



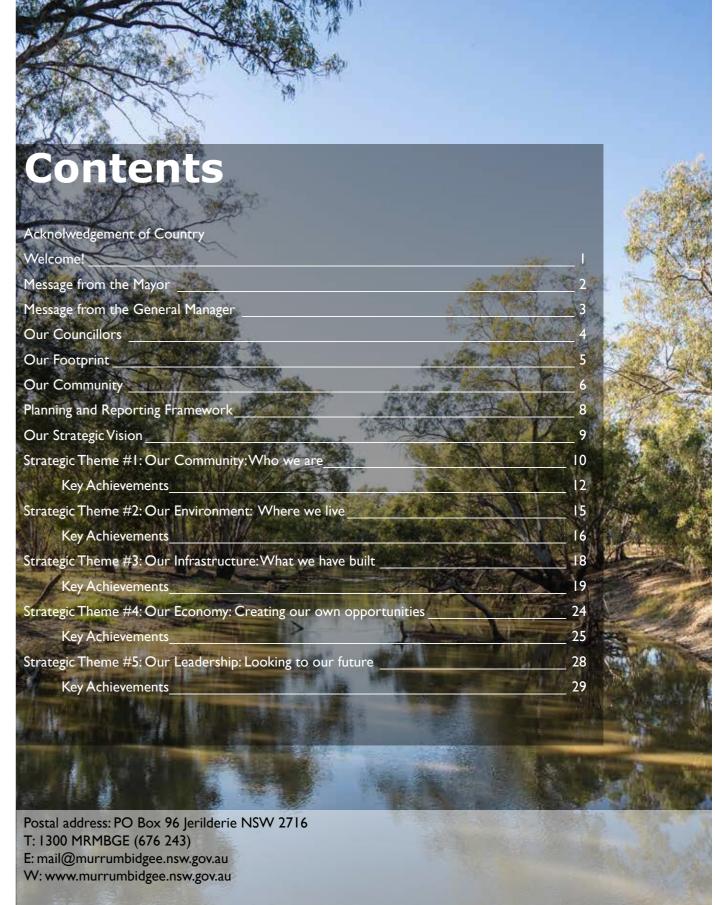
We would like to show respect and acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land, Elders past and present, and extend that respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Pictured is local girl Kizzi admiring the incredible mural which graces the walls of the Council Chambers at Jerilderie. The mural is titled 'Yo-thun-ing-yuna-ngarratya', meaning 'Coming Together'. It was created for the 2000 Olympic Games, where it was hung in Parliament House to provid a visual welcome to visitors and wish them peace and safe travel.

The painting depicts various Aboriginal design elements, including the Eaglehawk, which is the Barundji/Barkindji totem. It also depicts a white feather to symbolise safe travel.

The mural was created by four Barundji/Barkindji artists: Elsie Black, Gertrude Gittins, Eileen Ballangarry and Sos Hawkins. These women can trace their family back at least 700 years as direct matriarchal descendants of the tribe. We sincerely thank these talented artists for this masterpiece and for allowing us to share it for all to see and appreciate.





Coleambally Office: 39 Brolga Place Coleambally NSW 2707

Darlington Point Office: 21 Carrington Street Darlington Point NSW 2706

Jerilderie Office: 35 Jerilderie Street Jerilderie NSW 2716

Authorised by John Scarce, General Manager, Murrumbidgee Council, 35 Jerilderie Street Jerilderie NSW 2716.



Message from the Mayor



As we move towards the end of our elected term, I would like to thank the inaugural Murrumbidgee Councillors for their courage and commitment in navigating the challenging waters, while seeking positive outcomes for our community at all times.

Our initial term of 16 months in administration after the merger was frustrating, but

the Local Representation Committee did everything in its power to keep as engaged as possible.

The first Council was elected in September 2017 for a 3 year term. This was extended in September 2020 due to the tenuous situation of the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in this Council spending an extra 15 months at the table.

I would like to acknowledge our staff - our Management and Leadership Group and each person who contributes to providing services and influencing the well-being of our community.

Since Council's inception we have also experienced significant climatic, environmental and public health challenges - including drought, floods, mouse plagues and the COVID-19 pandemic.

We have witnessed much change and, while change is confronting, it also presents many opportunities. We have been the beneficiaries of many of these opportunities, with funding allocations from the NSW and Federal Governments to the tune of \$30 million, which have allowed us to undertake an extensive capital improvement program.

