



**MINUTES COMMUNITY SERVICES AND PLANNING  
COMMITTEE**

**GWYDIR SHIRE COUNCIL**

**THURSDAY 14 OCTOBER 2021**

**COMMENCING AT 9.30 AM**

**ROXY CONFERENCE ROOM**

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**Present:**

**Members:** Cr. John Coulton (Mayor), Cr. Catherine Egan (Deputy Mayor), Cr Marilyn Dixon OAM, Cr. Jim Moore, Cr. Geoff Smith, Cr. David Coulton, Cr Stuart Dick Cr Tiffany Galvin, Cr Frances Young and Mrs Leah Daley

**Staff:** Max Eastcott (General Manager), Helen Thomas (Manager, Finance), and Alex Eddy (Manager, Engineering Services)

**Public:** Nil

**Visitor:** Nil

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Chairman .....

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**OFFICIAL OPENING AND WELCOME – MAYOR**

**APOLOGIES All Present**

**Cr Galvin advised the meeting that she will be an apology for both the October and November Ordinary Council Meetings.**

**CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES**

**THAT the Minutes of the previous Community Services and Planning Committee Meeting held on Thursday 12 August 2021 as circulated be taken as read and CONFIRMED.**

**(Moved Cr Galvin, seconded Cr Egan)**

**PRESENTATION Nil**

**CALL FOR THE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST Nil**

**ADDITIONAL/LATE ITEMS**

**THAT the following item, namely:**

- 1. Additional Executive Services (Community Assets September) Report**

**is accepted as a late item onto this Agenda for discussion.**

**(Moved Cr Galvin, seconded Cr Egan)**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

**THAT the Council resolve into Confidential Session, Committee of the Whole and that in the public interest and in accordance with Section 10A(2)(a) of the Local Government Act, 1993, the public and press be excluded from the meeting to consider Item(s) listed on the agenda.**

**(Moved Cr Egan, seconded Cr Galvin)**

**ADOPTION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONFIDENTIAL  
SESSION**

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL:**

**THAT the Confidential Organisation & Community Services Report  
be are adopted.**

**FURTHER that the staff develop a list of suitable future residential  
lot development locations for consideration.**

**(Moved Cr Egan, seconded Cr D Coulton)**



**Community Services and Planning Committee - 14 October 2021  
Gwydir Shire Council**

Under the Crown Land Management Act 2016 (CLM Act), the Council has been appointed the 'Council Crown Land Manager' of a number of Crown Reserves.

From 1 July 2018 the statutory reserve trusts which applied to Crown reserves were abolished and Council is now a Crown Land Manager of Crown reserves subsequently vested in it.

The CLM Act authorises Council to manage Crown Land, appointed to Council as Crown Land Manager, as if it were **public land** under the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) (LG Act). Management of the land includes categorising the land and preparing a Plan of Management.

The CLM Act provides that Crown Land, managed by Council as **public land**, must be managed as if it were **Community Land** unless the Minister administering the CLM Act, has given written consent to classifying the land as Operational.

**Classification of Crown Reserves**

Section 25 of the LG Act stipulates that all public land must be classified.

There are two classifications as set out at Section 26 of the LG Act, i.e., Community and Operational.

**Community Land** is intended to be managed for use by the community for purposes including environmental protection, recreational, cultural, social and educational activities.

Community land may only be leased or licenced for up to 21 years without the Minister's consent or up to 30 years with the Minister's consent. It cannot be sold and its use is restricted to the above purposes or the purpose for which the Crown Land was reserved.

With classification as **Operational Land**, Council will have all the functions under the LG Act. However, Council cannot sell the land without further Minister's consent, nor do anything that contravenes:

- Any condition of Council's appointment as a Crown Land Manager;
- The Crown Land Management Regulation 2018;
- Any applicable Crown land management rule;
- Any applicable Plan of Management adopted under Division 3.6 of the CLM Act.

In accordance with Section 3.22 (5) of the CLM Act, Ministerial consent to manage crown land as Operational will only be granted where Council can demonstrate that either the land:

**Community Services and Planning Committee - 14 October 2021**  
**Gwydir Shire Council**

- Does not fall within any of the categories for community land under the LG Act, or
- Could not continue to be used and dealt with as it currently can, if it were required to be used and dealt with as Community land

Examples include works depots, rubbish tips, emergency services such as RFS and sanitary purposes.

**Categorisation of Crown Reserves**

Section 3.23(2) of the CLM Act requires that Crown land is to be categorised consistent with the LG Act. Council must assign a category or categories, referred to in Section 36 of the LG Act, which Council considers to be most closely related to the purposes for which the land is dedicated or reserved. The categories described in the LG Act for community land are:

- Natural Area (subcategory – watercourse, bushland, escarpment, wetland and foreshore)
- Sportsground
- Park
- Area of cultural significance
- General Community Use

The following have been taken into consideration when applying a category to those Crown reserves where Council has been appointed as Crown Land Manager:

- **Reserve Purpose** – ensure the land is used for the purpose for which it was originally set aside by its dedication or reservation.
- **Current/existing use of the reserve** – categorisation based on current/existing use of the reserve only. The initial categorisation cannot be based on proposed or future use. Any change to the categorisation to support a future use should be altered via a plan of management.

**Characteristics of the land**

Attachment 1 details the categorisation proposed to be applied to each Crown Community land reserve based on the above methodology. Upon adoption of the categories, the Council must give notice of the initial categorisation to the Minister for approval. The Minister or the Department may require Council to change an assigned category if they consider:

- That the category is not the most closely related to the purpose for which the is dedicated or reserved
- Managing the land under the assigned category is likely to materially harm the use of the land for any of the purposes for which it is dedicated or reserved.

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Chairman .....

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Once the Council receives the Department's acknowledgement of an assigned categorisation or the Department's direction to assign a specific categorisation, Council may proceed to develop and adopt a LG Act Plan of Management for the land.

**Attachment 2** details the ten Crown reserves proposed to be classified as Operational land. These are Crown land reserved for Bush Fire Brigade purposes, rubbish depot purposes, night soil depot purposes and a former Depot reserved for Local Government purposes.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the report be received

THAT Council notify the Minister administering the Crown Lands Management Act 2016 of the initial categorisation assigned to Crown Land appointed to Council, as Crown Land Manager, and detailed in Attachment 1.

THAT Council applies for Ministerial consent to classify and manage Crown Land currently appointed to Council, as Crown Land Manager, and detailed in Attachment 2, as operational land under the Local Government Act 1993.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- AT- Attachment 1
- AT- Attachment 2

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:**

**THAT the report be received**

**THAT Council notify the Minister administering the Crown Lands Management Act 2016 of the initial categorisation assigned to Crown Land appointed to Council, as Crown Land Manager, and detailed in Attachment 1.**

**THAT Council applies for Ministerial consent to classify and manage Crown Land currently appointed to Council, as Crown Land Manager, and detailed in Attachment 2, as operational land under the Local Government Act 1993.**

**(Moved Cr Young, seconded Cr Moore)**



**Initial classification and categorisation of Crown Land  
appointed to Council as Crown Land Manager**

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**Crown land managed by council Crown land managers  
Form**

**Written notice of assigned categorisation**

Council Crown land managers should use this form to notify the minister administering the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* of the initial categorisation assigned to Crown land, as referred to in section 36 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

**Important information**

Please refer to the accompanying *Guideline—initial categorisation of Crown land managed by council Crown land managers* for further information.

**Contact us**

For more information, please contact us at:

NSW Department of Industry—Lands & Water  
PO Box 2155  
DANGAR NSW 2309

Phone: 1300 886 235

Fax: 02 4925 3517

Email: [council.clm@crowmland.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council.clm@crowmland.nsw.gov.au)

Web: [reservemanager.crowmland.nsw.gov.au/who-we-are/who-manages-crowmland/council-crown-land-manager](http://reservemanager.crowmland.nsw.gov.au/who-we-are/who-manages-crowmland/council-crown-land-manager)

**Lodgement**

Email the completed form to: [council.clm@crowmland.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council.clm@crowmland.nsw.gov.au)

or

Mail to:

NSW Department of Industry  
Attn: Council Crown land management  
PO Box 2155  
DANGAR NSW 2309

**Initial classification and categorisation of Crown Land  
appointed to Council as Crown Land Manager**



**Crown land managed by council Crown land managers  
Form**

**Applicant details**

Table 1. Applicant details

<b>Council Crown land manager</b>	Gwydir Shire Council
<b>Postal address</b>	Locked Bag 5 Bingara NSW 2404
<b>Contact</b>	Carmen Southwell, Community Assets Manager. Mob: 0428 241 542
<b>Email</b>	csouthwell@gwydir.nsw.gov.au

**Declaration**

- I [Name] [Position], in accordance with section 3.23 of the Crown Land Management Act 2016, hereby provide written notice of initial categorisation applied to Crown land under the management of the above Crown land manager as listed in the below schedule.
- I declare and affirm that the information provided on this form is accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.
- I declare that I am authorised by the Council to make this application.

Name:	Max Eastcott		
Position:	General Manager		
Signature:		Date:	

**Schedule**

**Particulars of reserves**

Council is required to assign a category or categories that most closely relates to the reserve purpose. Council should provide detailed description of the activities and characteristics of the land in the table below to justify the assigned categorisation. Where multiple categories are assigned, please provide a map, delineating the areas of the reserve to which the categories will apply.



Crown land managed by council Crown land managers  
Form

Table 2. Categorisation

Reserve/Dedication	Purpose(s)	Categorisation	Justification for assigned category
1000404	Public Recreation	Sportsground and Park	<p><b>Gwydir Oval</b></p> <p>Reserve has a long-established use as a sportsground and as a park.</p> <p><b>Sportsground</b></p> <p>applying to the area of the reserve used for structured active recreation/sportsground. Facilities include playing fields, grandstand, cricket practice nets and amenities block.</p> <p><b>Park</b></p> <p>applying to the area of the reserve which is used mainly for passive recreation and social pursuits. Facilities include playground, toilet block and BBQ facilities.</p>
1000697	Public Park	Park	<p><b>Heritage Park Warialda</b></p> <p>The reserve is known as Heritage Park. It is an open maintained area consisting of grass and a few trees. There is a Memorial Wall but no facilities.</p>

*Initial classification and categorisation of Crown Land  
appointed to Council as Crown Land Manager*



Crown land managed by council Crown land managers  
Form

Reserve/Dedication	Purpose(s)	Categorisation	Justification for assigned category
1001371	Environmental Protection; Public Recreation	Natural Area – Foreshore and General Community Use	<p>Gwydir Riverside Camping Area (North side of river)</p> <p><b>Natural Area – Foreshore</b></p> <p>Applying to the foreshore of the Gwydir River in order to provide for community use in such a manner as will minimise and mitigate any disturbance caused by human intrusion.</p> <p><b>General Community Use</b></p> <p>Applying to the balance of the Reserve, including the free form camping area, as the area meets the current and future needs of both the local and wider community in relation to accessing public recreation and social pursuits.</p>
1014368	Community Purposes; Public Recreation	Park and Area of Cultural Significance	<p>Gwydir Riverside – South side of river)</p> <p><b>Park</b></p> <p>Applying to the improved areas as this most closely aligns with the category objectives that provide for passive recreational activities and to improve the land to promote and facilitate its use</p> <p><b>Area of Cultural Significance</b></p> <p>Applying to the area of land set aside for the burial of the remains of an aboriginal man who died over 170 years ago. His remains were returned by the Australian Museum for burial on this site in December 2017.</p> <p>Meeting the objective of retaining and enhancing the Aboriginal significance of the area because it is of significance and interest because of their traditional culture and Aboriginal associations.</p>



Crown land managed by council Crown land managers  
Form

Reserve/Dedication	Purpose(s)	Categorisation	Justification for assigned category
160038	Community Purposes; Heritage Purposes	General Community Use	<p><b>Bingara Court House</b></p> <p>Reserve is currently used to provide Federal and State Government agency services, such as Service NSW and Services Australia (Centrelink), to the local community.</p> <p>The Reserve is also used for ongoing support to the local community through the Bingara Neighbourhood Centre and the Youth Service.</p>
37818	Camping; Travelling Stock; Heritage Purposes; Community Purposes S121A	Area of Cultural Significance and General Community Use	<p><b>Myall Creek Memorial Site</b></p> <p><b>Area of Cultural Significance</b></p> <p>Applying to the area placed on the National Heritage List on 2 June 2008 as the site has the National Heritage values specified in the Schedule, pursuant to section 324JJ of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.</p> <p>The area also meets the objective of management of the land to retain and enhance the Aboriginal cultural significance of the land for past, present or future generations by the active use of conservation methods.</p> <p><b>General Community Use</b></p> <p>Applies to the remaining area of the land, including the amenities block.</p>



