



Plants, Trees and Noxious Weeds

Noxious Weeds

[Upper Macquarie County Council](#) is a single purpose local government authority, established by the Governor under Section 387 of the Local Government Act 1993, as the control authority for biosecurity weed threats (formerly known as noxious weeds) in the areas of Bathurst Regional Council, Blayney Shire Council, Lithgow City Council and Oberon Council. The Council covers a region of approximately 13,500 square kilometres with a population of over 77,000 people in a very diverse area with that includes productive agricultural lands, forests and large areas of national park. The County Council was originally constituted by proclamation on 18 February 1949.

With limited exceptions the Local Government Act 1993 applies to the County Council in the same way as it applies to other local government councils and under Section 8 of the Act the County Council has the same charter as any other council.

Council is also governed by other acts of Parliament, particularly the Biosecurity Act 2015 which came into effect from 1 July 2017 and repealing the Noxious Weeds Act 1993. The Biosecurity Act provides the opportunity to streamline and modernise the way weeds are managed in NSW.

Under the new Act the Upper Macquarie County Council is a local control authority and has the following functions:

- the prevention, elimination, minimisation and management of the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by weeds,
- to develop, implement, co-ordinate and review weed control programs,
- to inspect land in connection with its weed control functions,
- to keep records about the exercise of the local control authority's functions under this Act

Weeds are a threat to the natural environment and the agriculture industry, with the financial impact on farming in NSW alone in the vicinity of 400

