



ANNUAL REPORT: SNAPSHOT

2022/23

This document is a snapshot of the Annual Report 2022/23. Visit our website to read the full report, which includes legislative reporting requirements and audited financial reports www.blayney.nsw.gov.au

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

In the spirit of reconciliation, Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea, and community.

Blayney Shire Council acknowledges and pays respect to the Wiradjuri people, the traditional custodians of the land referred to as Blayney Shire.

We recognise Aboriginal spritiual, social and cultural connections to these lands and waters, and state our commitment to ensuring that Aboriginal rights, as enshrined in legislation, are upheld and not eroded.



OUR ELECTED MEMBERS



**Cr Scott Ferguson
(Mayor)**



**Cr David Somervaille
(Deputy Mayor)**



Cr Allan Ewin



Cr Craig Gosewisch



Cr John Newstead



Cr Michelle Pryse Jones



Cr Bruce Reynolds

Blayney Shire Council consists of seven Councillors who equally represent the entire Local Government Area. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor are nominated and elected by their fellow Councillors.

Local Government elections were held on Saturday 4 December 2021. It is compulsory for all residents within the Council area to vote if their names appear on the electoral roll.

Non-resident property owners may vote if they make application for their names to be included on a non- residential roll.

Councillors are always happy to hear from members of the community about issues of interest and concern.

OUR VISION FOR BLAYNEY SHIRE

A busy, vibrant, and thriving rural shire – a friendly and open place where people choose to live with a strong sense of community spirit and cohesiveness. With positive population growth, employment opportunities, increased diversity of industry and economic growth, Blayney Shire's township, villages and settlements will be dynamic and prosperous.

Our families and homes will continue to be safe within our caring and welcoming communities.

Through inclusive design all residents will all have access to, and be able to enjoy the outdoors and facilities, improving our health and lifestyle whilst participating in a range of sporting and recreational activities.

Growth will be achieved in a planned and sustainable manner with industry, coexisting with our productive farming land, and open space; protecting and restoring the natural environment and restoring our built and heritage as a feature.

As a picturesque, centrally located shire in the beautiful central west of NSW, we will be a significant contributor to the regional visitor economy; with a creative and artistic culture, food and wine and historic villages.

Blayney Shire will be engaged, proactive and acknowledged for undertaking major projects and delivering valuable services, collaborating at a regional, state and national level.



KEY FINANCIAL RESULTS

Total Operating Income	\$32.8 MILLION
Total Operating Spend	\$21.16 MILLION
Operating Result for Continuing Operations	\$11.6 MILLION
Net Operating Result before Grants and Contributions	\$1.16 MILLION

TOTAL INCOME	2022/23	\$ ',000
Rates and annual charges	12,222	
User charges and fees	2,049	
Other revenues	316	
Operating grants and contributions	6,457	
Capital grants and contributions	10,443	
Interest and investment revenue	730	
Other income	544	
Net gain from disposal of assets	—	
TOTAL	32,761	

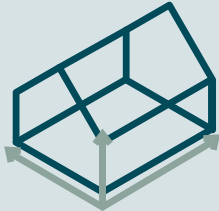
TOTAL EXPENSES	2022/23	\$ ',000
Employee costs	6,970	
Materials and services	5,326	
Borrowing costs	273	
Depreciation and amortisation	7,514	
Other expenses	847	
Net loss from disposal of assets	229	
TOTAL EXPENSES FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS	21,162	
NET OPERATING RESULT BEFORE GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS PROVIDED FOR CAPITAL PURPOSES	1,156	
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM ENCOMPASSING ASSET RENEWAL AND UPGRADES	14,820	

2022/23 SNAPSHOT

Development Applications

In 2022/23 Council processed the following amount of Development Applications:

- Pre DA: 553
- DA only: 46
- DA/CC: 21
- DA/CC/S68: 15
- DA/S68: 38
- S68: 19
- CDC: 10
- Subdivision: 13
- Modification Applications: 24
- SWC: 4



Total of value of development approved in the shire: **\$31,428,322**

Financial Assistance Program

In 2022/23 Council contributed \$119,862, including rates & insurance to not-for-profit groups that offer a significant contribution to the social, economic and/or environmental well-being of the community.

