



COOTAMUNDRA-
GUNDAGAI REGIONAL
COUNCIL

Annual Report 2024-2025



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Purpose of the Report

The Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council 2024/2025 Annual Report is part of our commitment to transparency and accountability between Council and the Community.

The report provides an overview of Council's activities for the 2024/2025 Financial year and of Council's achievements within each pillar of the Community Strategic Plan.

Council acknowledges the dedication and commitment of staff and volunteers who deliver services and facilities throughout Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council.

This report has been prepared in Compliance with the *Local Government Act 1993*.





Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council acknowledge the Wiradjuri People as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live, work and play. We pay respect to Elders past, present, and emerging. They are the holders of the knowledge, culture, values and hopes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who contribute to our community.

Message from the Mayor – Abb McAlister



I am pleased to present this report for the 2024-25 year. A year that has seen many challenges and achievements faced by your Council.

Perhaps the biggest announcement, although not made until July 2025 was the Minister granting our Council the go ahead to proceed with a demerger.

We have fought long and hard for this decision, and much of Councils focus in 2024-2025 was the preparation and delivery of documents and supporting evidence to the Office of Local Government.

We welcomed four new Councillors to the team, and sadly said farewell to Charlie Sheahan, Leigh Bowden, Trevor Glover and Les Boyd. Councillor Rosalind Wight has ably taken on the role of Deputy Mayor, and I welcome her prior experience and knowledge of the area. Councillors Les Cooper, Ethan Ryan and Danyal Syed have settled into their respective roles. I foresee a robust and vigorous Council going forward.

Your Council has continued to deliver a raft of essential services to our communities over the year, services that enable our communities to function and grow. Basic amenities like roads, footpaths, sewerage, water and waste collection, and lifestyle amenities like parks and gardens, libraries and swimming pools, and all of the administrative work to ensure that all of the operations of council are funded. We have seen many new projects and the strengthening of relationships with many organisations.

The Annual Report is our way of being completely transparent and accountable to our community ensuring that we achieve the goals that we have set out to achieve in our Strategic Plans.

Thank you to all our staff for the day to day work they undertake and cooperation they extend to one another to successfully get the job done

Message from the Interim General Manager – Roger Bailey



It has been my privilege to join Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council (CGRC) as Interim General Manager in December 2024, and to now present my first Annual Report to this community. This Report provides an account of Council's progress during the 2024–2025 financial year and ensures that our achievements and challenges are communicated openly with you.

While an Annual Report records the tangible projects delivered, it cannot fully capture the effort, resilience, and dedication of the CGRC team who make those achievements possible. Our staff continue to demonstrate an unwavering commitment to service delivery, innovation, and strengthening the fabric of our community.

Over the past year, we have delivered strongly against both our Delivery Program and Operational Plan. Despite the backdrop of the demerger process, our focus has remained firmly on “Business as Usual”. Essential services have been maintained, new projects have been completed, and staff continue to receive appreciation and messages of thanks from residents, gestures that mean a great deal to the people working hard for this region.

Like many councils, CGRC faces ongoing financial challenges. Cost Shifting by government places a significant burden on councils and, ultimately, local communities. Rising costs of goods, services, and materials affect us all, and local government is not immune. Unlike other sectors, however, councils are subject to rate-pegging and other revenue restrictions imposed by the State Government. This means that our income often does not increase at the same rate as our costs, placing pressure on our ability to deliver the same level of services our communities deserve. Despite this, Council remains committed to maintaining services and delivering projects that support a vibrant, resilient region.

A significant development this year has been the NSW Government's decision, announced on 17 July 2025, to approve the demerger of CGRC into the former Cootamundra and Gundagai councils. The Minister for Local Government has made it clear that this transition will be complex and must be led locally by Council and its elected representatives. Work is now underway to develop a robust implementation plan to guide this transition, ensuring the financial viability and sustainability of the two future councils. Until the demerger is finalised the Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council will continue to provide services to the community.

I thank our staff, councillors, and community members for their resilience, support, and commitment throughout this year. Together, we will continue to ensure that Cootamundra-Gundagai remains a strong, welcoming, and thriving place to live, work, and invest.

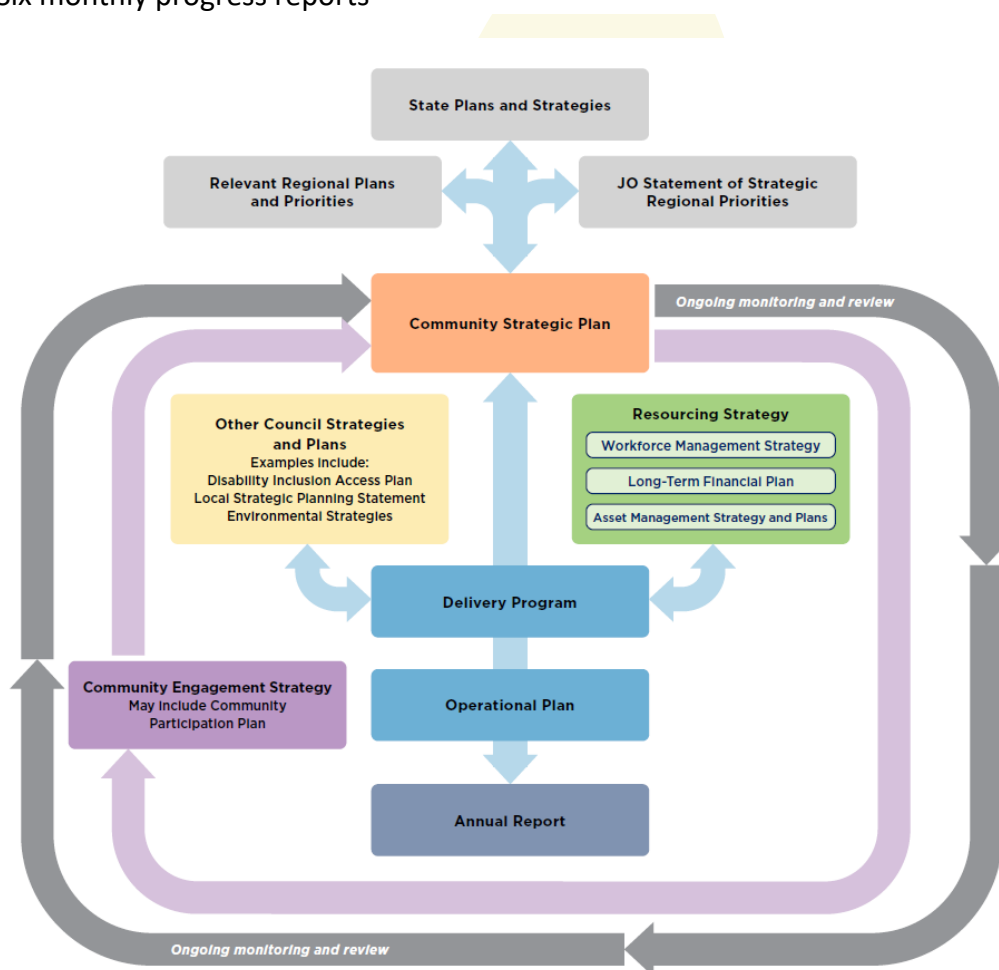
Roger Bailey
Interim General Manager
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council

Operational Framework

In 2009 the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework (IP&R) for NSW Councils was introduced. Local councils in NSW are required to undertake their planning and reporting activities in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005.

The Integrated Planning & Reporting framework enables councils to integrate their various plans together, understand how they interact and get the maximum leverage from their efforts by planning holistically for the future. Under the IP&R framework Council is required to prepare the following documents:

- Community Strategic Plan (CSP) (10-year plan)
- Delivery Program (4-year plan)
- Resourcing Strategy (Long Term Financial Plan, Workforce Plan and Asset Management Plans)
- Operational Plan (Budget) (1 year)
- Annual Report
- End of Term Report
- Six monthly progress reports



Our Vision Our Values

A vibrant region attracting people, investment and business through innovation, diversity, and community spirit.

As a community we value, Country Living, Agricultural Landscapes and Friendly Communities.

About Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council LGA

Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council's local Government Area is located in the Southwest Slopes and Riverina Regions of New South Wales, approximately 4 hours' drive from Sydney CBD and about 90 minutes' drive from Canberra CBD. It includes the towns of Cootamundra and Gundagai, as well as the villages of Adjungbilly, Coolac, Muttama, Nangus, Stockinbingal, Tumblong, and Wallendbeen.

We sit within the Federal Electorate of the Riverina and the NSW Legislative Assembly electoral district of Cootamundra.

Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council has an area of 3,981 square kilometers and a population of 11,404 residents. It is the northern gateway to the Riverina District of New South Wales and home to a diverse landscape of steep hills and forestry in the east, lush Murrumbidgee valleys in the south and renowned, highly productive croplands to the Northwest. Interspersed between the scenic landscapes and natural beauty you will find historical towns, villages, and rural communities, each unique in their own way.

The region's main industries are agriculture, producing wheat, canola, cereal crops, sheep, wool, cattle, and Forestry.

Our Councillors



Left to right: Cr Les Cooper, Cr Danyal Syed, Cr Ethan Ryan, Deputy Mayor Rosalind Wight, Cr Gil Kelly, Cr Penny Nicholson, Mayor Abb McAlister, Cr David Graham, Cr Logan Collins.

Mayor Abb McAlister

Councillor Abb McAlister has been elected as Mayor for Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council. This is Councillor McAlister's second term as mayor for the Council. First representing CGRC after the merger of the two former Gundagai and Cootamundra Shire Councils. Councillor McAlister is a seasoned local government representative serving his local community, for many years.

Councillor McAlister is also a fierce supporter of community organisations and the work they do in their respective communities. Residing in Gundagai Councillor McAlister is admired and well respected by his peers and community alike.

Councillor McAlister has a strong voice and is passionate about his community. A retired stock and station agent and local government advocate, Councillor McAlister has a wide network and can communicate at all levels.

Councillor McAlister brings to the table experience, passion, and a can-do attitude and represents the community to which he serves with enthusiasm and zest. Councillor McAlister has pledged that he will endeavour to bring unity and respect within the Council chamber and foster a team environment for the benefit of all the communities the council represents.

Committee Representations:

- Cootamundra Aerodrome Users Advisory Group
- Muttama Hall Management s.355 Committee
- Flood Risk Management Committee for the Gundagai Villages Flood Study

Deputy Mayor Rosalind Wight

Elected to the position of Deputy Mayor, Councillor Wight brings a wealth of experience to Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council (CGRC). Formally serving on the Cootamundra Shire Council and the first term of merged Councils (Cootamundra and Gundagai). Councillor Wight

has 6 years' experience as a Councillor and advocate for her local community.

Councillor Wight has been a Cootamundra local for over 25 years. a farmer with a keen interest in history and decorative arts. Councillor Wight has been a staunch supporter of the Cootamundra Heritage Centre. During her time at Cootamundra Shire Council Councillor Wight initiated and drew up plans for the picturesque Rose Garden in Cootamundra's Albert Park and the refurbishment of the memorial gardens at the Cootamundra Cenotaph.

Experience, unity, working cohesively and fiscal responsibility are the attributes Councillor Wight hopes to bring to Council.

Committee Representations:

- Cootamundra Heritage Centre
- The Riverina Regional Library (RRL)

Councillor Gil Kelly

Councillor Gil Kelly has served four terms on Council and has acquired a lot of experience in local government over this time. Elected to the position of Mayor in July 2024, Councillor Kelly proudly took on the top job until the 2024 Local Government elections. Serving as Deputy Mayor previously, Councillor Kelly was born in Cootamundra and is a campaigner for community service and volunteering, he is the deputy captain for the local Rural Fire Service, Vice President of the Cootamundra Ex-Services Club as well as serving on several Council sub-committees.

Employed as an Area Manager with a market leading international supply company. Councillor Kelly understands the need to build and foster relationships. With an honest and transparent nature, Councillor Kelly is known to be loud and proud about his community and has pledged his advocacy for all residents within the LGA.

Councillor Kelly believes that tough decisions need to be made, some won't be popular however decisions will be made to achieve the long-term viability of our Council. Promoting the region as a prosperous and liveable environment, where businesses flourish, residents are getting the services needed and growth is adding value are principles Councillor Kelly wants to achieve.

Committee Representations:

- The Showground Users Group s.355 Committee
- South-West Slopes Zone Service Liaison Committee (RFS)

Councillor Penny Nicholson

Councillor Nicholson is a passionate Gundagai resident and recognised for being approachable, honest and a strong advocate for the communities she represents.

Serving her third term, Councillor Nicholson will continue in her endeavours to seek opportunities to drive business, tourism and facilities within the region.

As a former small business owner Councillor Nicholson understands the challenges business owners face and the rewards that can be achieved when communities support local business and create initiatives to drive success.

Councillor Nicholson will bring experience and enthusiasm to council encouraging and fostering a culture of integrity and transparency within the chamber.

Committee Representations:

- Gundagai Youth Council
- Gundagai Tourism Action Group Advisory Committee

Councillor Logan Collins

Councillor Logan Collins is serving his second term with CGRC, elected as the youngest Councillor in NSW he brings a youthful perspective to local government and is committed to seeing his community prosper.

Councillor Collins acknowledges that decisions council has to make aren't always easy and can draw conflict. He believes deliberation, discussion and unity are the best way forward to achieving the most desirable outcomes for the communities he represents.

Councillor Collins is passionate about emergency management, road safety, rural health, regional employment, housing and youth and serves on a number of Council Committees that reflect his interests and commitment to community development and maintenance of services.

Committee Representations:

- Local Traffic Forum Committee
- Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee
- Cootamundra Youth Council

- The Arts Centre Cootamundra s.355 Committee
- Wallendbeen Memorial Hall s.355 Committee
- Eastern Riverina Arts Advisory Committee

Councillor David Graham

Councillor David Graham has dedicated many years to local government and his community. This is Councillor Graham's third term as councillor for Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council and was part of the chamber for the former Gundagai Shire Council.

His 25 years plus experience in local government has equipped Councillor Graham with a sound knowledge of local government fiscal policy and long-term financial goals.

A proud Adjungbilly resident Councillor Graham is an accountant, a grazier and a zealous supporter of community, the "bush" and the challenges facing rural residents.

Councillor Graham is committed to the region, has the skills to work within a team environment and dedicated to seeing the region grow and prosper.

Councillor Graham has been a strong advocate for the demerger to take place so local government truly means local for both communities.

Committee Representations:

- Softwoods Working Group

Councillor Ethan Ryan

Councillor Ryan is serving his first term on Council and is one of the younger members of the chamber he considers that being a councillor is about more than just roads, rates and rubbish. Councils make decisions that affect daily lives and believes being a councillor is about shaping the future of our towns and enhancing community life.

Councillor Ryan has gained valuable experience working with institutions such as the Australian War Memorial and National Gallery of Australia before pursuing a career in the Defense Industry / Government Security space, he is a firm believer that Council should and can seize opportunities that benefit every corner of the communities he represents.

Councillor Ryan has experience in his professional roles where tough decisions were made, strategic thinking was needed, and the

ability manage complex challenges. These are skills Councillor Ryan believes he can bring to the Council chamber that will assist with the navigation of the challenges the community faces.

Committee Representations:

- Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC)
- Muttama Creek Regeneration Group s.355 Committee
- Bradman Birthplace s.355 Committee

Councillor Les Cooper

Councillor Les Cooper is serving his first term as a Councillor and is a committed Cootamundra local who will lead local community solutions.

Semi-retired Councillor Cooper has life-experience and careers in public service that include the NSW Police Force, Army Reserve, the transport industry, and IT. Councillor Cooper feels he now has the time to give back to his community and make a difference.

Councillor Cooper is an ardent supporter of "local" and maintaining local services, cutting back on red tape that confines development and growth, streamlining services and tackling environmental issues.

Councillor Cooper will stand and fight for the best possible outcomes for our LGA, for every rate payer and resident.

