



Annual
Report
2022/23



BLAND SHIRE COUNCIL
west wyalong

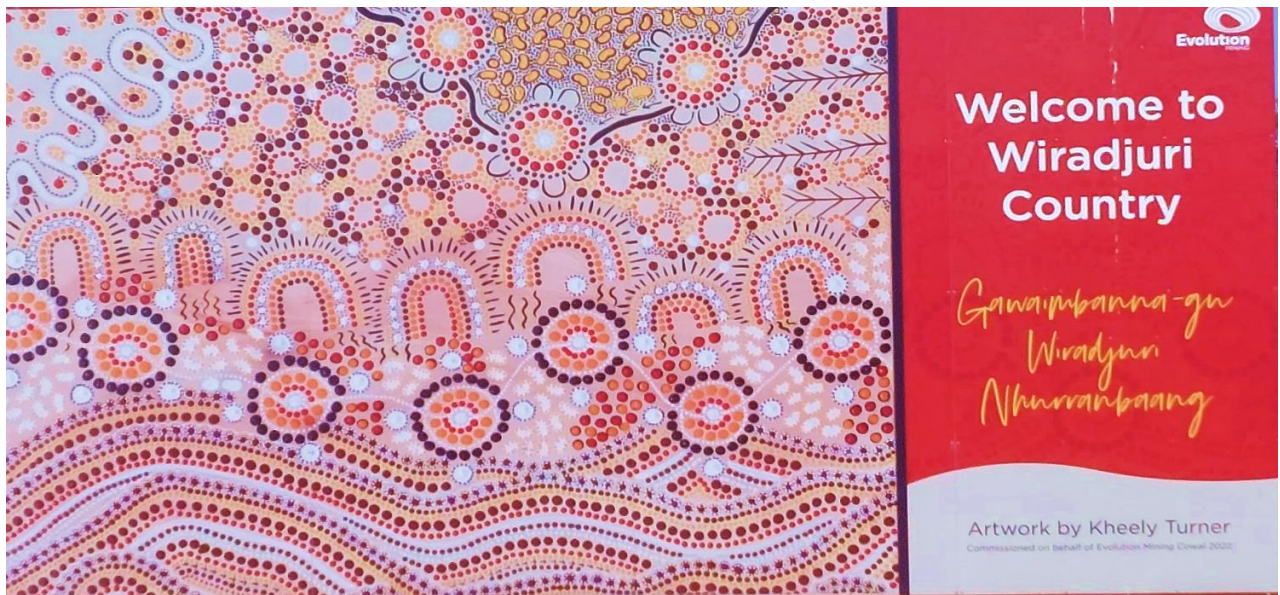
Contents

Acknowledgement Of Country	3
Message from the Mayor and General Manager	5
Our Council.....	8
About our Shire.....	10
Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework (IP&R)	11
Disability Inclusion Action Plan	13
Appendices.....	14
Councillors Details Of Mayoral and Councillor Fees, Expenses and Facilities..	15
Our Workforce	18
Executive Remuneration.....	18
Activities undertaken to implement council's EEO Management Plan	19
Human Resources Activities	20
Major Works Undertaken	22
Contracts Awarded	22
Rates & Charges Written Off.....	23
Legal Proceedings.....	23
External Bodies, Companies and Partnerships	24
Private Works	26
Report on Capital Works Projects	28
Stormwater Management.....	30
Companion Animals Management	31
Planning Agreements.....	33
Government Information (Public Access) Act (GIPA)	34
Public Interest Disclosure Act 1994 and Public Interests	42
Disclosures Regulations 2011.....	42
Swimming Pool Inspections	43
Recovery and Threat Abatement Plans	43
Coastal Protection Services	43
Carers Recognition Act 2010	44
Business Activities	45



Acknowledgement Of Country

Let us acknowledge the Wiradjuri people, their elders past and present, traditional custodians of the land we now share. Let us be inspired by the resilience, innovation and perseverance of past generations. Let us honour those who protect this great land, may you draw strength from your God or Faith so that we may, here today, on behalf of our community, - build a vibrant future together.



What is the Annual Report

The annual report is one of the key points of accountability between council and its community. It is not a report to the Office of Local Government or the NSW Government, it is a report to the community.

The annual report focuses on council's implementation of the Delivery Program and Operational Plan. These plans provide detail on council's responsibility and the accomplishments achieve towards the objectives of the Community Strategic Plan (CSP). The CSP is a collaborative plan with many contributors and is designed to meet the needs of the community.

The report also includes information that is prescribed by the Local Government Act 1993, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, and other legislation.

Our Vision, Mission and Values



Message from the Mayor and General Manager

It is with pleasure we present to you the 2022/23 Bland Shire Council Annual Report.

As a council and community, we have continued to face significant challenges throughout 2022/23. Most notably being the extended wet period throughout the second half of 2022. Thankfully not the devastation that our neighbours experienced, but the rain impacted our road network, our community and our ability to deliver projects. This coupled with the retirement of two of our senior staff has resulted in challenging times.

We are extremely proud, as always, of our staff, who have remained resilient in the face of change and continued to be dedicated to delivering positive outcomes for our community.

Our elected body has continued to develop its skills through training to ensure it is well informed to achieve community outcomes and meet the challenges of the future.

We are proud that our workforce and elected body is dedicated to self-improvement and the acquisition of additional skills and knowledge so it can provide the most efficient and cost-effective delivery of services across a very wide and diverse range of activities, in the ever changing environment of Local Government.

We encourage you to read about the progress Council is making toward delivering services whilst ensuring financial sustainability. The 2022/23 Annual Report demonstrates how much has been achieved by Council during this difficult period.

Some key highlights for the organisation in 2022/23 are:

- Housing Strategy for Wyalong/ West Wyalong
- Flood Study for Wyalong/ West Wyalong
- Ungarie Recreation Ground Amenities
- Lake Road Safety Improvements
- Aleena Road Reconstruction
- McCann Park Playground
- White Tank Mural

Further Australian and NSW Government funding has enabled us to continue to develop a list of projects that support our future strategic objectives and address existing renewal/ refurbishment needs of our assets. From roads to playgrounds and other community facilities.

As we have delivered projects, we have had to remain mindful of the financial pressures imposed upon councils, with costs increasing at a greater rate than generated income. Council continues to meet these challenges by being pragmatic, resourceful and using its initiative.

Our largest individual employer, Evolution Mining continues to play a key role in our economy generating direct income for Bland Shire through rates and contributions. We have also seen their significant investment in the underground development, the workers village and generous funding to community groups and other activities, all of which drive economic activity across the Shire and broader region.

