a controlled activity approval (CCA) under the Water Management Act 2000 to ensure compliance with their licensing and approval requirements.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To ensure agency licensing and approval requirements are met prior to commencement of works.</p>
7.	<p><b>Conditions from Transport for NSW – Maritime</b></p> <p>Subject to the approval of this development application, occupation of NSW waters by any vessel at the location must be subject to a mooring licence administered by NSW Maritime.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To comply with NSW Marine legislation relating to the occupation of vessels on NSW waters.</p>

	<p>Private Mooring Licences applications are now digital and can be found at the following link:  <a href="https://roads-waterways.transport.nsw.gov.au/maritime/moorings/private-moorings/map/index.html#/cartomap">https://roads-waterways.transport.nsw.gov.au/maritime/moorings/private-moorings/map/index.html#/cartomap</a></p>
8.	<p><b>Conditions from DPI- Fisheries</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Machinery is not to enter, or work from the waterway unnecessarily.  <i>Reason – To ensure minimal risk of water pollution from oil or petroleum products and to minimise disturbance to the streambed substrate.</i></li> <li>2. If any ground disturbance is to take place, erosion and sediment mitigation devices are to be erected in a manner consistent with currently accepted Best Management Practice (ie Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction 4th Edition Landcom, 2004) to prevent the entry of sediment into the waterway prior to any earthworks being undertaken. These are to be maintained in good working order for the whole duration of the works and subsequently until the site has been stabilised and the risk of erosion and sediment movement from the site is minimal. Exposed soil is to be reseeded or turfed.  <i>Reason – To ensure that sediment generated by the exposure of soil is not transported into the main water body.</i></li> <li>3. On completion of the works, the site is to be rehabilitated and stabilised. Surplus construction materials and temporary structures (other than silt fences and other erosion and sediment control devices) installed during the course of the works are to be removed.  <i>Reason – To ensure that habitats are restored as quickly as possible, public safety is not compromised and aesthetic values are not degraded.</i></li> <li>4. No snags (tree trunks, root balls, limbs, branches or other woody debris) in the channel or on the bank of the river are to be moved, removed or otherwise interfered with either during the construction phase or at any time subsequently, without the concurrence of Department of Primary Industries Fisheries.  <i>Reason - "Removal of Large Woody Debris" is listed as a Key Threatening Process under the provisions of the Fisheries Management Act 1994 and there are significant penalties for harming the habitat of threatened species.</i></li> <li>5. Native vegetation (including trees, shrubs, reeds and grasses) on or adjacent to the river bank is not to be cleared, modified or otherwise harmed at any time during the construction or at any time subsequently. This does not include control of noxious or other recognised weeds.  <i>Reason – "Decline in native riparian vegetation" is listed as a Key Threatening Process under the provisions of the Fisheries Management Act 1994 and there are significant penalties for harming the habitat of threatened species.</i></li> <li>6. NSW Department of Primary Industries Fisheries is to be notified immediately if any fish kills occur in the vicinity of the works. In such a case all works are to cease until the issue is rectified and approval is given to proceed.</li> </ol> <p><b>Condition reason</b> – Department of Primary Industries Fisheries needs to be aware of fish kills so that it can assess the cause and mitigate further incidents in consultation with relevant authorities.</p>

