05

Strategic
Directions

# Understanding the plan

**Within each of the 5 strategic directions, the following is addressed:**

**Community Priority:** These are the identified priorities within each of the 5 strategic themes. They answer the question, '*Where do we want to be in 10 years?*'

**Strategies – How will we get there?:** Strategies are the method or approach by which the community priorities of the CSP will be met. Their purpose is to answer the question, '*How will we get there?*'.

**Measure:** The measures are what we are aiming for as a community and when looking back how we measure the progress of the CSP. Their purpose is to answer the question, '*How will we know when we've arrived?*'

**Source:** These are the data sources which will be used to report on the measures and track progress to know when we have 'arrived'. These are reported on at the end of the Council Term in the State of the Shire Report.

**Councils Role:** This identified for each community priority which role/s Council will take being to provide, collaborate and/or advocate.

**Partners:** Are the key partners, stakeholders, agencies, and groups that will help achieve the community aspiration.

# 1.   Leadership

Prioritise transparency, financial sustainability and strong partnerships with and for our community.

| Community Priority | Strategies – How will we get there? |
|---|---|
| **1.1. Transparent and accountable Council trusted by the community** | a.  Implement and promote best practice governance<br><br>b.  Monitor, evaluate and update Council's strategic planning documents and policies<br><br>c.  Provide access to Council information, services and facilities |
| **1.2. Local priorities are championed through advocacy** | a.  Engage with governments, councils, agencies, associations and private companies for the betterment of the community |
| **1.3. The community is informed and engaged** | a.  Ensure various communication methods are used to engage the community throughout the shire<br><br>b.  Inform and encourage community input into decision making |
| **1.4. Finances are managed sustainably and responsibly** | a.  Council meets all statutory and regulatory compliance obligations<br><br>b.  Council operates in a financially sustainable manner and seeks to identify and implement ongoing efficiencies<br><br>c.  Creation of new and upgraded public assets is balanced with the needs of the greater community |

| What does success look like? | Sources |
|---|---|
| All Compliance and reporting activities are met | • NSW Office of Local Government requirements and six-monthly report to Council |
| Priorities identified by the community are identified and highlighted to the appropriate stakeholder | • Action and/or response received from stakeholder<br>• Funding programs or services are implemented |
| The community feels engaged and informed | • Community sentiment through Community survey |
| Meet Local Government financial benchmark ratios | • NSW Office of Local Government requirements as reported in Council Annual Report (including audited financial statements) |

# 2. Community

## A connected, healthy, safe and inclusive community.

| Community Priority | Strategies – How will we get there? |
|---|---|
| **2.1. Community groups are capable, resilient and well-supported** | a. Provide support and opportunities for town and village associations and community groups to actively represent their community or group<br><br>b. Explore opportunities seeking to address the decline of volunteers |
| **2.2. Social connection and learning opportunities are available for all** | a. Encourage and facilitate youth participation, engagement and employment opportunities<br><br>b. Provide library services, community spaces and facilities that create social connection opportunities<br><br>c. Support and assist with the promotion of community events and activities |
| **2.3. A safe and healthy community** | a. Engage with and support agencies (including Emergency Services) to ensure adequate service levels throughout the shire<br><br>b. Enhanced and improved health and medical services for the shire<br><br>c. Encourage, educate and enforce responsible companion animal ownership |
| **2.4. An inclusive and liveable community** | a. Provide and promote access and inclusion for people with a disability<br><br>b. All decisions are sensitive to the impact on vulnerable groups<br><br>c. Public transport services are adequate for communities needs |

*Niina Talikka*

| What does success look like? | Sources |
|---|---|
| **Proactive and prosperous town/village associations and volunteer groups** | • Each town/village has active community group/s<br>• Each town/village has an action plan<br>• Support provided by Council through assistance programs to groups |
| **Increase the number of persons who volunteer within the community** | • ABS Census data |
| **The community is actively involved in activities that create social connection** | • Increase social connection participation (e.g. Youth Week, Library, Events, CentrePoint, Community Centre, Platform) |
| **Reduction in criminal activity** | • NSW Crime Data<br>• Vandalism reported to Council |
| **Improved Community Health** | • NSW Health Data |

# 3. Infrastructure

Resilient, fit for purpose and maintained infrastructure to support our community.