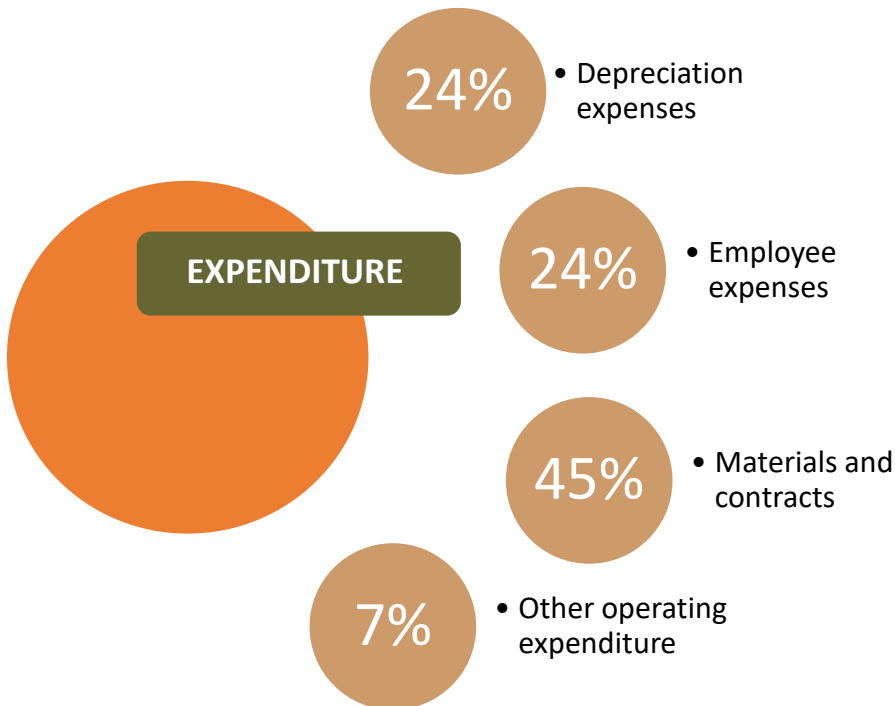
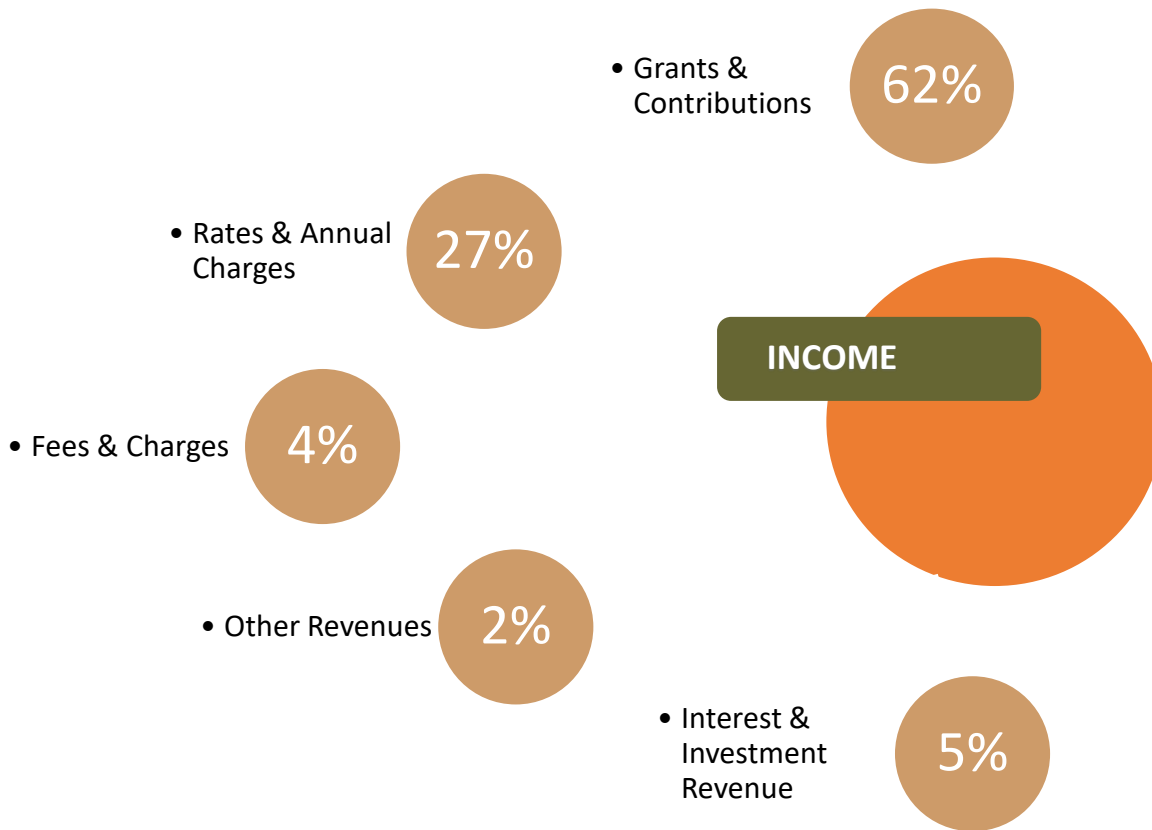


Brian Monaghan
Mayor



Grant Baker
General Manager

2022/23 Financial Snapshot



Our Council

Our Elected Members

The Council is a body of nine members who are ordinarily elected for a four-year term to carry out duties under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 and Regulations. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor are elected every second year at the September Council meeting. This council term commenced in December 2021 and the next General Local Government election will be held in September 2024.



Cr Brian Monaghan
Elected:
15 September 2012



Cr Bruce Baker
Elected:
20 September 2016



Cr Rodney Crowe
Elected:
20 September 2016



Cr Monica Clark
Elected:
21 December 2021



Cr Kerry Keatley
Elected:
16 March 2011



Cr Liz McGlynn
Elected:
5 April 2004



Cr Tony Lord
Elected:
5 April 2004



Cr Jill Funnell
Elected:
21 December 2021



Cr Roger Moore
Elected:
21 December 2021

Executive Leadership Team

Bland Shire Council consists of two (2) Directorates and the Office of the General Manager, all of which are responsible for the implementation of the Delivery Program and Operational Plan:



GRANT BAKER

GENERAL MANAGER

Executive Support
Human Resource Management
Media & Communications
Website
Training & Development
Economic Development
Tourism & Visitor Information



ALISON BALIND

DIRECTOR CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Administration and Customer Service
Community Services – Aged Care, Children and Library
Community Development & Youth Services
Corporate Records & Information Management
Financial Services – Rates, Payroll Accounts, Budgets
Governance & Internal Audit
Long Term Financial Planning
Information Technology
Museums
Risk Management & Insurance



RAY GRAHAM

DIRECTOR TECHNICAL SERVICES

Asset Management
Roads – Maintenance & Construction
Aerodrome Operation & Maintenance
Cemetery Services & Maintenance
Public Recreation Areas
Swimming Pools
Footpaths & Cycleways
Sewerage Services
Waste Management
Council Property Management
Emergency Service Liaison
Town Planning & Strategic Planning
Heritage Management
Public Health & Regulatory Control
Companion Animals
Weeds Management



About our Shire

Originally proclaimed on the 6 March 1906, the Bland Shire has developed into a vibrant and progressive community located on the northern fringes of the Riverina region.

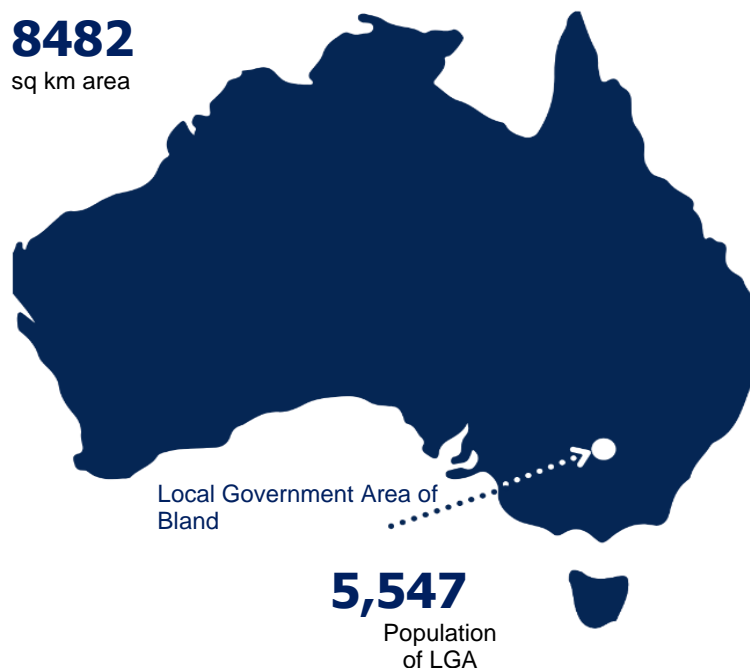
The Shire's major centre of West Wyalong is centrally located on the junction of the Newell and Mid Western Highways and within a 160 kilometre radius of Wagga Wagga, Griffith, Forbes, Parkes and Cowra and within 300 kilometres of Canberra – providing an authentic rural lifestyle with the conveniences of the city well within reach.

The Shire offers outstanding parks, gardens, sporting and community facilities, great schools, key medical and business facilities and boasts an outstanding community spirit.

The Bland Shire's history is deeply engrained in agriculture and gold production which continues through to today; recognised as one of the most productive agricultural areas in the state with cereals and sheep being the major producers. The Cowal Gold Mine commenced construction in 2004 with gold production in 2006 and is expected to continue production for many years in the future.