## BEFORE BUILDING WORK COMMENCES

9.	<p><b>Access Point</b></p> <p>Before work commences, the beneficiary of this consent must build a driveway crossing for the subject land (if one doesn't exist) to Council standards.</p> <p>Access during construction shall only be through the driveway crossing of the subject land.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To control vehicular movement on road crossings.</p>
10.	<p><b>Building material and flooding</b></p> <p>Any building elements below the 1% AEP flood level must be of a durable nature suitable for prolonged periods of inundation.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To ensure building materials suitable for inundation are used.</p>
11.	<p><b>Construction Site Management Plan</b></p> <p>Before work commences, the applicant must ensure a construction site management plan is prepared and implemented onsite. The plan must include the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• location and materials for protective fencing and hoardings to the perimeter on the site</li> <li>• provisions for public safety</li> <li>• pedestrian and vehicular site access points and construction activity zones</li> <li>• location of site storage areas and sheds</li> <li>• equipment used to carry out all works</li> <li>• a garbage container with a tight-fitting lid</li> <li>• dust, noise and vibration control measures</li> <li>• location of temporary toilets</li> </ul> <p>The applicant must ensure a copy of the approved construction site management plan is kept on-site at all times during construction.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To ensure construction works are adequately managed to protect the surrounding amenity.</p>
12.	<p><b>Toilet facilities</b></p> <p>Toilet facilities are to be provided on or in the vicinity of the building site. The toilet must be connected to a public sewer, or if connection to a public sewer is not practicable, an approved chemical closet. The toilet facility must be installed on-site prior to the commencement of any other work.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To ensure workers and contractors have access to amenities on site.</p>
13.	<p><b>Tree protection measures</b></p> <p>Before the commencement of any site or building work, the applicant must ensure the measures</p>



	<p>for tree protection detailed in the construction site management plan are in place.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To protect and retain trees.</p>
14.	<p><b>Works in Road Reserve</b></p> <p>A Road Opening Permit is required from the Wentworth Shire Council prior to any works or excavation within the road reserve including but not limited to: water tapping, sewer, driveway crossings, tree planting or removal etc.</p> <p>Please contact Councils Roads &amp; Engineering Department on Tel: (03) 5027 5027 to arrange a permit.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To control development in the road reserve.</p>

### WHILE BUILDING WORK IS BEING CARRIED OUT

15.	<p><b>Approved Plans</b></p> <p>A copy of the stamped approved and certified plans, specifications and documents incorporating conditions of approval and certification must be kept on site for the duration of site works and be made available upon request to either the Council or other Government Agencies.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To ensure all parties are aware of the approved works to be conducted.</p>
16.	<p><b>Construction noise</b></p> <p>While work is being carried out and where no noise and vibration management plan is approved under this consent, the applicant is to ensure that any noise caused by demolition, vegetation removal or construction does not exceed an LAeq (15 min) of 5dB(A) above background noise, when measured at any lot boundary of the property where the construction is being carried out.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To protect the amenity of the neighbourhood.</p>
17.	<p><b>Encroachment of easements</b></p> <p>No works are to encroach over any easements.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To ensure works are not carried out over easements.</p>
18.	<p><b>Hours of work</b></p> <p>The developer must ensure that building work, demolition or vegetation removal is only carried out between:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7.00am to 6.00pm on Monday to Friday</li> <li>• 8.00am to 1.00pm on Saturdays</li> </ul> <p>The developer must ensure building work, demolition or vegetation removal is not carried out on Sundays and public holidays, except where there is an emergency.</p>

	<p>Unless otherwise approved within a construction site management plan, construction vehicles, machinery, goods or materials must not be delivered to the site outside the approved hours of site works.</p> <p>Note: Any variation to the hours of work requires Councils approval.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To protect the amenity of the surrounding area.</p>
19.	<p><b>Natural drainage</b></p> <p>Any works undertaken in the subject land including building and filling shall not cause alteration to the previous drainage in the subject land or adjacent land. Any remedies required to discharge drainage water caused to be accumulated by the works associated with this permit shall be the responsibility of the beneficiary of this consent.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To ensure natural drainage is maintained where possible.</p>
20.	<p><b>Riparian vegetation</b></p> <p>No riparian vegetation (including reeds, trees, shrubs and grasses on the banks or in the water but not including weeds and other alien plants) is to be damaged or removed during construction.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To protect and maintain riparian vegetation where possible.</p>