Committee Representations:

- Stockinbingal Ellwood Hall s.355 Committee
- Goldenfields Water County Council

Councillor Danyal Syed

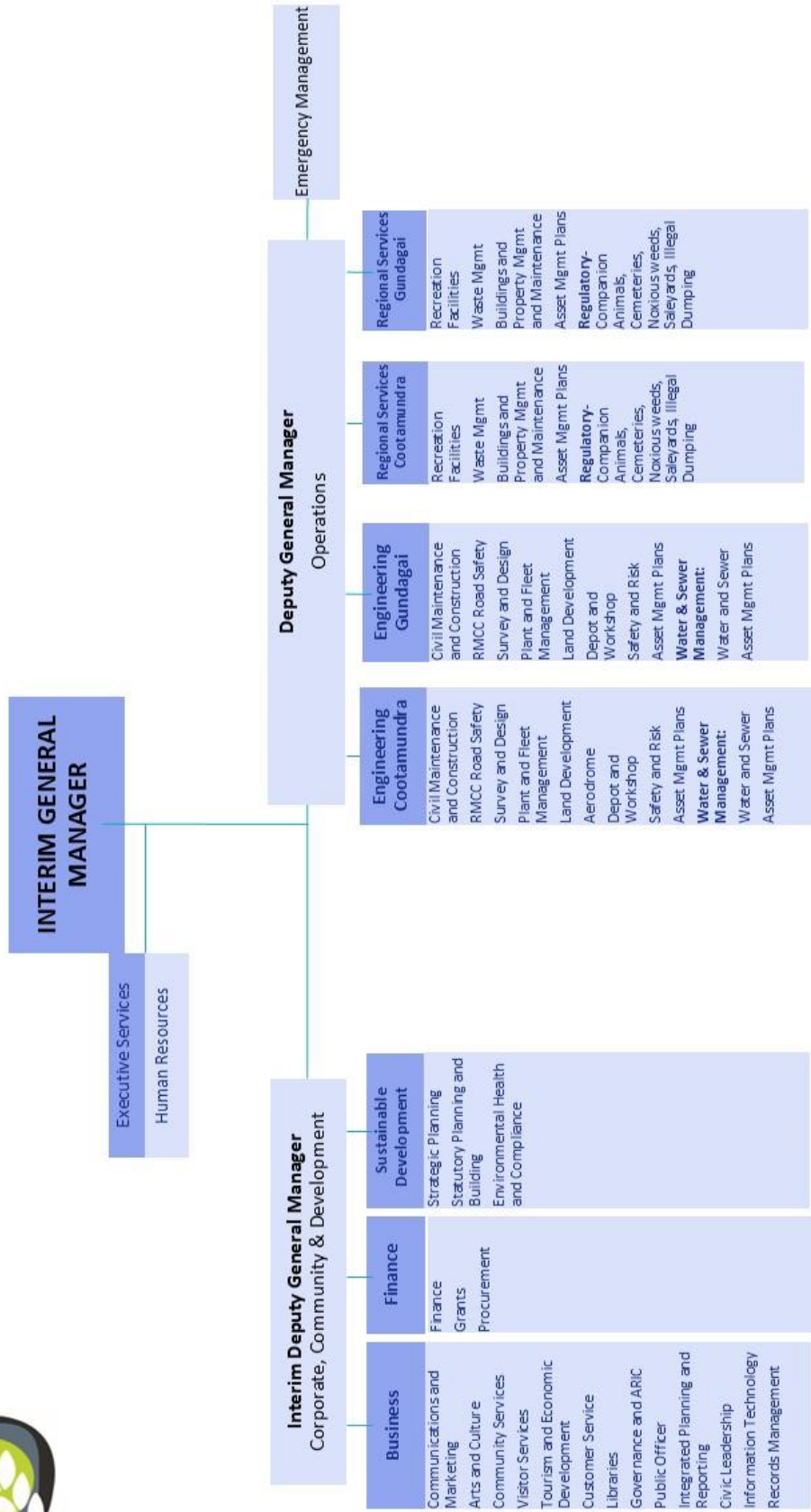
Councillor Syed lives in Cootamundra with his wife Dr Mariam and two young daughters. Together they run a medical Center, Country Med Group, established in 1977.

Danyal is an Electrical and Electronic Engineer with a Bachelors (Hons) in Electrical and Electronic Engineering and has a diploma in Project and Business management.

Committee Representations:

- Adina Court Board
- Cootamundra Tourism Action Group Advisory Committee.
- Illabo to Stockinbingal Inland Rail – Community Consultative Committee

CGRC ORGANISATION STRUCTURE



STATUTORY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The following information details Council's response to the statutory reporting requirements of *the Local Government Act 1993* under section 428 Annual Reports, and the more detailed response to *the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*.

Councils 2024/2025 Financial Report

A copy of Councils 2024/2025 Audited Financial Report will be available on Council's website in accordance with the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

**Council requested and have been granted an extension for lodgement of Council's Financial Statements to 12th December 2025. A copy of the Financial Statements will be placed on our website once finalised.

Special Rate Variation

Report on activities funded via a special rate variation of general income including:

- ***Reporting requirements set out in the Instrument of Approval***
- ***Projects or activities funded from variation***
- ***Outcomes achieved as a result of the project or activities***

All previous Special Rate Variations (SRV) from iPart have now ceased as of 30 June 2025.

The additional income received in 2025 was \$594,431.

Council has applied for and received two previous Special Rate Variations (SRV).

The first variation commenced in 2014, and the extra income has been used to service the loan used to upgrade Gundagai Main Street.

The second SRV commenced in 2021, the extra funds are being utilised to ensure Council is financially sustainable.

Rates and Charges Written Off

Local Government General Regulations Cl 132

The total amount of rates and charges written off during 2024/25 was \$13,890.39

Mayoral And Councillor Expenses

Local Government General Regulation Cl 217(a1)

Total cost during 2024/2025 of the payment of expenses of, and the provision of facilities to Councillors in relation to their civic functions. Identify separate details on the total cost of:

Overseas Visits

Reg cl 217 (1)(a)

Overseas visits by Councillors, council staff or other persons representing council (including visits sponsored by other organisations): NIL

Council's payments to Mayor and Councillors comply with the provisions of Section 252 of the Local Government Act 1993 and provide for the payments of expenses incurred or to be incurred by and the provision of facilities to the Mayor and Councillors in relation to discharging the functions of civic office.

Councillor Fees and Expenses

Financial Year 2024/2025

Councillor	Councillor Fee	Mayoral Fee	Superannuation	General travel expenses	Accommodation and meals	Professional Development, Conferences, and seminars (includes membership fees)	Mobile Phone Expenses	ICT Expenses - iPad data	TOTAL
Charlie Sheahan	\$2,677.40	\$430.16	\$674.74	-	\$1,991.67	-	\$60.00	\$19.00	\$5,852.97
Leigh Bowden	\$2,677.40	-	\$427.35	\$307.80	\$1,108.32	\$88.98	-	\$57.00	\$4,666.85
Trevor Glover	\$2,677.40	-	\$427.35	-	\$814.27	\$384.54	-	\$57.00	\$4,360.56
Les Boyd	\$2,677.40	-	\$427.35	-	-	-	-	\$57.00	\$3,161.75
Abb McAlister	\$12,423.12	\$15,916.09	-	\$7,341.46	\$992.54	\$118.18	-	\$228.00	\$37,019.39
Rosalind Wight	\$9,745.72	\$4,279.45	-	\$2,755.95	-	-	-	\$228.00	\$17,009.12
Logan Collins	\$12,423.12	-	-	\$2,481.73	\$610.63	\$910.91	-	\$228.00	\$16,654.39
Les Cooper	\$9,745.72	-	\$997.61	-	-	-	-	\$228.00	\$10,971.33
David Graham	\$12,423.12	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$228.00	\$12,651.12
Gil Kelly	\$12,423.12	\$4,678.74	-	-	\$587.74	\$70.00	-	\$228.00	\$17,987.60
Penny Nicholson	\$12,423.12	\$963.70	-	\$1,081.10	-	\$72.73	-	\$228.00	\$14,768.65
Ethan Ryan	\$9,745.72	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$228.00	\$9,973.72
Danyal Syed	\$9,745.72	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$228.00	\$9,973.72
TOTAL	\$111,808.08	\$26,268.14	\$2,954.40	\$13,968.04	\$6,105.17	\$1,645.34	\$60.00	\$2,242.00	\$165,051.17
Councillor Induction Training LGNSW									\$7,900.00
Nil Expenses (All Councillors)									
Overseas travel expenses		\$0							
Home Office Expenses		\$0							
Carer Expenses		\$0							

Induction Training and Ongoing Professional Development

Local Government General Regulation CI 186

1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025

Attendance at state or national conferences/workshops/summits etc. Including training or other professional development.

Cr Sheahan (1 July – 8 July 2024)	Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly. Australian Council of Local Government forum.
Cr Bowden (1 July – 14 September 2024)	Regional Cooperation and Development Forum. Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) Networking Breakfast.
Cr Boyd (1 July – 14 September 2024)	Nil.
Cr Glover (1 July – 14 September 2024)	Nil.
Cr McAlister	Day One of the Councillor Induction Training in Cootamundra. Rural and Regional Summit. Mayoral Summit 2025.
Cr Wight	Day Two of the Councillor Induction Training in Cootamundra.
Cr Cooper	Day One and Two of the Councillor Induction Training in Cootamundra.
Cr Collins	National Local Roads, Transport and Infrastructure Congress.
Cr Syed	REROC Councillor Induction Training.
Cr Graham	REROC Councillor Induction Training.
Cr Kelly	Nil.
Cr Ryan	Day One and Two of the Councillor Induction Training in Cootamundra.
Cr Nicholson	REROC Councillor Induction Training.

- Interstate visits by councillors, including transport, accommodation, and other out-of-pocket traveling expenses: Nil.
- Overseas visits by councillors, including transport, accommodation, and other out-of-pocket travelling expenses: Nil.
- Expenses of any spouse, partner or other person who accompanied a Councillor in the performance of his or her civic functions being expenses payable in accordance with the Guidelines of the payment of expenses and the provision of facilities of Mayors and Councillors: NIL
- Expenses involved in the provision of care for a child of, or an immediate family member of a Councillor: NIL

Modern Slavery Act 2018

There have been no issues raised by the Anti-slavery Commissioner during the year concerning the operations of the Council and identified by the Commissioner as being a significant issue. Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council has undertaken the following actions to fulfill Council's obligations in relation to modern slavery.

- Updated Council's Procurement Policy to include modern slavery provisions.
- Develop and undertake a modern slavery risk assessment prior to beginning major procurement activities.
- Take action if or when modern slavery practices are identified and report occurrences to the proper authorities.

Council has not knowingly used or contributed to modern slavery practices in any form. Council complies with the relevant laws and regulation regarding employee recruitment, remuneration, working conditions and freedom of association.

Contractors / Works Awarded

Local Government General Regulation CI 217(a2)

The following table details contracts awarded by Council during the year for sums of greater than \$150,000.

Name	Goods/Service Provided	Total Amount Payable Under Contract
Boral Construction Materials Group Ltd	Road base & Aggregate Supplier	\$3,143,154
Goldenfields Water County Council	Bulk Water	\$1,886,349
Bridge & Marine Engineering Pty. Ltd.	Engineering Contractors	\$1,411,585
Jardine Lloyd Thompson Pty Ltd	Insurance	\$1,290,188
Fallon Excavations Pty Ltd	Construction Contractor	\$1,233,808
State cover Mutual Limited	Insurance	\$836,940
Fulton Hogan Industries Pty Ltd	Construction Contractor	\$810,820
Riverina Traffic Services	Traffic Service Contractor	\$692,162
Huon Contractors Pty Ltd	Construction Contractor	\$642,769
Benex Group Pty Ltd	Construction Contractor	\$605,864
Wyangle Quarry Pty Ltd	Road base & Aggregate Supplier	\$580,822
BIDS Construction Pty Ltd	Construction Contractor	\$536,484

Local Government NSW	Contractor labour hire	\$534,906
Dalski Pty Ltd	Construction Contractor	\$522,452
Capital Lines And Signs	Line marking Contractor	\$505,848
360 Engineering	Engineering Contractors	\$495,034
Wagga Motors Pty. Ltd.	Vehicle Purchases	\$488,173
Leisure and Recreation Group	Sporting Facility Contractor	\$482,114
Hilltops Council	Contribution to Waste Management	\$475,086
Ampol Australia Petroleum Pty Ltd	Fuel for Plant & Machinery	\$472,871
Bald Hill Quarry Pty. Ltd.	Road base & Aggregate Supplier	\$451,970
Bucher Municipal	Vehicle Purchases	\$446,767
Petro National Pty Ltd T/as South West Fuel Centre	Fuel for Plant & Machinery	\$444,895
Iberdrola Australia Energy Markets Pty Limited	Energy Provider	\$433,332
Wagga Trucks	Vehicle Purchases	\$421,841
Tegra Australia Pty Ltd	Road base & Aggregate Supplier	\$404,649
McIntosh Fencing Pty Ltd	Construction Contractor	\$376,636
JSC Pty Ltd	Construction Contractor	\$371,851
Origin Energy Electricity Limited	Energy Provider	\$314,893
sideEffekt Pty Ltd	IT Contractor	\$308,828
LFT Bitumen Pty Ltd	Road base & Aggregate Supplier	\$296,455
Cleanaway Pty Ltd	Waste Contractor	\$279,274
Excel Turf Pty Ltd	Construction Contractor	\$276,587
Western Kerbing & Civil Pty Ltd	Construction Contractor	\$274,144
Water Treatment (Australia) Pty Ltd	Engineering Contractors	\$264,799
Rivtoy Pty Ltd T/as Cootamundra Toyota	Vehicle Purchases	\$226,449
Regional Engineering Services Pty Ltd	Engineering Contractors	\$203,044
J S Lienesch (Builder)	Construction Contractor	\$198,680
East Coast Traffic Control	Traffic Service Contractor	\$197,147
Building & Environmental Services Today	Contractor labour hire	\$195,654
Stabilifix Pty Ltd	Construction Contractor	\$182,152
Damage Control Project Management Pty Ltd	Flood Damage Consultant	\$179,838
Smallmon Brothers Waste Pty Ltd	Waste Contractor	\$173,949
Ausroad Manufacturing Pty Ltd	Vehicle Purchases	\$171,185
Tutt Bryant Equipment	Vehicle Purchases	\$168,806
Des Winnel Bulldozing Pty Ltd	Construction Contractor	\$167,992
Graymont (Australia) Pty Ltd	Road base & Aggregate Supplier	\$166,883
Horizon United Group Pty Ltd	Waste Contractor	\$163,127
GHD	Engineering Contractors	\$162,308
Elouera Recycling	Waste Contractor	\$158,796
Sewerquip Group Pty Ltd	Construction Contractor	\$156,776
Civica Pty Ltd	Software licensing and support	\$152,755

Legal Expenses

Local Government General Regulation Cl 217 (1)(a4)

Summary of the amounts incurred by the council in relation to legal proceedings including:

- **Amounts incurred by council in relation to proceedings taken by or against council (including out of court settlements)**

Description	Amount	%
Rates and Debit Recovery (inc. court fees)	\$29,288	39%
Development and Building	\$26,516	35%
Regulatory Services (inc. court fees)	\$9,970	13%
Operations Management	\$6,569	13%
Other	\$3,367	4%
Total	\$75,711	100%

Below is a summary of the progress of relevant legal matters:

- Rates and Debt Recovery - relates to solicitor and service fees of SR Law which is handling a multitude of claims. CGRC has greatly increased its recovery actions in 2025.
- Development and Building – Relates to various matters including advice sort associated with Dog on the Tuckerbox Redevelopment as well as Environmental Issues and Lease to New Soil PL.
- Regulatory Services - Member of the public challenged CGRC in court over repeated car infringement in public spaces. They were unsuccessful and must pay the full amount outstanding.

Private Works

Local Government Act 1993 s67(3) and Local Government General Regulation 2021 Cl 217 (1)(a4).

Council did not pass any resolutions under s67 of the Local Government Act 1993 concerning work carried out on private land which was fully or partly subsidised by Council during this financial year.

Financial Assistance

Local Government General Regulation cl 217 (1) (a6)

Total amount contributed or otherwise granted to financially assist others.

Community Donations were received from within the Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council Local Government Area, from a cross section of Community and Sporting organisations.