| Community Priority | Strategies – How will we get there? |
|---|---|
| 3.1. Resilient and well-maintained road and transportation infrastructure | a. Ensure transport infrastructure is safe and well maintained<br>b. Advocate to the NSW Government for improved transportation networks<br>c. Ensure renewal of existing and future infrastructure is sustainable, planned and based on ensuring inter-generational equity |
| 3.2. Facilities and open spaces that promote and encourage a healthy lifestyle | a. Ensure public and sporting facilities are planned, maintained and fit for purpose<br>b. Ensure pedestrian networks are planned, maintained and safe<br>c. Provide a variety of recreational and sporting facilities which enable and encourage the community to pursue recreational activities<br>d. Ensure renewal of existing and future infrastructure is planned and fit for purpose |
| 3.3. Utility services meet the growing needs of the community | a. Stormwater drainage and sewer assets are maintained, resilient and planned to facilitate growth<br>b. Ensure everyone within the community has access to an appropriate water supply<br>c. Enhanced and improved utility and communication services throughout the shire |

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| What does success look like? | Sources |
|---|---|
| **An improved road transportation network** | • Increased expenditure on transport infrastructure<br>• Asset condition ratings<br>• Community sentiment through Community survey |
| **Reduced Infrastructure Backlog Ratio** | • Annual Financial Statements |
| **Community satisfaction regarding; open spaces, footpaths and sporting facilities.** | • Community sentiment through Community survey<br>• CentrePoint statistics<br>• Sporting Facility Bookings statistics |
| **Reduction in the number of medium and high-risk defects within the footpath network** | • Council routine inspection data<br>• Customer Request data |
| **Community satisfaction regarding utility services** | • Community sentiment through Community survey |

# 4. Economy

## A diverse, vibrant and sustainable economy.

| Community Priority | Strategies – How will we get there? |
|---|---|
| **4.1. Our economy is strong and diverse** | a. Support existing and new business to encourage economic growth<br><br>b. Support the agriculture sector to be productive and sustainable<br><br>c. Seek to leverage economic growth opportunities from large scale developments |
| **4.2. Large projects and developments are socially responsible balancing prosperity and sustainability** | a. Engage and advocate in relation to social, corporate and environmental responsibilities for mining and renewable energy projects<br><br>b. Advocate for the wider community benefit in relation to any change (new, expansion or closure) of mining and renewable energy projects |
| **4.3. A growing tourism industry** | a. Leverage the strengths of a regional tourism industry approach with our neighbouring councils<br><br>b. Collaborate with key stakeholders representing the tourism industry<br><br>c. Support and encourage events, businesses and experiences which add value to the local visitor economy |
| **4.4. Sustainable growth of our community** | a. Assess and process applications in a timely manner<br><br>b. Council infrastructure is not negatively impacted in an unsustainable manner by proposed developments<br><br>c. Land use strategies and plans are reviewed and updated |

_Hamlet and Fields_

| What does success look like? | Sources |
|---|---|
| **A shire with more than 8,000 residents**<br><br>**An increase in Gross Regional Product**<br><br>**Unemployment rate less than 3%** | • ABS Census data |
| **Large projects and developments are socially responsible**<br><br>**New funding sources or programs to offset impacts from large projects and developments** | • Annual Environmental Management Report for large projects<br>• Any new funding programs from NSW Government, Australian Government or private sector |
| **Growth in the value of the visitor economy** | • Visitor Economy Data<br>• Number of ATDW listings |
| **Statement of Expectations Order benchmarks for development assessment, planning proposals and strategic planning are met** | • NSW Department of Planning Housing, and Infrastructure |

# 5.  Natural and Built Environment

Protecting our assets for future generations.

| Community Priority | Strategies – How will we get there? |
|---|---|
| **5.1. Natural ecosystems, including waterways, bushland, and wildlife, are preserved and enhanced** | a. Natural environment is well managed and preserved for current and future generations<br><br>b. Minimise the impact of weeds and pest animals in the shire |
| **5.2. Heritage and cultural sites are valued and protected** | a. Built heritage items and heritage conservation areas are preserved and maintained<br><br>b. Work with cultural groups if any significant places of interest are identified |
| **5.3. Sustainable waste management** | a. Minimise the amount of landfill waste deposited to landfill<br><br>b. Promote and create opportunities for waste diversion and reduction within kerbside collection services |
| **5.4 Adaptation and mitigation of Climate Change impacts** | a. Transition to a sustainable, secure and affordable energy future<br><br>b. Minimise the impact of carbon emissions |

_Nina Talikka_

| What does success look like? | Sources |
| --- | --- |
| **A pristine natural environment** | • Community sentiment through Community survey |
| **Blayney Shire has reduced weed infestation** | • Report from Central Tablelands Weeds Authority<br>• Council expenditure on weeds management |
| **Heritage Items and Heritage Conservation Areas are maintained** | • Number and value of Heritage Assistance Grants provided |
| **Reduction in the amount of waste deposited to landfill** | • Waste statistics (EPA Annual Return and/or NetWaste report) |
| **Transition and embracement of renewable energy technologies** | • Amount of non-renewable energy consumed by Council<br>• Council Solar PV and battery storage statistics<br>• Council Electric Vehicle Charging statistics |