The Shire is also home to Eucalyptus oil production, which commenced in 1907 and has resulted in the West Wyalong region being one of the major world exporters of Eucalyptus oil in Australia. In 2006, Pace Farm completed construction of a new rearing, laying and grading facility, one of the most sophisticated egg operations in the southern hemisphere.

The villages located within the Bland Shire include Barmedman, Tallimba, Ungarie, Weethalle, Wyalong, Naradhan and Mirrool. All have unique qualities and an abundance of community pride that is harnessed and fostered to give each village their own character and prosperity. The community is proud of the facilities and services across the shire, but our greatest asset is our people where new residents are embraced and valued.



Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework (IP&R)

The Integrated Planning and Reporting framework provides the path for Council and the community to have important discussions about funding priorities and service levels, how these shape local identity and how all can work together to create a more sustainable future.

The IP&R has been updated to reflect the 2016 amendment to the Local Government Act. The Resourcing Strategy has been moved closer to emphasise the important role that resource planning must play in delivering the council's strategic objectives.

While there is a direct link from the Community Strategic Plan to the Delivery Program and Operational Plan, this must be informed and supported by the financial, asset and workforce planning undertaken by Council as part of the Resourcing Strategy.

Any community endorsed changes to council's strategic direction and priorities should be reflected in resource planning and allocation.

Community engagement has been expanded to encompass the entire IP&R process. This reflects new requirements, extending the Community Engagement Strategy to all aspects of council engagement, not just the Community Strategic Plan.

Additional requirements under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* to prepare a Community Participation Plan can also be incorporated into a council's wider Community Engagement Strategy. The main components of the framework are summarised below:

Community Strategic Plan

The highest level of strategic planning undertaken. This is prepared by Council for the Community with a ten-year plus timeframe. All other Council plans must support achievement of Council's responsibilities within the Community Strategic Plan objectives.

Resourcing Strategy

Shows how Council will resource its strategic priorities, identified in the Community Strategic Plan. The Resourcing Strategy includes three inter-related elements:

- Long-Term Financial Planning
- Workforce Management Planning
- Asset Management Planning.

Delivery Program

The elected Council's commitment to the community as to what will be delivered during its term in office to achieve the Community Strategic Plan objectives.

Operational Plan

Shows the individual projects and activities Council will undertake in a specific year. It includes Council's annual budget and Statement of Revenue Policy.

Annual Report

Updates our community on council's progress towards achieving these priorities, as well, as the strategies and actions that were developed to achieve the outcomes identified in the Community Strategic Plan.

When Bland Shire Council developed the ten-year Community Strategic Plan in 2017, the themes identified were:

Our People – A strong, healthy, connected and inclusive community

Our Places – Maintain & improve the Shire’s assets & infrastructure

Our Leadership – A well run Council acting as the voice of the community

Our Prosperity – Growing our population and jobs.



Disability Inclusion Action Plan

(Disability Inclusion Act 2014 s13(1))

Bland Shire Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2017-2021 outlines Council's actions for a four year period to make the Bland Shire more inclusive of people with a disability. The plan formed part of other major reforms within the disability sector, to encourage positive change to the lives of people with disability and supports the full participation of all community members in all aspects of the community.

Council has already implemented a range of programs and strategies to remove access barriers and increase participation of people with disability in our community. This Plan built on our previous work and sought to strengthen the capacity of all Bland Shire residents. As an all-encompassing planning tool, the Plan had four major focus areas:

1. Positive attitudes and behaviour;
2. Liveable communities;
3. Employment; and
4. Systems and Processes

Adopting a broad focus across all of these areas provided avenues for Bland Shire to continually strive for improvement to ensure our community is inclusive and offers opportunities for the full participation of all community members. Engaging the community is vital to the Plan's success and community members and other local stakeholders are urged to support its implementation. An inclusive Bland Shire will benefit everyone and strengthen our community.

Some of the achievements within the past year with the Disability Inclusion Plan are:

- Festival of Seniors and Services Expo
- Continued provision of Access Incentive Grant Scheme
- Disability Access Map availability
- Information dissemination via regular Service Provider Interagency meetings.
- Promotion of mental health awareness and support services.



Appendices

The Local Government Act 1993 and the associated Regulations prescribes the information to be included in the Annual Report.

The following appendices have been included to meet these criteria:
Bland Shire Council Combined Delivery Program & Operations Plan Progress Report
Bland Shire Council Audited Financial Reports

Appendix 1

Bland Shire Council 2022/23 Combined Delivery Program & Operational Plan Progress Report is a 4-year report that forms an important part of our planning process to ensure Council continues to deliver the services that meet the needs of our communities.

Appendix 2

Council's audited 2022/23 Financial Statements and Special Schedules are attached as Appendix 2.

The report and attached statements are produced in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the requirements of the NSW Office of the Local Government (OLG). The Financial Statements are presented in the same format across NSW as required by the OLG, are independently audited, reported to Council, placed on public exhibition and lodged with the OLG each year.

The Bland Shire Council Financial Statements, provided at the end of this Annual Report, include:

- Income Statement
- Statement of Comprehensive Income
- Statement of Financial Position
- Statement of Changes in Equity; and,
- Statement of Cash flows.

Councillors Details Of Mayoral and Councillor Fees, Expenses and Facilities

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

Details of Overseas Visits by, Council Staff or Representatives

(LG Regulation cl 217 (1)(a))

There were no council related overseas visits by, Council staff or representatives during this reporting period.

Training of Councillors and provision of skill development

(LG Regulation cl 217 (1)(a1) and cl 186)

Expenses incurred during 2022/23 in the training of Councillors and provision of skill development were \$17,042.

The list below details the training and/or workshops attended by Bland Shire during 2022/23

Program/ Course	Councillor
Communication Council Information	Cr Clark Cr Funnell Cr Lord Cr Moore
Managing Media for Councillors	Cr Funnell Cr Moore
Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Training	Cr Lord
Understanding Local Government Finances for Councillors	Cr Baker Cr Clark Cr Crowe Cr Funnell Cr Lord Cr McGlynn Cr Moore
Planning for Councillors	Cr Baker Cr Clark Cr Crowe Cr Funnell Cr Keatley Cr Lord Cr McGlynn Cr Moore

Attendance of Councillors at conferences and seminars

(LG Regulation cl 217 (1)(a1))

Costs associated with attendance at approved conferences and seminars are fully reimbursed. Costs of attending other conferences and meetings of other organisations in accordance with a resolution of the council are also reimbursed. Costs for 2022/23 were \$3,037.

Interstate visits by Councillors, including transport, accommodation and other out of pocket travelling expenses

(LG Regulation cl 217 (1)(a1))

There were no council related interstate visits during this reporting period.

Total amount of money expended during that year on the provision of Councillor facilities and the payment of councillor expenses

(LG Regulation cl 217 (1)(a1))

The total amount expended on payment of expenses and provision of facilities during the year was \$202,595.

The following Mayoral and Fees were paid during the year:-

- i) Mayoral Fees \$ 29,855
- ii) Fees/Allowances \$123,150

Council reimburses all reasonable travelling expenses incurred in attending meetings of Council or its Committees and in attending to Council business inside and outside the area (with Council's prior approval). The total costs associated with Councillor travel was \$5,027 and meeting expenses were \$19,852.

Council Meetings

(LG Regulation cl 217 (1)(a1))

Ordinary Council meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, except January, commencing at 6.30pm. These meetings must be conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act, Regulations and Council's Code of Meeting Practice. A decision supported by a majority of the votes at a Council meeting at which a quorum is present is a decision of the Council.

Audio recordings of each meeting and the minutes are available from Council's website.

The attendance of Councillors at council meetings is recorded below:

Council Meetings 2022/23	July 2022	August 2022	September 2022	October 2022	November 2022	December 2022	February 2023	March 2023	April 2023	May 2023	June 2023
Cr Bruce Baker	✓	✓		✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Monica Clark	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Cr Rodney Crowe		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Jill Funnell	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Kerry Keatley	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Cr Tony Lord	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Liz McGlynn	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Brian Monaghan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Cr Roger Moore	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

✓ In Attendance x Leave of Absence

Council Workshops

Council Workshops are held on the 1st Tuesday of each month, except January. These workshops are an informal information sharing session to support and discuss the development of agenda items and / or issues. They are not decision making forums and are not open to the public.