Funding for Roads and Infrastructure

In 2022/23 Council received over \$13 million in funding for roads, bridges and community infrastructure;

- Stronger Country Communities R5 \$727,881
- Resources for Regions \$6,532,923
- Building Better Regions Fund \$563,451
- Local Roads & Community Infrastructure \$489,518
- Fixing Country Bridges \$1,353,137
- Fixing Local Roads \$685,755
- Storm Damage Repair Funding \$500,701
- Regional & Local Roads Repair Program \$1,330,982
- Flood Recovery Grant \$1,000,000

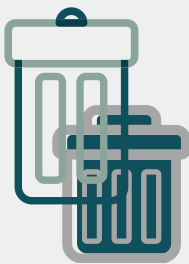
Funding for Community Events

In 2022/23 Council received \$239,651 for community events which was spread across 13 events in 6 towns/villages with more to be held in 2023/24. This was funded through the Reconnecting Regional NSW Community Event Program



Waste Collection

3,121 domestic and commercial premises throughout the Shire receive a weekly waste collection service and fortnightly recycling collection service.



Music Scholarships

Two Music Scholarships Awarded

Foothpaths

In 2022/23 Council's expenditure for renewals was \$31,823 and for new \$1,723,708 covering 1.5km. Council maintained 39.8km of footpath and shared paths.



Planning Certificates

In 2022/23 Council processed:

- 278 Planning Certificates
- 119 Drainage Diagrams
- 53 Outstanding Notices



Sewerage Services

The Blayney Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) treats an average of 1550Kl of waste per day.

Library - Statistics

- Loans:
 - In-person 11,735
 - E-loans 5,671
- Other:
 - PC Bookings 485
 - WiFi 129
 - Events 17
 - Programs 99



CentrePoint

- 291 average number of memberships 22/23
- 62,000 average number patron visits to the Centre 22/23
- 479 average number enrolled in Learn to Swim Programs 22/23



Food Inspections

In 2022/23 Council conducted:

- 66 temporary food shop inspections.
- 38 permanent food shop inspections.
- 24 mobile food premises inspections.



Blayney Waste Facility

In 2022/23 Blayney Waste Facility received:

- 7252.46 tonnes of Municipal Waste
- 1008.12 tonnes Commercial & Industrial Waste
- 1327.60 tonnes of Construction & Demolition Waste

ONGOING COUNCIL OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Parks/Open Spaces

Blayney

- Heritage Park,
- Tennis Courts & Surrounds
- Netball Courts
- Carrington Park,
- CentrePoint,
- Goose Park,
- Belubula River Walk,
- Albert Cook Park,
- Innes Park,
- Gilchrist Street
- Billy Soo Memorial
- Church Hill
- Frog Hollow open space
- Medway St/Mt Errol Street Open Space,
- Presidents Walk

Carcoar

- Kurt Fearnley Park,
- River Park,
- Pound Flat,
- RFS Fire Shed / Carcoar Park
- Carcoar Dam

Capital Park, Lyndhurst

Mill Green, Millthorpe

Dog Park (Glenorie Rd), Millthorpe

Neville Memorial Park

Barry Community Hall

Hobbys Yards Hall

Infrastructure

\$359m of Infrastructure Assets, including;

- 340 kms of sealed local roads
- 346 kms of unsealed local roads
- 44.2 kms of Regional Roads
- 76 bridges
- 433 Major culverts
- 39 kms of footpaths
- 157 buildings
- 163 kms of sewer pipe
- 32 kms of stormwater pipe

Cemetery Maintenance

- Blayney
- Millthorpe
- Carcoar
- Lyndhurst
- Hobbys Yards
- Neville
- Newbridge
- Shaw cemetery

Sporting fields

- King George Oval, Blayney
- Napier Oval, Blayney
- Dakers Oval, Blayney
- Blayney Showground (inc CWELC)
- Redmond Oval, Millthorpe
- Carcoar Sportsground, Carcoar
- Lyndhurst Recreation Ground
- Newbridge Showground
- Mandurama Recreation Ground



REPRESENTATION AND ADVOCACY

Council is involved with many different groups that have different focuses aimed at improving the Blayney Shire community. Throughout the year, Council also works with various organisations to advocate for change on important topics.