### BEFORE THE STRUCTURE IS USED

21.	<p><b>Removal of waste upon completion</b></p> <p>Before the use of the structure, the developer must ensure all refuse, spoil and material unsuitable for use on-site is removed from the site and disposed of in accordance with the approved waste management plan.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To ensure waste material is appropriately disposed or satisfactorily stored.</p>
22.	<p><b>Repair of infrastructure</b></p> <p>Before the use of the structure, the developer must ensure any public infrastructure damaged as a result of the carrying out of building works (including damage caused by, but not limited to, delivery vehicles, waste collection, contractors, sub-contractors, concreting vehicles) is fully repaired to the written satisfaction of Council, and at no cost to Council.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To ensure any damage to public infrastructure is rectified.</p>

### OCCUPATION AND ONGOING USE

23.	<p><b>Additional structures</b></p> <p>No additional structures are to be built or installed on the site without permission from the</p>
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	<p>Wentworth Shire Council.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To ensure only approved work is carried out.</p>
24.	<p><b>Amenity of the neighbourhood</b></p> <p>The operation of this development shall not adversely affect the amenity of the neighbourhood or interfere unreasonably with the comfort or repose of a person who is outside the premises by reason of the emission or discharge of noise, fumes, vapour, odour, steam, soot, dust, waste water, waste products, grit, oil or other harmful products.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To ensure the amenity of the neighbourhood is not compromised unreasonably.</p>
25.	<p><b>Ongoing Use - Mooring</b></p> <p>The mooring site shall at all times be operated as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The vessel is not to be used in a way that causes, or is likely to cause, annoyance, pollution or contravention of any legislation being Federal or New South Wales.</li> <li>• All vessels must comply with all Acts and Regulations of the NSW Roads and Maritime Authority.</li> <li>• No person may reside on the vessel attached to this mooring or use this mooring site as a permanent or semi-permanent dwelling.</li> <li>• The vessel shall have no openings in its hull whereby sewerage or domestic sullage water may be discharged. All waste from the vessel to be disposed of at an approved effluent pump out facility or disposed of in a manner previously approved by the Wentworth Shire Council.</li> <li>• No offensive noise is to be emitted from the vessel.</li> <li>• The vessel shall be secured, to ensure that it will remain afloat at all times.</li> <li>• Animals must not be left unattended on vessel.</li> <li>• Vehicle access to and at the mooring site shall be to the satisfaction of Wentworth Shire Council.</li> <li>• No armouring or other alteration of the banks is to be undertaken.</li> <li>• No telephone or electricity is to be connected to the vessel without the prior written authority of the relevant authorities.</li> <li>• No effluent to be discharged from the vessel to the river system.</li> </ul> <p>Compliance with these conditions will be reviewed periodically.</p> <p><b>Condition reason:</b> To ensure the mooring site is used in a safe manner and kept in a safe and functional state.</p>

9.16 PROJECT & WORKS UPDATE - OCTOBER 2024

File Number: RPT/24/611

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering  
Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering  
Reporting Officer: Megan Jackson - Roads & Engineering Administration Officer

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment  
Strategy: 3.2 Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained

Summary

This report provides a summary of the projects and major works undertaken by the Roads and Engineering Department which have been completed during the months of September 2024 and the planned activities for October 2024.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the major works undertaken in September 2024 and the scheduled works for the following month.

Detailed Report

Refer below for updates of the works completed in September 2024, and the planned activities for October 2024.