**Crown land managed by council Crown land managers  
 Form**

Reserve/Dedication	Purpose(s)	Categorisation	Justification for assigned category
47979	Public Recreation	General Community Use/Park	<p><b>Bingara caravan park, swimming pool and park</b></p> <p><b>General Community Use</b>                      applying to the caravan park and swimming pool areas which provide facilities to meet the current and future needs of the local community and of the wider public in relation to public recreation.</p> <p>Caravan Park facilities include amenities block, cabins, caravan and camping sites and covered BBQ area with tables and seats.</p> <p>Swimming Pool facilities include swimming pool, splash pool, amenities block, pump and storage shed</p> <p><b>Park</b>                      applies to the area of the reserve used for passive recreational and social activities.</p> <p>Facilities consist of a picnic area with seating, playground area and toilets and is a popular stopping off point for the local community and the travelling public.</p>



Crown land managed by council Crown land managers  
Form

Reserve/Dedication	Purpose(s)	Categorisation	Justification for assigned category
50440	Public Recreation	Park	<p><b>Elcombe Road near Corada Road turnoff</b></p> <p>The Reserve is in a rural area and is bounded by farmland, Elcombe Road and the Horton River. The land itself is cleared grassland. There is evidence of previous use of a section of the land as a tennis court. This comprises an old timber shelter shed and the remains of a length of high wire fencing and a gate.</p> <p>There is anecdotal evidence that the land was also used as for race meetings and other sporting activities. However, no infrastructure, other than the shed and the wire fencing, remains.</p>
55457	Public Recreation	Sportsground	<p><b>Warialda Rail Recreation Ground</b></p> <p>Reserve has a long-established use as a multi-purpose sportsground. Facilities include a sports oval and tennis courts, lighting, covered playground and a club house including amenities..</p>
560018	Public Recreation; Racecourse; Showground	General Community Use	<p><b>Bingara Showground/Racecourse</b></p> <p>Reserve has a long-established use as a Showground and a Racecourse. Facilities include the showground, racecourse, pavilions, cattle yards, cattle stalls and sheds, grandstand, stables, offices, camp draft arena and yards, cross country course, camping, storage sheds, and vehicle parking.</p>



Crown land managed by council Crown land managers  
Form

Reserve/Dedication	Purpose(s)	Categorisation	Justification for assigned category
560021	Public Recreation	Sportsground and Park	<p><b>Warialda Recreation Ground and Captain Cook Park.</b></p> <p><b>Sportsground</b></p> <p>applying to the area of the reserve used for structured active recreation/sportsground. Facilities include rugby league field, indoor sports complex, amenities buildings, tennis courts, netball courts and lighting. as these most closely align with the category objectives encompassing use for organised and informal sporting activities and games.</p> <p><b>Park</b></p> <p>applying to the playground, skatepark, toilet block, covered picnic table and seats and BBQ, playground, skate board area and outdoor fitness equipment as these most closely align with the category objectives that provide for passive recreational games or pastimes.</p>
65761	Public Recreation	Sportsground	<p><b>Coolatai sportsground</b></p> <p>Facilities comprise a playing field surrounded by pipe fencing, clubhouse, toilets and other miscellaneous sheds, cattle pens and loading ramp.</p>





Crown land managed by council Crown land managers  
Form

Reserve/Dedication	Purpose(s)	Categorisation	Justification for assigned category
69856	Preservation Of Native Flora and Fauna	Natural Area - Bushland	<p><b>Koorilgur Nature Reserve.</b></p> <p>Koorilgur Nature Reserve provides an example of the changes to the Northern Inland region landscape since European settlement.</p> <p>The Reserve contains both thinned and untouched areas. It contains many different varieties of native vegetation. It also provides a haven for fauna.</p> <p>The Reserve has a number of walking tracks through it.</p>
70834	Resting Place	General Community Use	<p><b>Reserve/Cross Country Course Pony Club</b></p> <p>Reserve is located on a fairly level cleared area on the outskirts of Warialda township</p> <p>Facilities include a number of jumps and hurdles.</p>
73975	Public Recreation	Sportsground	<p><b>Bingara Golf Course and Bowling Greens.</b></p> <p>Reserve has a long-established use as a golf course and two bowling greens. Facilities include an amenities block and a machinery and equipment storage shed.</p>
77800	War Memorial (Hall Site)	General Community Use	<p><b>Crooble Memorial Hall</b></p> <p>Reserve has a long-established use as a Community Hall, Facilities include a Hall, toilet block, storage shed, covered shelter and enclosed playground area for the Mobile Daycare Service.</p>



**Crown land managed by council Crown land managers  
Form**

Reserve/Dedication	Purpose(s)	Categorisation	Justification for assigned category
79797	War Memorial	General Community Use	<b>Croppa Creek Memorial Hall.</b> Reserve has a long-established use as a Community Hall. Facilities include a Hall with a covered verandah, toilet block and water tank. Also swings and cubbyhouse for the Mobile Daycare Service.
81241	Public Recreation	Sportsground	<b>Gravesend Recreation Reserve</b> Reserve has a long-established use as a multi-purpose sportsground. Facilities include a sports oval, amenities block, tennis courts, netball courts, cricket practice nets, covered seating area and lighting.
83055	Homes For The Aged	General Community Use	<b>Holden Street Warialda</b> Reserve has a long-established use as units for independent living by elderly people. There are six units on the site.
83140	Public Hall; Public Recreation	General Community Use	<b>Gulf Creek Hall</b> Reserve has a long-established use as a Public Hall and Tennis Courts. Facilities include a Public Hall, water tanks, toilets, two tennis courts, chain wire fencing, parking and a players' shelter shed.
84385	Resting Place	General Community Use	<b>Cobbadah Rd near Oaky Creek</b> Reserve has a long-established use as a resting area. The area has no facilities and primarily contains low lying vegetation and trees.

*Initial classification and categorisation of Crown Land  
appointed to Council as Crown Land Manager*



Crown land managed by council Crown land managers  
Form

Reserve/Dedication	Purpose(s)	Categorisation	Justification for assigned category
85949	Public Recreation	General Community Use	<b>North Star caravan park</b> Reserve has a long-established use as a caravan park. Facilities consist of powered sites and an amenities block.
86261	Public Baths	General Community Use	<b>Warialda Swimming Pool</b> Reserve has a long-established use as a swimming pool. Facilities include dressing sheds and toilets, covered seating area, storage, equipment and pumping sheds.
86320	Public Recreation	General Community Use	<b>Upper Bingara Roadside</b> Reserve has a long-established use for free form camping, fossicking and picnics. There are no facilities. Consists of cleared land with level grassy areas
86866	Public Hall	General Community Use	<b>Upper Bingara Hall</b> Reserve has a long-established use as a Public Hall. Facilities include a Public Hall, water tanks and toilets
87406	Public Recreation	Park	<b>Apex Park Warialda</b> Reserve is a long-established rest area alongside the Gwydir Highway. Facilities include a toilet block and covered picnic table and seating, covered BBQ and car parking area. Earlier farming equipment is also displayed in four wire caged enclosures.

**Initial classification and categorisation of Crown Land  
appointed to Council as Crown Land Manager**



**Crown land managed by council Crown land managers  
Form**

Reserve/Dedication	Purpose(s)	Categorisation	Justification for assigned category
87886	Public Recreation	Natural Area/ General Community Use	<p><b>Cranky Rock</b></p> <p><b>Natural Area - Bushland</b> applying to the bushland areas</p> <p><b>General Community Use</b> applying to the camping areas, amenities block, playground, road, BBQ/picnic area and caretaker's cottage/office as these facilities meet the needs of the local community and of the wider public for public recreation.</p>
88245	Public Recreation	Sportsground	<p><b>Nicholson Oval Warialda</b></p> <p>Reserve has a long-established use as a sportsground.</p> <p>Facilities include playing fields, cricket practice nets, amenities block, spectator seating and lighting.</p>
88449	Public Recreation	Sportsground	<p><b>Coolatai tennis courts</b></p> <p>Reserve has a long-established use as tennis courts.</p> <p>Facilities include six tennis courts and lighting.</p>
89462	Kindergarten	General Community Use	<p><b>Warialda Pre-school</b></p> <p>Reserve has a long-established use as a Preschool that meets the needs of the local community.</p> <p>Facilities include a preschool building, covered playground areas and sheds.</p>
90987	Caravan And Camping Park	General Community Use	<p><b>Warialda Caravan Park</b></p> <p>Reserve has a long-established use as a caravan and camping park.</p> <p>Facilities include cabins, amenities block, access road and BBQ area which meet the needs of the community.</p>



Crown land managed by council Crown land managers  
Form

Reserve/Dedication	Purpose(s)	Categorisation	Justification for assigned category
91739	War Memorial	Area of Cultural Significance	<p><b>Warialda Rail</b></p> <p>Reserve did contain a War Memorial that was originally located on Allan Cunningham Road. A short distance past View Street heading North.</p> <p>According to local records the Memorial was initially located on the grounds of the Public School. The Memorial was then moved to the Warialda Rail Recreation Ground when the Public School closed in 1971.</p> <p>There is a plaque on the site indicating the land's association with the Memorial.</p>
94632	Preservation Of Historical Sites And Buildings	Area of Cultural Significance/Park	<p><b>All Nations Hill Bingara</b></p> <p><b>Area of Cultural Significance</b></p> <p>Reserve was established to preserve a link with the gold mine that was established on the site in 1868 and the multicultural spectrum of workers on site. The Stamper Battery is in place on-site.</p> <p><b>Park</b></p> <p>Grassed area with regeneration of native trees on site.</p> <p>Facilities comprise a covered area with tables and seats.</p>
96798	Public Recreation	Park	<p><b>Gravesend Park (Moffett Park)</b></p> <p>Reserve has a long-established use as a Park.</p> <p>Facilities include toilet block, playground, covered picnic table and seats, BBQ and skateboard area.</p>











## Classification of Crown land as operational land Form

### Reclassification of Crown land as operational land

Council Crown land managers should use this form to apply for ministerial consent to classify and manage Crown land as operational land under the *Local Government Act 1993* (LG Act) or Crown reserves managed by council in accordance with the *Crown Land Management Act 2016* (CLM Act).

#### Important information

Please refer to the accompanying *Guideline—initial categorisation of Crown land managed by council Crown land managers* for further information.

#### Contact us

For more information, please contact us at:

NSW Department of Industry—Lands & Water  
PO Box 2155  
DANGAR NSW 2309

Phone: 1300 886 235

Fax: 02 4925 3517

Email: [council.clm@crowland.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council.clm@crowland.nsw.gov.au)

Web: [industry.nsw.gov.au/lands](http://industry.nsw.gov.au/lands)

Web: [olg.nsw.gov.au/crowland](http://olg.nsw.gov.au/crowland)

#### Lodgement

Email the completed form to: [council.clm@crowland.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council.clm@crowland.nsw.gov.au)

or

Mail to:

NSW Department of Industry  
Attn: Council Crown land management  
PO Box 2155  
DANGAR NSW 2309



## Classification of Crown land as operational land Form

### Applicant details

Council name:	Gwydir Shire Council
Council address:	Locked Bag 5 Bingara NSW 2404
Council contact person name and position:	Carmen Southwell, Community Assets Manager
Contact person email address:	csouthwell@gwydri.nsw.gov.au
Contact person work number:	Mob: 0428 241 542. Phone 02 6724 2000

### Reserve details

- Multiple reserves update (complete attached schedule)     Single reserve update (complete below.)

Reserve name:			
Reserve address:			
Parish /county:			
Local Government Area (LGA):			
Lot/s:		DP	
Reserve purpose:			

### Declaration

- I declare and affirm that the information provided on this form is accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.
- I declare that I am authorised by the Council to make this application

Name:	Max Eastcott		
Position:	General Manager		
Signature:		Date:	

Office use only – Refer to the Receipting and Referrals Codes Document					
<input type="checkbox"/> BCD	<input type="checkbox"/> BCN	<input type="checkbox"/> DO	Code	Account Number	
CM9		Checked by		Date	



Classification of Crown land as operational land  
Form

Schedule 1

Table 1 multiple reserve update

Reserve/dedication	Gazetted purpose	Lot/DP	Parish	County	Suburb/locality	Justification
R97769	Bush Fire Brigade Purposes	Lot 6 DP758471	Gravesend	Burnett	Gravesend	Emergency Services – Gravesend RFS Shed Site facilitates a use that does not satisfy any categorisation or use of community land because the public must be excluded for their safety.
R1014728	Rural Services	Part Lot 7009 DP1121195	Bangsheet	Murchison	Bangsheet	Emergency Services – Bangsheet RFS Shed Site facilitates a use that does not satisfy any categorisation or use of community land because the public must be excluded for their safety.
R1038748	Rural Services	Lot 12 DP758192	Warialda	Burnett	Warialda	Emergency Services – Warialda Rail RFS Shed Site facilitates a use that does not satisfy any categorisation or use of community land because the public must be excluded for their safety.