This has included upgrades to our ageing infrastructure and also some exciting new projects, all of which have strengthened and broadened the appeal of living and doing business in our area.

Projects have included the Coleambally Sports Precinct redevelopment, the new Boat Ramp and Floating

Pontoon at Darlington Point and the upgrade to the Jerilderie Swimming Pool, to name a few.

This capital investment into infrastructure and roads enabled us to showcase our area in a positive light, with considerable success in attracting new development.

Agriculture remains our key economic driver - the daily challenges of water security and affordability, climatic variability and commodities markets and fluctuations determine so much of the prosperity of our Council footprint.

Our positioning in one of the designated Renewable Energy Zones has resulted in many approaches from interested developers for solar and microsolar projects, some complete and some still in the pipeline.

The Transgrid Interconnector development crosses through our Council footprint. This nation building initiative has the ability to create State capacity and hopefully regional opportunity during its build.

Council is guided by a robust and highly regulated Planning and Reporting Framework.

Compliance is a growth industry and, though small in size and population, we are all beholden to the same framework

Planning is of paramount importance to the organisation - it informs our strategic plans, guides our budgetary decisions and allows our Operational and Delivery Plans to be actioned in a timely and accountable manner.

It is with a genuine sense of pride in our service delivery that allows Council to attend to our core business and to further advocate across many other areas of importance.

There is no doubt that a committed and resilient workforce and engaged and informed elected members have served the inaugural Murrumbidgee Council admirably. It is our intention to continue to do so.

R.K. M.Rae.

Ruth McRae, Mayor

Message from the General Manager



My tenure with
Murrumbidgee Council began
on 8 October 2018, and as
such I will only focus my
message on the period from
then until 4 December 2021
when this term of Council
ends and a new one begins.

The first term of any newly amalgamated local council is never going to be smooth sailing. The inaugural term

will bring with it many bumps, twists and turns along the way.

Just because the State Government declares that you have become one Council, does not make an amalgamation. The joining of the two entities is just the beginning of a complex journey to develop one highly functioning and cohesive organisation.

There were many differences between the two organisations that had to, and continue to be, addressed in order to meld the two into one.

To begin with, there are two distinct cultures. There is also usually is more than two unique identities, especially if there's more than two towns in the mix, as it is with our Council area. This is something we would never attempt to change as they form the fabric of our community.

There are also two different financial management systems, two different policies and procedures on almost everything, two different land use strategies, two different Workplace Health and Safety systems, two different salary systems and a myriad of different work methods.

In the first term, you strive hard to convert some of these two's into one's, but not everything can be achieved in that timeframe.

Throughout the journey, we have continued to recognise the contribution of the former Murrumbidgee and Jerilderie Shire Councils. These former organisations are an integral part of our history as they helped to shape our communities into what they are today. We must celebrate the two former Shire Councils by recognizing the contribution they played in the development of the new.

We are aiming for the amalgamation to be completed in the next term of Council. Projects commenced, such as the Land Use Strategy, Risk Management, Asset Management, to name just three of many, are set for completion in the next two years.

The development of the new strategic plans will further guide the design and direction of Murrumbidgee Council as one. These plans have never been more important.

Another crucial factor in our operations has been the unprecedented funds coming from the State Government to compensate for the amalgamation. The drought and pandemic has also seen extensive funds from the Federal Government. These funding programs have given us the ability to build and renew essential infrastructure and are listed later on in this report.

In closing, thank you to our Councillors, staff and community and all those who have contributed to Council in the first term.

Our next phase in Murrumbidgee Council's evolution will be one of consolidation, where we can look forward to ensuring that Murrumbidgee Council, its residents and ratepayers can prosper after unsettling times.

John Scarce, General Manager

Our Councillors



The Murrumbidgee Local Government area (LGA) is divided into three wards, with three councillors elected to represent each ward. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor are elected by the Councillors. Our Mayor throughout the

Council term was Cr Ruth McRae. The Deputy Mayor was Cr Robert Black.

The Councillors make decisions about what happens across our LGA and ensure decisions adopted are implemented.