Project and Works Update for September 2024

Roads	<p><b><u>Maintenance Grading</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Works scheduled were completed on the Karpa Kora and Wilkurra Roads.</li></ul> <p><b><u>Arumpo Road</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Base earthworks have ceased onsite with the use of two landplanes shaping the new road formation, as we are awaiting the updated purchase orders to be approved by the new Council. Currently 13kms have been completed and will continue heading North East towards Mungo National Park pending the approval by Council.</li><li>• Contractor has completed approximately 80,000 of 120,000 tonnes of the supply of gravel for the project.</li><li>• Four contractors commenced carting gravel from the pits and placing on the road.</li></ul> <p><b><u>Local Road Maintenance</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• General maintenance on our local roads including replacing guideposts, tree trimming, shoulder grading and pothole repairs.</li></ul> <p><b><u>Moontongue Drive Footpath</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Asphalt contractors have completed the installation of a new asphalt footpath in Moontongue and Kari Drive in East Gol Gol. This work scheduled to replace the deteriorated existing spray seal footpath and provides a new, safe shared way for pedestrians to utilize.</li></ul>
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<p><b><u>Water and Sewer</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>Lee Court Sewer Pump Station (SPS11) urgent reconstruction</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On 26 September 2024, routine inspection of the SPS11 at Dawn Ave Gol Gol determined that there had been significant movement of the switchboard and concrete foundation. Detailed inspection the day after determined that the foundations under this slab had been poorly constructed at part of a previous sub division development and that a recent pump fault had seen a surcharge of sewer from the station increasing the rate of subsidence. It was considered that an urgent reconstruction of the switchboard and foundations was required to ensure that the SPS and surrounding area were not further impacted. The sewer pump station was turned off and emptied using a vacuum truck during the works. Works commenced on Monday 30 September and by the end of Friday 4 September the switchboard was back in place and working. Wentworth Shire Council's Engineering Team notes that increased surveillance during sub-division works to ensure standards are achieved is critical for infrastructure longevity.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Wentworth Raw Water Main breakage</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the early hours of 7 September 2024, a significant break in the raw water supply line occurred alongside the Silver City Highway near the Tuckers Creek bridge in Wentworth. WSC's on-call officer was notified by a resident at 7:30 am and were on-site soon after and shut the main down. This section of water main has been problematic for some time with many "bandage" clamps installed. On this occasion a 3 m split had developed in one 6 m long length of PVC pipe, the most significant breakage to date on the 200 mm diameter UPVC pipe. (1994 install). Raw water to some areas of Wentworth were impacted. Filtered water was not. Both filtered and raw water reservoirs were at critically low level, when water supply was turned back on 4 pm. Both the reservoirs were back to operational levels by 9 pm that evening. If such an outage occurred in the summer, it may have had additional impacts to customers. Unfortunately, the Council's stormwater infrastructure was blocked and flooding occurred to a number of properties. The WSC Water Team are now exploring several options to replace this problematic section of pipe. One of the preferred options is to install a new continuous large diameter poly pipe underneath Tuckers Creek to William Street South. The feasibility of the various options is currently being explored.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Projects</b></p>	<p><b><u>Safe and Secure Water Program - Development</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Four projects under the program funded for development until end June 25. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gol Gol Water Treatment Plant upgrade</li> <li>Wentworth Water Treatment Plant upgrade</li> <li>Dareton Raw Water Pump Station upgrade</li> <li>Wentworth Raw Water Pump Station upgrade</li> </ul> </li> <li>Investigation consultancies for survey, geotechnical and environmental approvals out for quoting.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Sewer Rehabilitation Program</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open market tender for the Sewer Rehabilitation Services for up to three years.</li> <li>Four companies attended the site meeting at Wentworth.</li> <li>Scope includes up to 3 km of sewer rehabilitation.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>District Bulk Metering</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open market quotes received and the total value is over budget.</li> </ul>