Organisation	Amount granted
Cootamundra Sports Foundation	\$ 500.00
Gundagai Shed	\$ 4,000.00
Gundagai Drawing Group	\$ 1,146.00
Gundagai Business Network	\$ 5,000.00
Gundagai Neighbourhood Centre Inc	\$ 3,300.00
Cootamundra Rifle Club Inc	\$ 2,676.00
Cootamundra Food Bank	\$ 5,000.00
Cootamundra High School	\$ 200.00

Lions Club of Cootamundra	\$ 750.00 (plus \$500 in-kind)
Cootamundra Rodeo and Equine Sporting Centre	\$ 4,000.00
Muttama Hall Management s.355 Committee	\$ 1,175.00
Cootamundra Strikers Soccer Club Incorporated	\$ 2,000.00
Cootamundra Scout Group	\$ 728.00
Gundagai Historical Museum Incorporated	\$ 3,000.00
Australian Road Transport Heritage Centre	\$ 3,525.00
Intereach Ltd	\$ 2,000.00
Cootamundra District Cricket Association	\$ 1,200.00
TOTAL:	\$ 40,200.00

Functions Delegated by Council

Local Government General Regulation Cl 217(a6)

Statement of all external bodies that exercised functions delegated by council.

To better engage the community and reflect local community views and needs, Council delegates a range of its functions to volunteer committees and other organisations.

Under Section 355 of the Local Government Act 1993, Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council may delegate some of its functions to a committee of Council. Council uses this delegation to appoint community members to manage its facilities or function through a committee of management.

The following committees were involved in the planning and management of Council facilities or functions and were appointed in accordance with section 355 of the Local Government Act.

- Cootamundra Showground Users Group
- Wallendbeen Memorial Hall
- Stockinbingal Ellwood's Hall
- Muttama Hall Management Committee
- Muttama Creek Regeneration Group
- Cootamundra Heritage Centre Management
- The Arts Centre Cootamundra
- Bradman Birthplace

Controlling Interest Statement

Local Government General Regulation Cl 217(a7)

Statement of all corporations, partnerships, trusts, joint ventures, syndicates, or other bodies in which council held a controlling interest.

Council held no controlling interests in any corporations, partnerships, trusts, joint ventures, syndicates, or other bodies (whether or not incorporated during the year) during 2024-25.

External Bodies, Companies or Partnerships

Local Government General Regulation Cl 217(a8)

Statement of all corporations, partnerships, trusts, joint ventures, syndicates or other bodies (whether or not incorporated) in which the council participated during the year.

Council was party to the following joint venture/partnerships in 2024-2025:

- Goldenfields Water County Council
- Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC)
- Riverina Joint Organisation
- Riverina Regional Library (RRL)
- Country Change Riverina Murray
- Wagga Wagga Tourism Partner
- Eastern Riverina Arts (ERA)
- Softwoods Working Group
- South-East Weight of Loads Group
- Softwoods Working Group
- South-West Regional Waste Management Group
- South-West Slopes Zone Rural Fire Service
- Internal Audit Alliance between Bland Shire, Coolamon Shire, Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional, Junee Shire, Lockhart Shire and Temora Shire Councils.
- Statewide – NSW South Wales Local Government
- Country Mayors Association

EEO Management Plan Implementation

Local Government General Regulation Cl 217(a9)

Statement of Activities undertaken to implement its EEO management plan.

Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) focuses on recognising and valuing diversity within the workplace. This means having workplace policies, practices and behaviors that are fair and do not disadvantage people who belong to particular groups.

Council provides many services to a diverse community and aims to promote an environment free from harassment, bullying, victimisation, and discrimination. We have an EEO Management Plan with strategies that assist members of EEO groups to overcome past and present disadvantages.

Key EEO activities implemented during the year were:

- Facilitating induction programs for new employees including EEO practices
- Implementing traineeship and apprenticeship programs across Council
- Using merit-based recruitment practices
- Reviewing and managing Council's Employee Assistance Program
- Managing the ongoing review and implementation of HR policies and procedures that support staff grievance resolution, anti-discrimination, workplace bullying and harassment.
- Implementing staff training programs.
- Facilitating appropriate workplace communication.

Senior Staff Remuneration

Clause 217 (1b) & (1c) Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, Council provides the following report on the number of senior staff employed by the Council and the Total Remuneration Package in respect of their employment.

There were no designated Senior Staff employed by Council throughout 2024-2025.

General Manager

A statement of the total remuneration package of the General Manager during 2024/2025:

- The total value of the salary component of the package = \$335,762.
- Total amount of any bonus, performance or other payments that do not form part of the salary component of the General Manager: NIL.
- Total amount payable by the council by way of the employer's contribution or salary sacrifice to any superannuation scheme to which the General Manager may be a contributor = \$34,630.
- Total Value of any non-cash benefits for which the General Manager may elect under the package = NIL.
- Total amount payable by way of fringe benefits tax for any such non-cash benefits = NIL.

Persons Who Performed Paid Work On Wednesday, 4 December 2024

Local Government General Regulation Cl 217 (1)(d) (i),(ii),(iii),(iv)

The Total number of persons who performed paid work for Council on 4 December 2024 were as follows:

Permanent full-time employees, permanent part time or casual basis or under a fixed-term contract	137
Persons who are employed by council as senior staff	0
Persons engaged by the council, under a contract or other arrangement with the person's employer, wholly or principally for the labour of the person	2
Persons supplied to the council, under a contract or other arrangement with the person's employer, as an apprentice or trainee	0

Stormwater Levies and Charges

Local Government General Regulation Cl 217(e)

A statement detailing the stormwater management services provided (if levied)

Council levies an annual Stormwater Management Charge to both residential and business properties, subject to exemptions provided for under the Local Government Act 1993.

- Residential Stormwater Management \$25.00
- Residential Strata Stormwater Management \$12.50
- Business (Non-Residential) Stormwater Management \$25.00 per square meters of land size, or part thereof – Annual Charge – Maximum \$250.00
- Business (Non-Residential) Strata Stormwater Management \$5.00, or the assessment's proportion of the charge that would apply if the total land area was not strata'd

All funds raised are applied to stormwater management improvements, including the following projects completed during the year:

The total amount of Stormwater Levie and Charges during 2024/25 was \$128,000.

Stormwater Levies and Charges were applied to general drainage and infrastructure improvements works across the LGA.

Planning Agreements

Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979, S7.5(5)

Particulars of compliance with and effect of planning agreements in force during the year.

Planning agreements are voluntary agreements between a planning authority, such as Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council, and a developer. Under the agreement, a developer agrees to provide or fund public amenities and public services, affordable housing, transport and/or other infrastructure. Contribution can be made through dedication of land, monetary contributions, construction of infrastructure or provision of material public benefit.

Two planning agreements were in force during 2024-2025, as outlined below:

Planning Agreement	Description of Works	Status
Eulonga Pastoral Company	<p>Monetary Contribution: The agreement requires the Developer to provide periodic payments to Council.</p> <p>Contribution to be made:</p> <p>(a) A monetary contribution of \$4.00 per truck load leaving the site is to be paid to Council. For the purpose of this agreement a truck is defined as a single truck or a truck and trailer.</p> <p>b) The developer is to provide the Council with quarterly reports, which shall include the number of loads and tonnages leaving the site. Quarterly reports are to be submitted within fourteen (14) days after the last day of the quarter period.</p>	Ongoing
Jeremiah Wind Farm Pty Ltd	<p>Monetary Contribution: (a) The Company must pay to the Council the Monetary Contribution in arrears within 14 days of 1 July of each year for each turbine which was an Intended Turbine or an Operating Turbine (as applicable) during the preceding Contribution Year.</p>	<p>SSD-22472709</p> <p>Development has not commenced to stage where Voluntary Planning Agreement becomes operative.</p>

	<p>(b) The parties agree that the Monetary Contribution will be reviewed on 1 July of each year in accordance with the following formula: $MC = A \times B$</p> <p>C Where: MC = the Monetary Contribution payable for the following Contribution Year;</p> <p>A = the Monetary Contribution payable during the Contribution Year just ended;</p> <p>B = the Index Number last published before the end of the Contribution Year just ended; and</p> <p>C = the Index Number last published before the commencement of the Contribution Year just ended.</p> <p>General</p> <p>(a) The obligation of the Company to pay any Monetary Contribution under this agreement will cease on the date on which the last of the Operating Turbines is decommissioned.</p> <p>(b) The parties agree that the Monetary Contribution paid in accordance with this agreement will have the public purpose of facilitating Approved Local Projects.</p> <p>(c) The Company agrees to pay interest on any overdue part or whole of the Monetary Contribution payable:</p> <p>(1) from the date on which the overdue part or whole of the Monetary Contribution is due for payment under this agreement.</p> <p>(2) until the date on which the overdue part or whole Monetary Contribution is paid,</p>	
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Swimming Pool Inspections

Swimming Pools Act 1992 s.22f(2) and Swimming Pool Regulations 2018 Cl 23.

In 2024/2025, one (1) tourist and visitor accommodation was inspected.

Zero (0) inspections were undertaken for premises with more than 2 dwellings.

Thirty-seven (37) inspections that resulted in issuance of a certificate of compliance under section 22D of the Swimming Pool Act 1992.

Eight (8) inspections that resulted in issuance of a certificate of non-compliance under cl 21 of the Swimming Pool Regulation 2018.

Recovery and Threat Abatement Plans

Fisheries Management Act 1994, s220ZT (2)

Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council has not been identified in any Recovery and Threat Abatement Plans as responsible for any implementation measures.

Development Contributions

Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation 2021 (EPA Reg) cl 218A (1)

Disclosure of how development contributions and development levies have been used or expended under each contributions plan.

Disclosure of how development contributions and development levies have been used or expended under each contributions plan.

Total Value of all contributions and levies received during the year = \$386,937.

Total value of all contributions and levies expended during the year = \$Nil.

Disability Inclusion Action Plan

Disability inclusion Act 2014 s 13(1)

In August 2025 Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council adopted the updated Disability Inclusion Action Plan. The policy will be reviewed within 12 months of an election, and thereafter at four yearly intervals to ensure it meets all statutory requirements.

The plan lists four (4) focus areas, consistent with the NSW disability Inclusion Plan 2025-2029.

1. Developing positive community attitudes and behaviours
2. Creating liveable communities
3. Supporting access to meaningful employment
4. Improving access to mainstream services through better systems and processes

Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council re-established their Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee in July 2025. The Committee aims to provide a forum for community and organisational representatives of people living with disabilities and /or carers to collaborate with Council to address issues of accessibility within the community. It will also monitor the implementation of Councils Disability Inclusion Action Plan, as required by the Disability Inclusion Act 2014.

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION PUBLIC ACCESS (GIPA) ANNUAL REPORT

Obligations Under the Government Information (public Access) Act 2009

Responding to requests made under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act), is an essential component of transparent and accountable governance. Under the GIPA Act, we encourage the proactive public release of government information where possible. The public have an enforceable right to access government information by way of open access to information, informal requests, and formal access applications. Access to information is only restricted when there is an overriding public interest consideration against disclosure, as clearly defined within the GIPA Act. Council must decide valid formal access applications made under GIPA Act within the decision period of 20 working days from receipt, except where an extension of time is provided by the GIPA Act.

Review of proactive release program

Section 7(3) of the Government Information Public Access Act 2009 (GIPA), agencies must review their programs for the release of government information to identify the kinds of information that can be made publicly available. This review must be undertaken at least once every 12 months. Council’s commitment to proactive release of information involves regular review of requested information to determine whether the information should be made publicly available on Council’s website. During the reporting period, we reviewed and identified the types of access applications received during the 12 months to identify which applications could be included in Council’s Disclosure Log. Other than access requests relating to individual personal information or private matters, the majority of requests received by Council were to view development application files.

Number of access applications received

During the reporting period, Council received a total of one (1) formal access applications. There were no invalid applications. No applications were withdrawn. No applications were transferred to other agencies.

Number of refused applications

No access applications were refused.

Timeliness

All applications were decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus extensions).

Reviews

There were no reviews of application requests and no requests for any decisions to be reviewed.

Number of applications by type and outcome								
	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm /deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Media	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Members of Parliament	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Private sector business	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Number of applications by type of application and outcome								
	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm / deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Personal information applications	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Access applications (other than personal information applications)		-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Access applications that are partly personal information applications and partly other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Number of applications by type and outcome								
Not for profit organisations or community groups	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Members of the public (application by legal representative)	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Members of the public (other)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURES

Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994 s.31 and Regulation 2011 Cl 4

Council has adopted an Internal Reporting Policy in accordance with the requirements of the Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994 (PID Act). The policy provides a mechanism for Council Officials to make disclosures about serious wrongdoing.

During the 2024/2025 financial year, the following disclosures were made under this policy.

	Total
Number of public officials who made public interest disclosures	NIL
Number of public interest disclosures received	NIL

Internal audit and risk management attestation statement for the 2024/2025 financial year for Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council

I am of the opinion that Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council has an audit, risk and improvement committee, risk management framework and internal audit function that operate in compliance with the following requirements except as may be otherwise provided below:

Audit, risk and improvement committee

	Requirement	Compliance
1.	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council has appointed an audit, risk and improvement committee that comprises of an independent chairperson and at least two independent members (section 428A of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> , section 216C of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
2.	The chairperson and all members of Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council's audit, risk and improvement committee meet the relevant independence and eligibility criteria prescribed under the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i> and have not exceeded the membership term limits prescribed under the Regulation (sections 216D, 216E, 216F, 216G of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
3.	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council has adopted terms of reference for its audit, risk and improvement committee that are informed by the model terms of reference approved by the Departmental Chief Executive of the Office of Local Government and the committee operates in accordance with the terms of reference (section 216K of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
4.	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council provides the audit, risk and improvement committee with direct and unrestricted access to the General Manager and other senior management and the information and resources necessary to exercise its functions (section 216L of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
5.	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council's audit, risk and improvement committee exercises its functions in accordance with a four-year strategic work plan that has been endorsed by the governing body and an annual work plan that has been developed in consultation with the governing body and senior management (Core requirement 1 of the Office of Local Government's <i>Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW</i>).	Compliant

6.	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council's audit, risk and improvement committee provides the governing body with an annual assessment each year, and a strategic assessment each council term of the matters listed in section 428A of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> reviewed during that term (Core requirement 1 of the Office of Local Government's <i>Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW</i>).	Not yet due. The first annual report will be presented to Council following the conclusion of the 24/25 Financial Year. The ARIC Annual Report will be presented to the December ARIC meeting and then reported to Council.
7.	The governing body of Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council reviews the effectiveness of the audit, risk and improvement committee at least once each council term (Core requirement 1 of the Office of Local Government's <i>Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW</i>).	Not yet due

Membership

The chairperson and membership of the audit, risk and improvement committee are:

Chairperson	Nicholas Tobin	1 July 2024	30 June 2028
Independent member	Chris Weber	1 July 2024	30 June 2028
Independent member	Stephen Dunshea	1 July 2024	30 June 2028
Councillor member	Cr Ethan Ryan	1 July 2024	30 June 2028

Risk Management

	Requirement	Compliance
8.	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council has adopted a risk management framework that is consistent with current Australian risk management standard and that is appropriate for the Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council's risks (section 216S of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
9.	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council's audit, risk and improvement committee reviews the implementation of its risk management framework and provides a strategic assessment of its effectiveness to the governing body each council term (section 216S of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Not yet due

Internal Audit

	Requirement	Compliance
10.	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council has an internal audit function that reviews the council's operations and risk management and control activities (section 216O of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant

	Requirement	Compliance
11.	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council's internal audit function reports to the audit, risk and improvement committee on internal audit matters (sections 216M, 216P and 216R of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
12.	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council's internal audit function is independent and internal audit activities are not subject to direction by the Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council (section 216P of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
13.	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council has adopted an internal audit charter that is informed by the model internal audit charter approved by the Departmental Chief Executive of the Office of Local Government and the internal audit function operates in accordance with the charter (section 216O of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
14.	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council has appointed a member of staff to direct and coordinate internal audit activities or is part of a shared arrangement where a participating Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council has appointed a staff member to direct and coordinate internal audit activities for all participating councils (section 216P of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
15.	Internal audit activities are conducted in accordance with the International Professional Practices Framework (Core requirement 3 of the Office of Local Government's <i>Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW</i>).	Compliant
16.	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council provides the internal audit function with direct and unrestricted access to staff, the audit, risk and improvement committee, and the information and resources necessary to undertake internal audit activities (section 216P of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Compliant
17.	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council's internal audit function undertakes internal audit activities in accordance with a four-year strategic work plan that has been endorsed by the governing body and an annual work plan that has been developed in consultation with the governing body and senior management (Core requirement 3 of the Office of Local Government's <i>Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW</i>).	Compliant
18.	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council's audit, risk and improvement committee reviews the effectiveness of the internal audit function and reports the outcome of the review to the governing body each council term (section 216R of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i>).	Not yet due

Roger Bailey



Interim General Manager

6 November 2025

Companion Animals Management

Local Government General Regulation CI 217(f)

Council has lodged its annual return for the survey of Council seizures of cats and dogs with The Office of Local Government on 24th July 2025. A copy of this data is included in this report.