*Initial classification and categorisation of Crown Land  
appointed to Council as Crown Land Manager*



Classification of Crown land as operational land  
Form

Reserve/dedication	Gazetted purpose	Lot/DP	Parish	County	Suburb/locality	Justification
R23245	Rubbish Depot	Lot 7010 DP1121853	Warialda	Burnett	Warialda	Closed Rubbish Tip adjacent to Koorilgur Nature Reserve – Site is closed landfill and facilitates a use that does not satisfy any categorisation or use of community land because the public must be excluded for their safety.
R46969	Rubbish Depot	Lot 65 DP751137; Lot 7014 DP1032715	Warialda	Burnett	Warialda	Warialda Rail Rubbish Tip – Currently Used as Waste Depot - Site facilitates a use that does not satisfy any categorisation or use of community land because the public must be excluded for their safety.
R67908	Rubbish Depot	Lots 250, 317 DP754819	Bingara	Murchison	Bingara	Bingara Rubbish Tip – Current Waste Depot - Site facilitates a use that does not satisfy any categorisation or use of community land because the public must be excluded for their safety.

*Initial classification and categorisation of Crown Land  
appointed to Council as Crown Land Manager*



Classification of Crown land as operational land  
Form

Reserve/dedication	Gazetted purpose	Lot/DP	Parish	County	Suburb/locality	Justification
R86970	Rubbish Depot	Lot 314 DP751137	Warialda	Burnett	Warialda	Old Rubbish Tip at Warialda Rail – Site is closed landfill and facilitates a use that does not satisfy any categorisation or use of community land because the public must be excluded for their safety.
R95763	Local Government Purposes	Lot 2 DP1098009	Warialda	Burnett	Warialda	Old Yallaroi Shire Depot and Halls Ready Mix Plant. Site is currently used primarily as a civil engineering stockpile and storage area. There is a concrete pad, pump shed, town water bore and a toilet on the site  The current use does not satisfy any categorisation or use of community land because the public must be excluded for their safety.
R97298	Public Pound	Lot 315 DP751137	Warialda	Burnett	Warialda	Warialda Pound Site facilitates a use that does not satisfy any categorisation or use of

*Initial classification and categorisation of Crown Land  
 appointed to Council as Crown Land Manager*



**Classification of Crown land as operational land  
 Form**

Reserve/dedication	Gazetted purpose	Lot/DP	Parish	County	Suburb/locality	Justification
						community land because the public must be excluded for their safety.
R49855	Night Soil Depot	Lot 226 DP754819	Bingara	Murchison	Bingara	<p>Old Bingara Night Soil Depot – Operational Land classification provides greater flexibility with regard to any remediation measures that may be required.</p> <p>The site is currently utilised as a civil engineering stockpile area.</p> <p>The former and current use does not satisfy any categorisation or use of community land because the public must be excluded for their safety.</p>

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Chairman .....

*Initial classification and categorisation of Crown Land  
appointed to Council as Crown Land Manager*

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**Classification of Crown land as operational land  
Form**

Reserve/dedication	Gazetted purpose	Lot/DP	Parish	County	Suburb/locality	Justification

Note: the above table may be submitted as an excel spreadsheet provided that all the above fields are included.

© State of New South Wales through Department of Industry 2018. The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (May 2018). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that the information upon which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the Department of Industry or the user's independent adviser.

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**Item 2 Organisation & Community Services**

**FILE REFERENCE** 21/25334

**DELIVERY PROGRAM**

**GOAL:** 5. Organisational Management

**OUTCOME:** 5.1 CORPORATE MANAGEMENT

**STRATEGY:** 5.1.4 Workforce planning - OCD - internal

**AUTHOR** Organisational and Community Services Director

**STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST** Nil

**IN BRIEF/ SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION**

The monthly Organisation and Community Services report details the activities carried out by the Department during July 2021

**TABLED ITEMS** Nil

**BACKGROUND**

The monthly Organisation and Community Services report forms part of a regular reporting regime. The purpose of the report is to inform Council of the activities carried out within the Department.

**COMMENT**

**NAROO FRAIL AGED HOSTEL**

The Residents have been kept busy this month with Wattle Day picking fresh wattle from around town and drawing some awesome pictures. We also had Jersey Day where staff and residents could show off their footy team colours. But the biggest event this month was the 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration of Noelie Hatcher. Noelie enjoyed a beautiful BBQ lunch and day with residents. She received many cards and well wishes from the community but the biggest of all would be her acknowledgement from The Queen.



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**SOCIAL SERVICES**

**Bingara Neighbourhood Centre**

*Funding body – NSW Department of Communities and Justice*

Bingara Neighbourhood Centre continues to assist community groups with grant applications and attend to the needs of the public through advocacy and referral to other services.

**Centrelink**

Centrelink continued normal operating hours throughout September. However, some changes were made when COVID-19 restrictions were put in place on Saturday 14 August 2021. Centrelink temporarily changed to a self-

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service access point up until Saturday 11 September when restrictions for our LGA were lifted. Service returned to normal.

**Youth Service**

*Funding body – NSW Department of Communities and Justice*

The program for girls in conjunction with Bingara Central School continued via Zoom until Saturday 11 September when COVID -19 restrictions were lifted. As there was only one week of school remaining for the term the program continued via Zoom and will return to normal operation when Term 4 commences on Tuesday 5 October 2021.

**Youth Council**

During September the Youth Council continued to communicate via social media, texting and emailing. A meeting was arranged for Wednesday 29 September. At this meeting the Youth Council discussed options for an end of year event which they think would be a great idea to end another stressful year. The ideas that were raised were a colour run, movie night, or a Christmas Pool Party in Bingara. We have created a poll for the members to let us know their thoughts on which event would be best suited. They also discussed other ways to communicate with the community about the survey that has been generated and agreed that it would be a good idea for the schools to get involved. An email has been sent to the Principals at Warialda High School and Bingara Central School to ask for their help with engaging students in the survey so that the Youth Council are able to get as much feedback as possible. The survey will continue to circulate during October. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 13 October.

**Youth Mentoring Program**

Month	Number of participants
July	3
August	3
September	2

The Youth mentoring program has been assisting young people with Centrelink, Medicare, job applications, behaviour management & resumes.

**Vacation Care**

*Funding Body - NSW Department of Education*

<b>Total Point of Contact 20 - 21, 23 - 24 September</b>	<b>74</b>
Number of children & families enrolled for Holiday Activities	27 Families 47 Children 22 Girls

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	25 Boys
Number of children & families enrolled for Holiday Activities <b>Bingara</b>	13 Families 22 Children 13 Girls 9 Boys 35 Point of Contact
Number of children & families enrolled for Holiday Activities <b>Warialda</b>	14 Families 25 Children 9 Girls 16 Boys 39 Points of Contact

Vacation Care was held on Monday 20 September and Tuesday 21 September at Warialda Sport and Recreation Ground, and on Thursday 23 September and Friday 24 September at the Gwydir Oval in Bingara.

This program was focused on team building, communication skills and physical activity. Activities that were provided for the children were games such as tribes and territories, pac man, golden child, touch football, tug-a-war, free play on the ovals with balls, hoops, and ropes, dancing, free colouring and drawing, and collage craft was also available to the children. It was interesting to see as the older children showed initiative and set up games and organised the children into teams. They all listened to each other and worked together.



**Supported Playgroup Development Worker**

*Funding body – Dep of Community and Justice*

<b>Warialda Toy Library</b>	<b>August 2021</b>	<b>September 2021</b>
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Total daily attendance count for children, (calculating each child, each day over the month –total points of contact).	<b>61</b>	<b>113</b>
New full borrowing members	0	0
New and renew non borrowing members	1	1
New and renew casual borrowing members	0	0
Commemorative Birth Certificate applications received	3	2
Toys returned	3	0
Toys borrowed	0	0
Groups using the service (FDC carer, Pharmacy)	2	2
Monday group activity 3 sessions	10	23
Tuesday group activity 3 sessions	12	27
Thursday group activity 3 sessions	18	32
Friday group activity 2 sessions	21	31

On Monday 13 September 2021 the Toy Library was able to welcome families back into the service with the children participating in a playdough making morning, utilising their hands to manipulate the dough. Following this the children then engaged in a listening activity game whereby their cognitive and receptive listening skills were called upon as they attempted to identify animal sounds and link these sounds to pictures on a card in front of them.

On Tuesday 14 of September, families gathered in the backyard with their children and participated in a story time activity before having morning tea and concluding their play indoors for the second half of the session.

Construction play was catered for on Thursday 16 September. Here children were required to work together in a social setting to construct an indoor cubby house and forte. Problem solving skills were prompted as they discussed what materials to use and how to balance the equipment to create the perfect cubby.

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On Friday 17 September, an ocean themed activity morning took place with water and sand being made available outside. Shells, sticks and native bush flowers were used encouraging a sensory play concept while children displayed their imaginative play skills through play and discussion with their peers and parents, as they engaged in this experience.

Cooking took place on Monday 20 September with children using pastry, vegemite and cheese to make cheesy mite scrolls. This activity encouraged exploration of food and required the children to sit and attend enabling them to follow instructions, while using numbers to measure ingredients.

Spot and stick the dot, took place on Tuesday 21 September. This activity provides children with colourful round dot stickers and a picture template with circles for the dots to be placed on. This experience requires the use of fine motor manipulation skills and is caters as a sensory activity as the children peel the stickers off the page and attempt to stick them purposely onto the picture card.

Music and movement took place on Thursday 23 and Monday 27 September. Gross motor and spatial awareness skills were optimised throughout this experience.

Chia seeds and water with cocoa and farm animals were set up along with shaving cream for the children to explore on Tuesday 28 and Thursday 30 September. This activity provided two separate sensory play experiences. Discussions were promoted regarding the difference between the two textures, this facilitating both expressive and receptive language and communication skills while supporting sensory exploration.

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**Bingara Toy Library**

*Funding body – NSW Department of Education and Communities*

	July 2021	August 2021	September 2021
Total daily attendance count for children who utilised the service for the month	105	67	69
Full borrowing memberships New/renew	1	0	1
Non borrowing memberships New/renew	1	0	0
Casual borrowing memberships New/renew	1	0	0
Commemorative Birth Certificate	0	0	0
Toys returned	1	0	6
Toys borrowed	3	1	1
Children & Groups using toys	2	1	1
Tuesday 1 play session	37	12	6
Wednesday 3 play sessions	40	19	35
Thursday 1 play session	2	0	4
KSK Program 4 sessions	6	48	41

During the lockdown period, staff continued to call, text and email families to check in each day and offer support on current situations they may have been facing, parenting information, and general support so they knew staff were their if they needed support. Staff also sent out craft packs via post to the rural families, and others were able to collect their packs from the front of the  
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service at their own leisure. Not only were emails sent to the families of playgroup members, but they were also sent out to the families who participate in the Kool Skool Kids program so if they wished, craft packs could be sent out to them.



Once out of lockdown the Kool Skool Kids Program children enjoyed free fun for their last week of sessions with an invitation to two planned movie afternoons in the school holidays on both Wednesdays.

On Tuesday 14 September those families who did book for the morning sessions, engaged in conversations about how it was nice to be able to attend the service again, and how much they appreciated the craft packs and support that was offered over the lockdown period. Feedback was also provided to staff via email, text, and call, about how it was all greatly appreciated. Restrictions on numbers allowed to visit and the covid protocols are still in place with families being notified that the ruling on no jab no play is coming into force soon.

During the school holidays, the Service was only open on each Wednesday due to families only making bookings for these days.

**Bingara Preschool**

*Funding Body – Early Childhood Education and Care Directorate  
NSW Department of Education and Communities.*

<b>Days</b>	<b>September 2021</b>
Tuesday	24
Wednesday	27
Thursday	27
Friday	28

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**Educator Training**

On Wednesday 29 September, the Educators attended a training workshop 'Learning Language and Loving It'. This training was facilitated by the Central Northern Library Speech Pathologist. The training is an eight-session course which builds the Educator's capacity in relation to literacy and the early years.



**COVID-19**

Bingara Preschool opened again to all children for Week 10, Term 3. Bingara Preschool is working under a strict COVID safe plan, where visitors and family access to the service is restricted. Communication is still readily accessible through the service's social media platforms, telephone, and email. During lockdown, Bingara Preschool remained opened for essential worker children only. An online and distance program was still facilitated for the other children who were unable to attend during that timeframe.

**Pirate Day Dress Up**

On the last day of Term 3, the children at Bingara Preschool dressed up as a pirate, to celebrate: International Talk Like a Pirate Day. The Educators facilitated many activities based on pirates, including walking a pretend plank, designing their own pirate flag, and following a treasure map.



**Tharawonga Mobile Resource Unit**

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*Funding body – Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employment.*

<b>Days and Venues</b>	<b>September 2021</b>
Monday at Yetman	8
Tuesday at North Star	10
Wednesday at Yallaroi	4 (3 casual)
Thursday at Gravesend	8
Friday at Crooble	6

**Change of Venue** – The Crooble venue is no longer operational due to the Inland Rail project and depot located across from the hall. This service has had to relocate to Croppa Creek and will be operational from the local school.

**COVID-19** - For the last few weeks learning has been remote and digitally sent to the families. The families received learning packages in the mail. We have ensured that effective communication with families has been continued. Some of the families took the option of connecting with the educators via face-to-face connections. We do have an essential working family attending the Gravesend venue. In Week 10, Term 3 we were able to resume and could attend North Star, Yallaroi and Gravesend venues. We were unable to attend Yetman and Croppa Creek due to the community use agreements being suspended.