Council Workshops 2022/23	5 July 2022	2 August 2022	6 September 2022	4 October 2022	1 November 2022	29 November 2022	7 February 2023	7 March 2023	4 April 2023	2 May 2023	6 June 2023
Cr Bruce Baker	✓	✓	X	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Monica Clark	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Rodney Crowe	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Jill Funnell	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	✓
Cr Kerry Keatley	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Tony Lord	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓
Cr Liz McGlynn	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cr Brian Monaghan	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X	X	X	X	X
Cr Roger Moore	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

✓ In Attendance x Apology

Expenses of any spouse, partner or other person who accompanied a councillor in the performance of civic functions, being expenses payable in accordance with the guidelines for the payment of expenses and the provision of facilities for Mayors and Councillors.

(LG Regulation cl 217 (1)(a1))

There were no council related expenses incurred during this reporting period.

Expenses involved in the provision of care for a child or an immediate family member of a councillor

(LG Regulation cl 217 (1)(a1))

There were no council related expenses incurred during this reporting period.

Provision of dedicated office equipment allocated to Councillors

(LG Regulation cl 217 (1)(a1))

IT costs for Councillors for 2022/23 totalled \$4,419.

Telephone calls made by Councillors

(LG Regulation cl 217 (1)(a1))

The Mayor is provided with a mobile phone and call costs were \$213.

Our Workforce

Executive Remuneration

(LG Regulation cl 217(1)(b) & (c))

Council's organisation structure provides for the employment of the General Manager; Director Corporate & Community Services and Director Technical Services as senior staff positions.

The incumbents are employed under Office of Local Government standard contracts of employment.

Executive remuneration packages are on a total employment cost basis and inclusive of a Council owned vehicle, superannuation and salary.

Total Remuneration Package – General Manager	
Component	Total Value
Total value of the salary component of the package	\$232,489
Total amount of any bonus, performance or other payments that do not form part of the salary component	0
Total amount payable by way of the employer's contribution or salary sacrifice to any superannuation scheme to which the general manager may be a contributor	\$24,993
Total value of any non-cash benefits for which the general manager may elect under the package	\$18,000
Total amount payable by way of fringe benefits tax for any such non-cash benefits	0
Total Remuneration Package	\$275,482

Total Remuneration Package – Senior Staff (Directors)	
Component	Total Value
Total value of the salary component of their packages	\$378,132
Total amount of any bonus, performance or other payments that do not form part of the salary components of their packages	0
Total amount payable by the council by way of the employer's contribution or salary sacrifice to any superannuation scheme to which any of them may be a contributor	\$40,649
Total value of any non-cash benefits for which any of them may elect under the package	\$36,000
Total amount payable by way of fringe benefits tax for any such non-cash benefits	\$41,661
Total Remuneration Packages	\$496,442

Activities undertaken to implement council's EEO Management Plan

(LG Regulation cl 217(1)(a9))

EEO Management Plan Implementation

Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) focuses on recognising and valuing diversity within the workplace. This means having workplace policies, practices and behaviours 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. It has 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.

Commitment to Equal Employment Opportunity

Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) is the grouping of principles which Council adheres to ensuring that all employees and potential employees are treated fairly and equitably in all aspects of their employment and through-out their employment cycle. All staff are obliged to follow non-discriminatory practices in the workplace, and Council, as the responsible employer, is legally accountable for discrimination in employment matters.

Workplace development training focuses on raising staff awareness and understanding, of the importance of EEO within the workplace. Council's commitment to EEO is demonstrated through the implementation of new practices including:

- Facilitating audience responsive communication
- Delivering staff training programs and
- Identifying responsive needs-based recruitment and engagement opportunities.

Human Resources Activities

Human Resource Management Activities

The Human Resources team participated in a wide range of activities to support the recruitment and onboarding of new staff. As part of this process the team worked to identify current skills gaps, future staffing and skill requirements and to provide opportunities for cross and upskilling of current staff to ensure the continued high standard of service delivery to clients, community and other stakeholders. In addressing future staffing needs, recruitment strategies were implemented to attract candidates for positions which are generally hard to fill. The team continued to provide advice and support to Council management and staff on all Human Resources issues.

Traineeships/Apprenticeships and other Workplace Experiences

Bland Shire Council participates in work experience programs with the local high school. The Work Experience Program provides opportunities for students to gain valuable insight into the dynamics of Local Government as well as develop the necessary skills to become effective workplace team members. Bland Shire Council provides cadet opportunities in Engineering which couples workplace experience with University study. Traineeships in Childrens Services and Civil Construction provided excellent opportunities for workplace skill development and future pathway programs.

During the 2023 financial year we had 3 trainees, 1 apprentice and 1 cadet.

Staff Training and Development

At Bland Shire Council our staff are valued as our most important asset, and we strive towards continuous improvement through the delivery of training opportunities.

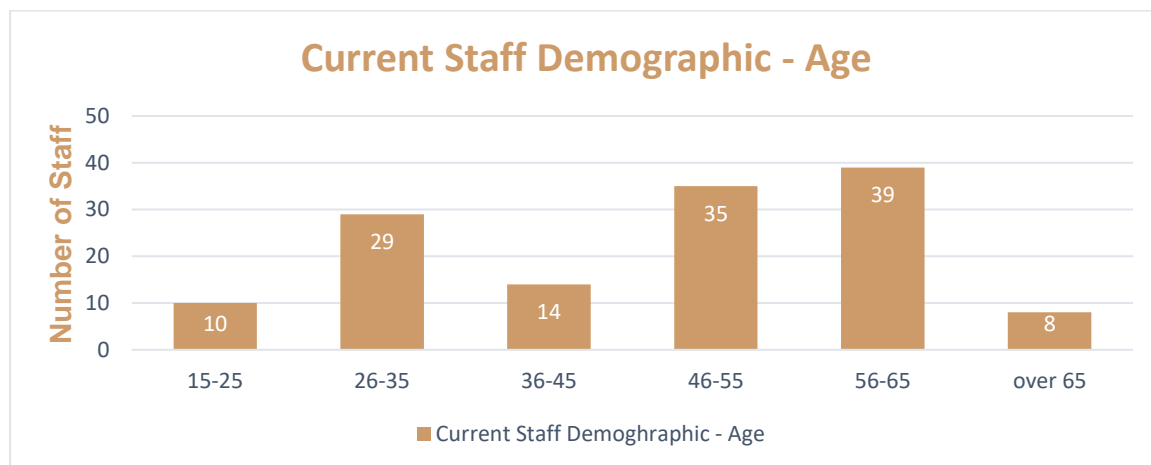
Staff training and development is a pivotal element in the process of ensuring staff level sustainability, staff succession planning and staff competency to deliver service to clients, community and other stakeholders.

In 2022/23 Council provided opportunities for workplace development and compliance training. Highlights of training delivered included:

Workplace Development Training	Compliance Training
Procurement And Contracting In Local Government	SafeWork NSW Traffic Control
Return To Work Training	Test and Tag
Cyber Security Training	Aerodrome Reporting Officer Training
Equal Employment Opportunity Awareness	Mental Health First Aid
Code Of Conduct	Fire Safety Officers Training
Cultural Awareness	Safe Chemical Handling
Integrated Planning	Child Protection

Council Staff Succession Planning

Council is working towards implementing strategies to address effective staff succession planning. The current aging workforce has intergenerational local and operational knowledge that is too valuable to lose thus processes are being implemented to ensure that this knowledge is being captured through staff transitioning.



Statement of total number of persons who performed paid work

(LG Regulation cl 217(1)(d))

Statement of total number of persons who performed paid work on Wednesday, 25 May 2022 were 139

Total number of:	Number
Persons employed by the council on a permanent full-time, permanent part-time or casual basis or under a fixed-term contract.	127
Persons employed by the council as senior staff members	3
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	0
Persons supplied to the council, under a contract or other arrangement with the person's employer, as an apprentice or trainee	9
TOTAL	139

Statement detailing the action taken by the council in relation to any issue 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

(LG Act Sec 428(4)(c))

There were no issues raised during the reporting period.