During the reporting period, Council Rangers responded to 17 dog-related incidents across the Shire, involving a total of 24 dogs. Of these, nine dogs were euthanised, while five were declared Menacing Dogs and another five were declared Nuisance Dogs.

The incidents involved children, adults, livestock, and other dogs, with most occurring in public areas. Council continues to promote responsible dog ownership, including regular checks of property fencing to ensure dogs cannot escape.

Council Rangers issued 24 penalty infringement notices during the 2024 /2025 reporting period, these were issued in relation to dog incidents or failing to comply with notices to register Companion Animal. Council Rangers continue to prioritise education before prosecution as strengthen the relationship between Council Rangers and the Public.

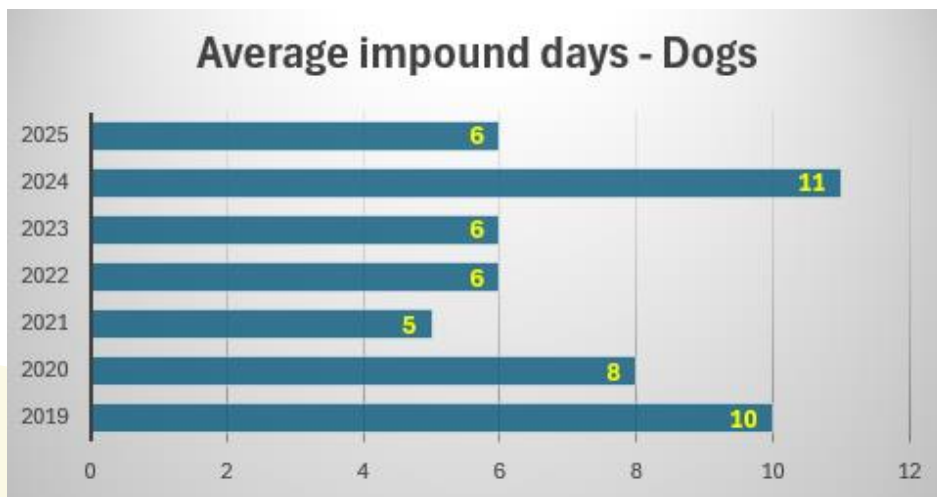
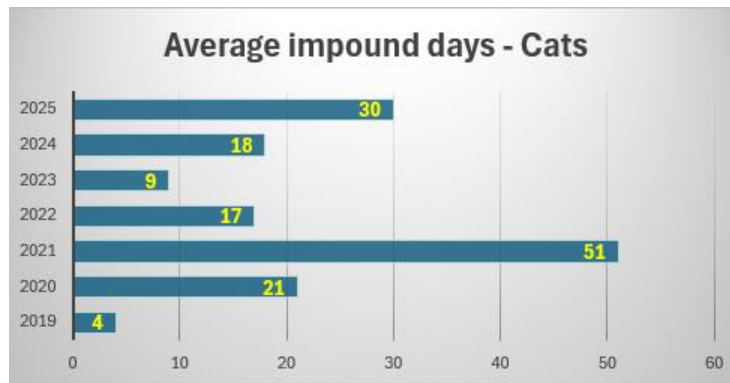
Council receipted 316 NSW Companion Animal Registrations, slightly lower than the previous year. This reflects the increase of compliance across the LGA, in line with the running of the annual Companion Animal audit. The OLG introduced late fees for any animal not registered within the prescribed period. The registrations generated a total of \$25,388.

Registration Breakdown

Type	Total
Dogs – Sold by shelter/Rescue	53
Working dogs	25
Dog – desexed with late fee	15
Dog – desexed not recommended	0
Dog – not desexed with late fee	20
Dog – not desexed	32
Dog – recognised breeder	6
Dog – eligible pensioner with late fee	19
Dog – eligible pensioner	30
Dog – Registration	62
Cat – desexed with late fee	11
Cat – desexed	11
Cat – eligible pensioner with late fee	5
Cat – eligible pensioner	10
Cat – sold by shelter/rescue	16

Unfortunately, the number of companion animals adopted through rescue groups and Council facilities has dropped significantly this year, falling from 111 to just 69. Rescue groups and shelters across Australia are struggling with the growing number of cats and dogs needing homes. Many facilities are now at capacity and unable to rehome animals as quickly as in previous years. Closer to home, one of CGRC's nearest rescues has been forced to stop accepting cats altogether and is struggling with dog intakes due to ongoing financial pressures.

This backlog places additional pressure on holding times for companion animals awaiting rescue in shelter environments. However, impound periods for animals at the CGRC Animal Care Facility remain consistent with the average periods recorded over the past six years, as shown in below.



The Companion Animal Management System (CAMS) application continues to be a valuable tool for Council Rangers and Council staff. The app generates letters and reminders, helping to ensure regulations are met in a timely manner. It can also produce reports—such as the average number of impound days—at the click of a button.

The data collected through CAMS is now revealing trends within the Shire, providing valuable insights to guide decision-making and improve companion animal management.

This year, Council is expected to roll out an updated version of the CAMS application. The enhanced system will feature additional layers of access, allowing Council front counter staff to input data and view up-to-date information in real time. Rangers will be able to record feeding schedules, behavioural observations, and other updates, with the information instantly available to all relevant team members.

Council Rangers have been working to reduce the number of feral cats on Council-owned and managed land, as well as within townships. During the reporting period, 35 feral cats were euthanised. Feral cats are unowned and unsocialised, with no relationship or dependence on

humans. They often carry diseases that can be transmitted to owned animals, posing risks to both animal health and biodiversity.

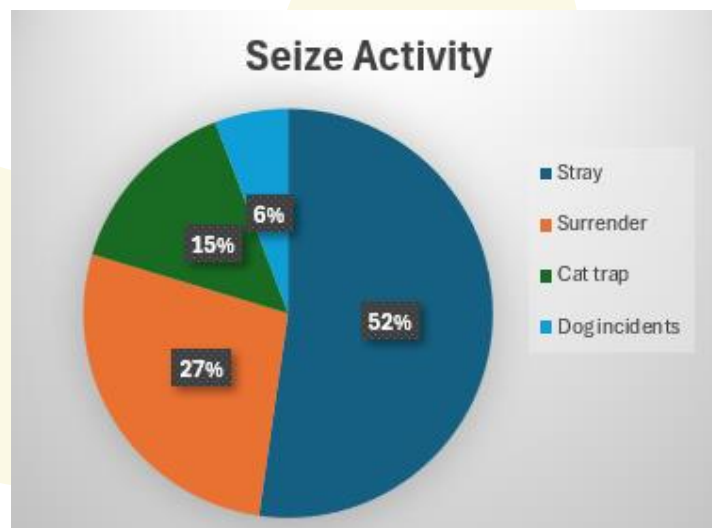
Council remains committed to reducing feral cat populations and is actively seeking funding to expand these programs on a larger scale through DPI and LLS.

Council Rangers are committed to operating a low-kill Animal Care Facility, underpinned by strong partnerships with rescue organisations both within NSW and across Australia. These relationships are built on trust, consistent communication, and a shared goal of improving the welfare of companion animals.

Through the dedication of Council Rangers, every effort is made to assess animals for suitability for rehoming, considering temperament, behaviour, and health. Animals that meet these criteria are promptly connected with rescue partners, ensuring they have the best possible chance at a new life.

As a result of these combined efforts, all dogs and cats deemed suitable for rehoming during the reporting period were successfully placed with rescue organisations. This achievement reflects the commitment of both Council and rescue organisations to providing positive outcomes for animals in care and moves each animal one step closer to finding their forever home.

The seize activity below shows how an animal comes into Council Rangers Care.



Of the animals seized during the reporting period:

- **8%** were returned to their owners before being impounded.
- **27%** were returned to their owners after being impounded.
- **44%** were rehomed through rescue partners or adoption.
- **15%** were feral cats that were euthanised.
- **6%** were dogs involved in dog-related incidents that we euthanised.

Council Rangers are committed to community engagement and education, recognising that prevention begins with awareness. Rangers regularly attend story time sessions at libraries, visit local schools, and participate in public events to connect with residents. Educational brochures are also distributed to reinforce key messages.

A key initiative is the Animals Awareness Program, developed by Council Rangers to help children and adults understand pet behaviour and reduce the risk of dog bite incidents. Delivered through interactive activities such as fun games, card games, and a slideshow presentation, the program teaches students and adults alike, how to read a pet's body language, recognise warning signs, and interact with animals safely. By making the learning process engaging and accessible, the program promotes responsible pet ownership and safer relationships between people and animals.



Council Rangers have been actively working to update signage around unfenced areas within the townships to ensure these spaces are clearly and consistently labelled. This initiative aims to enhance public safety and awareness by helping residents and visitors understand the boundaries and regulations governing these areas.



Clear and well-maintained signage is essential for promoting responsible behaviour, reducing incidents involving animals, and preserving the quality and safety of community spaces for everyone’s enjoyment.



Data from the annual return for the survey of Council seizures of cats for The Office of Local Government.

Definitions

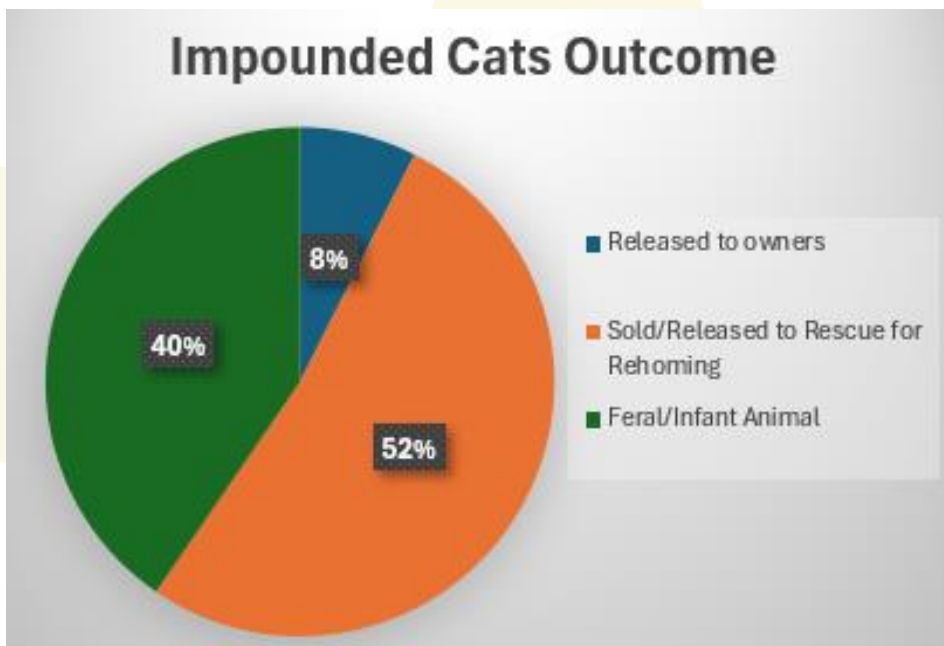
Seized	A cat or dog that the Ranger has picked up
Returned to Owner	A cat or dog that the Ranger has picked up and been able to return to the owner without being impounded. The animal is microchipped or microchip and lifetime registered.
Transferred to - Council's Facility	Council Ranger impounds the cat or dog at the Animal Care Facility
Surrender	Cat or dog’s owner relinquishes ownership of the animal to the Council
Released to owners	Cat or dog has been impounded, and owner has claimed the animal, paid the relevant fees and animal is released back to the owner.
Sold/Released to Rescue for Rehoming	Cat or dog rehomed with a new home or release to a rescue group that will completed vet work and rehome to a suitable home.
Feral Animal	A cat who is unowned, unsocialised, has no relationship with or dependence on humans and lives and reproduces in the wild.
Infant Animal	Means in the first period of existence and refers to an animal that is not able to feed and fend for itself



Cats

	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Totals
Seized	1	3	1	5	10	13	21	15	6	4	2	1	82
Returned to Owner	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transferred to - Council's Facility	1	3	1	5	10	13	21	15	6	4	2	1	82
Surrendered	5	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	6	0	0	15

	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Totals
Released to owners	1	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	7
Sold/Released to Rescue for Rehoming	5	2	0	0	7	8	10	3	5	2	7	0	49
Feral/Infant Animal	0	0	1	4	3	0	12	12	4	2	0	0	38



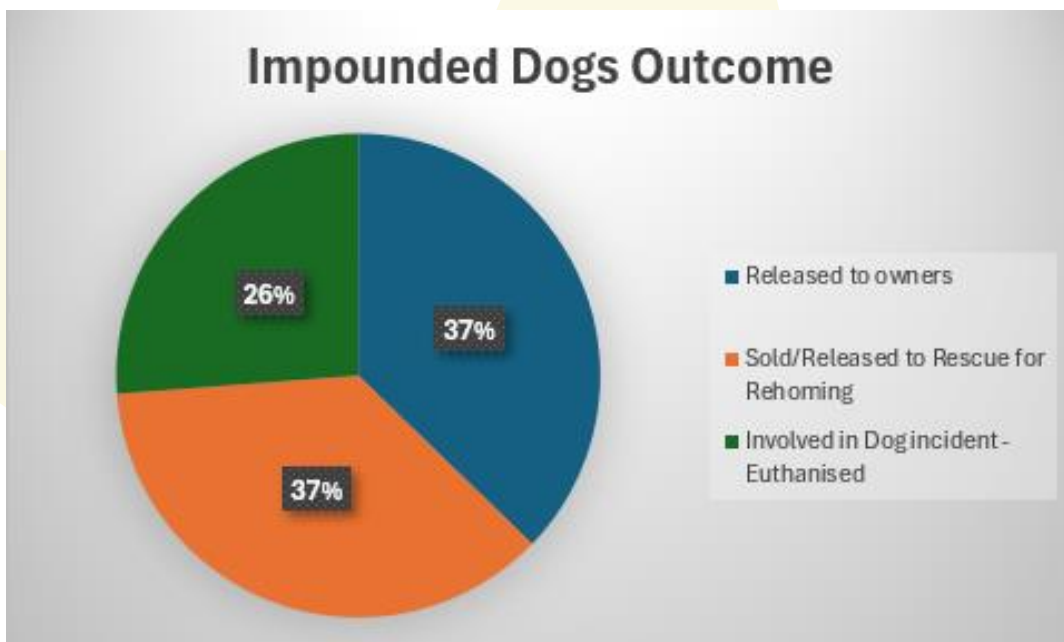
Summary of Cat seizures & Impounding	
Cats Seized	82
Returned to Owner	0
Impounded and Returned to Owner	7
Sold/Released to Rescue for Rehoming	49
Feral/Infant Animal	38
In Animal Care Facility at 30/6/2024	1



Dogs

	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Totals
Seized	3	3	9	8	12	4	9	6	9	7	5	18	93
Returned to Owner	1	1	2	1	0	0	1	0	5	1	0	6	18
Transferred to - Council's Facility	2	2	7	7	12	4	8	6	4	6	5	12	75
Surrendered	6	1	7	4	16	1	1	1	3	2	1	8	51

	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Totals
Released to owners	1	2	6	4	8	4	7	3	1	3	3	12	54
Sold/Released to Rescue for Rehoming	6	2	1	8	7	8	2	2	5	6	2	4	53
Involved in Dog incident	0	0	1	4	3	0	12	12	4	2	0	0	38



Summary of Dog seizures & Impounding	
Dog Seized	93
Returned to Owner	18
Impounded and Returned to Owner	54
Sold/Released to Rescue for Rehoming	53
Involved in Dog incident - Euthanised	38
In Animal Care Facility at 30/6/2024	4

WHAT WE DELIVERED DURING 2024-2025

Connected, Resilient, Thriving: The Vital Role of Your Council and Team

Your Council and the crew who turn up daily, play a vital role in shaping a thriving, connected, and resilient community. From maintaining essential infrastructure like roads and waste services to delivering education programs and hosting vibrant community events, the council is at the heart of everyday life.

Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council manages rates responsibly to fund services that matter—ensuring clean streets, safe public spaces, and accessible facilities. Through cultural initiatives, recreational activities, and support programs, we keep our communities engaged, empowered, and ticking along smoothly.

Whether it's planning for the future or responding to local needs, your Council is committed to fostering a place where everyone feels supported, included, and proud to call home.

Your Council delivers

Coota Beach Volleyball Carnival: Your Council delivers assistance with event management, preparation of courts, event bins and collection, placement of infrastructure and cleanup of streets after the event. The annual Coota Beach Volleyball Carnival attracts thousands of people to the town for a three-day volleyball carnival where Murray Street Cootamundra is transformed from a throughfare to 10 sand volleyball courts with 900 tonnes of sand trucked in for the event.



Local Sporting Fixtures: Your Council ensures all sporting fields are maintained with mowing, clean up and maintenance, rubbish removal and repairs to enable the host of sporting preferences are available for the community.

Special Events: Your Council supports Special Events marking significant milestones in the community's history and culture, with funds, in kind support, road and traffic management, waste removal and administrative services.

Looking after our Youth: Your council provides Youth Hubs, Library activities, school holiday programs. Fosters Youth participation and endeavours and mental health initiatives.



Festivals: Your council hosts the Wattle Time Festival of Lights, the Festival of Gundagai and Christmas Carnivals to promote local participation, local producers and fosters a community connection.



Animal Awareness Programs: Your Council delivers educational programs to schools, encourages animal awareness with colouring competitions. Monitors and promotes animal health and wellbeing and pet owner responsibilities.

Road Safety: Your Council advances road safety with regular road safety initiatives, competitions, educational programs to schools, education to the elderly, pedestrians, motorcyclists, school bus safety and event programs highlighting road safety campaigns.

Waste and Recycling: Your council delivers Waste Transfer Stations, recycling options, educational programs, recycling shop, event waste collection. Waste diversion strategies aimed at reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill through recycling of green waste composting and reuse of crushed concrete for road base.

Visitor Information: Your council provides Visitor Information Centres, visitor information, coordinates visitor experiences, works with volunteer organisations promoting visitor experience. Maintains and funds visitor attractions. Supports visitor local initiatives to grow visitor numbers and experiences.

Agritourism Development Program





Libraries: Your Council offers the services to all residents the facilities hosted at the Cootamundra and Gundagai Libraries. Open 5 ½ days each week the libraries regularly hold workshops, events and educational programs aimed at all ages. Our libraries are more than just about borrowing books they are a community living room, offering a safe and friendly experience.



Cemeteries: Your Council maintains and operates 13 monumental cemeteries and 2 lawn cemeteries within the Local Government Area, providing peaceful places for the interment and quiet remembrance of loved one. Council maintains records and administers various services including management of plot and niche purchases, transfer of interment rights, approvals for monumental works. Council employees are often the unofficial counsellors for the bereaved and those looking for long lost loved ones resting places.

Ceremonies: Your Council conducts a number of ceremonies throughout the year to mark national days of significance including NAIDOC Week, Australia Day. Citizenship ceremonies are a special day for our newest residents and mark the formal and symbolic moment when someone becomes an Australian resident.



Aerodrome: Your Council is responsible for safe operation, maintenance and regulatory compliance of the Cootamundra Aerodrome, this includes infrastructure, safety protocols and environmental considerations. Council maintains compliance with the Civil Aviation Safety Regulations (CASA), and other administrative and strategic roles in the operation of the aerodrome.

Biosecurity: Your Council manages and monitors invasive species like weeds, feral animals and other pests. Educational programs are undertaken with land holders. Council is committed to effective weed control. Weeds are everybody’s responsibility. Working together to protect the Local Government Area and the unique bushland, swamps and waterways of the Cootamundra-Gundagai region. Council regularly posts Weed Alerts on the CGRC website advising landowners of an invasive species found within the LGA.

Parks and Gardens: Your Council maintains and creates magnificent parks and gardens across the LGA. Parks provide a space for rest and relaxation, fun and discovery and are often the space for special gatherings. The Parks and Gardens teams in Cootamundra and Gundagai are responsible for the colourful displays within the towns CBD.



Engineering: Your Council delivers roads, bridges and other vital infrastructure such as Traffic management services, footpaths, stormwater drainage, water and sewer services. Community notifications and instructive messages highlighting traffic movements, water and sewer notices are often distributed to inform residents on interruptions to services and educated on best practice techniques for maintaining infrastructure.



Administration: Your Council Administration includes Customer Service Teams, Information Technology, Finance, Governance, Workplace Health and Safety, Communications, Support/Project Staff, Human Resources and Records. These teams are responsible for delivering and distributing information. Ensuring the day-to-day operations run smoothly and efficiently. Customer support is highly regarded, compliance and policy enforcement, documents and record keeping, scheduling and coordination are some of the tasks undertaken by staff in the administration section.

Planning and Environment: Your Council oversees land use, development approvals and environmental management to shape sustainable, liveable communities. Tasked with strategic planning for growth, infrastructure and land use to meet future community needs.

Reseal Program - Cootamundra:

Regional Roads – Stockinbingal Road, 20,500m² completed

Local Roads – Killrush road, 25,300m² completed

Town Streets:

- O'Donnell St, 6,000m² completed
- Poole St, 5,500m² completed
- Scott Ave, 3,100m² completed
- Stratton Ave, 800m² completed
- Sutton St (non State road sections), 20,150m² completed

- Stockinbingal Village – Ellwood St, 4,100m² completed

Footpaths:

- Bourke St, Between Thompson and Cooper Street, approximately 120m
- Cooper St, Between MacKay and Wallendoon Street, approximately 180m

-

Reseal Program – Gundagai

Regional Roads - Wee Jasper Road 9960m² completed

Local Roads:

- Three Ways Road 6893m² completed
- Burra Road 25000m² completed
- Coolac Road 18000m² completed
- Darbalara Road 11900m² completed
- Edwardstown Road 6600m² completed
- Happy Valley Road 5556m² completed
- Obriens Road 6500m² completed
- Tarrabandara Road 6000m² completed

Footpaths

- First Avenue between Otway Street and Kitchener Street

Projects delivered 2024/2025 Financial Year

Your Council delivered a number of projects and programmes as set out in the 2024/2025 Delivery Program. Below are some examples of these projects.

July 2024

TREE REMOVAL PROGRAM

Damaged and diseased street trees have been removed across streets in Cootamundra recently under Council's tree removal program. The program drew collaboration with other service providers including Essential Energy to remove trees that have been identified as causing danger to property and diseased. The removal of each tree required qualified and highly trained staff.



LINDLEY PARK SHADE SAILS

Lindley Park in Gundagai has seen shade sails installed over the playground equipment. The sails provide protection from harsh UV rays and will help keep the equipment cooler in summer.

LIBRARIANS ON TOUR

Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council hosted librarians from across the region as members of the Riverina Regional Library (RRL) group went on tour. Riverina Regional Library is the largest regional library service in NSW. RRL consists of 22 branch libraries and one mobile library funding by 10 Local Government areas. The branch meetings are a valuable resource of idea sharing, collaboration and connecting with each other and makes their membership with RRL a rewarding and inciteful experience.

NAIDOC WEEK

The annual NAIDOC Week flag raising ceremony took place in Cootamundra this year at the Max Whitteron Gardens, to mark the start of NAIDOC Week. Local indigenous leader Mr Peter Beath Welcomed all to Country, whilst Murry Izzard played the Didgeridoo. The flags were raised by two young indigenous community members with Peter Beath assisting.

In Gundagai, the flag raising ceremony took place at the Council Chambers/Mirrabooka precinct. Gundagai Elder, Uncle Stan Russell performed a smoking ceremony and Uncle Peter Smith welcomed all to country prior to the Flag raising executed by Interim Mayor, Councillor Gil Kelly and Aunty Sony Piper.

COOTAMUNDRA LIBRARY – IPAD'S

Cootamundra Library was one of the 79 Libraries to receive funding under the Learning for a Better World (LBW) Trust and the Friends of Libraries Australia (FOLA) Country Libraries 2024 program. The library received \$1120 to purchase two iPads with cases for children to use.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT WEEK

Council celebrated Local Government Week 2024 with residents invited to attend open days in Cootamundra and Gundagai. Staff were on hand to provide information. Residents and children had the chance to get up close with some of council's BIG equipment. The sausage sizzle and free give aways proving to be popular with the crowd.



STAGE TWO PIONEER PARK PROJECT OPENED

The official opening of stage two of the Pioneer Park refurbishment project took place in early July. The Pioneer Park Project (Stage two) was funded through the NSW Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund.

This project initially commenced with an onsite meeting that comprised several stakeholders interested in the park's future, these included, Friends of Pioneer Park Group, The Aboriginal Working Party Group, NSW Rural Fire Service, Mountain Bike Club, Bush Walking Club, Coota Signs and Council representatives.

The meeting discussed the list for the scope of works which had largely been identified through a report completed by the Friends of Pioneer Park group and took down ideas from other stakeholders at the meeting.

The \$202,212 project delivered, new toilet facilities, shelter and barbeque facilities, picnic tables, park benches, bollard and chain fencing, solar bollard lighting. The project created a bush regeneration area which includes native plantings and ground rejuvenation. Directional signage was erected along many of the walking and bike trails, with map signage, pathway clearing, and wood burning barbeques/fire pits installed.

Pioneer Park is now a designated RV Friendly camping area.

August 2024

YOUTH HUB OPENINGS

Cootamundra Youth Hub and Gundagai Youth Spaces were opened for the regions young people to "hang out". The Cootamundra Youth Hub is situated in the Old Cootamundra Hospital in Mackay Street. With the Gundagai Youth Space at the Gundagai Netball Courts Clubhouse.

STAGE TWO PIONEER PARK PROJECT OPENED

Mayor Cr Gil Kelly, Member for Cootamundra Steph Cooke, CGRC Interim General Manager Steve McGrath, Manager Regional Services Wayne Bennett, along with CGRC staff members and other stakeholders braved the chilly conditions to enjoy a sausage sizzle at the official opening of the Pioneer Park Stage Two project in Cootamundra which included BBQ facilities, toilets and ground works.

GUNDAGAI OLD MILL – DEVELOPMENT OF MASTERPLAN

The Old Mill in Gundagai is the oldest building in Gundagai and as such holds significant historical and cultural importance to the local community. As part of the development of the Masterplan and Business case and to understand the communities' views surrounding any development of the Old Mill, council sought input from the community. Drop-in sessions were held in at the Gundagai Council Chambers and a community survey was available on council's media platforms for residents to provide feedback and contribute to the survey.

FLOOD MITIGATION – MUTTAMA CREEK

Major flooding in October 2022 and March 2023 prompted Council to push ahead with three projects focused on Muttama Creek in Cootamundra. The projects, aimed at improving the town's flood readiness, assessing future mitigation options and setting a long-term vision for the creek corridor, were welcomed by the community.

The first project involves a comprehensive review of the Cootamundra Flood Warning system, designed to improve the system's accuracy and timeliness, and reduce the risk to life and property. It will look at how warnings are developed and delivered, the use of rainfall and river data, flood mapping and how to better predict and communicate flood threats.

The second project involves a feasibility study to assess potential flood mitigation infrastructure, including a levee or detention basin.

The third project is the development of the Masterplan for Muttama Creek, which will provide a long-term framework for managing the creek and its surroundings, balancing flood control, environmental health, recreation and future development.

CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

A Citizenship Ceremony was held at the Gundagai Council Chambers. Five new citizens were invited to take the pledge to become Australian. All conferees were presented with their certificates and a native plant to mark the occasion.

September 2024

STOCKINBINGAL CENOTAPH GETS MAKEOVER

CGRC staff replaced the edging and planted the new Gallipoli Rose variety at the Stockinbingal Cenotaph. The work undertaken will assist with the overall maintenance of the area and provide a reflection space for visitors.

FESTIVAL EVENTS LIVEN UP THE STREETS

The Wattle Time festival in Cootamundra and Festival of Lights in Gundagai took place in October. The festivals were designed to entice the communities to break out of the winter gloom as the festivals shone a spotlight on the wealth of talent and creativity that thrives within our midst and celebrate the beauty of the great outdoors.

October 2024

8000 TONNES RESCUED FROM LANDFILL

Council engaged a contractor to crush 8,000 tonnes of old concrete, bricks and tiles. This material has been recycled into another usable product. The crushed concrete is being used by Council to upgrade the internal roads inside the landfill site and is available to the public for purchase.



SHERWOOD FOREST – STAGE 4

In October, council commenced work on stage 4 of the Sherwood Forest Masterplan. The work undertaken included removal of the ages London Plan trees and the dry riverbed was formed up with rocks to repair damage from the 2022 flood event.

The rejuvenations of the highly valued park will see an area that residents and visitors can enjoy, with an abundance of native flora planted and nurtured to attract native birds and wildlife.

Consultation with the Gundagai community uncovered a desire to keep the park simple, provide colourful plantings to enhance the walking experience through the site, provide opportunities for nature play and picnic settings. A pathway throughout the park was high on the agenda of community wishes, due to its location to the CBD of Gundagai, Morleys Creek and other recreational areas in close proximity.

COOTAMUNDRA BUSINESS AWARDS

Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council hosted the 2024 Cootamundra Business Awards in October.

The event celebrates the remarkable hard work, resilience and dedication of local businesses and organisation and the incredible individuals behind them. These businesses and organisations are the backbone of the local community, providing economic, social and cultural benefits that larger corporations often can't replicate; creating jobs for residents, fostering social connections and act as gathering places that strengthen community bonds.

November 2024

CGRC WAS SUCCESSFUL IN RECEIVING THE 2024 NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AWARD (NEDA) FOR EXCELLENCE – REGIONS UNDER 15,000 RESIDENTS

CGRC was nominated in conjunction with the Tilma Group (the consulting company that assisted with the Project's delivery). Council's journey with agritourism development began in 2018 with a Rural Land Issues Paper identifying agritourism as a growth opportunity for our region. In 2020, regional tourism development consultancy Tilma Group were contracted to develop an Agritourism Strategy for Council.

FOOTPATH REPLACEMENT – BOURKE STREET

New footpaths were installed in Bourke Street.

BUNDARBO CAUSEWAY

The new Bundarbo causeway was completed, replacing the causeway damaged by flooding.

EV COMES TO COOTAMUNDRA

Two double electric vehicle (EV) charging stations were installed in Cootamundra. The EV charging stations are located in the carpark behind the Cootamundra War Memorial Library. The charging stations have 24-hour access and are under CCTV surveillance for added security. They are operated as a tap-and-go system.

December 2024

GRANDSTANDS BIRD PROOFED

Bird netting was installed at the grandstands in Fisher Park and had Bassingthwaite Oval. The Bundarbo causeway was completed, replacing the causeway damaged in flood. The Sherwood Forest Masterplan was delivered.

January 2025

HOVELL STREET COOTAMUNDRA REHABILITATION

Rehabilitation work on Hovell Street in Cootamundra commenced. The project saw the lowering of services through the road, renewal of kerb and upgraded pavement suitable for the heavy vehicle detour.

The Scope of work involved the renewal of 600m of roadway between the Olympic Hwy at Campbell St through to Cowcumbra St.

The project saw approximately 500mm road pavement removed and replaced with DGB pavement and an Asphalt wearing surface installed. In addition, new Kerb and Gutter was also installed along this length of road. Project was grant funded by the Fixing Local Roads program.**CSP REVIEW**

A review of the Community Strategic Plan was undertaken. The purpose of the plan is to identify the community's main priorities and aspirations for the future and plan actions to achieve them. The review was undertaken to ensure Council is on track and is capturing a future vision that reflects the local area and lifestyle. The Plan ensures the entire community can contribute and work towards a shared vision for a better future.

February 2025

VILLAGE TRANSFER STATIONS

Improvements were made to village transfer stations; with bin location stoppers installed. The stoppers prevent the bins from being located too close to fences and will prevent the bins causing damage to the fences when being lifted by the truck.

BARRY GRACE OVAL – WALLENDBEEN

The Wallendbeen Sports and Recreation ground was subjected to flood damage in a flood event that hit the area in 2022. The white picket fence that surrounded the oval was destroyed. Funding to erect the new picket fence was approved in January 2025 and the fence was replaced. The Wallendbeen Sports and Recreation Ground, including the Barry Grace Oval are well utilised by local cricketers and the Wallendbeen community.