**Community Visits**

The Gravesend service had a visit from Monique Wynter who conducted the StEPs screening. The StEPs program is an initiative of NSW Health and offers all 4 years old children a free vision screening. The StEPs program is designed to identify childhood vision problems which cannot be detected by observation, behaviour, family history or vision surveillance.

**Yetman, North Star and Yallaroi**

The families shared pictures of their children at Yetman engaging in the home learning and experiences that the educators planned. The children engaged in experiences which promoted gross motor, sensory exploration, school transition, art and craft, cooking & gardening experiences, and transitional learning opportunities. Science Week was a focus for the children to participate in simple experiments.

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**Gravesend** – At Gravesend we continued our preschool learning with most of it being conducted via face-to-face online sessions with the children and families that requested this option. The children participated in listening to the educator read “The Big Green Frog”, “The Three Billy Goats Gruff”, “The Very Itchy Bear” and “Thelma the Unicorn. To simulate our normal transitions at Preschool the children did colour and number recognition, identifying opposites and feelings. The children engaged and demonstrated a growing attention span while listening to multiple stories one after the other. For the child attending they were able to engage with the educators in making a new garden around the outside area in the large playground.



**Crooble/Croppa Creek**

At Crooble, to continue to promote positive social skills this term, part of the hall has been converted into a shop. This learning experience is promoting learning through play and sourcing their own learning. The children are taking ownership of the inside experiences when arriving at Preschool as they help the educators set up before moving onto outdoor experiences. This is building the children’s sense of belonging to their Preschool.

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**CUSTOMER SERVICE REQUESTS (CRMs)**

CRMs carried forward from:

<b>Department</b>	<b>Outstanding at 1 September 2021</b>	<b>Completed since 1 September 2021</b>	<b>Outstanding as at 1 October 2021</b>
Technical Services	29	14	15
Environment and Sustainability	21	14	7
Town Utilities Parks and Gardens	10	6	4
Building Services	5	2	3
<b>Total Outstanding</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>29</b>

CRM's - 1 September to 1 October 2021:

<b>Department</b>	<b>Received during September 2021</b>	<b>Completed during September 2021</b>	<b>Outstanding as at 1 October 2021</b>
Technical Services	31	15	16
Environment and Sustainability	13	1	12
Town Utilities Parks and Gardens	18	10	8
Building Services	12	10	2
Executive	0		0
Organisation and Community Services	3	0	3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>41</b>

CRMs received since 1 September 2021 and still outstanding as at 1 October 2021:

<b>Department</b>	<b>Open</b>
Technical Services	31
Environment and Sustainability	19
Town Utilities Parks and Gardens	12
Building Services	5
Executive	0
Organisation and Community Services	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>

**CONSULTATION**

Consultation has occurred within the Organisation and Community Development Directorate.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

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Policy implications are those relating to the 2021/2022 Operational Plan and the Policies of Gwydir Shire Council.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The activities carried out by the Organisation and Community Development Department are in line with the 2021/2022 Operational Plan.

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

The activities undertaken by the Organisation and Community Development Department regarding social and environmental factors are targeted in line with the 2021/2022 Operational Plan.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** the report be received

**ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments for this report.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:**

**THAT** the report be received.

**(Moved Cr Egan, seconded Cr Dixon OAM)**

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**Item 3 Executive Services Monthly Report**

**FILE REFERENCE** 21/25365

**DELIVERY PROGRAM**

**GOAL:** 5. Organisational Management

**OUTCOME:** 5.1 CORPORATE MANAGEMENT

**STRATEGY:** 5.1.3 Administrative functions - GM - internal

**AUTHOR** General Manager

**STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST Nil**

**IN BRIEF/ SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION**

This report is for reception

**TABLED ITEMS Nil**

**COMMENT**

**PLANNING**

The following Development (D/A) and Development Modification (s96) applications were approved during September 2021.

No.	Property Description	Development/ Work	\$	D/A	S96
11/2021	P R & J R Tonkin Lot 26 DP 751090 671 Kirkton Road Pallamallawa	Minor modification of existing development approval for a 29,000 tonne/year quarry	\$10,000	-	✓
30/2021	D A & F G Coulson Lot 43 DP 43346 226 Mt Jerrybang Road Gravesend	216m <sup>2</sup> Garage/Storage Shed	\$114,240	✓	-
31/2021	N T Wearne Lot 6 Section 1 DP 758111 3 Ridley Street Bingara	84m <sup>2</sup> Garage/Storage Shed	\$27,000	✓	-
32/2021	K R Turner Lot 6 DP 946719 14 Kelly's Gully Road Warialda Rail	216m <sup>2</sup> Garage/Storage Shed	\$84,210	✓	-
33/2021	D K & C L Barwick Lot 1 Section 14 DP 759052 20 Water Street Warialda	72m <sup>2</sup> Garage & 84m <sup>2</sup> Garage/Storage Shed	\$15,000	✓	-

The following Development (D/A) and Development Modification (s96) applications remain outstanding at the end of September 2021.

No	Property Description and Description of Work	Reason	D/A	S96
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28/2013	Johnstone Concrete & Quarries Pty Ltd 530 Gil Gil Creek Road Pallamallawa - Modification of existing approved 300,000 tonnes per year quarry to a 499,000 tonnes per year for a period of 5 years and to extend the haulage route north along Gil Gil Creek Road	Being referred, advertised, notified and exhibited for 21 days	-	✓
49/2016	Ceres Ag 'Gunyaerwarildi' 1470 North Star Road Warialda - Continued occupation/use of rural worker accommodation being the installation of a number of premanufactured cabins	Approved in principal awaiting compliance certification or engineering certification for the cabins	✓	-
39/2019	DJ Bull Fairford Road Warialda - 2 Lot Large Lot Subdivision	Request for additional information from applicant in relation to requirements under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016	✓	-
25/2021	S R Standerwick / Gwydir Shire Council Warialda Road Warialda - Animal Impounding Facility	Request for additional information	✓	-
34/2021	Regional Quarries Australia Pty Ltd / Ground Works Plus / Doolin Minilya Pty Ltd 427 Minilya Road North Star - 490,000 tonne/ year quarry for 5 years and then a 150,000 tonne/year quarry for a further 10 years	Being referred, advertised, notified and exhibited for 28 days	✓	-
35/2021	J Williams/R D & C Smyth 10-12 Narrabri Road Bingara - Deck and Detached Garage	Being notified and exhibited for 14 days	✓	-
36/2021	J Williams/J N Delaforce 10-12 Narrabri Road Bingara - Small Dwelling	Being notified and exhibited for 14 days	✓	-
37/2021	J L Goldsmith 4186 Elcombe Road Bingara - Dwelling	Being notified and exhibited for 14 days	✓	-
38/2021	S Butler/ K B & G Butler 22 Frazer Street Bingara - Covered Deck	Being notified and exhibited for 14 days	✓	-
39/2021	W & M J Grover 8 Hill Street Bingara - Dwelling Additions being extension to existing sunroom and small deck	Being notified and exhibited for 14 days	✓	-

There were no Development (D/A) or Development Modification (s96) applications approved and not previously reported to Council for the month of September 2021.

There were no Development (D/A) or Development Modification (s96) application/s refused(R)/ withdrawn (W)/ Cancelled (C) during the month of September 2021.

There were no Development (D/A) applications determined where there has been a variation in standards under clause 4.6 of the Gwydir Local Environmental Plan 2013 during the month of September 2021.

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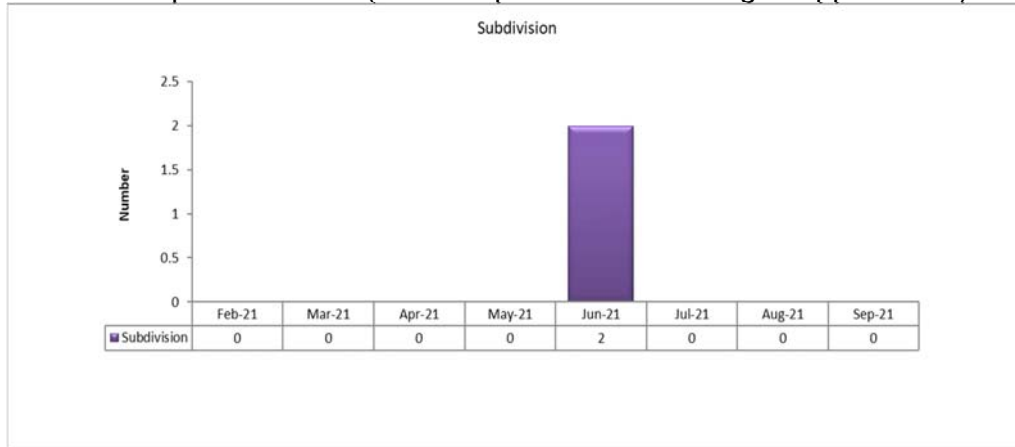
Chairman .....



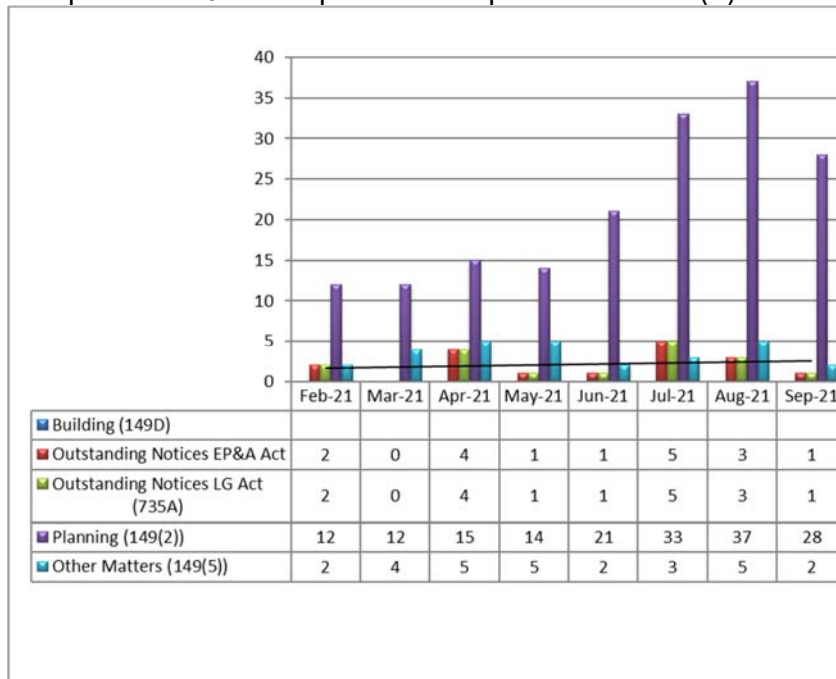
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The following Subdivision Certificates were issued during the month of September 2021 and in the previous seven (7) months.

YTD September 2021 (includes private certifier lodged applications)

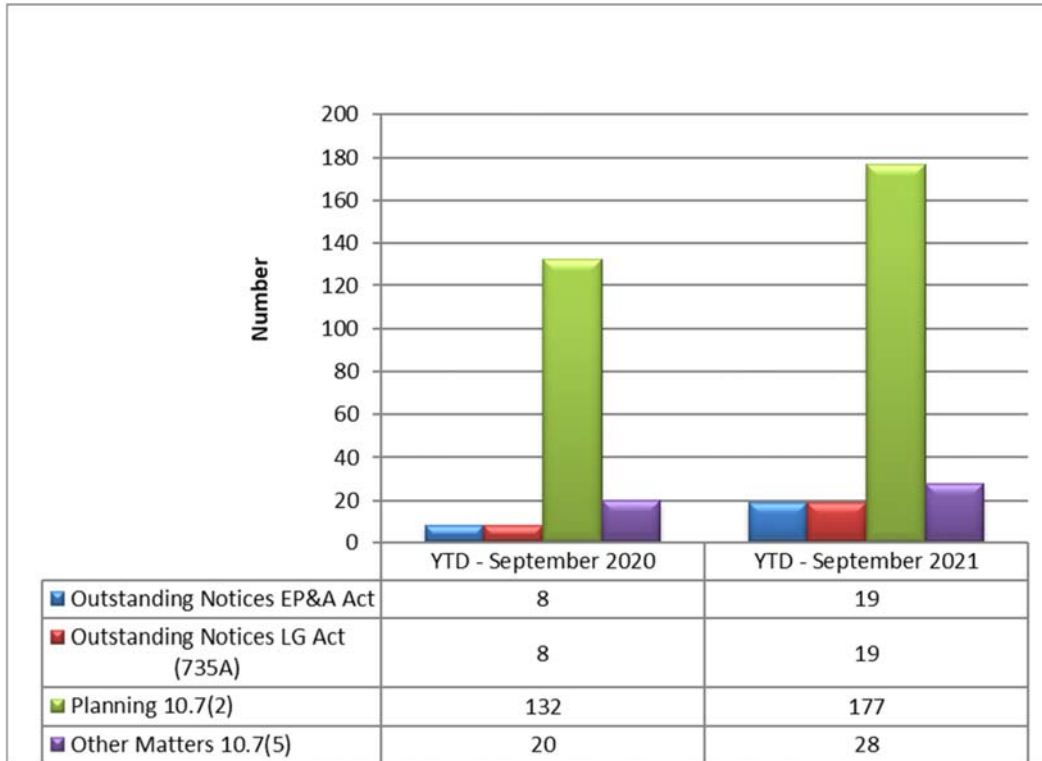


The following graph shows Conveyancing Certificates were issued during the month of September 2021 compared to the previous seven (7) months

