



ANABRANCH
BURONGA
COOMEALLA
CURLWAA
DARETON
ELLERSLIE
GOL GOL
MONAK
PALINYEWAH
POMONA
POONCARIE
RUFUS RIVER
TRENTHAM CLIFFS
WENTWORTH

Candidate Information

Planning Officer

Join Wentworth Shire Council for a career in a progressive, community-focused work environment that prioritises the interests of the Shire. Wentworth Shire Council is committed to becoming a child safe organisation by embedding the NSW Child Safe Standards across our organisation. An advocate of Equal Employment Opportunity, Council offers outstanding working conditions and a team-oriented, positive culture.

Employees at Wentworth Shire Council are provided with a range of benefits:

- ▶ Accrued Rostered Days Off throughout the year (for eligible roles), in addition to four weeks of Annual Leave
- ▶ Long Service Leave entitlements after five years of service
- ▶ Professional development opportunities

Applications are encouraged from individuals of all backgrounds, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, people of different ages, those with disabilities, and members of the LGBTIQIA+ community, as well as candidates from various cultural and linguistic heritages.

Wentworth Shire, home to about 8,000 residents, offers a unique lifestyle by the Murray and Darling Rivers. A place of natural beauty and outdoor activities, the Shire is ideal for families. Nearby Mildura provides additional amenities and cultural experiences. This balance makes Wentworth Shire an attractive location for living, working, and exploring.

For further information on advertised positions and details on how to apply, contact Glen Norris, Manager Human Resources:
P: (03) 5027 5027
E: humanresources@wentworth.nsw.gov.au

At Wentworth Shire Council, we value:

Honesty & Integrity

- ▶ We deliver on commitments
- ▶ We act ethically

Accountability & Transparency

- ▶ We take responsibility for our actions
- ▶ We communicate openly and respectfully with our community

Respect

- ▶ We act professionally towards our community and our colleagues

Quality & Commitment

- ▶ We do our best to provide the highest standard of goods and services to our community
- ▶ We are responsive to the needs of our community and always look for ways to better serve our community
- ▶ We are dedicated to fulfilling the Shire's vision and goals



If you require assistance reading and understanding this document, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call Wentworth Shire Council on 03 5027 5027.

Position Description – Planning Officer

Directorate	Health & Planning
Location	Wentworth
Classification/Grade/Band	PS Band 3, Level 2, Step 1
Position Code	R2025/32
Date position description approved	January 2023

Council overview

The Wentworth Shire Council region is made up of the following towns and irrigation areas; Wentworth, Dareton, Coomealla, Pomona, Mourquong, Monak, Trentham Cliffs, Pooncarie, Buronga, Gol Gol, Ellerslie and Curlwaa. Some of these towns are classified as villages, and the entire population of nearly 8,000 people is spread across approximately 26,000 square kilometres, making our region one of the most sparsely populated rural council areas. Wentworth Shire Council manages one of the largest road networks in New South Wales (NSW), responsible for maintaining 2139 kilometres of roads, with over 519 km of these sealed. The Wentworth Shire Council Chambers, main office and works depot, library, town hall and Visitor Information Centre are all located in Wentworth.

Council values

- Honesty and Integrity.
- Accountability and Transparency.
- Respect.
- Quality.
- Commitment.

Primary purpose of the position

To assist the Health and Planning area to effectively operate within the relevant policy and legislative framework and to provide a high level of input and assistance with the development assessment and strategic planning process, along with providing technical and merit based advice to internal and external customers.

Duties

- Assess development applications and subdivisions in accordance with legislation, policy and delegations,
- Assist with the preparation of strategic planning documents,
- Undertake site inspections for the purposes of assessing development applications, land use complaints and compliance with development consents,
- Consult and mediate with applicants, objectors and Government agencies to resolve issues and disputes that periodically arise,
- Prepare reports to Council and attend meetings as required,
- Keep up to date with statutory, policy and technical changes that affect the planning function of the health & Planning area,
- Engage and work with external agencies and relevant stakeholders,
- Prepare documentation for and give evidence in the Land and Environment Court as required,
- Provide accurate and assistance advice, professional, technical and administrative support to the Director Health and Planning and the area as required,
- Assist with strategic planning and/or projects as directed or assigned by the Director Health and Planning,
- Carry out additional tasks within your skill and capabilities as assigned by the Director Health and Planning,
- Undertake all identified training requirements associated with this position.





