




# Wentworth




SHIRE COUNCIL



## Operational Plan Quarterly Progress Report March 2026


## Strategic Direction: Our Economy

Wentworth Shire is a vibrant, growing and thriving Region.

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
1.1	Create a supportive Environment for business to invest and grow	1.1.1	Utilise the Economic Development Strategy to advocate for approaches that create economic diversification and provide broader employment opportunities.	Annual Action Progressing	General Manager	This is an ongoing annual action of Council. Preliminary work on a potential investment prospectus has commenced, aimed at highlighting key opportunities within the region, to attract sustainable investment and drive local job growth. This was identified as an action in the Economic Development Strategy.	


Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		1.1.2	Support educational and employment opportunities that retain young people and local talent, attract new workers and provide opportunities for the unemployed.	Annual Action Progressing	General Manager	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	
1.2	Promote the Wentworth Region as a desirable visitor and tourism destination.	1.2.1	Visitor Information Centre Services.	Annual Action Progressing	Team Leader Visitor Information Centre	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	
		1.2.2	Work in partnership to expand the branding, promotion, attraction and opportunities in support of the growth of the visitor economy.	Annual Action Progressing	Manager Business & Corporate Services	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	


Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		1.2.3	Support the activities of Murray Regional Tourism, Destination NSW Riverina-Murray, and Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc.	Annual Action Progressing	Manager Business & Corporate Services	This is an ongoing annual action of Council. Council partnered with Wentworth Regional Tourism Inc to promote the "Why not Winter in Wentworth Campaign" .	
		1.2.4	Fibre Optic Symphonic Orchestra - Bruce Munro Art Installation	Specific Action Progressing	General Manager	Works have commenced onsite. Art Installation was installed on schedule. Installation of supporting infrastructure has been delayed due to significant rain in early March. The project completion date was pushed back 3 weeks.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
1.3	High quality connectivity across the region.	1.3.1	Advocate for high standard physical and digital connectivity.	Annual Action Progressing	General Manager	This is an ongoing annual action of Council. Council has provided in principle support for Mildura Rural City Council's Integrated Transport and Land Use Strategy including their advocacy priority titled Monak Bridge and to commence advocacy in support of a Heavy Vehicle Bypass.	


## Strategic Direction: Our Community

Wentworth Shire is a great place to live.

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
2.1	Continue to create opportunities for inclusion where all people feel welcome and participate in community life.	2.1.1	We foster a sense of community belonging and diversity.	Annual Action Progressing	Director Corporate Services	This is an ongoing annual action of Council. This year Council facilitated a number of community events, designed to connect the community utilising funding received from the Regional Drought Resilience Fund.	





Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.1.2	Actively engage with and include the perspectives and knowledge of the local indigenous community	Annual Action Progressing	Director Corporate Services	This is an ongoing annual action of Council. The General Manager meets with numerous indigenous groups on a regular basis and has signed a letter of support for a grant application being prepared by the Dareton Aboriginal Land Council.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.1.3	Support the delivery and development of events that contribute to economic prosperity, liveability and social cohesion.	Annual Action Progressing	Team Leader Visitor Information Centre	This is ongoing annual action of Council. Council has provided \$95,500 of support for the following events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sunraysia Safari Rally</li> <li>- Country Music Festival</li> <li>- Wentworth Show</li> <li>- Spirit of Cricket Tournament</li> <li>- Christmas Eve Street Party</li> <li>- Pooncarie Desert Dash</li> </ul>	
		2.1.4	Support cultural, recreational and community interaction opportunities through the Financial Assistance Program	Annual Action Progressing	Director Corporate Services	This is an ongoing annual action of Council. This quarter Council approved \$10,900 of financial assistance.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.1.5	Implement actions outlined in the Disability Action Plan	Annual Action Progressing	Director Corporate Services	This is an ongoing annual action of Council. Buronga Riverfront toilet block has been completed including full accessible toilet and access ramps.	










2.2	The community has access to services and initiatives that contribute to well being across all stages of life	2.2.1	Provide libraries that support social interaction and encourage lifelong learning.	Annual Action Progressing	Team Leader Library Services	<p>This is an ongoing annual action of Council. Total visitation numbers for the quarter - Midway 1320, Dareton 368, Wentworth - 3,191. Key events/highlights include school holiday program activities, Indigenous Education Groups visiting the Dareton Library. Physical borrowings - Midway 960, Dareton - 303, Wentworth - 1,339. Digital resource borrowing/use - 131 active users borrowing 1,460 items. 66635 people visited our borrow box site which equals 73 people per day reading what they have borrowed. Customer Request - Midway - 139, Dareton - 127, Wentworth - 450.</p>	
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Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.2.2	Develop and maintain effective relationships to advocate for the needs of the community.	Annual Action Progressing	General Manager	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	
		2.2.3	Support the work of the Wentworth Interagency Group.	Annual Action Progressing	General Manager	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	
		2.2.4	Our buildings and spaces are designed to be inclusive and accessible to all community members	Annual Action Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	This is an ongoing annual action of Council. Buronga Riverfront toilet block has been completed including full accessible toilet and access ramps.	
2.3	To have a safe community	2.3.1	Regulatory Services are provided to support the health, safety and well being of the community.	Annual Action Progressing	General Manager	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.3.2	Continue to engage with the Local Area Command on key community safety issues	Annual Action Progressing	General Manager	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	
		2.3.3	Facilitate the Local Emergency Management Committee to ensure a co-ordinated approach by all agencies having responsibilities and functions in emergencies	Annual Action Progressing	General Manager	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	


Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.3.4	In partnership with Transport for NSW continue to identify and resolve road and pedestrian safety issues	Annual Action Progressing	Manager Works	This is an ongoing annual action of Council. Council has received confirmation from Transport for NSW that 6 road safety projects for this year have been approved. Road Safety Officer provides Council with a quarterly update on activities undertaken for that quarter.	
		2.3.5	Being a Child Safe organisation.	Annual Action Progressing	Director Corporate Services	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	




Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.3.6	Dareton CCTV.	Specific Action Progressing	Manager Technology Services	Work has commenced with the contractor to identify potential locations for the Cameras. Final plans have been completed and are currently out for community feedback. Project on track to be completed before the end of the financial year.	
2.4	To have a strong sense of place.	2.4.1	Community pride is encouraged through the beautification and maintenance of our towns	Annual Action Progressing	Manager Works	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	
		2.4.2	Undertake specific public spaces capital works projects - Ski Reserve Rehabilitation project	Specific Action Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	Project has been completed. Currently discussing a potential scope extension with the funding body to spend remaining grant funds.	





Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		2.4.3	Undertake specific public spaces capital works projects - Open Spaces Development	Specific Action Completed	Manager Engineering Services	Project was completed this quarter.	
		2.4.4	Undertake specific public spaces capital works projects - Buronga Riverfront Toilet Block	Specific Action Completed	Manager Engineering Services	This is a carry forward project from 24/25 and since been completed.	
		2.4.5	Undertake specific public spaces capital works projects - Buronga Pump Track Stage 2	Specific Action Completed	Manager Engineering Services	This is a carried forward project from 24/25 and since been completed.	
		2.4.6	Undertake specific public spaces capital works projects - Greater Darling Junction Viewing Platform	Specific Action Completed	Manager Engineering Services	This is a carry forward project from 24/25. Project was completed this quarter.	




## Strategic Direction: Our Environment





Wentworth is a community that works to enhance and protect its physical and natural environment.





Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
3.1	An urban environment that maintains and enhances our sense of identity and place.	3.1.1	Manage development through a transparent and efficient assessment process.	Annual Action Progressing	General Manager	This is an ongoing annual action of Council. Council has appointed a Planning Consulting firm to help manage the assessment process while it undertakes recruitment for additional planning staff.	





Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.1.2	Develop, review and update Strategic Planning documents as required.	Annual Action Progressing	General Manager	This is an ongoing annual action of Council. The review and update to the Buronga Gol Gol Structure Plan is progressing, a report will go to the April Council meeting endorsing the Draft Plan for Public Consultation. Council has applied for funding from the Dept of Planning to update Developer Contribution Plan and Development Servicing Plan.	
3.2	Our public assets are well maintained and able to meet the growing population demands.	3.2.1	Land Tenure Program	Annual Action Progressing	Property & Land Tenure Officer	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	
		3.2.2	Maintain transport network including Roads, Bridges & Footpaths	Annual Action Progressing	Team Leader Roads	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.2.3	Maintain community facilities including halls, ovals, pools and other sporting facilities	Annual Action Progressing	Manager Works	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	
		3.2.4	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund	Specific Action Progressing	Team Leader Roads	Program of works is progressing as scheduled.	
		3.2.5	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Loop Road	Specific Action Completed	Manager Works	This is a carried forward project from 24/25 and has since been completed.	
		3.2.6	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Milpara Road	Specific Action Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	Final design and required approvals have commenced.	





Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.2.7	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Flood Recovery Activities - Roads, Bridges, Footpaths	Specific Action Completed	Team Leader Roads	This action was completed during the quarter.	
		3.2.8	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Darling Street Footpaths	Specific Action Completed	Manager Works	This is a carried forward project from 24/25 and since been completed.	
		3.2.9	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Wentworth Rowing Club Extension	Specific Action Progressing	Manager Works	This is a carried forward project from 24/25. Works have commenced are on track to be completed by the end of the financial year..	




Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.2.10	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Showgrounds Kitchen Upgrade	Specific Action Completed	Manager Works	This project was carried forward from 24/25 and has since been completed.	
		3.2.11	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Pooncarie Reserve Kitchen Upgrade	Specific Action Completed	Manager Works	This project was carried forward from 24/25 and has since been completed.	
		3.2.12	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Dareton Main Street	Specific Action Completed	Manager Works	This project was carried forward from 24/25 and since been completed.	
		3.2.13	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Wentworth Depot Upgrade	Specific Action Completed	Manager Works	This project has been carried forward from 24/25. Project was completed this quarter.	

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.2.14	Prioritise and implement recommendations of Asset Management Plans - Buronga to Gol Gol Shared Ways	Specific Action Completed	Manager Works	This project has been carried forward from 24/25 and has been completed this quarter.	
		3.2.15	Land Purchase Dareton	Specific Action Progressing	General Manager	At the December Council Meeting, Council approved the purchase of land at Dareton to support the potential development of an Early Settlers Museum.	
3.3	Minimise the impact on the natural environment	3.3.1	Effectively manage weeds to protect our biodiversity and natural environment.	Annual Action Progressing	Manager Works	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	
		3.3.2	Monitor and investigate Illegal Dumping Activities as required	Annual Action Progressing	General Manager	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	




Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.3.3	Support the activities of the Murray Darling Association	Annual Action Progressing	General Manager	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	
		3.3.4	Advocate for the sustainable management of the Darling-Barka River and the Menindee Lakes	Annual Action Progressing	General Manager	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	
		3.3.5	Wentworth Flood Study	Specific Action Progressing	General Manager	Project is progressing as scheduled. Community consultation was undertaken through January and February.	
3.4	Use and manage our resources wisely.	3.4.1	Provide best practice water, waste water and stormwater management infrastructure	Annual Action Progressing	Team Leader Water & Waste Water	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	





Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.4.2	Provide and promote resource recovery and recycling initiatives.	Annual Action Progressing	Manager Waste & Recycling	This is an ongoing annual action of Council. Works on the enhanced resource recovery facilities at the Buronga Landfill have been completed. At the March Council Meeting Council approved the offer from Cleanaway for the provision of a new Kerbside Waste Contract that will see the introduction of new Food Organics/Garden Organics and Recycling Collections commencing 1 October 2026.	
		3.4.3	Encourage businesses and the community to be socially and environmentally responsible	Annual Action Progressing	Manager Waste & Recycling	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	




Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.4.4	Buronga Landfill Expansion	Specific Action Completed	Manager Engineering Services	This project has been completed during the quarter.	
		3.4.5	Prioritise and implement recommendations of the Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan - Water Treatment Plant Upgrades	Specific Action Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	Stage 1 of Pooncarie WTP has commenced and capacity upgrades to Gol Gol WTP have commenced and are on track to be completed by the end of April.	
		3.4.6	Prioritise and implement recommendations of the Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan - Gol Gol East Raw Water Pump Station	Not Due To Start	Manager Engineering Services		
		3.4.7	Prioritise and implement recommendations of the Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan - Wilson Sewer Pump Station	Specific Action Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	Contractors have been engaged. Works have commenced.	

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.4.8	Prioritise and implement recommendations of the Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan - Buronga Sewer Pump Station #9	Specific Action Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	Final designs and approvals have commenced.	
		3.4.9	Prioritise and implement recommendations of the Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan - Sewer Main Refurbishments	Specific Action Completed	Manager Engineering Services	Stage 1 works have been completed. Currently working with the contractor to identify the next stage of works.	
		3.4.10	Prioritise and implement recommendations of the Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan - Buronga Waste Water Treatment Plant	Specific Action Completed	Manager Engineering Services	Works identified for 25/26 have been completed.	

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.4.11	Prioritise and implement recommendations of the Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan - Wentworth Waste Water Treatment Plant	Specific Action Completed	Manager Engineering Services	2025/2026 Works have been completed.	
		3.4.12	Water Leakage & District Metering Program	Specific Action Completed	Manager Engineering Services	This project has been carried forward from 2024/2025 and was completed this quarter.	
		3.4.13	Wentworth Raw Water Pump Station	Specific Action Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	This project has been carried forward from 24/25. Draft plans have been submitted to the funding body for review and feedback before being finalised.	
		3.4.14	Dareton Raw Water Pump Station	Specific Action Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	see 3.4.13	
		3.4.15	Gol Gol Water Treatment Plant	Specific Action Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	see 3.4.13	


Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.4.16	Wentworth Water Treatment Plant	Specific Action Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	see 3.4.13	
3.5	Infrastructure meets the needs of our growing Shire.	3.5.1	Infrastructure is planned for the long term and without imposing an unfair burden on future generations.	Annual Action Progressing	Director Roads & Engineering	This is an ongoing annual action of Council. So far this year Council has participated in Sturt Highway Taskforce and the Far West Strategic Regional Integrated Transport Plan forum.	
		3.5.2	Encourage positive social and environmental contributions from developers.	Annual Action Progressing	General Manager	This is an ongoing annual action of Council. Council continues to have positive discussions with West Wind in relations to the proposed Community Benefits fund associated with their Wind Farm development.	


Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.5.3	Progress actions from the Buronga/Gol Gol Structure Plan - Rose Street Stormwater	Specific Action Progressing	Senior Civil Engineer	Planning and designs for Stage 2 has commenced.	
		3.5.4	Progress actions from the Buronga/Gol Gol Structure Plan - 3 Sisters Stormwater	Specific Action Progressing	Senior Civil Engineer	Planning works have commenced.	
		3.5.5	Progress actions from the Buronga/Gol Gol Structure Plan - Crane Drive Stormwater	Specific Action Progressing	Senior Civil Engineer	Planning and design works have commenced.	
		3.5.6	Progress actions from the Buronga/Gol Gol Structure Plan: - Melaleuca/Hendy Road Stormwater	Specific Action Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	Works have commenced.	



Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		3.5.7	Progress actions from the Buronga/Gol Gol Structure Plan - Punt Road Stormwater	Specific Action Progressing	Manager Works	The project has been carried forward from 24/25. Stop Gate has been purchased. Quotes to install the gates currently being sourced.	
		3.5.8	Progress actions from the Buronga/Gol Gol Structure Plan - Dawn Avenue Stormwater	Specific Action Progressing	Manager Engineering Services	Works have commenced.	
		3.5.9	Land Purchase Buronga	Specific Action Progressing	General Manager	At the February Council Meeting, Council approved the purchase of Land in Buronga for a future Emergency Services Precinct for the Buronga Gol Gol area.	



## Strategic Direction: Our Leadership

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

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
4.1	A well engaged and informed community.	4.1.1	Provide timely, accessible and accurate information to the community.	Annual Action Progressing	General Manager	<p>During the quarter, Council published 146 posts on its website, with an average of 78 views per post. The highest-performing post recorded 398 views and related to Jobs for the 2026 Census, published on 12 February. Five posts received zero views, four of which were associated with Development Applications.</p> <p>Across Council's social media platforms, 95 posts were published, achieving an average reach of 1,268 per post. The highest reach recorded was 10,138 for a post on 1 March relating to the heavy rain event.</p> <p>On Council's tourism social media channels, 26 posts were published, with an average reach of 1,866 per post. The highest reach recorded was 9,522 for a post on 4 January relating to the FOSO project.</p>	

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		4.1.2	Engage and consult with the whole community to capture and consider all viewpoints.	Annual Action Progressing	General Manager	<p>Across the “Have Your Say” engagement platform, there were 705 visitors during the quarter, generating a total of 1,092 visits and 1,418 page views. A total of 49 visitors made contributions, resulting in 69 contributions overall.</p> <p>The most viewed page was the Wentworth Flood Study 2026, which recorded 319 visitors and 527 visits. The highest level of contributions was recorded on the Open Spaces Upgrade project in Gol Gol, where 21 visitors made a total of 30 contributions.</p>	

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
4.2	We value our civic leadership whose stewardship and decision making benefits present and future generations.	4.2.1	Ensure that elected members are adequately resourced to enable effective representation.	Annual Action Progressing	General Manager	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	
		4.2.2	Build and maintain active partnerships and advocate effectively on behalf of the community.	Annual Action Progressing	General Manager	This is an ongoing annual action of Council.	

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
4.3	Provide a governance framework that is transparent and builds trust in local leadership.	4.3.1	Council practices and processes are undertaken in an efficient manner that meets legislative requirements.	Annual Action Progressing	Director Corporate Services	This is an ongoing annual action of Council. Waste Management Internal Audit was completed and the Procurement and Accounts Payable Internal Audit commenced during the quarter. The Asset Management Service Review and Libraries Service Review progressed and will be completed next quarter.	
4.4	Manage public resources responsibly and efficiently for the benefit of the community.	4.4.1	Council's finances are managed to ensure ongoing service delivery levels and appropriate asset management can be maintained.	Annual Action Progressing	General Manager	This is an ongoing annual action of Council. Audit of Annual Financial Statements has been completed and lodged before the statutory deadline.	

Objective Code	Objective	Action Code	Action Name	Status	Responsible Officer Position	Comments	Traffic Lights
		4.4.2	Retain, engage and develop staff.	Annual Action Progressing	Manager Human Resources	HR & WHS activities for the quarter - Training (TfNSW worker on foot x 2, Traffic Control x 14) - 1 Safety Inspection - 1 Hazardous chemical audit/inspection - 10 staff inductions - 79 staff participated in Skin Check Clinic	