March 2025

SENIORS CELEBRATIONS

Seniors in Gundagai and Cootamundra enjoyed celebrations for Seniors Week commence. Over 15 Gundagai citizens, chatted over delicious slices, sandwiches, scones and cream, with CGRC Councillor Penny Nicholson and popular Mayor Abb McAlister. The Cootamundra Ex Services Club was the venue for the CGRC Seniors Week High Tea Seniors who attended the event, were entertained with music by Jan Hurst, a fun trivia game and a Q and A with Councillors and senior CGRC managers. Seniors were interested in topics on Cootamundra businesses, tourism, Muttama Creek and Planning and Building.



LITTLE ATHLETICS COOTAMUNDRA DISCUS CAGE OPENING

The erection of a discus cage at Albert Park Cootamundra was a collaborative effort with CGRC and Cootamundra Little Athletics. The cage will create a safe sporting space for competitors and spectators when the Discus competition takes place.



April 2025

NEW GOAL POSTS MAKE SCORING SAFER

Cootamundra's Fisher Park had new goal posts installed in time for the 2025 football season. The new goal posts are considered much safer than the posts that were replaced, due to weight and construction.

COOTA CONNECTIONS EXPO

The Coota Connections Expo held in March and received positive feedback from participants and visitors. Over 50 stalls including local, state and federal government agencies with information on a range of topics, activities and special interest.

May 2025

CARRS ROAD BRIDGE

Rock has been removed from underneath the bridge at the request of NSW Fisheries. This opens the fish passage for fish to safely navigate along Blind Creek. The works have stabilised the banks downstream of the bridge to prevent further erosion having an impact on the bridge.

June 2025

MUTTAMA HALL CENTENARY

The 100-year centenary of Muttama Hall, saw hundreds turn out to celebrate the historic hall.

Mayor Abb McAlister congratulated the Muttama Hall s355 committee and all organisers on a fabulous event, that saw huge crowds attend the family fun day.



WEST STREET GUNDAGAI

Rehabilitation works on West Street were undertaken. New kerb and guttering were installed. The rehabilitation project of the street included milling, stabilising and sealing of the road surface to rectify the failing pavement issues and other road defects. West Street will be a far safer road for motorists and pedestrians and ongoing maintenance issues addressed.

BUS SHELTERS INSTALLED

The Cootamundra High School, Cootamundra Primary School and Creekside Kids Early Childhood Learning Centre, have had bus shelters installed with funding from the Country Passenger Transport Infrastructure Grants Scheme.



In line with our Delivery Program and Operational Plan, this report presents information from our five focus areas of the Community Strategic Plan.

Delivery Program & Operational Plan Progress Report

1. A vibrant, safe, and inclusive community

We have a thriving community where diversity is embraced, everyone is welcomed, valued, safe and we have opportunities to enhance our health, happiness, and wellbeing.

2 A region for the future

We are a prosperous and resilient region providing opportunities for growth and learning to strengthen and grow our economy, support tourism, and adopt new technologies to ensure long-term sustainability.

3. A protected and enhanced environment

We have attractive towns and villages that complement our unique natural environment, where heritage is preserved and enhanced whilst balancing the needs for regional development and growth.

4. collaborative and progressive leadership

We have a transparent and accountable local Council with an actively engaged community and effective partnerships that fosters trust, facilitates innovation and uses resources wisely to meet community needs.

5. integrated and accessible region

We have transport networks and services that are well connected and convenient and not only connect our villages and towns, but also connect us to other regions, capital cities and states, and our community has access to services and facilities that make the region 'livable'.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN IMPLEMENTING THE DELIVERY PROGRAM & OPERATIONAL PLAN

Council delivers a diverse range of services and projects annually, which are published in the yearly Operational Plan.

The following section provides an overview on Councils progress in delivering the actions detailed in the 2024/2025 Operational Plan.



1: A vibrant, safe, and inclusive community

1.1: Our health and wellbeing needs are met

1.1a: Provide quality health and well-being services that support the changing needs of the community throughout the lifecycle through government and non-government organisations

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Promote programs which encourage healthy lifestyle choices and activities	1.1a (2)	Council maintains its public open spaces in a safe and acceptable manner and ensures that all associated infrastructure is fit for purpose. The level of service delivery is to be reflected according to the allocated resources.	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	Ongoing. Council staff are regularly maintaining the open spaces to an acceptable manner, within the budget allocated

1.1b: Provide opportunities for the recreational use of parks, sporting facilities, swimming pools by ensuring they are safe, maintained, managed and meet the needs of all community members

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Masterplan development for Fisher Park	1.1b (1)	Upgrade amenities at Fisher Park to meet the demands of local and regional Sporting associations and clubs	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	Ongoing, A new announcer's box has been built, new PA system and goal posts installed.
Promote year-round use of Council facilities	1.1b (2)	Continue to manage the existing contract for the Cootamundra Aquatic Centre to ensure all areas of service delivery meet Community and Council expectations	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	Council work with the Aquatic Centre Facility managers, L & R Group closely with regular onsite visits. We are about to go out to tender to go out for the operation of the Cootamundra pool and sports stadium.

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
	1.1b (2)	Continue to manage the existing contract for the Cootamundra Sports Stadium to ensure all areas of service delivery meet Community and council expectations	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	Ongoing communication and onsite meetings with L & R Group. the contract expires on November 1, 2025. The new tender is being prepared for the operations of the stadium and pool. Stadium usage isn't high; L & R Group are trying new ways to encourage usage.
	1.1b (2)	Cootamundra sportsgrounds are maintained within the allocated resources and finances available and delivered to the community and associated user groups in a safe and professional manner	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	Council staff are maintaining all sportsgrounds to a suitable standard meeting community and Council expectations. Communication is key and we talk to each sporting group regularly to ensure we are providing the service levels required.
	1.1b (2)	Monitor and maintain Cootamundra Aquatic Centre within the allocated resources and funding	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	Staff communicate with L & R Group regularly. We discuss issues and resolve them as soon as practical. We assist with promoting their events. we are currently working on the tender as the existing contract expires on November 1st, 2025. Council have repaired multiple pool issues, mainly to do with leaks. We are continuing to rectify these issues whilst the pool is empty and before the contract commences.

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
	1.1b (2)	Monitor and maintain Cootamundra Sports Stadium within the allocated resources and funding	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	Ongoing, regular meetings with L & R Group identifying issues and maintenance required. Contract expires 1/11/2025, new tender about to go out.
Prepare and deliver the CGRC Open Space Strategy / Management Plan	1.1a (2)	Council maintains its public open spaces in a safe and acceptable manner and ensures that all associated infrastructure is fit for purpose. The level of service delivery is to be reflected according to the allocated resources.	Regulatory Officer - Gundagai	Ongoing	Maintenance activities will continue to align with the current budget and established service levels, whether historical or formally adopted.
	1.1b (3)	Ensure all Cootamundra Street tree enquiries are managed in a timely and professional manner	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	Ongoing, we have been working through completing the back log of requests through winter. New trees to be planted in August.
	1.1b (3)	Ensure maintenance of council's facilities in the villages of Stockinbingal and Wallendbeen are in a safe and acceptable manner and considered fit for purpose.	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	Ongoing maintenance and service levels as scheduled and carried out. We work with the communities to ensure any events are recognised and if additional work is required, we try to incorporate this.
	1.1b (3)	Ensure that the Cootamundra Street Trees are maintained within the allocated resources and funding available and deliver a safe streetscape to the Community and street users groups	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	Ongoing, Staff are continuing to work through the back log of tree requests and improving our delivery for customer requests, new street trees have been ordered and delivered, planting will commence in August

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
	1.1b (3)	Maintain Communication between council and the Village Communities of Stockinbingal and Wallendbeen via regular site meetings and attendance at Community meetings as and when required	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	Ongoing. Council staff continue to work with community groups from both villages. Regular communication has been had to ensure both Council and the villages are working together.
Work in partnership with active sporting associations, community groups and health providers to ensure sporting facilities are fit for current and future community need	1.1b (4)	Upgrade Nicholson Park drainage to improve playing surface and oversee in preparation for year-round use by sporting clubs.	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Completed	Project Completed. The drainage has been installed and working well.
	1.1b (4)	Work in partnership with Sportsground User Groups to ensure strong communication is maintained with Council and good service delivery and timely response to related issues	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	On hold (demerge)	Waiting to demerge. The sporting groups currently across both locations do not match so it will be an easier task once we know where the future is going. We are still communicating with each club so we can work together to maintain a service required for each area.
Service and Maintenance of Cemeteries	1.1b (5)	Cootamundra and surrounding village cemeteries maintenance programs are delivered within the available resources and financial allocation and meet Councils and Community expectations	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	Maintenance schedule is being adhered to, budgets are within allocation. Community expectations are being met, staff strive to keep the areas maintained and cleaned to a high standard.

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
	1.1b (5)	In dealing with Cemetery bookings and enquires, Council staff to maintain strong and professional communication between Council, funeral directors, and members of the public	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	Council staff have a great relationship with the local funeral directors. Staff handle all cemetery enquiries professionally with compassion, and the staff on ground ensure all requests are attended to as soon as practical.

1.1c: Seek funding and investment for the revitalisation of the Gundagai Memorial Swimming Pool and existing sports and recreation facilities across Cootamundra, Gundagai and villages

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Gundagai Pool Renovation	1.1c (1)	Complete Gundagai Pool renovation project	Regulatory Officer - Gundagai	In Progress	Contractors have commenced work on the Gundagai swimming pools, with significant progress already made with repairs and tiling continuing. The issues with the center line being fully resolved, this aspect of the project is finalised. Contractor works remain ongoing as further improvements continue.

1.2: A welcoming community that cares for and looks after each other

1.2a: Support initiatives and facilities that encourage social inclusion and community connections

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Update and implement accessibility strategies as identified in the Disability Inclusion Access Plan	1.2a (1)	Update Disability Inclusion Access Plan	Acting Manager Business	In Progress	Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee has reviewed and approved the updated DIAP in the August Committee Meeting. Updated DIAP is planned to be presented to Council in the August Council Meeting.

1.2c: Undertake an Aboriginal Heritage and Cultural Places Study

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Undertake a region wide Heritage Study to update current heritage plan	1.2c (1)	Seek funding to update the region's Heritage Plan	Acting Manager Business	Ongoing	Project will be researched when resources allow.

1.2e: Increase focus on the Arts by providing accessible, functional, multi-purpose facilities and spaces suitable for culture, recreational, learning and information services and activates

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Deliver a diverse range of Art Gallery/Museum and Library events and programs that are accessible and relevant to the community	1.2e (3)	Work with partners including Eastern Riverina Arts to develop a diverse annual program of gallery exhibitions and events	Acting Manager Business	In Progress	CGRC is an active member of Eastern Riverina Arts, with Councillor and Staff representation attending meetings and facilitating programs. Individual facilities, such as The Arts Centre, Cootamundra develop events and programs relevant to community needs. Gundagai Museum and Goal provide tourist facilities incorporating cultural significance. Libraries implement a number of well attended events each month.

1.3: Maintaining low crime levels

1.3a: Deliver dependable emergency service management practices and responses which protect our community

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Continue maintenance and operations of Emergency Management Centres	1.3a (1)	Continue maintenance and operations of Emergency Management Centres	Acting Manager Engineering - Gundagai	Ongoing	Emergency Management Centres continue to be maintained with additional funding being sourced to meet modern standards. In Q4 staff have progressed the scoping of backup generators for three evacuation centres. These works are scheduled to be installed before October 2025. Discussions have also taken place with St Patrick's School Gundagai to see if approval can be obtained to use this as a secondary evacuation centre in the event of a major flood in Gundagai.
Continue to participate in Local Emergency Management Meetings with local emergency services	1.3a (2)	Continue to participate in Local Emergency Management Meetings with local emergency services	Acting Manager Engineering - Gundagai	Ongoing	Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) continues to meet on a regular basis. Last meeting held was on 15 May 2025.

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Maintain and update Council's emergency response plans	1.3a (3)	Maintain and update Council's emergency response plans	Acting Manager Engineering - Gundagai	Ongoing	Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) has continued to meet on a regular basis (next meeting is 14 August 2025) with all stakeholders and relevant actions identified and implemented. In preparation for the summer season Council's Emergency Response Plan is being reviewed and updated as necessary. Council's LEMO will also be attending the Southeastern Regional Emergency Management Committee to be held in Goulburn on 26 August 2025.

1.3b: Support initiatives and facilities that encourage social inclusion and community connections

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Continue to work in partnership with local agencies such as Fire and Rescue NSW, Rural Fire Service and State Emergency Service, Health, Ambulance, Police, Local Land Services to identify and advocate for opportunities to improve overall community safety	1.3b (2)	Work in partnership with Fire and Rescue NSW, Rural Fire Service, NSW Health, Ambulance, Police and Local Land Services to implement community safety initiatives	Acting Manager Engineering - Gundagai	Ongoing	Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) has continued to meet on a regular basis (last meeting was 15 May 2025) with all stakeholders and relevant actions identified and implemented.

1.3c: Installation of CCTV cameras in higher crime areas

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Review security contracts	1.3c (1)	Review security contracts for Closed-Circuit Televisions (CCTV) cameras	Regulatory Officer - Gundagai	Ongoing	The current status of the CCTV system and associated service contract is under review. The original contract with the existing security provider has expired and has not been renewed but continues on a month-to-month basis. An audit has been conducted to assess the current system's effectiveness, accessibility, and whether the service still represents value for money.
	1.3c (1)	Review security contracts for closed-circuit televisions (CCTV) cameras.	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	On Hold	No funding available at present. We will continue to seek grant funding opportunities.
Seek funding for Closed Circuit Television camera installation	1.3c (2)	Seek funding for the installation of Closed-Circuit Televisions (CCTV) cameras	Regulatory Officer - Gundagai	Ongoing	Funding opportunities for CCTV systems that do not require Council co-contributions or ongoing financial commitments for operation are actively being sought but as yet have not been found.
	1.3c (2)	Seek Funding for the installation of closed-circuit televisions (CCTV) cameras.	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	On Hold	We are still looking for possible funding for this, although it will need to be 100% funded with no co-contributions

2: A region for the future

2.1: Recognised as a must-visit tourist destination

2.1a: Seek funding and investment opportunities for tourism asset development

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Gundagai Old Mill Redevelopment	2.1a (1)	Gundagai Old Mill Redevelopment Project. Development of the Masterplan and business case.	Acting Manager Business	Ongoing	Business case received. Further requirements for funding application being sourced.
Develop and issue an expression of interest for Wallendbeen silo art project	2.1a (4)	Develop EOI for Wallendbeen silo art project	Acting Manager Business	Ongoing	TEDO's have recommenced investigations into this project. Draft Action Plan for the Wallendbeen Silo Development has been created.

2.1c: Growth and expansion of the region's events calendar and tourism products with a focus on agritourism opportunities

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Work with Cootamundra and Gundagai business and tourism groups to help support and grow new events	2.1c (1)	Continue to Implement actions as identified in the Agri-tourism strategy	Acting Manager Business	Ongoing	TEDO continue to implement actions from the Agritourism strategy. CGRC was successful in receiving funding under the Open Streets Program 2025-2028. Council will receive \$350,000 over the 3 years and will fund the events within the Starry Nights Festival - this includes Wattle Time, Festival of Gundagai, Sparkling Streets, and Christmas on Sheridan.

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Establish Cycle Trails map for Cootamundra	2.1c (3)	Develop Cycle Trails map for Cootamundra and upload onto website for road cyclists	Acting Manager Engineering Cootamundra	Completed	Completed and loaded on to website.

2.1d: Increased marketing of the Cootamundra and Gundagai tourism brands

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Seek funding to continue delivering on the Tourism Communications Plan	2.1d (2)	Seek funding to continue delivery of actions identified in the Tourism Communications Plan	Acting Manager Business	In Progress	Tourism brands for Gundagai and Cootamundra are promoted through websites, Facebook, Instagram and events, consistent with platforms listed in our Communications Engagement Strategy. Partnerships with surrounding LGA's have been activated. Billboards updated with existing TED Strategic Plan Funding.

2.1e: Actively promote and develop the region's visitor accommodation, products, and recreational infrastructure

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Prepare masterplan for Caravan Parks	2.1e (1)	Cootamundra Caravan Parks existing contract managed to ensure that all areas of service delivery meet Community and Council Expectations	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	The existing contract is being reviewed. It expires in 2028; the Lessee wishes to extend the contract to 25 years so he can invest more property into the park due to the housing shortage in Cootamundra. We continue to have regular communication with the park managers.