Statement of steps taken to ensure that goods and services procured by and for the council during the year were not the product of modern slavery within the meaning of the Modern Slavery Act 2018

(LG Act Sec 428(4)(c))

Goods and services are acquired in accordance with Council's procurement policy and procedures and sourced from reputable providers.

Major Works Undertaken

- Improvements to McCann Park Playground
- Alleena Road Sealing
- South Yalgogrin Road – Resheeting
- Heavy Patching Program – Lake Road
- Ungarie Bridge upgrade
- Completion of Kikoira Road Construction
- RSL Memorial Walk – Stage 1 completed
- Mural on White Tank Wall in Main Street West Wyalong completed

Contracts Awarded

(LG Regulation cl 217(1)(a2))

Details of each contract awarded for amounts greater than \$150,000.

Contractors Name	Nature of Goods or Services Supplied	Total Amount Payable
Armstrong Toyota	Supply of plant	\$165,529
Ausroad Manufacturing	Jetpatching	\$531,004
Brendan Heaslip Concreting	Concreting Services	\$165,264
Downer EDI Works Pty Ltd	Roadworks	\$185,243
ICG Construction Group	Building Works	\$581,230
O'Connors	Supply of plant	\$415,800
Rocla Pty Limited	Culvert supply	\$222,971
Rods Earthmoving & Excavation Pty Ltd	Earthworks & Cemetery works	\$173,219
Stabilised Pavements of Australia	Roadworks	\$457,841
West Wyalong Machinery Centre	Supply of plant	\$243,037
Western Kerbing & Civil Pty Ltd	Concreting Services	\$188,428

Rates & Charges Written Off

(LG Regulation cl 132)

Rates and charges of \$158,586 were written off during 2022/23 in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993. Rates and charges written off during 2022/23 include:

Rates & Annual Charges	\$
Rates	12,024
Sewer	321
Domestic Waste Management Charges	2,615
Trade Waste Charges	0
Pensioner Rebates	143,626
TOTAL	158,586

Legal Proceedings

(LG Regulation cl 217 (1)(a3))

For the year 2022/23 council incurred \$28,441 in legal expenses for proceedings taken by or against council. A summary of the legal proceedings includes:

Legal Matter	Costs incurred	Status
Riverina Regional Library Arbitration	Nil to date – costs to be determined upon finalisation	Ongoing
Debt Recovery	\$17,419	Ongoing
Planning Matters	\$7,942	Finalised
Other Matters	\$3,080	Finalised
TOTAL	\$28,441	

External Bodies, Companies and Partnerships

(LG Regulation cl 217(1)(a6))

Rates and charges of \$158,586 were written off during 2022/23 in accordance with the External bodies that exercised functions delegated by Council

The Council delegated functions to the following bodies:

- **Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC)** - The development of resource sharing initiatives between member councils and other adjoining councils.
- **Riverina Regional Library** – Cooperation between libraries in the Riverina Region to provide enhanced library services including the Shires of Bland, Coolamon, Cootamundra-Gundagai, Federation, Greater Hume, Junee, Leeton, Lockhart, Snowy Valleys and Temora Council.

Council jointly participates in the:

- Road Safety Officer Project administered by REROC with Temora, Junee and Coolamon Councils – with support from Transport for NSW.
- Internal Audit Services – administered by Bland Shire with Coolamon, Cootamundra-Gundagai, Junee, Lockhart and Temora Shire Councils.
- Mine Access Road Partnership – Lachlan, Forbes and Bland Shire Council and Evolution Gold Mine
- Funded Bland Shire services for Bland Shire Children Services, Bland Community Care and Bland Community Development

Corporations, Partnerships, Trusts, Joint Ventures, Syndicates or Other Bodies (whether or not incorporated) in which Council participated

(LG Regulation cl 217(1)(a8))

Council was involved in the following organisations: -

Name	Purpose
Murrumbidgee Local Land Services	Promotion of a common approach by Councils in the area to the control of Land Management.
Eastern Riverina Arts Program	To promote and encourage culture and the arts in the Eastern Riverina area.
Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC)	A Regional Organisation of Councils in the eastern part of the Riverina region formed to explore opportunities for resource sharing and engage in strategic alliances; to identify regional solutions for local problems and to lobby other levels of government and to promote the common interests of the area.
Family Day Care	In partnership with Temora Shire Council to provide Family Day Care services to the Temora Shire.
NSW Food Authority	To conduct food shop compliance inspections
Riverina Joint Organisation (RIVJO)	To help drive better planning, economic development and service delivery in regional NSW.

Road Safety Officer	Promotion of common road safety messages and campaigns in partnership with Temora, Coolamon and Junee Shire Councils as well as the Transport for NSW.
Riverina Regional Library	Cooperation between libraries in the Riverina Region to provide enhanced library services including the Shires of Bland, Coolamon, Cootamundra-Gundagai, Federation, Greater Hume, Junee, Leeton, Lockhart, Snowy Valley and Temora Council.
West Wyalong Local Aboriginal Land Council	To promote a professional working relationship between council and the local indigenous groups and individuals.
Murrumbidgee Local Health District	To promote the availability of various allied health services within the Bland Shire in partnership with a locally established 'Community Health Committee'.
Riverina Tourism	Promotion of Tourism to councils in The Riverina area which include the Shires of Bland, Carrathool, Coolamon, Cootamundra-Gundagai, Hay, Leeton Lockhart, Murrumbidgee, Narrandera, Snowy Valley and Temora Council.

Corporations, Partnerships, Trusts, Joint Ventures, Syndicates or Other Bodies (whether or not incorporated) in which the Council held a controlling interest (LG Regulation cl 217(1)(a7))

The Council did not hold a controlling interest (whether alone or in conjunction with other councils) in any company during the year.

Council periodically invites representatives of key stakeholder organisations to address Council and the community to provide information and operational updates during Council meetings. There was one (1) presentation during the 2022/23 year.

Council Meeting	Organisation
November 2022	Financial Statements and Audit Presentation – Brad Bohun

Section 355 Committees of Management

The Council has delegated functions to the following bodies operating as Council Committees of Management as defined under S.355:

- Barmedman Community Committee
- Ungarie Showground & Recreation Committee
- Ungarie Advancement Group
- Ungarie Retirement Village
- Weethalle Community Committee
- Wyalong School of Arts & Hall Committee
- Mirrool Silo Kick Challenge Committee

Annual assistance provided to Council Committees of Management as defined under S.355 during the 2022/23 year was \$0.

Section 356 Contributions and Grants to Financially Assist Others
(LG Regulation cl 217(1)(a5))

Contributions, Grants and Donations		
Beneficiary	Purpose	Amount
Poised	Access Incentive Scheme Grant	\$5,000
West Wyalong Campdraft	Strengthening Communities	\$3,636
WW Community Church	Strengthening Communities	\$3,045
WW Rose Garden	Contribution	\$1,704
WW Hospital Auxiliary	Strengthening Communities	\$500
Western Region Academy of Sport	Strengthening Communities	\$368
WW Horse Sports & Rodeo Assoc	Strengthening Communities	\$2,000
West Wyalong Rugby League	Strengthening Communities	\$2,000
West Wyalong Town Band	Strengthening Communities	\$2,000
Tallimba Hall Committee	Strengthening Communities	\$1,500
Weethalle Country Club Ltd	Strengthening Communities	\$3,636
Weethalle Memorial Hall	Contribution	\$200
Western Wheelers	Strengthening Communities	\$2,000
TOTAL		\$27,589

Private Works

(LG Regulation cl 217(1)(a4))

There were no resolutions made under section 67 concerning work carried out on private land during 2022/23.

During the year Council undertook works on private land but no subsidies were provided. The Council's policy in relation to these works is to charge plant at rates based on a commercial return (including operator) and capital invested. Additional labour is charged at cost plus 60% for overheads.