RUTH McRAE Elected 2017



GAILA SMITH Elected 2017





Elected 2017

FAITH BRYCE



ROBERT BLACK Elected 2017 **Deputy Mayor 2017-2021**



AUSTIN EVANS

CHRISTINE CHIRGWIN Elected 2017



Elected 2017 Resigned 2017

PAT BROWN

Elected 2018





PHILLIP WELLS Elected 2017

GAVIN GILBERT Elected 2017





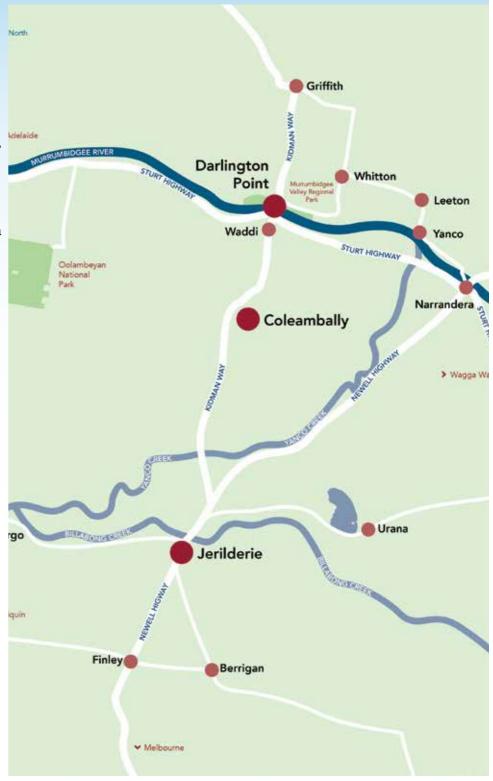
Our Footprint

Our community includes:

- A population of 3,916 people
- 3 townships of Coleambally, Darlington Point and Jerilderie, and surrounding rural localities (or part) of Argoon, Bundure, Carrathool, Coree, Four Corners, Gala Vale, Logie Brae, Mabins Well, Mairjimmy, Nyora, Oaklands, Steam Plains, Waddi and Yamma, encompassing an area of 6,880 km².
- 3 offices, 3 depots
- 122 machines and vehicles
- 1,721 kms of roads
- I library, I mobile library
- 3 waste depots and 950 bins per week
- 10 halls and facilities
- 9 public toilets
- 2 skate parks
- 3 sporting ovals
- 2 sporting complexes
- 3 swimming pools
- I river, I lake, I billabong