2.1f: Maintain Visitor Information Centre services and Tourist attractions in Cootamundra and Gundagai

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Revisit Arts Centre Masterplan	2.1f (3)	Implement up-to-date fire safety measures and accessibility upgrades at Cootamundra Arts Centre	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Completed	New disabled emergency exit ramp and railings installed. Lane is one way; electricity box has been moved to the external wall of the building. Funding has finished.
Gundagai Visitor Information Centre Upgrade	2.1f (4)	Gundagai Visitor Information Centre upgrades Completed and to include establishment of online sales capability.	Regulatory Officer - Gundagai	In Progress	Project reaching final stages with outstanding works and defects needing to be addressed. Looking at the best way to move forward to completion of this project in a timely manner.
Undertake connection of water supply to the Dog on the Tuckerbox site.	2.1f (5)	Investigate and deliver a potable water supply to the Dog on the Tuckerbox precinct at Annie Pyers Drive (partial funding identified and in Capital Expenditure Program)	Acting Manager Engineering Gundagai	Ongoing	Council has committed, via resolution to provide potable water to the Dog on the Tuckerbox precinct at Annie Pyers Drive within 18 months. Planning is currently underway to ensure that construction takes place within this timeframe.

2.1g: Undertake community consultation and feasibility studies for Rail Trail between Cootamundra and Gundagai

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Undertake feasibility study into the development of a Cootamundra to Gundagai Rail Trail	2.1g (1)	Seek funding to undertake a feasibility study into the development of a Cootamundra-Gundagai Rail Trail	Acting Manager Business	On Hold	Investigations to commence when resources allow. Opportunities for funding will be researched.

2.2: A thriving region that attracts people to live, work and visit

2.2a: Support and facilitate economic development and employment opportunities

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Liveability information available on Council website	2.2a (1)	Update region liability information and upload onto Council website	Acting Manager Business	Ongoing	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council's website updates information regarding liability periodically.
Establish monthly communication to industry outlining opportunities and economic activity of the region	2.2a (3)	Continue monthly communication to business and industry outlining opportunities and economic activity of the region	Acting Manager Business	Ongoing	Relevant updates are emailed and distributed to the business contact list via Tourism and Economic Development Officers. Information relevant to individual operators is forwarded directly to them.

2.2b: Attract new business and employment opportunities to the region, supporting their establishment and retention

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Actively market the region targeting current and new residents	2.2b (2)	Actively market the region as a 'must visit' destination	Acting Manager Business	In Progress	TEDO staff work towards outcomes of CSP and TED Strategy, Websites feature centralised information for residents and visitors encouraging liability, local product and event development. Staff continue development of regional partnership with Destination NSW Riverina Murray.

2.2d: Deliver Youth Strategy actions and promote existing Youth Council Resources including establishing Youth Hub

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Support Youth Council activities in both towns and assist in promotion and advocacy for Youth Council	2.2d (2)	Continue to support Youth Council activities in both towns and assist in promotion and Advocacy for Youth Councils.	Acting Manager Business	In Progress	Youth and Inclusion Officers continues to ensure the positive development of young people in the community; coordinate consultation with young people and stakeholders, planning, developing, managing and evaluating Council's Youth services, programs and facilities to ensure they are high quality, well promoted and meet the needs of young people in our communities.

2.2e: Work with businesses, planners and governments to facilitate key infrastructure projects to support economic growth

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Council Depot Redevelopment	2.2e (2)	Develop strategy and action plan for a single works depot location in Cootamundra to enable pursuit of suitable funding source.	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	Regional Services staff have moved to Bradman Depot as requested. We have no additional funding to operate out of one depot. Depot 2 can't be sold off as it is crown land.

2.2h: Improving Council's focus on the Arts by providing accessible, functional and multi-purpose facilities and spaces suitable for cultural, recreational, learning and information services and activities

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Develop maintenance schedule for key sites, and any new sites that activate	2.2h (2)	Develop a region wide maintenance schedule for Council facilities and assets	Regulatory Officer - Gundagai	Ongoing	This process is ongoing with maintenance continuing in line with adopted service levels.

2.3: A region that can accommodate and support strategic growth

2.3a: Pursue affordable housing opportunities in the region

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Develop planning policies to facilitate options for range of housing	2.3a (2)	Undertake housing investigate and report on housing issues in the region and identify strategies to mitigate	Acting Manager Sustainable Development	On hold (demerge)	Funding not currently available for the subject report. However, awaiting confirmation to use NCIF2 Grant funding to undertake a Cootamundra Housing and Employment Land Strategy, Gundagai Housing & Employment Land Strategy is complete and being exhibited for adoption. Both strategies will inform amendments to LEP's. Upcoming grant opportunity expected in October 2025 to pursue funding for a new DCP for both areas.

2.3b: Provide appropriate land development to meet market demand

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Access and determine planning and development applications to foster community growth	2.3b (2)	Develop Planning Policies to Facilitate options for a range of housing	Acting Manager Sustainable Development	On hold (demerge)	Funding not currently available for the subject policies. However, awaiting confirmation to use NCIF2 Grant funding to undertake a Cootamundra Housing and Employment Land Strategy, Gundagai Housing & Employment Land Strategy is complete and being exhibited for adoption. Both strategies will inform amendments to LEP's. Upcoming grant opportunity expected in October 2025 to pursue funding for a new DCP for both areas.

3: A protected and enhanced environment

3.1: Our natural environment is valued and protected

3.1b: Undertake active weed and pest management

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Deliver increased weeds management program	3.1b (1)	Councils noxious weeds program is to be implemented in accordance with the Riverina Regional Biosecurity (Weeds) Local Land Services and maintain communication with the NSW Local Land Services Department	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	WAP funded projects and reporting, and acquittals have been completed. General weed control is also in progress. We are currently seeking a new bio-security officer.
	3.1b (1)	Councils noxious weeds program is to be implemented in accordance with the Riverina Regional Biosecurity (Weeds) Local Land Services and maintain communication with the NSW Local Land Services Department	Regulatory Officer - Gundagai	Ongoing	The 24-25 Weeds Action Program has been complete with all targets and funding allocations being met and expended. The acquittal was submitted to DPI/LLS on 23rd July 25 with the Declaration of Expenditure received by Council after acceptance of the acquittal. The Declaration of Expenditure is currently going through the process for documents requiring final sign off by the IGM. The 25-26 WAP information and application has not yet been released.

3.1c: Ensuring new developments minimise impacts on water catchments, including downstream and groundwater sources

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Plan, construct, maintain and manage the water infrastructure network	3.1c (1)	Plan, construct, maintain and manage the regions water infrastructure network in accordance with land development, and asset management priorities and availability of funding for Cootamundra Area	Acting Manger Engineering Cootamundra	Ongoing	<p>FY25- 26 Water main replacement program scope of work currently being drafted. Draft plans expected end of Aug 25, Tender open Sept 25, review Oct 25, recommendation submit to November 25 Council meeting.</p> <p>Res 1 & 2 chemical dosing still under design. Requires consultation with Goldenfields Water prior to consulting DPI prior to submitting Section 60 application.</p>
	3.1c (1)	Plan, construct, maintain and manage the regions water infrastructure network in accordance with land development, and asset management priorities and availability of funding for Gundagai Area	Acting Manager Engineering Gundagai	In Progress	Public Works Advisory Have progressed the IWCM project over Q4. They have requested additional information which Council has supplied. Council has also received a 12-month extension to the project.

3.2: We have attractive towns and villages

3.2a: Undertake place making and beautification activities at entrances to towns and villages

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Develop Place Activation Plans for villages to support Villages strategy and encourage activation of villages as opportunity arises	3.2a (2)	Seek funding to develop Place Activation Plans for villages in support of the Villages Strategy	Acting Manager Business	In Progress	Pop-up engagement will continue in Villages to ascertain community sentiment of the Villages strategy and priorities of each community.

3.2c: Regeneration of creeks and waterways including Muttama Creek and Gundagai waterways

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Develop plan for the beautification and preservation of Muttama Creek	3.2c (1)	Seek funding to develop a plan for the beautification and preservation of Muttama Creek	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	In Progress	Physical works have been completed within the allocated budget. The draft masterplan is about to go out for final community consultation.

3.2d: Planning for rural, urban and industrial development is complementary to the region's natural environment and heritage

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Implementation and Development of Flood Studies	3.2d (5)	Develop flood studies for Stockinbingal, Wallendbeen and Muttama Villages	Acting Manager Engineering Cootamundra	Ongoing	Continue to search for grant funding opportunities. non-Suitable in last quarter. Inland Rail flood package still in development

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
	3.2d (5)	Implement Cootamundra Flood Study recommendations	Acting Manager Engineering Cootamundra	In Progress	- Cootamundra Flood warning system review underway - Cootamundra Turf Club Detention Basin and McGowan Street Levee Feasibility study underway. Recent design meetings indicate Turf Club Detention basin will be unfeasible due to downstream fall and required height of levee wall to accommodate required capacity. Additional levee wall possibility identified east side of Aerodrome. Ongoing investigation.

3.3: Responsive and adaptive community to climate change risks and impacts

3.3a: Investigate and implement renewable energy technologies to reduce environmental impact including developing specific controls for solar farms and permissibility of landfills

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Install solar panels and Light-emitting diode (LED) lighting at all Council owned buildings	3.3a (2)	Continue standard fit out of LED lighting at all Council owned buildings at Cootamundra	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Completed	Completed on time and within budget.
	3.3a (2)	Continue standard fit out of LED lighting at all Council owned buildings at Gundagai	Regulatory Officer - Gundagai	Ongoing	Current upgrades to LED lighting in Council buildings are being carried out on an as-needed basis, aligned with available budget allocations.

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Implement funded elements of the Council Waste Strategy	3.3a (3)	Construct Landfill 2nd hand shed that will cater for the recycling and sale of valued waste material which will allow for waste reduction in landfill and generate additional waste income	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Completed	Completed, second hand shop is going well.
	3.3a (3)	Landfill Concrete Shredding to allow for the recycling and reuse of concrete providing additional space and added income to landfill operations	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Completed	We are currently selling the crushed back to the community as well as using it on the internal roads at the tip. We are looking at crushing more concrete in the 25/26 year, with a project 6000 tonne to be coming in from the Hume Highway project. We are looking at possibly crushing this concrete and selling back to the contractor.
Introduction of Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) collection to Cootamundra	3.3a (4)	Introduce Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) collection for Cootamundra, similar to Gundagai	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	We are aware FOGO needs to be introduced by 2030. We will need to apply for a license variance through the EPA to be able to process FOGO at the Cootamundra tip. Grant funding will need to be obtained to purchase new green bin, household bins, community education etc.

3.3b: Investigate and implement sustainable water and waste strategies as outlined in CGRC Local Strategic Planning Statement

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Support the implementation of potable water connections to existing residents in Nangus, and identify other urban release areas which can leverage off the asset	3.3b (1)	Deliver potable water connections to existing resident in Nangus	Acting Manager Engineering Gundagai	In Progress	This project is currently on hold pending the outcome of the village flood study. The Village Flood study will provide critical information into asset location and feasibility of options for this project. Should the project be viable, Council will need to find adequate funding to undertake the works.

3.4: Greater efficiency in the use of resources

3.4a: Improve waste minimisation and recycling practices in homes workplaces, development sites and public places

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Closure of Wallendbeen and Stockinbingal landfills	3.4a (1)	Council monitors full contractor compliance associated with the Recycling Contract and strives to reduce waste going into landfill wherever possible.	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	Ongoing work with Elouera. Elouera and Council have signed a new 5-year extension for their contract to operate the MRF and Stockinbingal and Wallendbeen landfills.
	3.4a (1)	Prepare business case/s for operations of transfer stations within CGRC	Regulatory Officer - Gundagai	Ongoing	This process is ongoing
Undertake promotional campaign to increase community sustainability awareness	3.4a (2)	Ensure domestic waste, organics and recycling collection carried out in a professional and timely manner, ensuring minimal customer dissatisfaction	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	Waste staff continue to perform the waste collection on time, professionally and within budget. We continue with working on educating the residents who put the wrong items in the wrong bins.

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
	3.4a (2)	Ensure domestic waste, organics and recycling collection carried out in a professional and timely manner, ensuring minimal customer dissatisfaction.	Regulatory Officer - Gundagai	Ongoing	Staff carry out waste collection with operational efficiency and community satisfaction, timely collections reduce the time waste remains curb side, enhancing community aesthetics and hygiene.

3.4c: Revise asset management strategy

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Watermain Replacement and Reservoir Disinfection Projects	3.4c (1)	Deliver planned watermain replacement and reservoir disinfection projects	Acting Manager Engineering Gundagai	In Progress	Council staff and contractors are currently progressing works at the Gundagai Water Treatment Plant. The Sand Filter Media works are currently under construction. The design of the intake structure is currently underway. The water mains and sewer line replacement program Contract is currently underway with preliminary onsite works underway.
	3.4c (1)	Deliver planned watermain replacement and reservoir disinfection projects	Acting Manager Engineering Cootamundra	In Progress	FY25- 26 Water main replacement program scope of work currently being drafted. Draft plans expected end of Aug 25, Tender open Sept 25, review Oct 25, recommendation submit to November 25 Council meeting. Res 1 & 2 chemical dosing still under design. Requires consultation with Goldenfields Water prior to consulting DPI prior to submitting Section 60 application.

3.4d: Develop, implement and report on a Regional Sustainability Strategy

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Seek funding to engage a specialist to develop a regional sustainability strategy for Council	3.4d (1)	Seek funding to engage a specialist consultant to develop a Regional Sustainability Strategy for the region	Acting Manager Business	In Progress	Discussions with Planning and Opportunities for Funding being researched.

4: Collaborative and progressive leadership

4.1: A clear strategic direction that is delivered upon

4.1a: Continuous improvement in services delivery based on accountability, transparency and good governance

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Develop and implement service review schedule and determine the number of reviews to conduct per Council term	4.1a (4)	Develop a service review schedule to determine the number of reviews per Council term	Acting Manager Business	In Progress	CGRC have established a service and asset profile for CGRC, to which levels of service, performance and resourcing can be assigned. This register of services will be utilised for each individual Council during the demerge process.

4.1b: Provide the community with responsive customer service

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Provide quality customer service during all "front line" interactions between Council and the community and in all other interactions between staff, agencies, Council and the community	4.1b (1)	Provide quality customer service during all front-line interactions	Acting Manager Business	In Progress	Continual improvement process in place within customer service to ensure quality customer experience is maintained. Revised Customer Service Charter to be reviewed by Council in the August Council Meeting.
Council will track the progress towards the achievement of the corporate plan objectives against measurable outcomes	4.1b (2)	Ensure all Regulatory policies and reporting are managed in a professional and timely manner	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	The relevant staff have been trained to ensure legalities, operational activities, and reporting are in line with legislative requirements. Policies and Procedures are being reviewed and updated for adoption. Staff have identified areas where we lack policies and procedures and are working on developing them to be adopted.

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
	4.1b (2)	Implement tracking and reporting of progress against strategic plans against objectives	Acting Manager Business	Ongoing	Continual improvement solutions implemented periodically to ensure continued quality Customer Service in line with Strategic Plan objectives. Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council reports quarterly on outcomes of the Delivery Program.

4.1c: Maintain a high-quality workforce that is committed to delivering on the community's and Council's vision and goals

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Provide a safe and healthy environment for staff and contractors through compliance with all Work, Health and Safety legislative requirements and minimising risk	4.1c (3)	Provide a safe and healthy environment for staff and contractors through compliance with all WH&S legislative requirements	Acting Manager Engineering Cootamundra	Ongoing	Ongoing Workplace inspections being completed. Resulting action items being addressed. Ongoing Aerodrome inspections 5 per two weeks.
	4.1c (3)	Provide a safe and healthy environment for staff and contractors through compliance with all WH&S legislative requirements	Acting Manager Engineering Gundagai	Ongoing	All Work Health and Safety legislative requirements are being met.
Develop and implement a Staff Wellbeing Program	4.1c (4)	Continue implementation of staff wellbeing program	Coordinator Human Resources	Ongoing	Council has a Health and Wellbeing Procedure in place. The Cross-organisation group are now working to establish a program.