Summary or details of work	Cost	Total amount by which Council has subsidised any such work
Various private works	\$49,067	Nil

Private Works Breakdown - 2022/23

Details Of Work	Cost
Remove Trees	\$318
Plant Hire	\$41,681
Signage	\$2,882
Emoleum	\$3,273
Roadworks	\$913
TOTAL	\$49,067

Report on Capital Works Projects

Capital Works			
Project	Status	2022/23 Expenditure	Total Cost
Ron Crowe Oval Upgrade	Completed	\$394	\$277,402
WW Road Rehab	Completed	\$175,756	\$422,487
Ungarie School Bridge Rehab	Completed	\$137,806	\$372,243
Ungarie Showground Amenities Block	Completed	\$598,811	\$600,578
WW Connected Walking Trails	Completed	\$341,063	\$498,053
Cooinda Water Canoe Circuit	Completed	\$95,662	\$266,756
WW Harness Club Refurb	Completed	\$122,735	\$286,444
Regional Airports Program Rnd2	In Progress	\$158,299	\$882,236
BMX Adventure Park	In Progress	\$4,051	\$4,051
Bus Shelter Upgrade	Completed	\$6,344	\$26,441
Airside Drag Competition Equipment	Completed	\$97,914	\$97,914
WW Recreation Ground Upgrade	In Progress	\$39,757	\$144,876
WW Aerodrome Upgrade	In Progress	\$187,714	\$493,116
Bridge/Culvert Work	In Progress	\$315,563	\$608,285
New Hangar (Transformer)	In Progress	\$0	\$387,416
Pool Slide Splash Pool	In Progress	\$7,560	\$7,560
Sewer Treatment Upgrade	In Progress	\$337,964	\$337,964
Youth Space	In Progress	\$92,867	\$92,867
Main Street Mural	Completed	\$69,511	\$69,511
New Pound	On Hold	\$7,736	\$7,736
Natural Heritage Reserve	In Progress	\$15,686	\$15,686
Water Reservoir Truckwash	In Progress	\$13,932	\$18,955
McCann Park Playground	In Progress	\$350,803	\$350,803
Saloon Car Drag Strip	In Progress	\$120	\$120
Weethalle Showground Crownlands Grant	In Progress	\$1,912	\$14,848

WW Road Rehab	In Progress	\$740,966	\$850,029
FLR Kikoira Rd	Completed	\$72,487	\$231,245
FLR South Yalgogrin Rd	Completed	\$490,595	\$634,860
Regional & local roads Repair Program	In Progress	\$518,266	\$518,266
Capital Road Works	In Progress	\$294,767	\$294,767

Stormwater Management

(LG Regulation cl 217(1)(e))

Council's stormwater infrastructure comprises an extensive network of:

- More than 19.5kms of open channels, drains and waterways. These are located and routed through the urban environment
- Piped drainage and pits that flow into open channels
- Devices to improve water quality such as retarding and detention basins and wetlands

Maintenance works undertaken on the stormwater system this year included quarterly inspections and maintenance of the system on an as needs basis. Capital Renewal is completed as per council's asset management system and depends on funds available.

The following works were undertaken this year on Council's stormwater system during the 2022/23 financial year:

- Ongoing maintenance of the stormwater network
- Cleaning out of earth channels
- Slashing and mowing of the banks
- Improvements to harvesting and reuse operations.
- Works to better manage stormwater.
- Completion of the Wyalong/ West Wyalong Flood Study

Following the multiple storm/flood events of recent years, Council officers have implemented additional maintenance programs for the stormwater network, including a program for assessing and cleaning of road culverts and open drains.

Companion Animals Management

(LG Regulation cl 217(1)(f))

Lodgement of pound data collection returns with the Office of Local Government

Information on the pound activities is maintained by Council's Rangers. This information is collated each month and entered into the Survey of Council Seizures of Cats and Dogs on the NSW Pet Registry website.

Strategies council has in place to promote and assist the desexing of dogs and cats

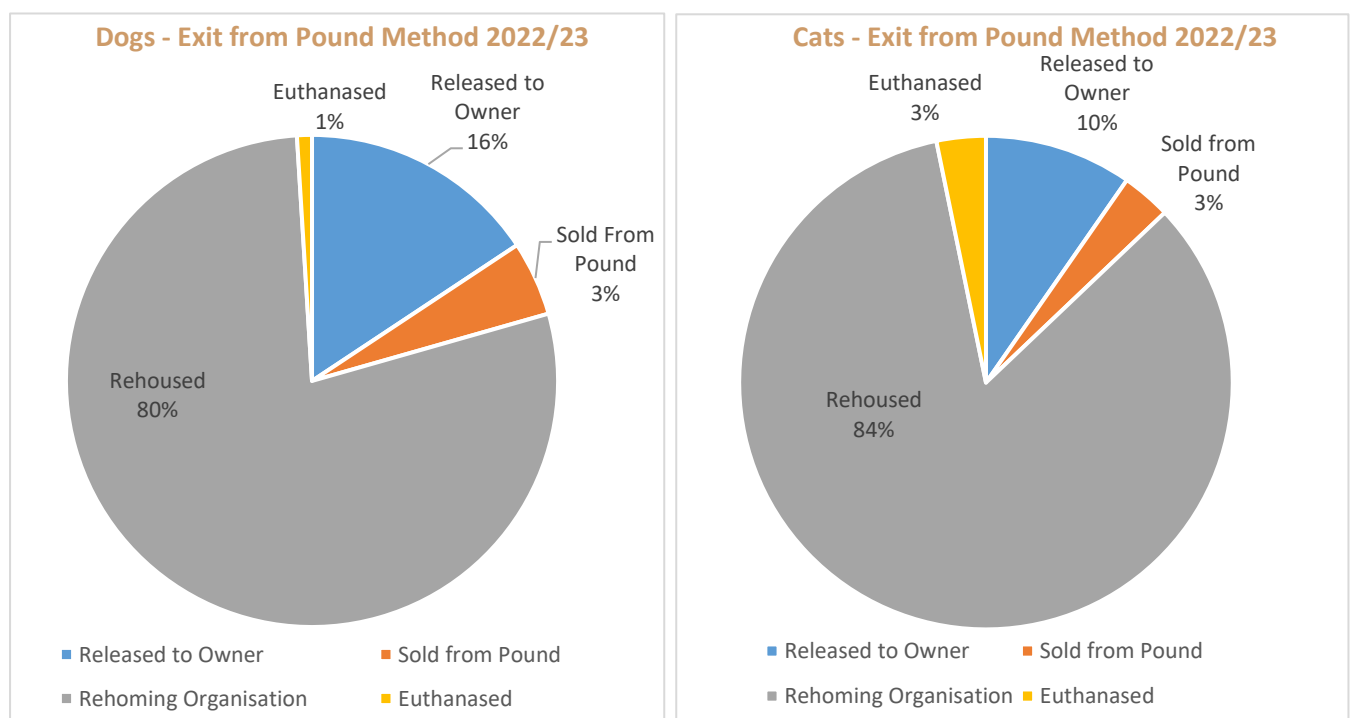
Council encourages all animals that are leaving the pound to be desexed prior to their release. All animals sold from the pound are desexed which is included in the sale price of the animal.

Strategies in place to comply with the requirement under section 64 (Companion Animals Act) to seek alternatives to euthanasia for unclaimed animals

All animals that are not claimed by the owner are assessed for suitability for rehoming. Ninety-nine percent of the dogs impounded during 2022-23 were released to a rehoming organisation or sold from the impounding facility.

There was one (1) dog euthanased during the reporting period. Ninety-seven percent of cats that were held at Council's facility were sold or released to a rehoming organisation. There were two (2) cats euthanased during the reporting period.

All animals that are not claimed by the owner are assessed for rehoming. Ninety-nine percent of dogs were impounded during 2022/23.



Lodgement of data relating to dog attacks with the Office of Local Government

Dog attacks are entered on the NSW Pet Registry within 72 hours of the attack being reported to Council. During the reporting period five (5) attacks were investigated by Council's Rangers.

Amount of funding spent relating to companion animal management and activities

The amount of funding spent in relation to companion animal management was approximately \$138,788 which includes employee costs, veterinary support and pound maintenance, as detailed below.