MURRUMBIDGEE COUNCIL END OF TERM REPORT 2017-21

- Nature trails and walks
- 3 cemeteries
- I saleyard

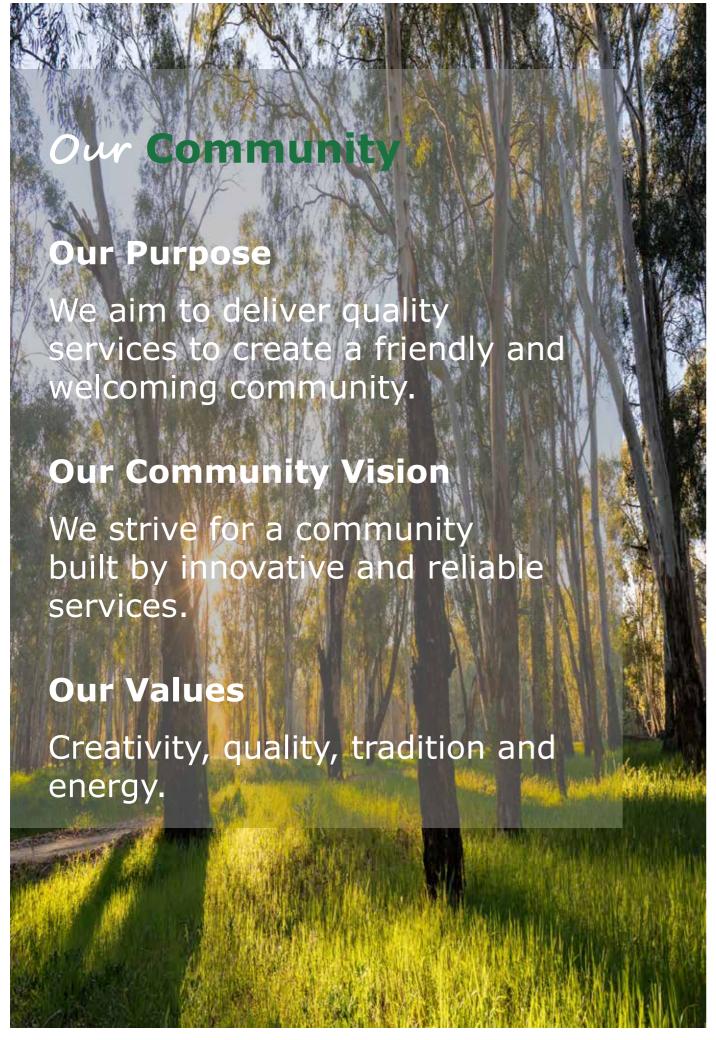


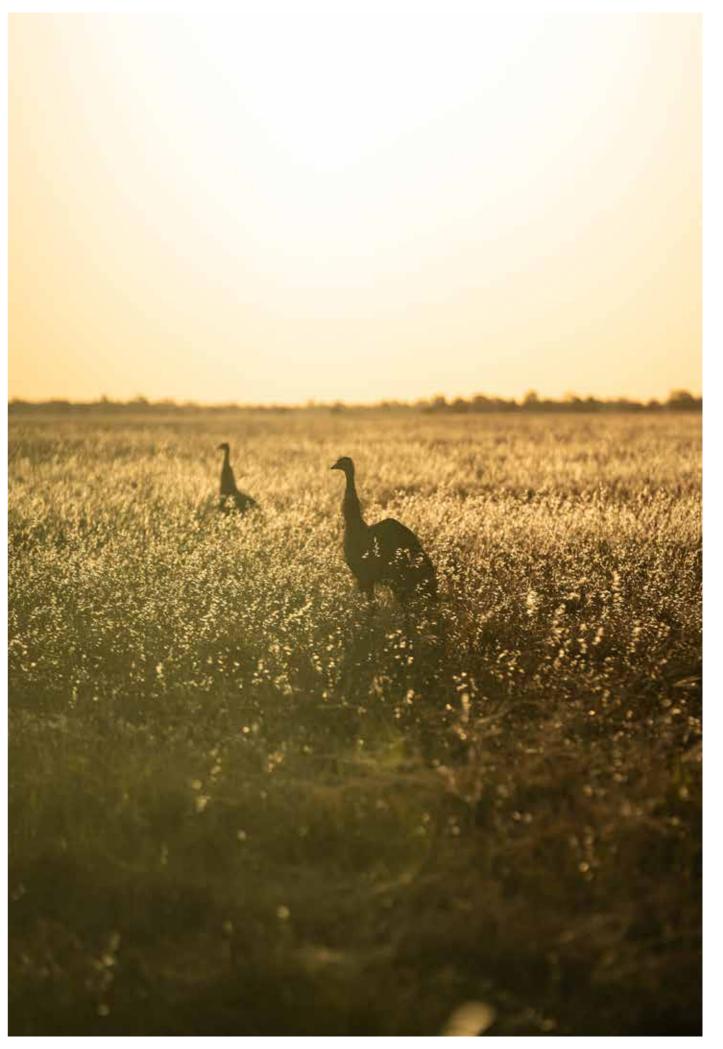
JERILDERIE WARD

EAST

MURRUMBIDGEE

MURRUMBIDGEE WARD





Planning and Reporting Framework

The way we plan and report is outlined in the Local Government Act 1993 and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. Referred to as the 'Integrated Planning & Reporting' (IP&R) framework, it allows councils to integrate their various plans, achieve the maximum leverage, and plan holistically for the future. This is achieved through the following documents:

- Community Strategic Plan (10 year plan) identifies the community's priorities and strategies to deliver this.
- Delivery Program (4 year plan) how the community's priorities and wishes in the Community Strategic Plan will be achieved.

- Operational Plan (annual) the activities within a financial year to achieve the actions in the Delivery Program.
- Resourcing Strategy, made up of:
 - Long Term Financial Plan (10 year plan) how Council affords to meet current and future needs (ensuring we are financially sustainable).
 - Workforce Management Plan (minimum 4 years)human resourcing requirements.
 - Asset Management Plan (minimum of 10 years) accounting for and planning for all existing assets
 (including their condition) and future community
 assets as proposed in the Delivery Program.