Representation

- Central Tablelands Water Authority
- Central Tablelands Weeds Authority
- Central NSW Joint Organisation
- Orange360
- Skillset
- Community Consultative Committees;
 - Cadia Gold Mine
 - Flyers Creek Wind Farm
 - McPhillamys Gold Project
- Blayney Shire Local Emergency Management
- Canobolas Zone Bush Fire Liaison Committee
- Canobolas Zone Bush Fire Management Committee
- Arts Out West



Committees

Committees of Council play an important role in providing a mechanism for consultation, input and community engagement with residents, stakeholders and our various Town and Progress/Village Associations, and this review seeks to support an effective and appropriate committee structure.

Committees include;

- Disability Inclusion Working Group
- Australia Day Committee
- Financial Assistance Program Advisory Committee
- Cemetery Forum
- Blayney Shire Floodplain Management Committee
- Disability Inclusion Working Group
- Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee

Advocacy

- Central NSW Joint Organisation
- Local Government NSW
- Association Mining and Energy Related Councils
- NSW Country Mayors Association
- Blayney Health Council

STRATEGIC PLANS

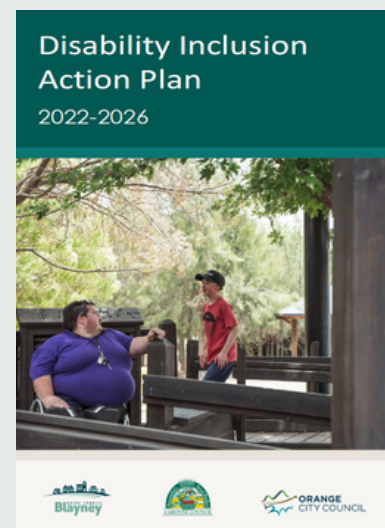
The following strategic plans, which Council has adopted, provide direction for specific areas of Council. These are outside of our government-legislated documents such as the Community Strategic Plan or annual Delivery Program.

These plans are generally implemented over a number of years

- Active Movement Strategy
- Blayney Showground Strategic Plan
- Disability Inclusion Action Plan
- Orange Region Destination Management Plan
- Sport and Recreation Plan

Strategic Plans can be found on Council's Website

www.blayney.nsw.gov.au



FUTURE DIRECTIONS

As part of our Community Strategic Plan a set of Strategic Objectives was developed so that the social, environmental, economic and civic leadership issues are considered and are adequately addressed via the Future Directions headings of;



**MAINTAIN AND
IMPROVE PUBLIC
INFRASTRUCTURE
AND SERVICES**



**BUILD THE CAPACITY
AND CAPABILITY OF
LOCAL GOVERNANCE
AND FINANCE**



**DIVERSIFY AND GROW
THE BLAYNEY SHIRE
LOCAL AND VISITOR
ECONOMY**



**ENHANCE RECREATIONAL
FACILITIES & NETWORKS
THAT SUPPORT HEALTH &
WELLBEING OF THE
COMMUNITY, SPORT,
HERITAGE & CULTURAL
INTERESTS**



**PROTECT OUR
NATURAL
ENVIRONMENT**

Some projects highlights completed under each of these themes has been summarised on the following pages;



FUTURE DIRECTION 1

MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES



Leabeater Bridge, Lyndhurst

ROADS AND BRIDGES

In 2022/23, Council received \$13 million for infrastructure-related grants to maintain Councils sealed and unsealed roads, bridges and culverts. This included flood recovery and emergency repair projects.