4.1e: Ensure long-term financial sustainability through short, medium and long-term financial planning

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Conduct Long Term Financial Plan review and update	4.1e (1)	Conduct a Long-Term Financial Plan review and update Council's Long-Term Financial Plan accordingly	Acting Manager Finance	Completed	The Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) for 2025 has been completed. Further review and revision may be necessary throughout 2026 due to the demerger to present separate plans for Cootamundra and Gundagai. In addition, the OLG has recommended the inclusion of movements in internal and external restricted cash reserve balances in the LTFP which are yet to be added and are still to be finalised for 2025.

4.2: Proactive, practical Council leaders who are aligned with community needs and values

4.2a: Elected representatives who are trained, skilled, resourced, and knowledgeable

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee updates and compliance completed	4.2a (1)	Implement Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee updates and compliance requirements	Acting Manager Business	In Progress	In accordance with the Local Government (General) Amendment (Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees) Regulation 2023 Council is strengthening its Internal Audit and Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee ('ARIC') Structure to meet the prescribed standards. The regulation is supported by a new Risk Management and Internal Audit Guidelines for Local Government in NSW. CGRC, as part of the Audit Alliance, has engaged an Independent Chair and Independent Members to our ARIC Committees.

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
	4.2a (2)	Develop Councillor Induction and Professional Development Programs as legislatively required	Acting Manager Business	In Progress	Councillors provided with induction training. Further training options will be provided throughout their term.
Support Council's elected representatives in undertaking their role in the community	4.2a (2)	Undertake processes required to facilitate the Local Elections for 2024	Acting Manager Business	Completed	Local Government Elections complete.

4.2b: Implementing, monitoring, review and reporting on Council strategic and operational plan outcomes

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Council will adhere to Integrated Planning and Reporting framework, and continue to provide regular Council reports on progress	4.2b (1)	Regional Services Cootamundra to report to Council monthly and annually on projects, maintenance, community feedback and financial information	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	Monthly reports are being submitted highlighting works completed and progress reporting.

4.2c: Deliver better online solutions to customers who engage with Council

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Migration of Council operating systems to cloud based technology	4.2c (2)	Migrate Council's operating system to cloud based technology	Acting Manager Business	In Progress	Migration to the Cloud of Councils Operating Systems continues. Contract to migrate Civica Authority ERP to their Altitude platform has been signed - Altitude is a SaaS and IaaS product.

4.3: Actively engaged and supportive community

4.3b: Promoting and celebrating achievements of Council and the community

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Develop marketing campaigns for major Council projects to highlight project benefits and outcomes for the community	4.3b (1)	Develop marketing and communication plans for major Council projects to keep community informed, highlight successes and community benefits	Acting Manager Business	Ongoing	Council's Media Office continues to communicate milestones and benefits of major CGRC's project development. TEDO's develop and implement marketing strategies and campaigns to encourage visitation, and relocation to our region.

4.3c: Facilitate more face-to-face community engagement/pop-up activities

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
As the opportunity arises, Council will seek to facilitate face-to-face engagement activities for each of its engagement exercises	4.3c (1)	Facilitate face-to-face community engagement activities, as the opportunity arises for Council projects	Acting Manager Business	In Progress	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council held a community consultation drop-in centre at the Stephen Wards Rooms on Wed 13 August for the consultation of the Cootamundra Flood Warning System. Cootamundra Gundagai Regional Council's Community Engagement Strategy was adopted by Council, including Pop-up activities and face-to-face community engagement. Future Community Engagement will continue to include this element. Regular pop-up consultation is planned for villages and main centres.

4.3d: Develop and implement a Communications Plan for Council

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Develop a communications strategy for CGRC that will guide the Councils communication with the community and other key stakeholders	4.3d (1)	Develop an overarching Council communications strategy to guide Council's communication and engagement with the community	Acting Manager Business	Ongoing	CGRC Communications Strategy is still current and implemented. New and improved strategies are incorporated as appropriate.
	4.3d (1)	Develop an overarching Council communications strategy to guide Council's communication and engagement with the community	Acting Manager Business	Ongoing	CGRC Communications Strategy is still current and implemented. New and improved strategies are incorporated as appropriate.

4.3e: Facilitate community consultation in line with Community Engagement Charter

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Ensure community consultation activities are designed to adhere to the Community Engagement Charter, and community engagement best practice (IAP2)	4.3e (1)	Design community consultation activities in-line with the Community Engagement Charter and community engagement best practice (IAP2)	Acting Manager Business	Ongoing	Council focuses on transparent, authentic communication delivery to our residents and visitors via platforms detailed in our Communications and Engagement Strategy.

4.3f: Active and robust Section 355 Working Committees

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Continue to support Section 355 Committees and encourage the development of Services and facilities in our communities	4.3f (1)	Support Section 355 Committees to deliver their services to communities	Acting Manager Business	In Progress	S.355 Guidelines updated to incorporate roles, financial responsibilities, and governance. Communication will continue with s.355 groups to implement changes.

4.4: Recognised as a premier local government Council that represents and advocates for community needs

4.4a: Maintaining a strong and robust financial position that supports the delivery of services and strategies ensuring long-term financial stability

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Council will ensure statutory compliance is achieved and demonstrate good governance practices	4.4a (2)	Continue to progress with Demerge proposal as per the Detailed Implementation Plan adopted by Council	General Manager	Ongoing	The NSW Minister for Local Government has announced that the demerger is to proceed. Council is to establish a project plan for this to occur along with a Transition Committee. Formal advice from the OLG is yet to be received about the process.
Develop Asset Management plans which deliver Long Term financial sustainability and asset renewal	4.4a (4)	After demerge decision is finalised, develop Long-Term Asset Management Plans to deliver Long-Term Financial Sustainability and asset renewal	Regulatory Officer - Gundagai	Ongoing	This process is ongoing

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
	4.4a (4)	After demerge decision is finalised, develop Long-Term Asset Management Plans to deliver Long-Term Financial Sustainability and asset renewal	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	On hold (demerger)	Working with Thomas Hogg and consultants with Asset Management Plan. .
	4.4a (4)	After demerge decision is finalised, develop Long-Term Asset Management Plans to deliver Long-Term Financial Sustainability and asset renewal	Acting Manager Engineering Gundagai	In Progress	Council has adopted an Asset Management Policy. In Q3, Council has prepared a draft Asset Management Strategy, Asset Management Plans for each asset class and an Asset Management Maturity Assessment. These documents will provide guidance on how best to deliver long term financial sustainability. These documents are expected to be adopted in Q1 2025-2026.
	4.4a (4)	After demerge decision is finalised, develop Long-Term Asset Management Plans to deliver Long-Term Financial Sustainability and asset renewal	Acting Manager Engineering Cootamundra	In Progress	Draft AMPs under review and finalisation. Planned for presentation to Councillors at October Council Workshop

4.4b : By meeting all legislative requirements and operating within good governance practices and frameworks

Principal Activity	Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
Implement Council's Governance and Risk Management Framework and Action Plan	4.4b (1)	Implement Council's Governance and Risk Management Framework and Action Plan	Acting Manager Business	In Progress	As a member of the Audit Alliance, Council participated in an audit of our Enterprise Risk Management Framework. Recommendations of the Audit are being implemented including updates to CGRC documents and implementation of ERM Action Plan. Council has also participated in ERM Audit Program with our insurers and is implementing recommendations from this Audit. Council is currently implementing ERM Module through Pulse.
Implementation of Council's Corporate Business Continuity Plan including coordination of the IT Disaster Recovery Plan and Divisional Sub Plans	4.4b (2)	Continue Developing and maintain risk management and business continuity plans	Acting Manager Business	In Progress	Contractor 'Marsh' has been engaged to develop CGRC Business Continuity Plan and is in the final stages of development. SideEffekt continues to maintain and enhance ICT Continuity Plan, Tests and Reports.
Delivery of the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework	4.4b (3)	Start preparations for the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework required for 2025	Acting Manager Business	Completed	Documents were amended and placed on Public Exhibition after the May Council Meeting. Submissions received during public exhibition were acknowledged, and the documents were adopted in the June Council Meeting with some amendments.

5: Integrated and Accessible Region

5.1: Known for our good road network

5.1a: Revising the asset management plan

5.1a (1): Align Council's Assets and Civil Works Departments works programs

Action Code	Principal Activity	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
5.1a (1)	Align Council's Assets and Civil Works Departments works programs	Align Council's Assets and Civil Works Departments works programs	Acting Manager Engineering Gundagai	In Progress	Council has received final draft asset management documentation. This is currently in its final stages of internal review before being adopted and implemented.
5.1a (1)		Assist with the development and updating of Councils Asset Management Plan	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Ongoing	Working with Thomas Hogg and consultants on the AMP.
5.1a (1)		Assist with the development and updating of Council's Asset Management Plan	Regulatory Officer - Gundagai	Ongoing	Regional Services Gundagai continues to collaborate and support asset management planning.
5.1a (1)		Assist with the development and updating of Council's Asset Management Plan	Acting Manager Engineering Cootamundra	In Progress	Draft AMPs under review and finalisation. Planned for presentation to Councillors at October Council Workshop

5.1b: Prioritising access road maintenance and future development to provide safe and efficient road and pathway network

5.1b (2): Deliver annual resealing program

Action Code	Principal Activity	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
5.1b (2)	Deliver annual resealing program	Deliver the annual road resealing program as budgeted.	Acting Manager Engineering Cootamundra	Completed	Reseals have been completed on the following roads: Stockinbingal Rd Kill Rush Road O'Donnell St Poole St Scott Ave Stratton Ave Sutton St Ellwood St
5.1b (2)		Deliver the annual road resealing program as budgeted.	Acting Manager Engineering Gundagai	Completed	During the reporting period, Council has completed the annual road reseal program.

5.2: Easily accessible from major cities and other regional towns

5.2a: Feasibility study/ masterplan for development of Cootamundra airport into a true regional airport facilitating visitors, business, health services, and managing emergencies

5.2a (1): Develop feasibility study/ masterplan for Cootamundra Aerodrome, with consideration to revenue generating opportunities, and long-term commercial activities

Action Code	Principal Activity	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
5.2a (1)	Develop feasibility study/ masterplan for Cootamundra Aerodrome, with consideration to revenue generating opportunities, and long-term commercial activities	Seek funding to develop a feasibility study and masterplan for the Cootamundra Aerodrome with consideration to revenue generating opportunities and long-term commercial activities	Acting Manager Engineering Cootamundra	Ongoing	Potential opportunities to fund from internal development fund from Section 7.12 contributions. To be determined.

5.2b: Improve road conditions across the region, and advocate to improve access to regional cities and connection out of the region

5.2b (1): Continue implementing the fixing local roads program

Action Code	Principal Activity	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
5.2b (1)	Continue implementing the fixing local roads program	Continue to implement the approved and funded Fixing Local Roads Program	Acting Manager Engineering Cootamundra	Completed	Approved Fixing Local Roads (FLR) Program works have been completed. Round 4, currently completed, appears to be final round of the FLR program, unless further funding announcements are made.

Action Code	Principal Activity	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
5.2b (1)		Continue to implement the approved and funded Fixing Local Roads Program	Acting Manager Engineering Gundagai	Ongoing	Heavy patching has been ongoing throughout Q4. Council has also progressed works on First Ave and at the West St and Hanley Street Intersection. West and Hanley Intersection works are substantially complete, with First Ave works ongoing.

5.2b (2): Seek funding for upgrades to Stockinbingal and Muttama Roads

Action Code	Principal Activity	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
5.2b (2)	Seek funding for upgrades to Stockinbingal and Muttama Roads	Seek funding to deliver upgrades to Stockinbingal and Muttama Roads	Acting Manager Engineering Gundagai	Ongoing	Council continues to advocate for funding, including funds from the Block Grant.

5.2b (4): Seek funding to build a bridge over low level causeway at Muttama

Action Code	Principal Activity	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
5.2b (4)	Seek funding to build a bridge over low level causeway at Muttama	Seek funding to build a bridge over the low-level causeway at Muttama	Acting Manager Engineering Gundagai	Ongoing	Advocacy still continues to seek funding for this project.

5.2c: Establish linked network of pedestrian footpaths and cycle paths through continued extension and upgrade of pedestrian and cycle paths

5.2c (2): Develop cycleway and pedestrian access plan for the region

Action Code	Principal Activity	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
5.2c (2)	Develop cycleway and pedestrian access plan for the region	Following completion of Pedestrian and Mobility Plans (PAMP) seek funding to develop cycleway and pedestrian access plan for the region.	Acting Manager Engineering Cootamundra	Ongoing	PAMPs under review, to be included in next months Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee for comment on Draft PAMP. Then out to public exhibition October.
5.2c (2)		Following completion of Pedestrian and Mobility Plans (PAMP) seek funding to develop cycleway and pedestrian access plan for the region.	Acting Manager Engineering Gundagai	On Hold	PAMP has been completed and two funding applications were submitted in Q2. The outcome of these funding applications was unsuccessful. As Council identifies new funding opportunities, Council will ensure that grants are applied for which are relevant to developing a cycleway and pedestrian access plan for the region.

5.2c (3): Deliver footpath extensions and safe footpath / disabled access

Action Code	Principal Activity	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
5.2c (3)	Deliver footpath extensions and safe footpath / disabled access	Undertake the footpath asset renewal and extension program as per Asset Condition Report and Pedestrian and Mobility Plans (PAMP's) program	Acting Manager Engineering Cootamundra	Completed	COMPLETED
5.2c (3)		Undertake the footpath asset renewal and extension program as per Asset Condition Report and Pedestrian and Mobility Plans (PAMP's) program	Acting Manager Engineering Gundagai	Ongoing	Council continues to advocate for additional funding, both at the State and Federal level, i.e. Get Active NSW program. Council submitted two applications through the Get Active NSW program in Q2. Council was not successful in grant applications for Get Active NSW grant funding.

5.2d: Seek funding to enable electric charging infrastructure

5.2d (1): Investigate funding opportunities for installation of electric car charging facilities

Action Code	Principal Activity	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
5.2d (1)	Investigate funding opportunities for installation of electric car charging facilities	Council to apply for grant funding to install 6 (six) x 7kw electronic vehicle charging stations to be installed behind the Library in Cootamundra	Manager Regional Services - Cootamundra	Completed	Completed, no issues or defects identified so far.

5.3: Secure Cootamundra as an Inland Port location serving to transfer rail freight between the Inland Rail and Sydney-Melbourne line

5.3b: Identify, coordinate and prioritise the delivery of local road projects that help support the regional freight network

5.3b (1): Continue to seek funding from the Roads to Recover and Fixing Local Roads grants for ongoing road projects

Action Code	Principal Activity	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
5.3b (1)	Continue to seek funding from the Roads to Recover and Fixing Local Roads grants for ongoing road projects	Allocate funds to the Roads to Recovery annually for ongoing road maintenance and infrastructure projects as per condition report	Acting Manager Engineering Gundagai	Ongoing	Council has selected projects for the 2025/26 financial year in line with the grant funding guidelines. A program of works has been prepared to complete the scoped works over the next 12 months.
5.3b (1)		Allocate funds to the Roads to Recovery annually for ongoing road maintenance and infrastructure projects as per condition report	Acting Manager Engineering Cootamundra	Completed	COMPLETED

5.4: Functional communications technologies to improve services and facilities across the region

5.4a: Develop a digital services strategy

5.4a (1): Review existing digital platforms and consider cost effective solutions within existing budget to provide improved functionality and usability for our community in a digital services strategy

Action Code	Principal Activity	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Status	Comments
5.4a (1)	Review existing digital platforms and consider cost effective solutions within existing budget to provide improved functionality and usability for our community in a digital services strategy	Seek funding to develop a digital services strategy for council including a review of digital platforms and investigation of cost effective solutions	Acting Manager Business	Ongoing	Funding being sought. Digital Services Strategy will be developed once funding is secured.

COUNCIL CONTACT DETAILS

For a copy of this report or information concerning documents referred to herein please contact

COOTAMUNDRA-GUNDAGAI REGIONAL COUNCIL

Open: 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday

Postal Address: PO Box 420 Cootamundra NSW 2590

Email: mail@cgrc.nsw.gov.au

Website: www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au

Cootamundra Office

Address: 81 Wallendoon Street, Cootamundra, NSW 2590

Phone: 1300 459 689



Gundagai Office

Address: 255 Sheridan Street, Gundagai NSW 2722

Phone: 1300 459 689