<p><b>Projects</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluation of options.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>3G to 4G Upgrade for Water and Wastewater Infrastructure</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional alarming developed for Pooncarie Water Supply System deployed.</li> <li>• Awaiting switchboard audit report, preliminary findings detail that vermin entry is problematic.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Junction Island Footpath</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional rail on bridge installed.</li> <li>• Additional crusher dust placed near current viewing platform.</li> <li>• Project complete</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Wentworth Camp Kitchen</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concept plans complete.</li> <li>• Community consultation ongoing due to concerns raised on concept plan.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Pooncarie Camp Kitchen</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community consultation of design complete</li> <li>• Power assessment of the reserve complete to improve supply.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Wentworth Rowing Club Building</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Works completed on internal toilet and shower facilities.</li> <li>• Concept plans updated.</li> <li>• Community consultation of updated concept plan underway</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Pink Lake</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of Environmental Factors received.</li> <li>• Land tenure issues progressing with Local Aboriginal Land Council</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Willow Bend Caravan Park</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• East end roll-out turf installed and seeded in other areas.</li> <li>• Internal fencing to be constructed to “permanent residence” and park manager’s yard. Bin enclosure fences installed.</li> <li>• Previous cabins returned to caravan park.</li> <li>• Boom gates and keypads installed.</li> <li>• Traffic line marking installed.</li> <li>• Repairs and restoration to relocated buildings, including connection to services.</li> <li>• Washer/dryer set up in amenities buildings.</li> <li>• Commissioning of sewer pump station</li> <li>• Disinfection and testing of water supply system.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Rose Street Stormwater – Stage 1</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All materials ordered and fabrication underway.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Buronga Riverfront Toilet Block</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Toilet Block transported to site and installed on foundations.</li> <li>• Sewer pump station fabrication underway</li> <li>• Pump selection confirmed and ordered.</li> <li>• Electrical installation resolved.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Pooncarie Toilet Block</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Toilet Block transported to site and installed on foundations.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Projects</b></p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Washers / Dryers installed.</li> <li>• Electrical installation awarded.</li> <li>• Sewer (reln drain) and water installation awarded.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Dareton Sewer Pump Station No. 2</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pump Station wet well fabricated.</li> <li>• All materials ordered.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>James King Park Retaining Wall and Footpath</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both upstream and downstream retaining walls and stairs completed</li> <li>• Sand added to both beaches.</li> <li>• Handrails added to sections of retaining wall.</li> <li>• Old viewing area updated with new seating wall.</li> <li>• Project complete.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Dareton to Namatjira Sharedway</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solar light poles in fabrication</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Buronga to Midway Sharedway</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solar light poles in fabrication</li> <li>• Essential Energy delay to installation of fixed pole lighting due to ongoing industrial action.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>George Gordon Oval Lighting Upgrade</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional tendering complete</li> <li>• Tender evaluation underway.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Open Spaces – Dawn Ave Drainage Basin</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concept Design updated prior to community consultation.</li> <li>• Basin clean up to enable access and survey</li> <li>• Survey of boundaries undertaken and discussion with northern citrus farm re-existing tracks.</li> <li>• Quotes for northern fencing received.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Wentworth Kerb Upgrades</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survey undertaken for the three Wentworth Kerb Projects of Murray, Darling and Adam Streets.</li> </ul>
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**Projects and Works scheduled for October 2024**

<b>Roads</b>	<p><b><u>Arumpo Road 24.5km</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contractor to continue crushing and pugging of material onsite.</li> <li>• Seven trucks in total will continue placing the gravel on the first 13km ready for the proposed bitumen seal date which is scheduled for the week 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> of November.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Petro Mail Road</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funded by the TfNSW RERRF Program, works are scheduled to be completed on upgrading 3.72km section of the Petro Mail Road with 150mm layer of gravel. This will provide a safe and all-weather surface to road users, especially heavy vehicles who frequently use the road during the grain harvest periods.</li> </ul>
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	<p><b><u>Log Bridge Road</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Request for Quotes documentation is to be completed and sent out to contractors.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Maintenance Grading</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Works scheduled to be completed on the Ivanhoe, Dockerty, Top Hut and Arumpo Roads</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Local Road Maintenance</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Given the large volume of road construction projects previously being undertaken, Council proposes to utilize the available labor force to complete many outstanding defects including guideposts, pothole repairs and tree trimming across our network.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Projects</b></p>	<p><b><u>Safe and Secure Water Program - Development</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigation consultancies for survey, geotechnical and environmental approvals to be evaluated. Option assessment consultancy to be developed and issued for quoting.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Sewer Rehabilitation Program</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Answering tenderers questions</li> <li>Evaluation of the tenders received.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>District Bulk Metering</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Award of partial scope (the 2 most simple sites of the 4).</li> <li>Prepare updated documentation for remaining scope (improve consideration of outage risks for the two most complex sites).</li> </ul> <p><b><u>3G to 4G Upgrade for Water and Wastewater Infrastructure</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring of the Pooncarie Water Supply System.</li> <li>Commence vermin proofing of switchboards.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Wentworth Camp Kitchen</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community consultation of concept plan to be resolved.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Pooncarie Camp Kitchen</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Call quotes for the kitchen construction works.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Wentworth Rowing Club Building</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community consultation of concept plan to be resolved.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Pink Lake</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of Environmental Factors approved.</li> <li>Land tenure issues – way forward determined with Local Aboriginal Land Council.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Willow Bend Caravan Park</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All remaining minor works to be completed.</li> <li>Handover of park to new operators.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Rose Street Stormwater – Stage 1</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All materials delivered.</li> <li>Construction to commence on-site.</li> </ul>