Key Selection Criteria

- Tertiary qualifications in Town Planning accredited by PIA,
- Minimum 12 months experience in town planning,
- Working knowledge of relevant legislation including but not limited to the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979,
- Strong communication skills and a demonstrated ability to communicate, both verbally and written, to present a customer focussed approach to the public and private sector,
- The ability to work independently and co-operatively as part of a team,
- Strong computer literacy,
- Ability to prioritise a demanding work schedule to meet deadlines.
- Maintain a current ad valid driver's licence

Capabilities for the role

The Local Government Capability Framework describes the core knowledge, skills and abilities expressed as behaviours, which set out clear expectations about performance in local government: “how we do things around here”. It builds on organisational values and creates a common sense of purpose for elected members and all levels of the workforce. The Local Government Capability Framework is available at <https://www.lgnsw.org.au/capability>

Below is the full list of capabilities and the level required for this position. The capabilities in bold are the focus capabilities for this position. Refer to the next section for further information about the focus capabilities

Local Government Capability Framework		
Capability Group	Capability Name	Level
 Personal attributes	Manage Self	Adept
	Display Resilience and Adaptability	Adept
	Act with Integrity	Advanced
	Demonstrate Accountability	Advanced
 Relationships	Communicate and Engage	Adept
	Community and Customer Focus	Advanced
	Work Collaboratively	Adept
	Influence and Negotiate	Adept
 Results	Plan and Prioritise	Adept
	Think and Solve Problems	Adept
	Create and Innovate	Adept
	Deliver Results	Advanced
 Resources	Finance	Intermediate
	Assets and Tools	Adept
	Technology and Information	Adept
	Procurement and Contracts	Intermediate

Focus capabilities

The focus capabilities for the position are those judged to be most important at the time of recruiting to the position. That is, the ones that must be met at least at satisfactory level for a candidate to be suitable for appointment.

Local Government Capability Framework		
Group and Capability	Level	Behavioural Indicators
Personal Attributes Act with Integrity	Advanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Models ethical behaviour and reinforces it in others. Represents the organisation in an honest, ethical and professional way and sets an example for others to follow. Promotes integrity, courage and professionalism inside and outside the organisation. Monitors ethical practices, standards and systems and reinforces their use. Proactively addresses ethical and people issues before they magnify.
Relationships Community and Customer Focus	Advanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presents with credibility and engages varied audiences. Translates complex information concisely for diverse audiences. Creates opportunities for others to contribute to discussion and debate. Demonstrates active listening skills, using techniques that contribute to a deeper understanding. Is attuned to the needs of diverse audience, adjusting style and approach flexibly. Prepares (or coordinates preparation of) high impact written documents and presentations.
Results Deliver Results	Advanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sets high standards and challenging goals for self and others. Delegates responsibility appropriately and provides support. Defines what success looks like in measurable terms. Uses own professional knowledge and the expertise of others to drive results. Implements and oversees quality assurance practices.
Resources Technology and Information	Adept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selects appropriate technologies for projects and tasks. Identifies ways to leverage the value of technology to achieve outcomes. Ensures team understands their obligations to use technology appropriately. Ensures team understands obligations to comply with records, information and knowledge management requirements.

Organisation Overview

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP REPORTING STRUCTURE

Our Organisational Structure is designed to deliver on the Community’s Strategic Objectives as outlined in the Community Strategic Plan 2026-2036.



REPORTING STRUCTURE

As at 01 May 2024



Commenced journey with Council in November 2002.



KEN ROSS

GENERAL MANAGER

Appointed to role in May 2019

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

BUSINESS SUPPORT

- Advocacy
- Executive Services
- Civic Service
- Mayor & Councillor support

HUMAN RESOURCES

- Human Resources recruitment
- Organisational training & development
- Work Health & Safety
- Workplace & Industrial relations

TOURISM & PROMOTION

- Events
- Library
- Marketing & Communications
- Tourism
- Visitor Information Centre

Commenced journey with Council in November 2008.