State and regional plans Resourcing Strategy Community Strategic Plan (10 year plan) **Delivery Program** Community (4 year plan) engagement 3 Operational Pla (1 year plan) Ongoing monitoring and review **Annual Report End of Term Report**

These are reported to the community through the:

- Annual Report

 summarises
 performance and
 achievements in the
 preceding financial
 year. It tracks the
 implementation of
 the Delivery Program
 and Operational Plan
 and also includes
 some information
 required by the
 Local Government
 regulations.
- ◆ End of Term Report - Details achievements in implementing the Community Strategic Plan over the previous four years.

Our Strategic Vision

At Murrumbidgee Council, we value creativity and innovation to reliably delivery quality service and facilities to our communities. We do this through traditional principles and forward thinking that provides strong, positive leadership to nurture who we are, where we live and what we have built. Our communities are welcoming and energetic, fun and friendly places. They appeal to all and have everything you need.

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COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

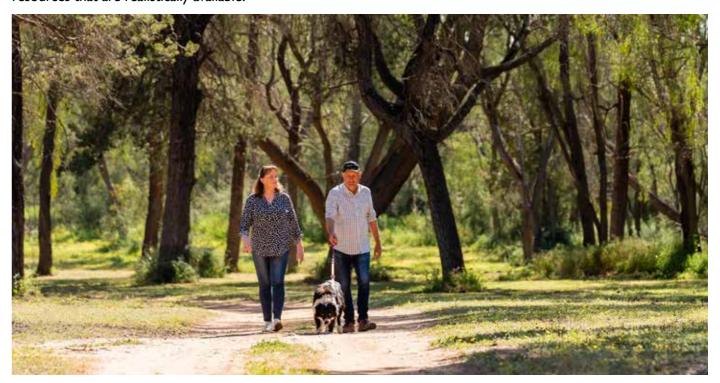
The Community Strategic Plan (CSP) sits above all other Council plans and policies in the hierarchy of plans.

The purpose of the CSP is to identify the community's main priorities and aspirations for the future and plan strategies to achieve them. These strategies take into consideration the issues and pressures that may affect the community and should ideally consider the level of resources that are realistically available.

The Murrumbidgee Council Community Strategic Plan (CSP) was developed following community consultation and was adopted by Council in June 2018. The identified key strategies were grouped into the following five strategic themes that reflect the main themes identified during the Community Engagement and consultation process held by Council. They reflect Council's broad governance, reporting and operational structure.

The five key strategic themes of the Plan are:

- 1. Our Community Who we are
- 2. Our Environment where we live
- 3. Our Infrastructure What we have built
- 4. Our Economy Creating our own opportunities
- 5. Our Leadership Looking to our future



Strategic Theme #1: Our Community: Who we are

We support all members of our Council community. We strive to ensure they feel safe and are actively and passionately involved in establishing and promoting a connected, respected Council Area by facilitating equitable access to community infrastructure and services - healthcare, education and transport. The diversity of our three towns serves to create a stronger, ever-evolving Murrumbidgee Community, which values its rural lifestyle as the place to work and live sustainably into the future.

STRATEGIES:

- 1.1 Building and Supporting a Diverse Community
- 1.2 Protecting and Embracing Cultural Identity and Heritage
- Creating Community Opportunities and 1.3 Equitable Access to Council and Community Services and Programs
- Enhancing Health and Wellbeing 1.4
- Creating a Safe Community 1.5

1.1 Building and Supporting a Diverse Community:

- I.I.I Improve and increase the availability of community and public transport options throughout the Council area so that we have access to nearby services outside our Local Government Area
- 1.1.2 Engage and encourage the disadvantaged members of Murrumbidgee communities by supporting the work of regional government agencies and NGOs
- 1.1.3 Foster and provide community opportunity and build a culture of respect for diversity and differences through the performing and visual arts
- 1.1.4 Build a culture of respect for diversity and differences

1.2 Protecting and Embracing Cultural Identity and Heritage:

- Provide opportunities for our community to showcase their heritage and diversity
- 1.2.2 Value-add to our historic places and spaces