	<p><b><u>Buronga Riverfront Toilet Block</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All materials delivered.</li> <li>• Construction to commence on-site.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Pooncarie Toilet Block</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All materials delivered.</li> <li>• Construction to commence on-site.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Dareton Sewer Pump Station No. 2</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All materials delivered.</li> <li>• Construction to commence on-site.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Dareton to Namatjira Sharedway</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solar light foundation locations checked for service clashes.</li> <li>• Light poles continue to be fabricated.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Buronga to Midway Sharedway</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solar light foundation locations checked for service clashes.</li> <li>• Light poles continue to be fabricated.</li> <li>• Update from Essential Energy to be provided on fixed pole installation date.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>George Gordon Oval Lighting Upgrade</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contract to be awarded.</li> <li>• Material supply to commence.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Open Spaces – Dawn Ave Drainage Basin</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community consultation</li> <li>• Fencing to be awarded.</li> <li>• Area surveyed for final design purposes.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Wentworth Kerb Upgrades</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commence design for the three kerb projects.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Wentworth Riverfront Mooring Rectification</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concept design reviewed by external structural engineer.</li> </ul>
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### **Attachments**

1. Arumpo Road 1 [↓](#)
2. Arumpo Road 2 [↓](#)
3. Moontongue Drive Footpath [↓](#)
4. Rowing Club [↓](#)
5. Caravan Park 1 [↓](#)
6. Caravan Park 2 [↓](#)
7. Caravan Park 3 [↓](#)
8. Caravan Park 4 [↓](#)
9. Buronga Amenities Block [↓](#)
10. Pooncarie Amenities Block [↓](#)

11. Gol Gol Beach 1 [↓](#)
12. Gol Gol Beach 2 [↓](#)
13. Gol Gol Beach 3 [↓](#)
14. Open Spaces Basin [↓](#)
15. Petro Mail Road 1 [↓](#)
16. Wentworth Broken Water Main [↓](#)
17. Broken Water Main - Lee Court SPS [↓](#)
18. Lee Court SPS [↓](#)









23/09/2024 15:31



23/09/2024 10:31

























































**10 NOTICES OF MOTIONS / QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**

Nil

## 11 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS – ADJOURNMENT INTO CLOSED SESSION

Despite the right of members of the public to attend meetings of a council, the council may choose to close to the public, parts of the meeting that involve the discussion or receipt of certain matters as prescribed under section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act.

With the exception of matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors) (10A(2)(a)), matters involving the personal hardship of a resident or ratepayer (10A(2)(b)) or matters that would disclose a trade secret (10A(2)(d)(iii)), council must be satisfied that discussion of the matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

The Act requires council to close the meeting for only so much of the discussion as is necessary to preserve the relevant confidentiality, privilege or security being protected. (section 10B(1)(a))

Section 10A(4) of the Act provides that a council may allow members of the public to make representations to or at a meeting, before any part of the meeting is closed to the public, as to whether that part of the meeting should be closed.