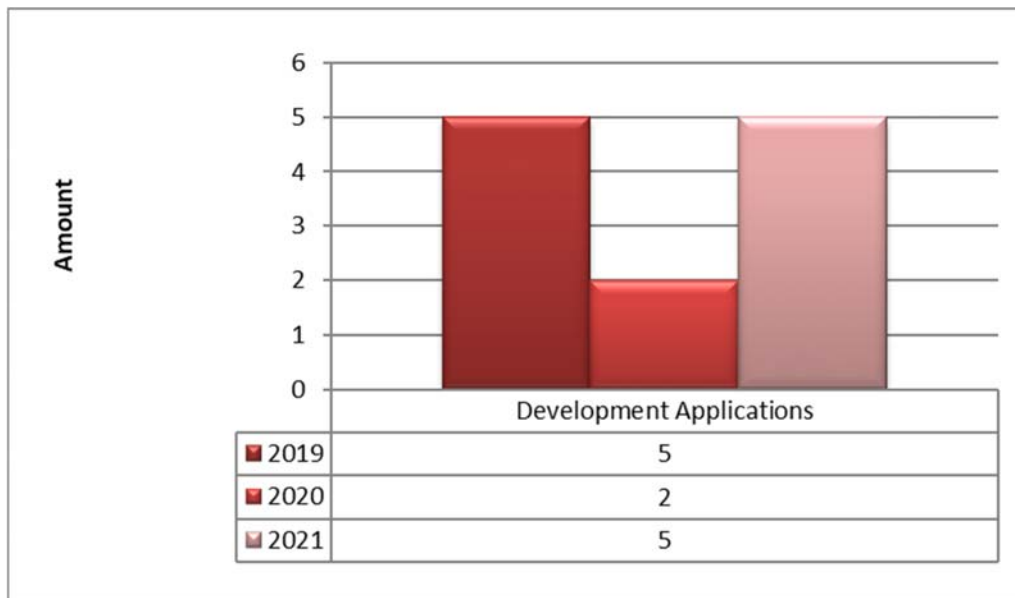


The following graph shows the number of Conveyancing Certificates issued up to and including the month of September 2021 compared with the same period in 2020.

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The table below shows a comparison between total applications lodged during the month of September 2021 compared to the same period in the previous two years.

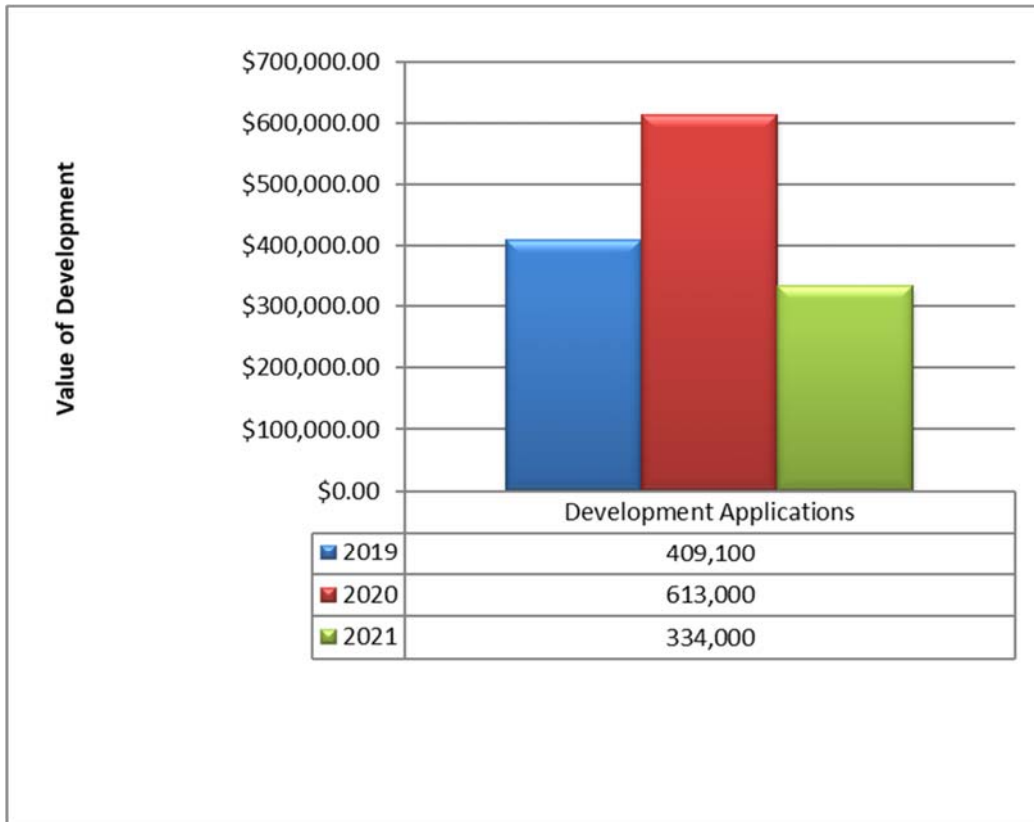


The table below shows a comparison between total value of applications lodged during the month of September 2021 compared to the same period in the previous two years.

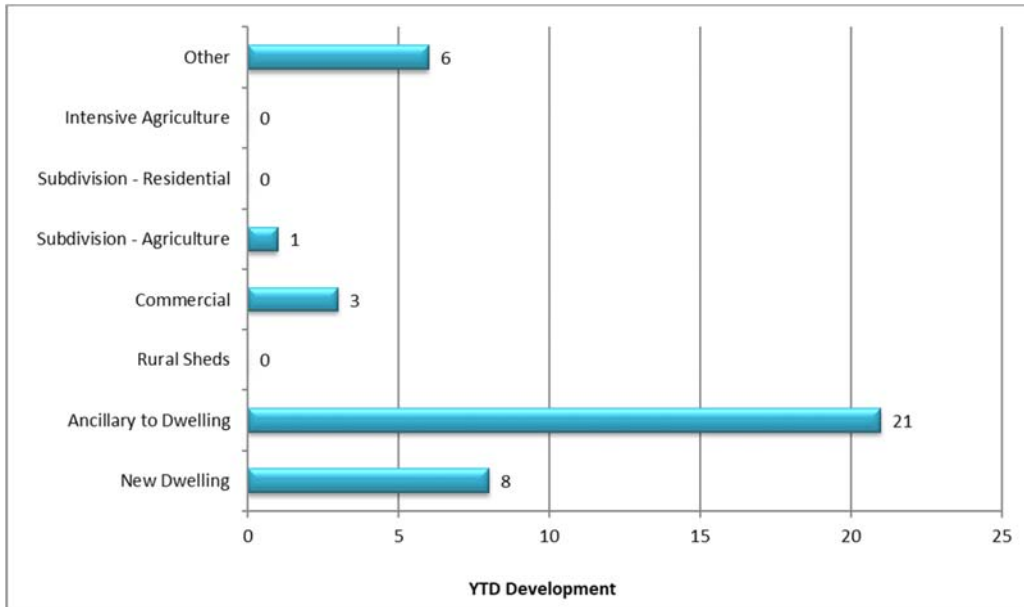
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Development Applications received for the year by type – YTD September 2021

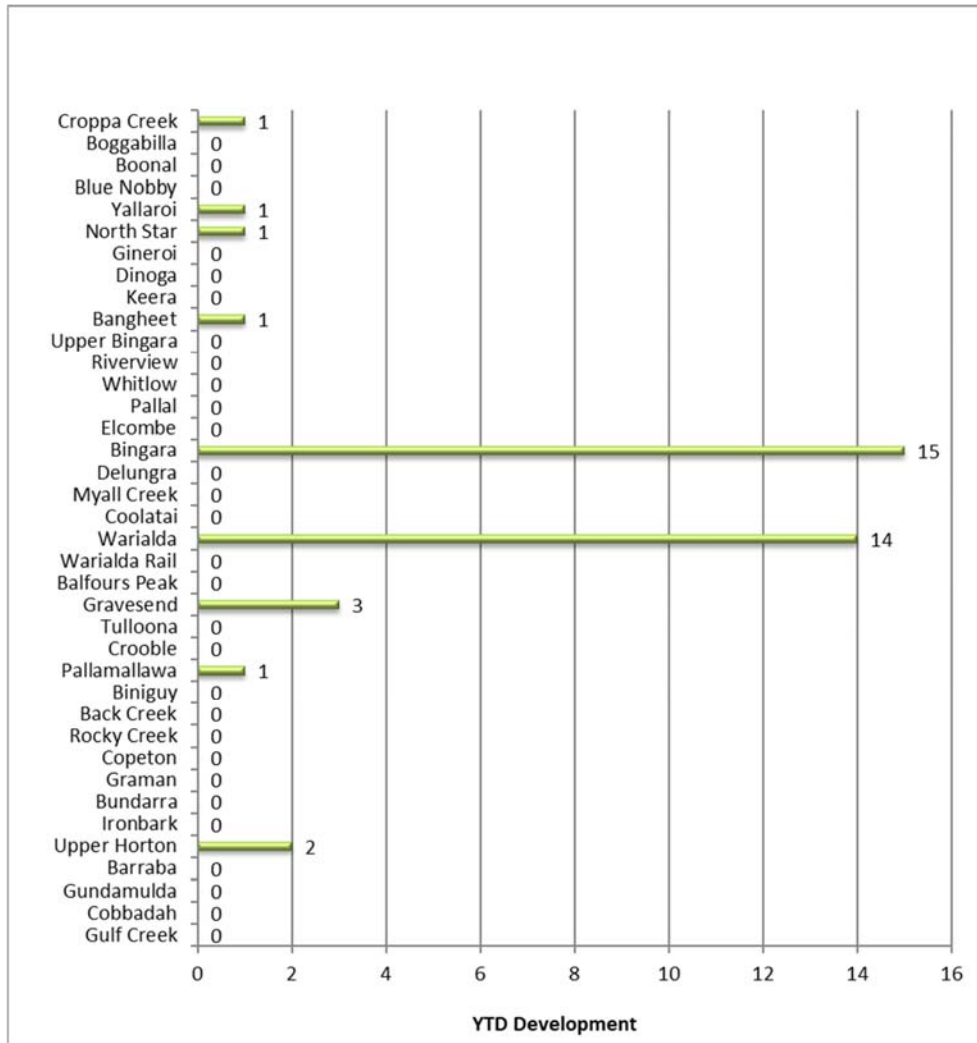


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Development Applications Received for the year by locality – YTD September 2021

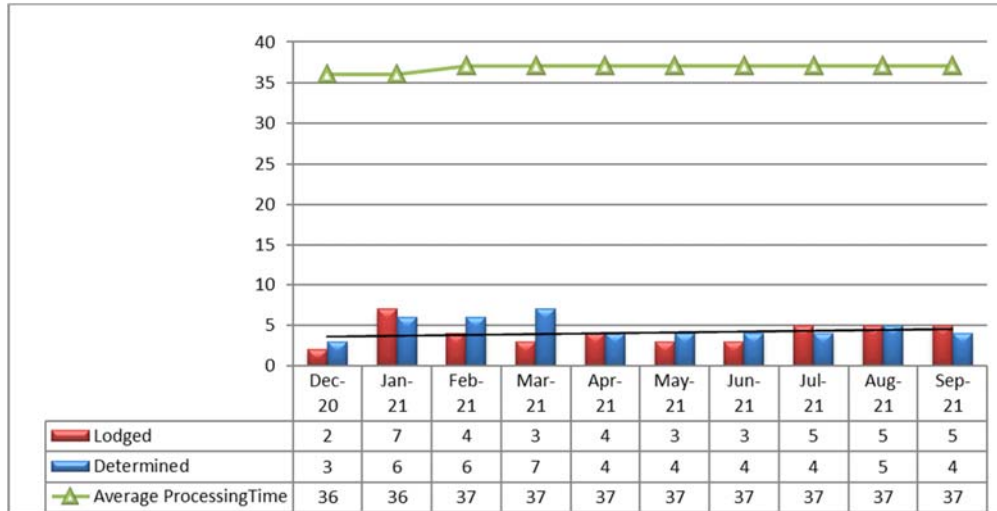


Development Application Analysis – for the nine (9) months up to the end of September 2021

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**TOWN SERVICES Monthly Report for September 2021**

Water and Sewer

Water meters were read during the first two weeks of September. Water and Sewerage operators attended five service line repairs, six water mains, replaced 22 water meters and repaired three sewer blockages during the month.