10

- 1.2.3 Unique historic stories from across the Council area are celebrated and protected
- 1.3 Creating Community Opportunities and **Equitable Access to Council and Community Services and Programs:**
- 1.3.1 Foster current sporting, social, recreational and cultural events and activities to increase participation and inclusion.
- 1.3.2 Encourage the development of a range of sporting options, particularly for young people, and enhance the capacity of community organizations and sporting groups to access external grants and funding opportunities.
- 1.3.3 Provide opportunities for the towns to interact more to ensure a greater sense of connectedness and create closer bonds including fostering and supporting and recognising volunteers and their organisations within the community
- 1.3.4 Provide a range of community entertainment activities including activities for youth, seniors and people with disabilities
- 1.3.5 Strengthen community pride through honours and awards nominations and ensure Council-provided grants and in kind support is efficiently and equitably distributed to support community and sporting groups efforts and activities
- 1.3.6 Ensure Murrumbidgee libraries are cultural, recreational and learning centres of the communities of Murrumbidgee

1.4 Enhancing Health and Wellbeing:

- Manage and maintain the amenity of parks, gardens and the environs of all Council communities
- 1.4.2 Ensure that we have access to a broad range of mental health services
- Promote and support health services
- 1.4.4 Maintain public health inspection and licensing programs and compliance
- Diversify engagement to increase awareness

- and participation in education including investigating opportunities for developing partnerships with TAFE and regional universities
- 1.4.6 Support the continuity of health services from public and private sector across Murrumbidgee
- 1.4.7 Support a community health facility where allied and specialist health service providers can operate an MPS service model
- 1.4.8 Support our community services programs and encourage collaboration and communication linkages between service providers across the region
- 1.4.9 Provide support to community funded cultural and wellbeing activities and events - for example, investigate the possibility of opportunities other than Australia Day when our community can celebrate together

1.5 Creating a Safe Community:

- 1.5.1 Working with relevant agencies (including police and schools), to maintain and develop existing road safety initiatives within the Council area to keep our children safe
- 1.5.2 Liaise with local police and State government to increase police presence and visibility in our area
- 1.5.3 Provide adequate street and security lighting in our towns
- 1.5.4 Council supports, and where appropriate, seeks funding for community safety programs and initiatives
- 1.5.5 Provide adequate activities for young people and facilities they can use to keep them entertained in a safe environment



Key Achievements

- Providing community services to Darlington Point and Coleambally (funded through the Community Home Support Program). These are: community transport, meals on wheels, home modifications and maintenance and social support. As part of this service, we also:
 - Purchased two new cars for community transport use.
 - Submitted a grant for \$40,000 for a new Community Bus.
 - Held Seniors Week activities.
- Preserving and promoting the area's history through public art, story boards and signs: Positioning information signs around Coleambally highlighting history prior to Irrigation in the 1960s (funded through the Australian Government Drought Communities Programme Round 2) and Wiradjuri Walk Projects (funded through NSW Government Shared Spaces Program).
- Goanna Track Signage increasing visitation to our natural and native heritage along the Murrumbidgee River - funded with \$27,000 NSW Government Stronger Country Communities grants.
- Shared Spaces Grant Wiradjuri Art and signage in Darlington Point highlighting heritage of the area.
- Murrumbidgee Champions Youth Project \$100,000
- Hosting numerous events for youth as part of the annual Youth Week (sourcing grants for this).
- Celebrating the Annual Women's Week by hosting events.
- Educating and supporting the community about mental health and wellbeing through initiatives funded by the Australian Government Drought Communities Programme. This includes mental health specific workshops and wellbeing events in Coleambally, Jerilderie and Darlington Point. and distributing literature to the community about the availability of mental health services.

- Supporting the activities of the Western Riverina Arts Group - celebration of Aboriginal Culture in Darlington Point
- 'Pride of Place' Coleambally Junior Changerooms No 2 Oval \$134k, Cemetery Toilets \$51k, Town Signage \$40k.
- Injecting funds into the community through the annual \$20,000 Community Grants Program and overseeing the funds distribution for the annual \$20,000 Neoen Coleambally Solar Farm grants program.
- Employment of a Drought Community Support Officer to support the community (funded through the Australian Government Drought Communities Program, rounds 1 and 2.)
- Jerilderie Swimming Pool upgrade/replacement \$1.3m.
- Darlington Point Splash Park \$316k recreational facilities for the youth of Darlington Point.
- Offering library services to our community as a member of Western Riverina Libraries. This includes the Jerilderie Library, which offers a fantastic range of resources. Regular programs they offer include:
 - Storytime
 - Knitting
 - · Monthly movie
 - · School holiday movies
 - Author talks, including Lisa Shanahan
 - Community events, such as the Biggest Morning Tea
- Drought Funding #2 Parks and amenities improved via funding.
- Hosting Citizenship Ceremonies with the Mayor,
 Cr Ruth McRae officiating on behalf of the Australian Government.
- Australia Day Community events and awards across the three communities.