SIMON RULE

DIRECTOR

Appointed to role in May 2014

CORPORATE SERVICES

CUSTOMER SERVICES

- Bendigo Bank Agency (Midway Service Centre)
- Bridge lift bookings
- Cemetery reservations & burials
- Customer enquiries
- Receipting (rates, water accounts, applications)
- Venue hire bookings

FINANCE & ACCOUNTING

- Accounts payable/receivable
- Accounting services
- Payroll
- Procurement
- Rates

ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- Business continuity
- Cyber security
- End-user support
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Hardware/software/maintenance acquisition

RECORDS

- Record management

RISK & GOVERNANCE

- Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee
- Corporate Compliance
- Corporate Strategic Planning & Reporting
- Internal Audit
- Risk management

STORES

Commenced journey with Council in October 2017.



GEORGE KENENDE

ACTING DIRECTOR

Appointed to role in January 2024

HEALTH & PLANNING

BUILDING SURVEYING/ ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

- Bonds and Permits
- Building Certification
- Food Safety – annual inspections & temporary permits
- Public Health/Skin Penetration/ Cooling Towers/UPSS

COMPANION ANIMALS

- Barking Dogs
- Nuisance/Aggressive Dogs
- Rehoming
- Shelter Management

DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT

- Development Determinations
- Planning Portal management & assistance
- Pre-lodgement advice

COMPLIANCE/REGULATORY SERVICES/LOCAL LAWS

- Alcohol Free Zones
- Development compliance
- Education & enforcement
- Noise
- Pollution & contaminated land

RESERVES & LAND TENURE

- Acquisition of land
- Crown land manager
- Native Title

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT

- Heritage Protection & Advice
- Planning Proposals & LEP Amendments
- Strategic Planning Projects & Strategies

Commenced journey with Council in November 2016.



GEOFF GUNN

DIRECTOR

Appointed to role in August 2019

ROADS & ENGINEERING

ENGINEERING TEAM

- Assets
- Engineering services
- Infrastructure
- Technical Services
- Water & Waste Water

WORKS TEAM

- Aerodrome operations
- Building maintenance
- Civil Works
- Fleet/Workshop
- Landfill/Waste
- Operations
- Parks & Gardens
- Roads

Wentworth

at a glance



8.40% of our population identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (State average is 3.44%)

Proclaimed a Shire on 23 January
1879

Area (sq. km)
26,256



7,688
Estimated Residential Population (Remplan)

Largest industry of Employment is Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing with **23.46%** of the population



28.81%
Mining is the largest industry sector with (\$445,500,000) gross revenue

3 Libraries

1 Hospital

8 Schools

1 TAFE Campus

2 Aerodromes



29.51% of homes are owned outright

33.32%

Working age Residents (25-64 yrs old)
(state average is 35.70%)

3,124

Employed Residents

4.20% Unemployment Rate (Sept 2024)



Year 12 education as the highest form of education

Wentworth Shire residents

31.40%

vs.

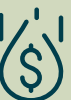
Other areas of NSW

21.40%

\$95,330
per capita Gross Regional Product



The Median Wage for Households:
Wentworth
\$1,987/wk



State (excl. Greater Sydney)
\$1,434/wk



Greater Sydney
\$2,077/wk

The individual median wage is **\$696** per week with **16.25%** of people earning over **\$1,500** per week.

43 years old

is the Median Resident age (State median is 39)

29.62% of Residents are aged under 25 (State average is 30.03%)

20.77% of Residents are aged over 65 (State average is 17.65%)



25.07% of families earn over \$130,000 vs. state average of 37.59%



422km
ADELAIDE

583km
MELBOURNE

1,044km
SYDNEY

662km of sealed road

1,360km of unsealed road



Contact

 **Main Service Centre**
61 Darling Street, Wentworth

 **Postal Address**
PO Box 81, Wentworth NSW 2648

 **(03) 5027 5027**

 **council@wentworth.nsw.gov.au**

 **wentworth.nsw.gov.au**

Have Your Say:
wentworth.nsw.gov.au/have-your-say