Council routinely replaces old meters with new in the replacement water meter program.

Other work was undertaken at the Bingara Showground, Bingara Caravan Park, Bingara works depot, Warialda truckwash, Cunningham Park and Oregon Road and Adams Scrub Road culverts.

The Annual NSW Performance reports for Water and Sewerage were completed and submitted to Department of Planning, Industry and Environment during September.

Warialda Truckwash

The truckwash facility was used by 100 trucks during September with an average wash down time of 41 minutes and total water used was 400KL. The estimated income for September is \$4,076.00 less monitoring fees.

**Grant Projects**

Federal Drought Program

Upper Horton water upgrade is 50% complete with the remaining work to drill and construct a new bore being delayed due to lack of availability of drilling contractor.

Cunningham Park improvements under the Federal drought program are nearing completion with the site prepared for turf to be laid during October.

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The installation of the shade sail poles over the new playground was completed at All Abilities Park, Warialda during September. The shade sails are under construction and will be erected when received providing relief from the summer heat. The terracing of All Abilities Park has been delayed by wet weather and availability of the local contractor.



*Installation of the poles for shade shelters in All Abilities Park, Warialda*

**State Drought Program**

Work is nearing completion on the upgrade of Cunningham Park under State Drought Program. The new amenities block is complete with privacy screens fitted during September. The new block will be opened once landscaping has been completed and the existing amenities block will be removed. The upgrade included new BBQ and shelters which were installed earlier in the year.



*New Amenities Block, Cunningham Park*

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Covid Stimulus Funding

As part of the Batterham's Lookout improvements a new frame has been fabricated for signage and installed at the entrance to Batterham's Lookout, Bingara.



*Batterham's Lookout Signage*

A third shelter, table and chairs were installed on the Gwydir River foreshore during September.



*Gwydir foreshore shelter and table setting*

Showground Stimulus funding

Phase 2 funding included the refurbishment of the Bingara Showground Grandstand with the external cladding with colourbond now completed. The internal asbestos removal and cladding is scheduled to be completed in

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October, along with the replacement of the original stairs which were noncompliant.

Also included in Phase 2 Showground Stimulus funding is the erection of a new amenities block on the eastern side of Bingara Showground. Wet weather has caused some delays, however much progress was made during September and the project is now nearing completion.



*New amenities block at Bingara Showground nearing completion*

**Bingara Showground**

Bingara Showground hosted one of four vaccination clinics conducted by the Rural Flying Doctor Service in Gwydir during September. A total of 176 persons received their vaccination at the Showground. Figures to hand indicate 60 were vaccinated in North Star, 222 in Warialda and 80 in Upper Horton – a total of 538 in Gwydir.

**Parks and Gardens**

All parks and gardens continue to be maintained. Council undertakes weekly inspections of playgrounds and cleaning of handrails and touch areas. Mowing, weed control, irrigation, hedging, and trimming were routinely undertaken during September. Council continues to mark and maintain the fields for the community groups using Council's ovals. Myall Creek and the Glacial area are inspected on a weekly basis.



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*Planting new trees - Bingara Cemetery*

The garden beds are a vision of colour with the onset of Spring and help beautify our streets and parks.



*Maitland Street gardens, Bingara*

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*CWA Monument and flower bed*

Workshops and Depots – September 2021

Total number of services in Workshops for September	23
Total number of jobs in Workshops for September	133

Major repairs and maintenance undertaken during September included:

- P1933 – Volvo truck – repairs to steering, brakes and scales
- P1955 – grader - repairs to engine control unit
- P1662 – water truck – electrical repairs
- P1713 – Jetmaster – fit solenoid
- P1789 – backhoe – fabricate and fit hydraulic hoses
- P1081 – tractor – fit new alternator
- P1859 – grader – replace bent steering arm
- P1464 – grader – electrical repairs (blade locking pin)

The old stairs from the Bingara Showground Grandstand have been relocated to the Bingara depot for repairs and painting and will be used to access the mezzanine floor in Bingara workshop.

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*Workshop stairs, Bingara*

Plant replacement – a new mower was purchased for use in Bingara.



*P2005 – new mower for use in Bingara*

Plant Disposal - three replaced slashers were sold through Pickles Auctions during September.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the report be received

**ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments for this report.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:**

**THAT the report be received**

**(Moved Cr Egan, seconded Cr Dixon OAM)**

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**Item 4 Additional Executive Services (Community Assets  
September) Report**

**FILE REFERENCE** 21/25614

**DELIVERY PROGRAM**

**GOAL:** 5. Organisational Management

**OUTCOME:** 5.1 CORPORATE MANAGEMENT

**STRATEGY:** 5.1.3 Administrative functions - GM - internal

**AUTHOR** General Manager

**STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST** Nil

**IN BRIEF/ SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION**

This report is for reception.

**TABLED ITEMS** Nil

**BACKGROUND**

Council's Community Assets department welcomes the addition of the following areas due to an organisational restructure:

- Gwydir Learning Region
- The Living Classroom
- Gwydir Career Start Program
- Communication, Marketing and Social Media
- Economic Development
- Attract, Connect, Stay Program.

The department looks forward to working together as a new team.

Council welcomes back Georgia Standerwick from maternity leave. She will be working Tuesdays and Thursdays from the Bingara Library. Also at the Library is Kim Miller, the Editor of the Gwydir News.

The Community Assets Manager and Officer have relocated to upstairs at The Roxy. Thank you to Council's outdoor staff who assisted with this move.

**COMMENT**

**Caravan Parks**

The Bingara and Warialda caravan parks reopened to the public on Saturday 11 September. Both parks have experienced a steady flow of visitors ever since.

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Visitors are again required to complete a COVID Health Declaration form prior to entry into the parks.

A faulty electricity meter box has been replaced at the Bingara Caravan Park.

**Swimming Pools**

Both pools have been supplied with new First Aid kits to start the new swimming season.

The lessees prepared the pools and grounds over the month of September. Both centres opened on the October long weekend. Blankets are being placed on the pools each evening to ensure the optimum water temperature. In addition, the Warialda pool solar heating system is being used every day. The heating pumps at the Bingara pool were installed during the construction of the 25-metre pool but will not be functional until the electricity supply to the site is upgraded. This upgrade will occur in the 2022 off season and is being externally funded.

The garden beds have been replanted out the front of the Bingara pool following the construction of the new footpath. The foyer area has been tiled to mitigate an identified slip hazard.

A new chlorine dosing pump was purchased and installed at the Warialda pool.

**Cranky Rock**

Cranky Rock reopened to the public on Saturday 11 September.

A new First Aid kit has been purchased and installed at Cranky Rock Reserve.

<b>Month</b>	<b>Powered sites</b>	<b>Unpowered sites</b>	<b>Total</b>
July 2021	76	16	92
August 2021	55	18	73
September 2021	58	24	82

**Gwydir Libraries**

Both libraries reopened to the public after lockdown the week commencing 13 September. The libraries were closed in the afternoons to conduct after school programs as per recommendations from State Library regarding COVID Safety Plans.

The Warialda Library had new flooring laid at its entrance on September 28. The service was partially closed to allow for these works, to overcome this disruption activities were held in the outdoor area, and people used the Click and Collect service. Staff also took advantage of the opportunity and redesigned the layout of the library to increase the aesthetics of the space.

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The new vinyl space at the front of the library will be used for children's craft activities, food service, and as a gathering space for the Meet and Greet group.

Loans decreased due to the COVID lockdown, while e-resources and online assistance increased. Members contacted the Gwydir Shire branches seeking assistance with library and NSW government online services.

Members renewed and reserved items online in lockdown. These statistics are collated not per the branch but as a service total. During lockdown, 254 items were renewed, and 1577 items were reserved.

**Bingara Branch activities:**

- Digital assistance Medicare Express App: assistance offered daily as per bookings to download the digital COVID Vaccination Certificate.
- After School programs, Storytime and Be Connected tutorials resumed.
- Library home deliveries and front door collection will continue to be offered for the foreseeable future as many residents are hesitant to visit.
- The branch hosted School Holiday programs Monday, Wednesday and Thursday of both weeks. The children enjoyed Sphero chariot racing hosted by library headquarters staff, movies on the big screen, Lego, and craft.
- To celebrate History Week ten tweens from the library visited the cemetery to research the older graves. History Week theme for 2021, 'From the Ground Up', has inspired members to research the early residents of Bingara during Book Club sessions each week throughout Term 4. A visit to the Historical Society for further research is planned.
- Be Connected and Tech Savvy Seniors' programs continue to be offered. More people are seeking assistance with their own devices and so a booking system now applies. A collaboration in 2022 between the Community College and libraries could be a possibility enabling over 50s to visit the library for ongoing support along with additional tutorials following their sessions at the Community College. The Community College have a dedicated teacher for sessions. Library staff will host e-resource sessions for participants in the coming term.
- Children celebrated the Reading Hour by selecting books to take home to read with their parents, participating in a reading circle and selecting books to borrow.
- The library and toy library After School programs continue to be successful. Year 2 students will migrant to the main library floor during the fourth week of term to join the older children in their program once a week. This allows the younger children time to adjust to 'library based' programs such as Book Club, Code Cracking and Scrapbooking.

**Warialda Branch activities:**

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- After School programs resumed once lockdown ended. Activities were hosted outdoors due to the refurbishment of the library foyer.
- Staff began relocating items from the foyer area ready for the new flooring and minor changes to take place. Collection services were offered to all members.
- New vinyl flooring was laid on September 28.
- The branch closed from 2:00pm on September 23, 28, 29, 30, allowing staff to relocate the shelving back to its position, make changes where necessary and re-shelve the items. The branch is looking better with the flooring enhancing the entrance.
- Home deliveries and front door collection will continue to be offered for the foreseeable future as many residents are hesitant to visit.
- Crochet for Kid's Club will commence every Tuesday afternoon for children aged over eight.

<b>Statistics</b>	<b>Bingara</b>	<b>Warialda</b>	<b>Gwydir</b>
Door count	1219	340	
Loans	658	226	
New members	15	1	
E-resource users			58
Downloads			265
PC usage	154	22	
WIFI usage	320	98	
Programs	17	14	
Adult program	20	19	
Children program	157	32	
Home delivery	32	26	
Institution delivery	5	3	
Seniors Be Connected	3	4	
Online assistance	46	22	

**Myall Creek**

The amenities at Myall Creek Massacre Memorial site were opened on Saturday 11 September.

Vandalism occurred at the site sometime during the last lockdown period.

The Friends of Myall Creek Massacre Memorial Committee released a media release which can be found [here: Media Release](#)

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*The damage caused by vandalism in the amphitheater at the Myall Creek Memorial.*

**Property Management**

A third person has declined the vacant Plunkett Street unit. Council is advertising this vacancy in the Gwydir News October edition.

The sale of the property, 123 High Street Warialda was settled on Monday 27 September.

**Cleaning**

The Records Repository in Warialda has been added to the regular cleaning schedule.

Cleaning staff members completed the postponed Working Safely at Heights course on 20 September.

The Bingara cleaning sites have been audited. The standard of cleaning continues to be high and feedback from staff positive.

**Communication, Marketing and Social Media**

**Media and Communications**

**Gwydir News Review**

The Media and Communications team are currently reviewing the Gwydir News to gain a better understanding of how much the publication is costing Council, and to identify ways of improving efficiencies.

Following on from this review, strategies were developed to further leverage the publication and maximise readership in both online and print formats to add value to this Council investment.

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Key points:

- The cost of the October Gwydir News issue is \$1981.76 (including on costs). The cost of each month will vary slightly in accordance with advertising income.
- 818 copies are currently distributed in print and electronic format reaching 14% of the Shire population. With a number of new initiatives, it is expected that the Gwydir News can reach around 50% of the population.
- The Gwydir Newspaper in its original format was costing the Council around \$2115 per issue or \$101,523 per year.
- The Gwydir News is projected to cost Council approximately \$24,000 per year to provide this service.

The Gwydir News, in its current format, is a monthly publication circulated in print and digital formats, with a hard copy print run of 400. The current distribution is broken down as follows:

**Distribution**

Digital email list	390
Home delivered hard copy	200
Distributed throughout the community - VICs, Naroo, Touriandi, Bingara and Warialda MPS, Warialda Family Medical Practice	50
Digital copy accessed through the Gwydir Shire website	28
Leftover hard copies	150
<b>Total copies distributed</b>	<b>818</b>

**Cost of Production (based on October issue)**

<b>Expense</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Wages	\$2,250.49
<i>Wages oncosts</i>	<i>\$1,080.23</i>
Printing	\$981.82
<i>Printing oncosts</i>	<i>\$78.55</i>
Nifty's Courier Service	\$50.91
<i>Courier oncosts</i>	<i>\$4.07</i>
Telstra	\$15.69
Postage	\$368.00
Issue document reader per month	\$57.50
Stationery	\$22.50
In Design subscription	\$116.00
<b>Total costs</b>	<b>\$3,862.91</b>
<i>Total oncosts</i>	<i>\$1,162.85</i>
<b>Total production costs</b>	<b>\$5,025.76</b>

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Total advertising income	\$3,044.00
Total issue cost per month less advertising income	\$1,981.76
Total issue cost per month less oncosts and income	\$1,362.91
Cost of production each month	\$818.76
Cost of production per annum	\$23,781.12

These **costs** are indicative of all future issues however, the advertising income can fluctuate. It must be noted that increased advertising income can affect the printing cost because in some cases an increase in advertising can lead to an increase in publication size. However, the advertising income more than covers the printing costs.