Strategic Theme #2: Our Environment: Where we live

We live in a unique natural environment that we value highly. We undertake a guardianship role to ensure and enhance its long term sustainability through appropriate practices and management.

STRATEGIES:

- 2.1 Protecting Existing Regional Natural Environment for future generations
- 2.2 Exploring and Promoting Alternate, Sustainable Energy Sources and Practices
- 2.3 Maintaining a Balance between Growth, Development and Environmental Protection
- 2.4 Protecting and Managing Waterways and Catchments
- 2.5 Valuing and Conserving our Native Flora and Fauna

2.1 Protecting Existing Natural Environments for Future Generations:

- 2.1.1 Ensure the conservation of the Council's natural beauty and ecology for future generation and visitor attractions
- 2.1.2 Expand our network bush land walking trails to encourage active experiences of our river side location and protect the surrounding bush
- 2.1.3 Foster learning about and celebrate the Council's natural resources
- 2.1.4 Manage environmental opportunities and challenges exploring native fish stocking and carp elimination opportunities

2.2 Exploring and Promoting Alternate, Sustainable Energy Sources and Practices:

- 2.2.1 Engage with RAMJO (formerly RAMROC) and support sustainable energy initiatives (including funding opportunities), including green waste, bio waste and sustainable street lighting
- 2.2.2 Continue to encourage investment into solar power and other sustainable energies
- 2.2.3 Rationalise waste management and recycling

priorities in accordance with relevant legislation

2.2.4 Conduct principal certifying authority functions in the local government area

2.3 Maintaining a Balance between Growth, Development and Environmental Protection:

- 2.3.1 Stimulate the conservation of important heritage assets of Murrumbidgee Council
- 2.3.2 Encourage and support sustainable land use, planning and development
- 2.3.3 Consider plans for the improvement, beautification and revitalisation of Murrumbidgee towns including town entries
- 2.3.4 Ensure best practice public and environmental health controls
- 2.3.5 Maintain a responsible animal management program and service ensuring stray and illegally –kept animals are not allowed to become a nuisance to community

2.4 Protecting and Managing Waterways and Catchments:

2.4.1 Promote responsible water usage particularly in town areas

2.5 Valuing and Conserving Native Flora and Fauna:

- 2.5.1 Continue to promote flora and fauna conservation through Councils road network maintenance program
- 2.5.2 Educate and inform the community on weed management

Key Achievements

- Approving micro and larger scale renewable energy projects.
- Preparing the draft Land Use Strategy to provide a clear direction to achieving Murrumbidgee's medium to long-term and rural growth needs.
- Activating Fig Tree Park and Goanna Trail in Darlington Point.
- Preparing European and Aboriginal Heritage Studies (desktop).
- Conducting biodiversity assessments for land subject to proposed rezoning.
- Providing a parking space at the rear of the Jerilderie Civic Hall for an electric Vehicle Fast Charging Station (funded by NRMA and the NSW Government).

- Controlling and eradicating priority weeds throughout our area, particularly by:
 - Being an active member of the Murray and Riverina Weeds Action Program (WAP). This program helps develop partnerships to effectively target weeds, identify and stop new weeds early and increase community involvement in weed management.
 - Participating in the Red Guide Post Program, where red guide posts are placed at known locations of high risk priority weeds.
- Reducing water consumption in the township of Jerilderie by introducing permanent raw water restrictions. These restrictions were adopted at the December 2020 Council meeting after a successful trial. This has been accompanied by regular promotion and education of the need to use water wisely.



Pictured at the new electric vehicle fast charging station, (L-R) Cr Faith Bryce, Council's Infrastructure Director Tom Dimec, Council's Acting Operations Manager Justin Williams, Mayor Cr Ruth McRae and Cr Gaila Smith.