Expenditure	
Employee Costs	\$109,373
Veterinary Support	\$5,276
Impounding Expenses	\$8,272
Pound Maintenance	\$511
Depreciation	\$6,333
Dog Registrations	\$8,325
Overheads	\$N/A
Telephone Costs	\$530
PIN Processing Fees	\$168
Other Infrastructure	\$N/A
Total Expenses	\$138,788

Companion animal community education programs

Council provides information on its website in relation to responsible pet ownership. This information is updated on a regular basis.

Detailed information of fund money used for managing and controlling companion animals.

Income	
Enforcement Activities	\$226
Dog Impounding Fees	\$168
Animal Registrations	\$8,446
Sales	\$9,018
Total Income	\$17,858

Off leash areas provided in the council area

Mirri Ngurang Park located within the Cooinda Reserve provides agility equipment as well as open space for residents and visitors to utilise as an off leash area

Planning Agreements

(Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979, s 7.5(5))

Regional Hardrock (West Wyalong) Pty Ltd	Voluntary Planning Agreement - Development Application Number DA2020/0004	Commencement Date – 21 October 2020	Annual monetary contributions of \$7,000 paid to Council
Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Ltd	Planning Agreement - Cowal Gold Operations Underground Development (Development Application No. SSD 10367)	Commencement Date – 21 February 2022	Council has a VPA with Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Ltd relating to SSD 10367 to the value of \$60,000 + CPI for road maintenance on Ungarie Road, Wamboyne Road, Blow Clear Road and Bonehams Lane plus community enhancement contributions of \$200,000 + CPI
Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Ltd	Agreement - Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Ltd – Road Maintenance Agreement	Commencement Date – 2013	Council also has an agreement with Evolution Mining (Cowal) Pty Ltd for Road Maintenance Activities executed in 2013 to the value of \$150,000 per year across the shires of Forbes, Lachlan and Bland

Report on additional information in relation to section 7.11 contributions and section 7.12 levies

The payment of contributions and levies paid to Council during the 2022/23 year was \$3,388.

Report on special variation expenditure if required to do so by the instrument made by the Minister

There was no variation during this period.

Particulars of any environmental upgrade agreement entered into by the council

There were no environmental upgrade agreements entered into during this period.

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

There has been no use or expenditure of development contributions and levies.

Details for projects for which contributions or levies have been used

There has been no project contributions or levies used for this financial year.

Contribution or levy	Total value received during the year	Total value expended during the year
Voluntary Planning Agreements	\$274,000	0
Section 7.11	\$48,000	0
Section 68	\$10,000	0
Total	\$332,000	0

Government Information (Public Access) Act (GIPA)

Obligations under s.125 of the GIPA Act

1. Review of proactive release program - Clause 8(a)
Clause 8A: Details of the review carried out by the agency under section 7 (3) of the Act during the reporting year and the details of any information made publicly available by the agency as a result of the review

Reviews carried out by the agency
Yes

Information made publicly available by the agency
Yes

A systematic program is undertaken annually to review documents listed in Council's Information Guide. The review seeks to identify corporate information not contained in the Information Guide that could be proactively made available to the public without imposing unreasonable additional cost to Council.

Under Section 6 of the GIPA Act, Council must make its 'open access information' publicly available unless there is an overriding public interest against disclosure of the information. Open access information is required to be published on Council's website unless to do so would impose an unreasonable additional cost on Council (in these instances, Council's website explains where that information can be obtained – generally by contacting Council's Customer Service Centre or by contacting Council's Public Officer as stated).

Open access information is defined in Section 18 of the GIPA Act and includes:
Council's policy documents;

- An Information Guide which contains information about Council's structure and functions, and lists the type of information that is publicly available;
- A disclosure log of formal access applications which includes release of information that Council believes may be of interest to other members of the public;
- A register of contracts worth more than \$150,000 which Council has with private sector bodies;
- A record of open access information that Council has not made publicly available on the basis that there is an overriding public interest against disclosure;
- Such other information that may be prescribed by the GIPA Regulation as open access information.

Council encourages applications for information not available on its website to be made under the informal request provisions of the GIPA Act to ensure the information requested is clearly identified and reduce the possibility of delays.

During the reporting period, Council continued to proactively release information, in addition to the statutory release of open access information.

Documents held by Bland Shire Council

The following list of general documents held by Council has been divided into four sections as outlined by Schedule 5 of the Government Information (Public Access) Act:

- Information about Council.
- Plans and Policies;
- Information about Development Applications;
- Approvals, Orders and other Documents

Schedule 5 of the Government Information (Public Access) Act requires that these documents held by Council are to be made publicly available for inspection, free of charge. The public is entitled to inspect these documents either on Council's website (unless there is an unreasonable additional cost to Council to place these documents on the website) or at the offices of the Council during ordinary office hours or at any other place as determined by the Council. Any current and previous documents of this type may be inspected by the public free of charge.

Copies can be supplied for reasonable copying charges, in accordance with Council's adopted Revenue Policy.

These documents are:

Information about Council

- Council's adopted Code of Conduct
- Code of Meeting Practice
- Annual Report
- Annual Financial Reports
- Auditor's Report
- Management Plan
- EEO Management Plan
- Policy concerning the payment of Expenses incurred by, and the Provision of facilities to,
- Annual Reports of Bodies Exercising functions delegated by Council
- Any Codes referred to in the LGA
- Returns of the Interests of , designated persons and delegates
- Agendas and Business Papers for any meeting of Council or any Committee of Council
- Minutes of any meeting of Council or any Committee of Council
- Departmental Representative Reports presented at a meeting of Council
- Land Register
- Register of Investments
- Register of Delegations
- Register of Graffiti removal Works
- Register of current Declarations of Disclosures of Political donations
- Register of Voting on Planning Matters
- Plans and Policies
- Local Policies adopted by Council concerning approvals and orders
- Plans of Management for Community Land
- Environmental Planning Instruments, Development Control Plans and Contribution Plans

Information about Development Applications

Development Applications and any associated documents received in relation to a proposed development:

- Home Warranty Insurance documents
- Construction Certificates
- Occupation Certificates
- Structural Certification Documents
- Town Planner Reports
- Submissions received on Development Applications
- Heritage Consultant Reports
- Tree Inspections Consultant Reports
- Acoustic Consultant Reports
- Land contamination Consultant Reports
- Records of decisions on Development Applications including decisions on appeals
- Records describing general nature of documents that council decides to exclude from public view including internal specifications and configurations and commercially sensitive information.
- Approvals, Orders and Other Documents
- Applications for approvals under part 7 of the LGA
- Applications for approvals under any other Act and any associated documents received
- Records of approval granted or refused, any variation from Council Policies and reasons for the variation, and decisions made on appeals concerning approvals
- Orders given under Part 2 of Chapter 7 of the LGA, and any reasons given under Section 136 of the LGA
- Orders given under the Authority of any other Act
- Records of Building Certificates under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979
- Plans of land proposed to be compulsorily acquired by Council
- Compulsory Acquisition Notices
- Leases and Licenses for use of Public Land classified as Community Land

Number of formal access applications received

Clause 8A: Details of the review carried out by the agency under section 7 (3) of the Act during the reporting year and the details of any information made publicly available by the agency as a result of the review.

Reviews carried out by the agency	Information made publicly available by the agency
Yes	Yes

Clause 8B: The total number of access applications received by the agency during the reporting year (including withdrawn applications but not including invalid applications)

Total number of applications received
0

Number of refused formal applications for Schedule 1 information - Clause 7(c)

Clause 8C: The total number of access applications received by the agency during the reporting year that the agency refused either wholly or partly, because the application was for the disclosure of information referred to in Schedule 1 to the Act (information for which there is conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure)

Number of Applications Refused	Wholly	Partly	Total
	0	0	0
% of Total	0%	0%	

Statistical information about access applications - Clause 7(d) and Schedule 2

Table A: Number of applications by type of applicant 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	Total	% of Total
Media	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Private sector business	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Not for profit organisations or community groups	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Members of the public (by legal representative)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Members of the public (others)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
% of Total	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%		

* More than one decision can be made in respect of a particular access application. If so, a recording must be made in relation to each such decision. This also applies to Table B.