Some of these key projects completed in 2022/23 included;

- Forest Reefs Road
- Hobbys Yards Road: Stage 3
- Lynch's Bridge
- Leabeater Bridge
- Carbine Road
- Boondaroo Bridge
- Gallymont Road Bridge
- Panuara Road
- Sealing of Presscott Street and Harrow Street in Lyndhurst
- Sealing of Coombing Lane and Mendham Lane in Barry
- Lucan Road Bridge



Belubula River Walk, Blayney

ACTIVE MOVEMENT PROJECTS

With grant funding, Council was able to bring forward a number of Active Movement Strategy projects providing important and accessible connections. These linkages have proved to be very popular walking tracks for residents and visitors.

Projects have included;

- Lyndhurst; Mt McDonald Road and Marsden Street Capital Park to Primary School
- Millthorpe; Elliot Street and Glenorie Road
- Carcoar; Coombing Street – Footbridge to Showground/Eulamore Street
- Belubula River Walk, Blayney

Additional footpaths are planned for early 2023/24 in Newbridge and Blayney

Glenorie Road Loop, Millthorpe



BELUBULA RIVER WALK

The completion of the Belubula River Walk has been a highlight for many residents in Blayney. Stretching from Dakers Oval to Heritage Park, users can take in the local environment, waterways, and bird and plant species on this fully accessible 1.4km track.

The boardwalk features a footbridge to a small island surrounded by the Belubula River and connects Blayney's shopping centre with the main playground and recreation area at Heritage Park.



FUTURE DIRECTION 2

BUILD THE CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY OF LOCAL GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE

COMMUNITY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Blayney Shire Council has a Community Financial Assistance Program to assist the not-for-profit groups that significantly contribute to the community's social, economic and/or environmental well-being. In 2022/23 Council provided funding to groups in 3 different categories.

Recurring Annual Donations: There was \$49,817.90 of funding provided in donations which were made to community organisations on an annual basis to assist financially with specified outgoings such as the waiver of Council rates and charges, a school activity, or the holding of a regular community event or cultural activity.



National All Breeds Junior Heifer Show



Millthorpe CWA

One-off financial assistance: This assistance is provided for projects involving the construction, maintenance or repair of community facilities, purchase of equipment, or organising and conducting of local events and functions. In 2022/23 \$55,479.40 was provided to 24 different community groups. Some project highlights were;

- Lyndhurst Team Penning – Defibrillator and paediatric packs
- Millthorpe CWA – Air-conditioning and roof over deck and exterior painting
- Blayney Golf Club - Security camera system
- Neville Equine Performance – Multipurpose area upgrades
- Newbridge Progress Association – Design and drafting of covered walkway
- Abundant Life Church BBQ Trailer
- Central West Dressage Group – Refurbishment of horse yards



Neville Equine Centre Arena Upgrades

Flagship Funding: \$25,000 of flagship funding is set aside for major project(s) to be undertaken by community group(s). This year, \$14,565 was allocated to Tallwood Hall for replace flooring in main hall area.

Some projects are still in progress as recipients are provided with 12 months to complete the project.



FUTURE DIRECTION 3

DIVERSIFY AND GROW THE BLAYNEY SHIRE LOCAL AND VISITOR ECONOMY

RECONNECTING REGIONAL NSW COMMUNITY EVENT PROGRAM

In 2022/23 Council received \$239,651 of funding under NSW Community Event Program. The program aimed to reconnect communities and provide an economic boost to businesses post COVID. Council employed an Event Coordinator to help execute the grant with a series of events across the Shire and in partnership with a number of local community groups and businesses.

Events included;

- Blayney in the 80s
- Millthorpe Garden Guru Workshop
- Millfest
- Millthorpe Skate Skills Workshop
- Orange Regional Conservatorium Event
- Platform Arts Hub Exhibitions and Workshops (*to be held in 23/24*)
- A Night in Neville (*February and October*)
- Spring into Art at Newbridge (*Held in 2023 & 2024*)
- Lyndhurst Country Community Fair
- Events @ CentrePoint (*to be held in 23/24*)
- Blayney Harness Racing Family Fun Day
- Country Music Month Muster at the Royal Hotel Mandurama
- The Working Dog Challenge Trial & Sale at CTLX

Events were very well received across the Shire and allowed for a variety of different types of events and across different villages in the Shire and some turning into annual events.