In the previous Gwydir News (paper) format, the publication was costing Council \$101,523 per year or \$2,115.00 per issue (42 issues per year).

The Gwydir News (paper) print run was 1000. Distribution was 84 subscribers – 9 of which were organisations such as State Library, Parliamentary Library etc, and another 9 Councillors. The remaining 992 hard copies were distributed throughout the Shire to news outlets and stores. It is unclear how many papers were excess to requirements. There were 23 email subscribers.

**Proposed Changes**

With the current distribution, the Gwydir News is currently reaching approximately 14% of the Gwydir Shire population. Over the next 6 months, it is hoped to increase readership to 50% of the population through the implementation of several initiatives as outlined below:

**Electronic Distribution**

Increases in online distribution will be achieved in two ways. The first initiative involves piggybacking already established newsletters as an attachment. By approaching external groups such as schools, community groups and organisations such as Upper Gwydir Landcare, the Gwydir News can utilise their pre-existing databases to increase readership.

The second initiative aims to increase subscription to the e-mailing list, and views of the digital newsletter via the Gwydir Shire Council website. This will be achieved through promotion of the publication via the Gwydir Shire Council Facebook pages, and through community Facebook forums such as Wazza – What’s On, Bingara Noticeboard, Gravesend Community Group Incorporated, North Star - NSW. A call to action to ‘subscribe’ will be placed on these sites which will link to the website where readers can sign up to the Gwydir News via an online form. An example of the social media collateral is below.

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Increasing subscribers to the emailing list will also create further opportunities for a fortnightly electronic only mini edition, and the possibility to send urgent alerts such as boiled water and emergency information. This flexibility creates added value for readers and is more enticing for advertising prospects, particularly government advertisers who favour a more frequent publication.

**Advertising**

In addition to the opportunities for revenue mentioned above, there may be further opportunities to secure advertising income by increasing the publication’s web presence. By establishing a stand-alone Gwydir News website or housing it within the proposed Gwydir Tourism website, there is the possibility of attracting banner advertising from many of the regular government advertisers who are increasingly seeking electronic forms of advertising.

Currently, the Gwydir News advertising rates are conservatively priced, making it affordable for local businesses and community groups to advertise. The low rates also make it possible for the Gwydir News to attract these advertisers who tend to rely on free Facebook and social media advertising. The ad rates are below. Advertorial options are available by negotiation with the editor.

<b>Option</b>	<b>Price (inc GST)</b>
Small (bottom of page)	\$25.00
Medium (bottom of page)	\$50.00
Bottom banner (body)	\$75.00
Bottom banner (front page)	\$90.00
Quarter page	\$85.00
Half page	\$125.00
Full page	\$195.00

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Trades and Services - single	\$50.00 per quarter
Trades and Services - double	\$80.00 per quarter

**Sizes**

Small – 5cm high x 6cm wide

Medium – 5cm high x 12cm wide

Bottom banner ad – 5cm high x 19cm wide

Eighth page – 7.5cm high x 9cm wide

Quarter page – 13cm high x 9cm wide

Half page – 13cm high x 19cm wide

Full page – 25cm high x 19cm wide

**Increase in Print Readership**

While there are many people who use social media and online platforms as a source of news and events, a large cross section of the community continues to rely on the Gwydir News for their information, and as a link to the wider community. Adding to this obstacle is the unfortunate reality that many people in the community cannot afford to pay the \$25 postage to receive a hard copy. Others remain unaware of the service. Sadly, many of the people who fall into this category are elderly, or amongst the most vulnerable and socially isolated sections of the community and are those most reliant on this news and information. The current roll out of the Gwydir News provides limited opportunities for these residents to access the publication.

It is proposed that by increasing and distributing through ‘news stands’ at key locations across the Shire, these sections of the community will have better access to the publication. Proposed locations include:

- The Vicarage – North Star
- The Wallaroo – Coolatai
- The Croppa Creek Store – Croppa Creek
- Warialda Pharmacy – Warialda
- Warialda IGA – Warialda
- Bingara Pharmacy – Bingara
- Bingara IGA – Bingara
- The Upper Horton Sports Club – Upper Horton
- The Gravesend Store (when open) – Gravesend
- The Gravesend Pub – Gravesend

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Ideally, each location would have a stand such as the one in the image below, however, at a cost of \$70 each, the budget is likely prohibitive. It is however, recommended to purchase four for the key locations in Bingara and Warialda. Other locations to be supplied with copies: Bingara campgrounds – distributed by the rangers who do daily rounds, caravan parks, pubs, CHSPs, cafes and Senior Citizens rooms.

This initiative may require an increase in the print run in the future if demand outstrips supply. The cost of additional printing is detailed below, all other costs would remain the same. 28 pages \$2.20 per copy, or 32 pages \$2.40 per copy.



**Gwydir Shire Council Staff Newsletter Review**

The Media and Communications team is currently in the process of reviewing the internal Gwydir Shire Council Staff Newsletter. As part of this review, the team are looking at bringing the design of the publication in-house to overcome deadline issues and gain a better handle on quality control.

The Media and Communications team is also looking at reviewing the content to ensure the publication is meeting the needs of staff. To do this, the team is seeking feedback on ways to improve the publication, as well as interest from people who might like to be regular contributors in the form of recipes, stories, reviews, or articles.

**Gwydir Shire Tourism Website Redesign**

Gwydir Shire Council currently maintains three key websites:

- [www.gwydirshire.com](http://www.gwydirshire.com)
- [www.bingara.com.au](http://www.bingara.com.au)
- [www.warialdansw.com.au](http://www.warialdansw.com.au)

The Gwydir Shire website is Council’s main online touchpoint and provides information about Council services, documents, and events. This site was upgraded in 2020/2021 and uses the OpenCities platform.

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The Bingara and Warialda websites act as the Shire's tourism portals and are a hangover from a time when Bingara and Warialda were two separate Shires. In 2004, the two LGAs were amalgamated however, the websites for each town remain. During this time, money and resources have ensured that the Bingara website has been regularly updated. However, the Warialda website had been neglected and is in serious need of an over-haul.

Measures to create unity between the two towns and cross promote the Shire offerings have been undertaken with the production of a new Shire wide brochure, which showcases both Bingara and Warialda, as well as the other outer lying villages in the Shire. An example of the brochure can be found here <http://www.bingara.com.au/about-bingara/gwydir-shire/gwydir-brochure/>.

As part of the web overhaul, it is envisioned that one Shire wide tourism website will be created which reflects the design and content of the brochure. This unified platform will provide the opportunity to promote the Gwydir Shire as a destination. Moreover, it is hoped that by cross promoting all the towns and villages in the Gwydir Shire, Council can maximise the offerings to visitors and increase overnight stays in the Shire.

This will take the key information from Bingara and Warialda websites, extend to include the Shire and allow for easier content management by staff to keep a single site up to date.

Desired outcomes of the redevelopment:

- A website designed to reflect the essence, diversity and vibrancy of the Gwydir Shire as a tourism destination.
- The content management needs to be simple and provide people with clear information on where to visit and what to do.
- A new fresh website is required to promote the region and centralise the content management.
- A site with a Content Management System that can be easily updated in house by Gwydir Shire Council staff.
- One unified website that encourages visitors to explore the whole shire rather than just one town. A landing page that represents all the towns and villages in the shire.
- Search Engine Optimisation so that each town is easily located, visitors search in terms of Bingara or Warialda and not by Gwydir so it is vital that information on each town is still easily found.
- A unique landing page for each town.
- Ability to filter services and attractions by town.
- The possibility of an interactive map detailing the attractions throughout the Shire.
- Aesthetically pleasing.

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- A new domain for the tourism site eg [www.visitgwydir.com.au](http://www.visitgwydir.com.au) or [www.gwydirtourism.com.au](http://www.gwydirtourism.com.au) with the existing site redirected to this new site.
- The main goal of the project is to ensure that the first impression of your brand online is WOW. The site needs to provide a single coherent message on why to visit the Gwydir Shire.
- Once the site is live, the aim is to create more engagement with the audience, longer session durations, a lower bounce rate and more contact forms filled in.

### Inspiration:

[www.visitnarrabri.com.au](http://www.visitnarrabri.com.au)

[Coffs Coast - Create your paradise. Discover the Coffs Coast Region.](#)

[www.destinationtamworth.com.au](http://www.destinationtamworth.com.au) – The way this site displays its information for its villages could be a good method for Council's site.

**Timing:** Early 2022

The Media and Communications team have been securing quotations for the development of this site. The establishment of the website would be a one-off cost with the ongoing maintenance of the site undertaken by the Media and Communications staff.

### Gwydir Shire Council Website Google Analytics 1 September - 30 September 2021

#### Users by Country

Users ▾ by Country



COUNTRY	USERS
Australia	1.7K
China	139
United States	48
Ireland	24
India	17
Philippines	14
Sweden	10

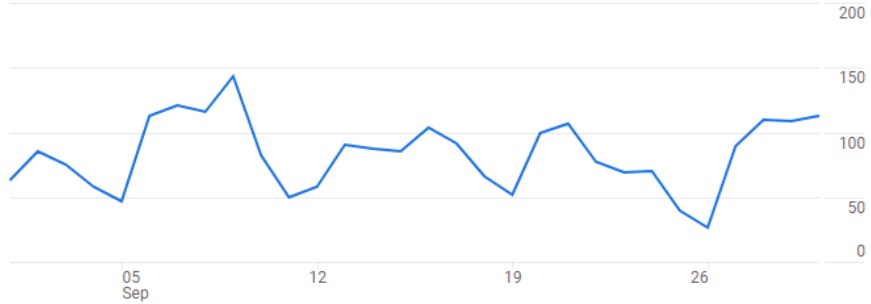
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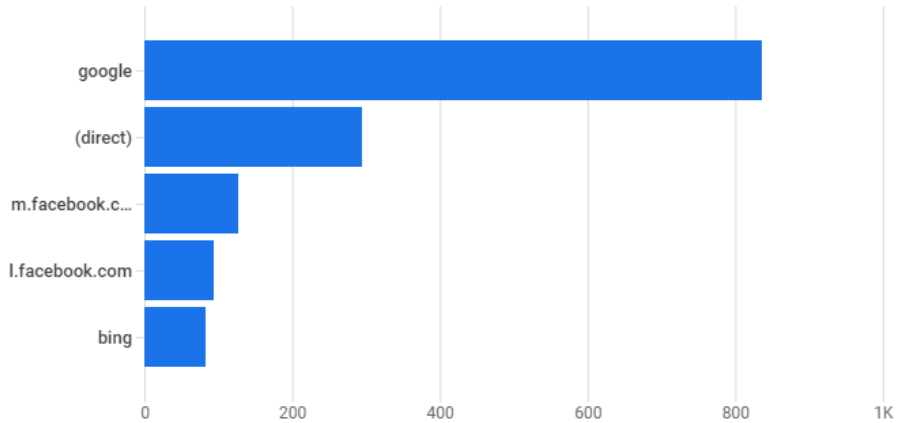
**Users, New Users and Average Engagement Time**

Users    New users    Average engagement time <sup>?</sup>    Total revenue <sup>?</sup>  
 2K    1.6K    1m 23s    \$0.00