Table B: 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	Total	% of Total
Personal Information applications*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Access applications (other than personal information applications)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Access applications that are partly personal information applications and partly other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
% of Total	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%		

* A personal information application is an access application for personal information (as defined in clause 4 of Schedule 4 to the Act) about the applicant (the applicant being an individual).

Table C: Invalid applications

Reason for invalidity	No of applications	% of Total
Application does not comply with formal requirements (section 41 of the Act)	0	0%
Application is for excluded information of the agency (section 43 of the Act)	0	0%
Application contravenes restraint order (section 110 of the Act)	0	0%
Total number of invalid applications received	0	0%
Invalid applications that subsequently became valid applications	0	0%
Total	0	0%

Table D: Conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure: matters listed in Schedule 1 of the Act

	No of times consideration used*	% of Total
Overriding secrecy laws	0	0%
Cabinet information	0	0%
Executive Council information	0	0%
Contempt	0	0%
Legal professional privilege	0	0%
Excluded information	0	0%
Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety	0	0%
Transport safety	0	0%
Adoption	0	0%
Care and protection of children	0	0%
Ministerial code of conduct	0	0%
Aboriginal and environmental heritage	0	0%
Privilege generally - Sch 1(5A)	0	0%
Information provided to High Risk Offenders Assessment Committee	0	0%
Total	0	

*More than one public interest consideration may apply in relation to a particular access application and, if so, each such consideration is to be recorded (but only once per application). This also applies in relation to Table E.

Table E: Other public interest considerations against disclosure: matters listed in table to section 14 of the Act

	Number of occasions when application not successful	% of Total
Responsible and effective government	0	0%
Law enforcement and security	0	0%
Individual rights, judicial processes and natural justice	0	0%
Business interests of agencies and other persons	0	0%
Environment, culture, economy and general matters	0	0%
Secrecy provisions	0	0%
Exempt documents under interstate Freedom of Information legislation	0	0%
Total	0	

Table F: Timeliness

	Number of applications	% of Total
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	0	0%
Decided after 35 days (by agreement with applicant)	0	0%
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	0	0%
Total	0	

Table G: Number of applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act (by type of review and outcome)

	Decision varied	Decision upheld	Total	% of Total
Internal review	0	0	0	0%
Review by Information Commissioner*	0	0	0	0%
Internal review following recommendation under section 93 of Act	0	0	0	0%
Review by ADT	0	0	0	0%
Total	0	0	0	

*The Information Commissioner does not have the authority to vary decisions but can make recommendation to the original decision-maker. The data in this case indicates that a recommendation to vary or uphold the original decision has been made.

Table H: Applications for review under Part 5 of the Act (by type of applicant)

	Number of applications for review	% of Total
Applications by access applicants	0	0%
Applications by persons to whom information the subject of access application relates (see section 54 of the Act)	0	0%
Total	0	

Table I: Applications transferred to other agencies

	Number of applications for review	% of Total
Agency-Initiated Transfers	0	0%
Applicant – Initiated Transfers	0	0%
Total	0	

Public Interest Disclosure Act 1994 and Public Interests Disclosures Regulations 2011

Public authorities are required to report annually to Parliament on their obligations under the [Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994](#) (section 31). The annual report must be prepared within four months after the end of each reporting year and submitted to the Minister responsible for the public authority. It must be tabled in each House of Parliament by the Minister as soon as practical after it is prepared, unless it is included in an annual report prepared for the purposes of the [Annual Reports \(Departments\) Act 1985](#) or the [Annual Reports \(Statutory Bodies\) Act 1984](#).

1. Statistical information on PIDs

Information on PIDs	June 2022 – June 2023
Number of public officials who made PIDs	Nil
Number of PIDs received	Nil
Of PIDs received, number primarily about:	
Corrupt conduct	N/A
Maladministration	N/A
Serious and substantial waste	N/A
Government information contravention	N/A
Local government pecuniary interest contravention	N/A
Number of PIDs finalised	Nil

Note: The number of PIDs finalised only refers to PIDs that have been received since June

2. Commentary on PID obligations

- 2.1. Council has adopted an Internal Reporting Policy based primarily on the guidelines issued by the NSW Ombudsman.
- 2.2. Council's General Manager has raised the existence of the Policy through a number of staff meetings as well as through the Staff Consultative Committee.

Swimming Pool Inspections

Details of inspections of private swimming pools.

- inspections of tourist and visitor accommodation
- of premises with more than 2 dwellings
- that resulted in issuance of a certificate of compliance under S.22D of the Act
- that resulted in issuance of a certificate of non-compliance under S18BA of the regulation.

	Number of Swimming Pools	Certificate of Registrations	Current Certificates of Compliance	Inspections Carried Out 2022/23 FY	Certificates of Compliance Issued	Certificates of Non-Compliance Issued
Tourist & Visitor Accommodation	10	10	2	2	2	0
Premises with more than 2 Dwellings	0	-	-	-	-	-

	Applications Received	Certificate of Registrations	Inspections Carried Out	Re-Inspection Carried Out	Certificates of Compliance Issued	Certificates of Non-Compliance Issued
Certificate of Compliance Applications Received by Council 2022/23	8	8	8	8	8	1

Recovery and Threat Abatement Plans

Bland Shire Council has not been identified in plans as being responsible for implementation of measures included in plans under the Fisheries Management Act.

Coastal Protection Services

There are no Coastal Protection Services provided by Council

Carers Recognition Act 2010

The Carers Recognition Act 2010 aims to increase recognition and awareness of the role carers' play in providing daily care and support to people with a disability, medical condition, mental illness or who are frail aged. The act recognises and promotes the role of carers.

Our Home and Community Care (HACC) employees/carers support seniors to go about their day to day activities to live independently in their own home.

Bland Community Care Centre prides itself on the care and support that we offer to the elderly community of West Wyalong and surrounds. We offer in-home support, such as domestic assistance, shopping, personal care, yard maintenance, flexible respite, social support groups and providing equipment such as alarms, shower chairs and other mobility aids. Our aim is for our clients to be able to stay living in their home comfortably, with the supports that they need.

It is important for our clients to maintain a social life and to not feel isolated, we seek to achieve this by running weekly groups in our office space. This includes:- Bland Blokes group which allows our group of local men to come in and have a cup of tea or coffee and talk about anything that interests them. Wednesday Activity Day (WAD), clients do some trivia, play games, have a home cooked lunch including dessert and play bingo. We provide transport for WAD to those who attend from Ungarie, Wyalong and West Wyalong. We also walk over to the village to collect clients who live there, many of whom attended prior to moving there. Thursday's, we run two gentle exercise groups. Our clients do some gentle exercises, go for a small walk around the yard if they feel like it and then have a cup of tea or coffee and a chat for the remainder of the hour.

We also take groups on small excursions instead of the usual group activities. This has included the West Wyalong show.

Our Centre has also had some staffing challenges over the 2022/23 year.

Council has met its obligations under the Carers Recognition Act 2010 as outlined by the Australian Government. The obligations being:

- Having an understanding of the Statements for Australian Carers
- Raising awareness among employees and contractors on the purpose of the Act
- Ensure staff and contractors have an understanding of the obligations associated with the Act
- Consider the needs of carers

Business Activities

Category 1 & 2 Business Activities

A Category 1 business is one that “must be capable of being separately identified within the operations of Council and have its accounting and other operations structure in such way as to provide a distinct reporting framework for its operations to Council.”

A Category 2 business is a business with an annual gross operating income of less than \$2m.

Council’s business activities as reported within the Annual Financial Statements include Council’s Sewerage Business Activity (Category 2).

Summary of Progress of the Council in implementing the principles of Competitive Neutrality

- a) Category 2 Business Activities have been identified: Sewerage Business Activity
- b) All income and expenditure has been reported for the Business Activity and the Special Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with:
 - The NSW Government Policy Statement “Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government”
 - The Division of Local Government Guidelines “Pricing and Costing for Council Business – A Guide to Competitive Neutrality”
 - Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting
 - The NSW Office of Water (Department of Environment, Climate Change & Water) Guidelines “Best Practice Management of Water and Sewerage”

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**Bland Shire Council
Annual Report 2022/23**