Lyndhurst Country Community Fair



Blayney in the 80s

SCULPTURES BY THE BUSH

Over the April School Holidays, Council coordinates the Sculptures by the Bush campaign which encourages local residents to create sculptures or scarecrows out of haybales or recycled farm materials. Prizes are awarded in 3 categories. The event is very well received with a lot of media attention and a number of visitors travelling to the region to see the sculptures and entrants reporting increased visitation.



Sculptures by the Bush

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Council's Planning & Development team are responsible for leading, planning, delivering and managing development control in the Blayney Shire. The overarching legislation for planning in NSW is the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act. In 2022/23, Council received, assessed and determined, 241 applications with a combined value of \$31.4 million and responded to 553 preplanning enquiries. 278 Planning Certificates, 119 Drainage Diagrams and 53 Outstanding notices were also processed.



FUTURE DIRECTION 4

ENHANCE RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND NETWORKS THAT SUPPORT HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF THE COMMUNITY, SPORT, HERITAGE AND CULTURAL INTERESTS

KING GEORGE OVAL

King George Oval received upgrades through various grant programs that were completed in 2022/23 and some carrying over to 2023/24 for a total of \$2.37 million.

In September 2022 the new changerooms were officially opened which involved the construction of two change rooms with male and female section both including showers, toilets and team strapping/treatment space. The old changerooms were refreshed as change rooms for both male and female referees and some additional storage space for the canteen.



King George Oval Grandstand

Funding was also received to upgrade the grandstand seating and handrails, install a new scoreboard and lights. Carpark and entry upgrades are to be completed in 2023/24.



King George Oval Changerooms

ARTS AND CULTURE

In 2022/23 Council provided two music scholarships to the Orange Regional Conservatorium. A recent recipient Dash Dorsett christened Council's new Grand Piano which was acquired with \$43,000 of funding through the Creative Capital Funding Program in 2022.

Council also provided a \$1,000 prize to the annual Textures of One Exhibition coordinated by a team of volunteers. In 2023 the theme was 'Energy' with Stephanie Cook winning the Council Acquisitive Prize.



Blayney Shire Acquisitive Art Prize

SPORTING AND RECREATION FACILITIES

In addition to King George Oval, other sporting facilities which upgrades included;

- Millthorpe Cricket Nets
- Blayney Netball Court Lights
- Lyndhurst Tennis Courts Lights
- Carcoar Dam

Council also commenced consultation with Blayney Showground user groups and is in the progress of completing a masterplan for Blayney Showground.



Carcoar Dam



FUTURE DIRECTION 5 PROTECT OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

GARAGE SALE TRAIL

Blayney Shire Council participated again in the national Garage Sale Trail campaign which is a festival of preloved stuff encouraging residents to sell, shop and learn about the circular economy.

Residents register their garage sale and pick which dates/times they want to host a sale then Council and the Garage Sale Trail organisation assist with promotion of the sales over the weekend. Whilst there is financial benefit for sale hosts, the campaign seeks to educate Australians on the importance of reuse, and the need to take individual responsibility for the impact of our consumption habits whilst also building stronger, more connected and more resilient communities.

In 2022/23 Blayney Shire had 35 different sales held over the two weekends helping to reduce hundreds of items from going to landfill.



SCHOOLS PLANT A TREE DAY

In July 2022, Council worked with Neville Public School and Circle Early Learning Centre to plant trees along the Belubula River Walk.



Schools Plant a Tree Day

EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGNS AND EVENTS

Council partakes in nation wide educational campaigns and environmental awareness messaging where possible.

National Recycling Week is one of the largest campaigns, in partnership with Net Waste, Council helps to spread the word through our platforms such as social media, local newspaper, e-newsletter and Councils website.

Leave it out!

Help protect the community and waste workers. Don't put hazardous waste in any kerbside bins!

Waste Isn't Waste until it's Wasted

**NATIONAL
RECYCLING
WEEK 2022**

Blayney

NetWaste

In partnership with Envirocom, Council also hosted a composting workshop where attendees learnt how to compost and worm farm at home and the benefits of diverting organic waste from landfill.