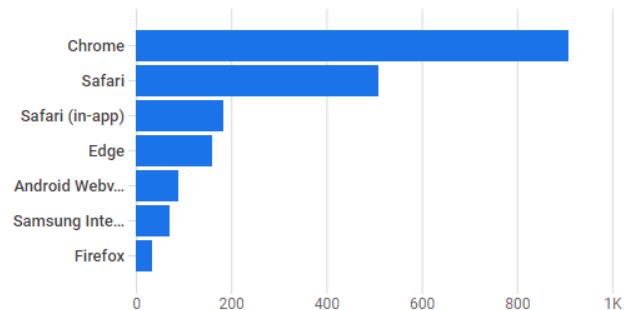
**New Users by First User Source**

New users by First user source



**Users by Browser**

Users by Browser



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**Users by Device**

Users ▾ by Device category



● DESKTOP 50.1%      ● MOBILE 47.4%      ● TABLET 2.5%

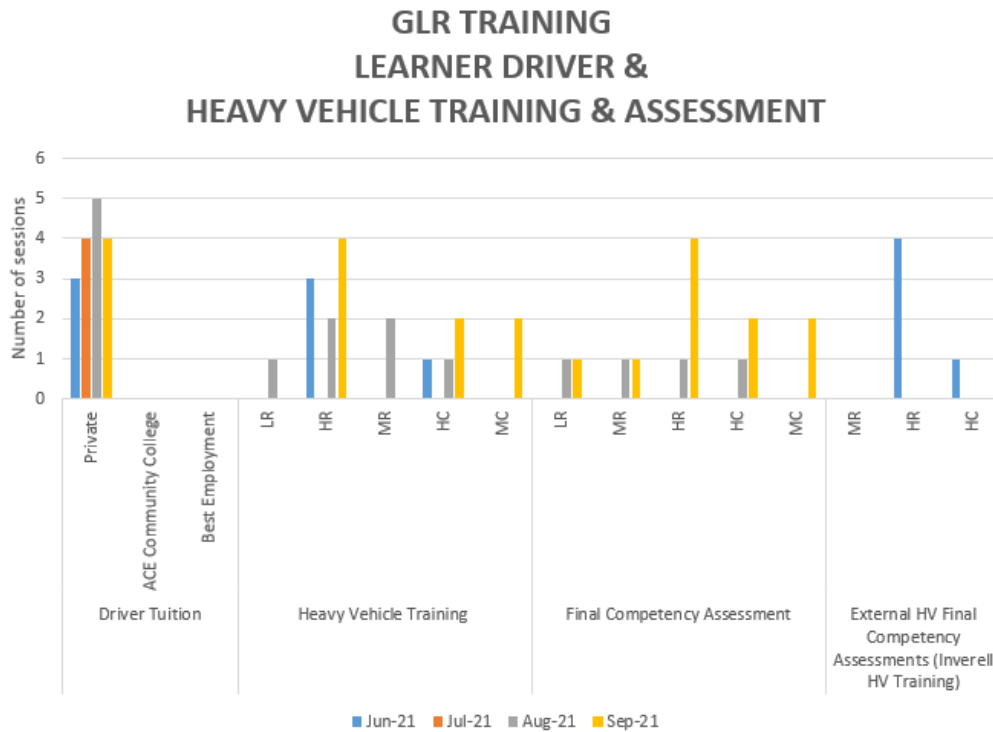
**Page Title and Screen Class**

Page title and screen class ▾	Views	Users	New users	Views per user	Average engagement time
Totals	7,711 100% of total	1,968 100% of total	1,613 100% of total	3.92 Avg 0%	1m 23s Avg 0%
1 Home - Gwydir Shire Council	1,711	1,161	846	1.47	0m 19s
2 Positions Vacant - Gwydir Shire Council	983	477	218	2.06	0m 44s
3 Search Results - Gwydir Shire Council	446	164	0	2.72	0m 37s
4 Contact Council - Gwydir Shire Council	421	315	78	1.34	0m 50s
5 Council - Gwydir Shire Council	348	146	0	2.38	0m 36s
6 Gwydir Career Start - Gwydir Shire Council	302	157	59	1.92	1m 05s
7 Landfills - Gwydir Shire Council	142	100	52	1.42	0m 28s
8 Building and Development - Gwydir Shire Council	131	77	2	1.70	0m 21s
9 Shire News - Gwydir Shire Council	124	64	14	1.94	0m 30s
10 Services - Gwydir Shire Council	109	62	0	1.76	0m 28s

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**Gwydir Learning Region Automotive Trade Training Centre (ATTC)**



**Heavy Vehicle Training and Assessment**

September has been a busy month with heavy vehicle training back in full swing. Council’s assessor is working solidly to complete the two-day training session for two (2) clients each week. As illustrated in the graph above the following sessions were carried out in September:

Private Driver Tuition (Car) – 4

Heavy Rigid (HR) Truck Driver Training – 4

Heavy Combination (HC) Truck Driver Training – 2

Multi Combination (MC) Truck Driver Training – 2

Enquiries continue with the average waiting period increasing to around three (3) months. There are currently 6 clients with funding approval waiting for training dates, and 16 new enquiries whose funding approvals are pending.

GLR Training has entered into an agreement with ACTM Training and Consulting to facilitate Council assessors’ accreditation requirements under the Heavy Vehicle Competency Based Assessment program with Transport for NSW. This arrangement is working well.

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Considering the significant increase in demand and participant numbers, an advertisement inviting expressions of interest from current staff interested in developing their skills and knowledge to become accredited heavy vehicle trainers and assessors has been displayed in the workplace and posted on Council's Staff Facebook page.



**Expression of Interest for Heavy Vehicle Trainers/Assessors**

Council is currently inviting expression of interest from current employees that might be interested in developing their skills and knowledge to become Heavy Vehicle Trainers/Assessors. Council will assist and support interested employees through the training process to obtain the necessary qualifications. Once accredited employees will be required to assist and relieve Council's Senior Assessor to provide Heavy Vehicle Training and Final Competency Assessments to clients of GLR Training.

Interested candidates must have held at least a HR drivers licence for a minimum of three (3) years.

To submit expressions of interest or if you would like more information about this fantastic opportunity please contact Clarissa Barwick 02 6729 3005 | 0429 290 100 | [cbarwick@gwydir.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cbarwick@gwydir.nsw.gov.au)

The following graph demonstrates the significant increase in heavy vehicle training and assessment over the past few years, understandably, GLR Training's registration as Smart and Skilled funding providers has contributed to the considerable growth in demand.



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**Staff Training in September 2021**

<b>Training</b>	<b>Provider</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Number of Participants</b>
Chainsaw – Trim and Cut	DPI – Tocal College	TLC Bingara	6
Working at Heights	Gwydir Community College	Bingara	2

**Boosting Apprenticeship Commencement (BAC) Wage Subsidy**

Gwydir Shire Council has already taken advantage of the Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements wage subsidy which supports and encourages businesses to take on new apprentices and trainees, to build a pipeline of skilled workers to support sustained economic recovery.

Through the subsidy, any business or Group Training Organisation that engages an Australian Apprentice between 5 October 2020 and 31 March 2022 may be eligible for a subsidy of 50 per cent of wages paid to a new or recommencing apprentice or trainee for a 12-month period from the date of commencement to a maximum of \$7,000 per quarter.

This program has now been extended to include the time-limited Completing Apprenticeship Commencements (CAC) wage subsidy for the second and third years of an apprenticeship. Under the CAC, eligible employers will receive a 10 per cent wage subsidy in the second year of an eligible apprenticeship, up to a maximum of \$1,500 per quarter per apprentice, and a 5 per cent wage subsidy in the third year of their apprenticeship, to a maximum of \$750 per quarter per apprentice.

To date Council has claimed Boosting Apprenticeship Commencement wage subsidies for eligible trainees and apprentices to the value of \$26,044.87.

**2021 Gwydir Career Start Program**

Council recently advertised the following positions as part of its 2021 Gwydir Career Start Program:

- School Based Trainee Mechanic
- School Based Trainee Tourism
- School Based Trainee Water and Sewer
- Trainee Care Service Employee (Naroo Hostel)
- Planning and Building Administration Trainee
- Trainee Environmental Planning Officer
- Trainee Works Supervisor

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- Trainee Plant Operator
- Apprentice Gardener
- Apprentice Water and Sewer Operator

Applications closed on Friday 1 October 2021 and response has been varied.

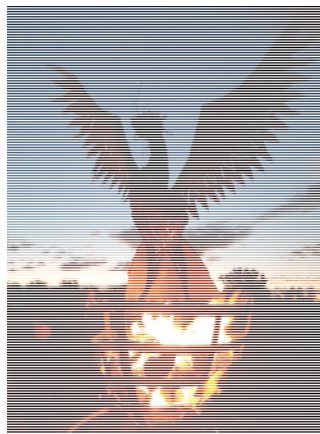
Position	Number of applications received	Position	Number of applications received
School Based Trainee Mechanic	2	School Based Trainee Tourism	NIL
School Based Trainee Water and Sewer	1	Trainee Care Service Employee (Naroo Hostel)	1
Planning and Building Administration Trainee	4	Trainee Environmental Planning Officer – position withdrawn	2
Trainee Works Supervisor	NIL	Trainee Plant Operator	2
Apprentice Gardener	3	Apprentice Water and Sewer Operator	3

Interviews for these positions will commence Monday 11 October 2021.

**The Living Classroom (TLC)**

Once again, many bookings at TLC have had to be cancelled or postponed due to COVID-19.

On Tuesday, 21 September over 45 people gathered at TLC to celebrate the unveiling of the Phoenix sculpture and the Spring Equinox. Tony Gomez was commissioned to make the sculpture. The group walked to the Stone Circle within The Carbon Farm for a welcome by Garry McDouall before heading to the Phoenix. In addition, Meaghan Stamer and her husband Kai had prepared a “Children’s Fire”. They conducted a welcoming ceremony and explained Spring rituals from many cultures.



*The Phoenix sculpture by Tony Gomez.*

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The children then gathered to place sticks into the “Children’s Fire”. These had words written on them such as Peace; Friendship; Love; Birth and Harmony.

The cauldron nest of the Phoenix was then lit by older children to symbolise regeneration and the onset of Spring.

The Phoenix will now be re-set on a concrete plinth which was delivered and positioned by Cr Stuart Dick.

A second plinth was also delivered and positioned within the ‘Paradise Found–Mediterranean Garden’. This is a new base for the existing ‘Amphora’ statue, also by Tony Gomez.

The TLC Nursery was opened to the public on Thursday 23 September for purchases of plants and produce. The Nursery is now open each Thursday and Saturday. Fifty people attended the opening day.

TLC aims to offer a wide range of plants suitable for our local climate and soils. Sales generated will cover the operation of the activity and any profit will be put back into the Nursery and the expansion of TLC’s produce gardens.

A ‘chainsaw – trim and cut felled trees’ course was conducted at TLC by an instructor from Tocal College. Six Council staff members attended. The students provided some practical applications to felling, trimming, and cutting tasks onsite.

Produce gardens have been prepared and planted at TLC for this Spring. Plantings include leafy green vegetables and salad plants, potatoes, pumpkins, melons, and corn. Surpluses will be available through the Nursery as well as to local outlets.



*Broccoli Romanesco grown in TLC Kitchen Garden.*

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**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

THAT the report be received

**ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments for this report.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:**

**THAT the report be received.**

**(Moved Cr D Coulton, seconded Cr Young)**

**Cr Geoff Smith**

**Various matters**

Cr Smith requested advice as to whether the maintenance to track crossings across Travelling Stock Routes to people's properties are the responsibility of the property owner. Cr Smith was advised that that is the case.

Cr Smith also requested that the staff explore the possibility of expanding the Warialda Skate Park with more varied attractions.

**Cr Catherine Egan**

**Feedlot located at 821 Eden Forest Road, Gravesend**

Cr Egan requested feedback on whether the conditions attached to this development approval are being followed up to ensure compliance. The meeting was advised that the issue regarding one of the conditions was raised at the last meeting and is being followed up by the staff but that no further information is available at this time.

**Cr David Coulton**

**Various matters**

Cr D Coulton advised the meeting that a Warialda Fishing Club representative contacted him about the four garbage bins located at Ezzy's Crossing being stolen. Could the bins be replaced with more secure bins – answer yes;

Could Andrew Cooper please liaise with the Warialda Showground Trust about providing an estimate for some water reticulation work – answer yes; and;

Is the Council willing to support the Warialda Showground Trust in its attempt to have an air conditioner fitted under a previous grant administered by the Council – answer yes.

**Cr Frances Young**

**Council's Disability Access Plan**

Cr Young requested an update on the work to be undertaken under this plan, which was provided.



**Cr Tiffany Galvin**

**Bingara Street Bins**

Cr Galvin advised the meeting that the town centre rubbish bins require regular cleaning as they are often filthy, especially the one outside IGA. The meeting was advised that this will be addressed.

**Cr Stuart Dick**

**Onus Road Dog Breeding Facility**

Cr Dick advised the meeting that he has been contacted by Ms. Tess Vickery from the Parliamentary Office of The Hon. Emma Hurst MLC, Animal Justice Party, to discuss the subject facility. He advised the meeting that he referred her onto the General Manager.

**Cr Jim Moore**

**Various matters**

Cr Moore asked how the development of the Koorilgur Walk was progressing and whether community groups, which was provided;

Is it proposed to provide a shade cover over the swings in Captain Cook Park Warialda and could the park bench that has been removed be returned. The requested information will be provided;

A resident complained of the pot holes in Hope Street Warialda that need some attention. This will be done; and;

Could the signage allowing dogs to exercise in the Heritage Cemetery Park area please be removed now that the new exercise area has been established near Nicholson Oval? The matter will be referred to the appropriate staff member for attention.

**Cr Marilyn Dixon OAM**

**Various matters**

Cr Dixon requested an update on the proposed murals at the Warialda Memorial Pool, which was provided; and;

Could the deteriorating paint around the Maitland Street Bingara flower gardens please be attended to as a matter of urgency? The meeting was advised that it will be attended to.

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**Shire Engineer**

**Swifts Road**

Mr Eddy advised the meeting that it is likely that the NSW Government will be transferring responsibility for the maintenance of this road to both Gwydir and Moree Plains Shire Councils. However there has been some dispute as to how the shared transfer will be achieved as the boundary between the two shires runs up the middle of the road,

**Meeting closed 11.55 am**