Section 10B(4) of the Act stipulates that for the purpose of determining whether the discussion of a matter in an open meeting would be contrary to the public interest, it is irrelevant that:-

- (a) a person may misinterpret or misunderstand the discussion, or
- (b) the discussion of the matter may -
  - (i) cause embarrassment to the council or committee concerned, or to councillors or to employees of the council, or
  - (ii) cause a loss of confidence in the council or committee.

### **Recommendation**

That Council adjourns into Closed Session, the recording of the meeting be suspended, and members of the press and public be excluded from the Closed Session, and that access to the correspondence and reports relating to the items considered during the course of the Closed Session be withheld unless declassified by separate resolution.

This action is taken in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act, 1993 as the items listed come within the following provisions:-. **Arumpo Road Reconstruction - Extension of PT2324/08 - Hire 2x Land Plane - Earth Scoops & PT2324/09 - Hire of Water Trucks. (RPT/24/599)**

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.

- . **Plant Replacement - Approval on Tenders for Replacement of Plant 689 - VR2425/689. (RPT/24/606)**

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for



business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.

. **Plant Replacement - Approval on Tenders for Replacement of Plant 606 - Nissan Navara - VR2425/606. (RPT/24/607)**

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.

. **Plant Replacement - Approval on Tenders for Replacement of Plant 642 - Mitsubishi Triton - VR2425/642. (RPT/24/608)**

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.

. **George Gordon Oval Lighting Upgrade PT 2324/22. (RPT/24/662)**

This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.

## 12 OPEN COUNCIL - REPORT FROM CLOSED COUNCIL

### 12.1 ARUMPO ROAD RECONSTRUCTION - EXTENSION OF PT2324/08 - HIRE 2X LAND PLANE - EARTH SCOOPS & PT2324/09 - HIRE OF WATER TRUCKS

File Number: RPT/24/599

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering  
 Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering  
 Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.2 Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained

#### **REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY**

*This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.*

## 12.2 PLANT REPLACEMENT - APPROVAL ON TENDERS FOR REPLACEMENT OF PLANT 689 - VR2425/689

File Number: RPT/24/606

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.4 Use and manage our resources wisely

### **REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY**

*This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.*

### 12.3 PLANT REPLACEMENT - APPROVAL ON TENDERS FOR REPLACEMENT OF PLANT 606 - NISSAN NAVARA - VR2425/606

File Number: RPT/24/607

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.4 Use and manage our resources wisely

#### **REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY**

*This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.*



#### 12.4 PLANT REPLACEMENT - APPROVAL ON TENDERS FOR REPLACEMENT OF PLANT 642 - MITSUBISHI TRITON - VR2425/642

File Number: RPT/24/608

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Samantha Wall - Projects Administration

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.4 Use and manage our resources wisely

#### **REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY**

*This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.*

## 12.5 GEORGE GORDON OVAL LIGHTING UPGRADE PT 2324/22

File Number: RPT/24/662

Responsible Officer: Geoff Gunn - Director Roads and Engineering

Responsible Division: Roads and Engineering

Reporting Officer: Scott Barnes - Manager Engineering Services

Objective: 3.0 Wentworth Shire is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment

Strategy: 3.2 Ensure that community assets and public infrastructure are well maintained

### **REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY**

*This item is classified CONFIDENTIAL under the provisions of Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to (c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business. On balance, the public interest in preserving the confidentiality of information about the tender outweighs the public interest in maintaining openness and transparency in council decision-making because disclosure of this information would reveal pricing and confidential information submitted via the tender process which if disclosed would prevent council from achieving its 'value for money' objectives.*

## **13 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING**

### **NEXT MEETING**

20 November 2024