- Implementing the LED Streetlight Conversion Project in May 2021 where Essential Energy converted over 500 streetlights from older HID technology to LED. This work will be funded in the 2021-22 budget with \$285,000 to complete the bulk upgrade. The costs are expected to be recouped within a period of 8.42 years. This will deliver savings of up to 49% in energy consumption - equivalent to 22 cars off the road annually. This means:
- Less greenhouse gas emissions.
- Savings in maintenance and energy.
- More uniform and reliable lighting, creating safer public places for the community.
- Investigating expanding the kerbside waste and recycling collection services.
- As a member of the RAMIO Riverina Waste Group, we work together to develop cost-effective resource recover and waste reduction programs. The group's mission is to help residents in our communities reduce waste, improve sustainability and save money. The Community Recycling Centres (CRC) at Coleambally and Jerilderie Waste Depots (landfills) are part of this and we are working to making these facilities operational.
- Preparing the draft Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan and confirmed flood related development controls. This Study was funded through financial assistance from the NSW and Commonwealth Governments through the Natural Disaster Resilience Program.
- Moving to the NSW Planning Portal for the online lodgement of Development Applications, Construction Certificates and Complying Development. The online system allows developers

- and residents to access planning services and information anywhere and anytime.
- We also began offering a free pre-lodgement advisory service for people planning to submit Development Applications. As part of this initiative, staff provide advice on the steps involved in an application and supporting documents that will be needed.
- An amendment to the Murrumbidgee LEP was successfully finalised with Toganmain Woolshed Precinct being listed as a heritage item in Schedule 5 of the LEP.
- As a member of the Yanco Creek and Tributaries Advisory Council, (YACTAC), we work to build collaborative partnerships to deliver a wide range of natural resource programs and activities. These programs aim to protect and enhance our creek environments and ensure sufficient water resources are provided to keep the creeks flowing and protect our native fish and other aquatic biota.
- Extensive funding of environment projects using Council's community grants fund and allocated NSW Government funding, including:
- Providing a community grant of \$2,000 to Darlington Point Landcare to plant trees at the Darlington Point common. Landcare coordinator Andrew Paterson lead the project and we thank him for this initiative and also the ongoing maintenance of the trees
- Providing community grants to Riverina Classic Fishing Competition and Darlington Point Apex Club for the purchase of native fingerlings to release into the Murrumbidgee River. The fingerlings are released on a yearly basis at the annual Catch and Release Fishing Competition. We thank the club for their work in this area.



Strategic Theme #3:

Our Infrastructure: What we have built

Our community is well serviced and connected to well-planned built, social and community infrastructure developed and maintained according to community and public safety needs and priorities and partnerships.

STRATEGIES:

- 3.1 Responsible, Sustainable Asset Management
- 3.2 Infrastructure (Council buildings and facilities) which Meet Community and Public Safety Needs
- 3.3 Providing the Community with Open Spaces to be Active
- 3.4 Maintaining and Improving Transport Infrastructure
- 3.5 Ensuring local utilities and communications infrastructure and connectivity meets future needs

3.1 Responsible, Sustainable Asset Management:

- 3.1.1 Maintain a comprehensive asset management capability framework
- 3.1.2 Continue to engage with the community and stakeholders in relation to acceptable service levels for all public assets

3.2 Infrastructure (Council Building & Facilities) which meets community and public safety needs:

- 3.2.1 Manage and maintain community and sporting building facilities for the benefit of the community
- 3.2.2 Efficiently manage and maintain Council's building and specific purpose facilities
- 3.2.3 Efficiently manage and maintain Council's plant and equipment
- 3.2.4 Manage public (safety) liability and risk associated with public infrastructure
- 3.2.5 Manage and maintain Murrumbidgee's cemeteries

3.3 Providing the Community With Open Space to be active:

- 3.3.1 Develop riverside locations for the enjoyment of all and to promote tourism
- 3.3.2 Enhance and expand sporting opportunities

- 3.3.3 Provide and maintain a range of community recreation facilities
- 3.3.4 Ensure public places are clean and well maintained
- 3.3.5 Maintain our Crown Land resources responsibilities responsibly

3.4 Maintaining and Improving Transport Infrastructure:

- 3.4.1 Maintain roads to agreed standards and ensure that school bus routes are our highest priority
- 3.4.2 Provide and maintain footpaths, cycle ways, kerb and guttering
- 3.4.3 Maintain partnerships to ensure the Newell and Sturt Highways and the Kidman Way remains open at all times
- 3.4.4 Maintain local, regional and state roads and bridges in accordance with Councils' asset management plan
- 3.4.5 Improve street and building accessibility for the disability and mobility impaired

3.5 Local Utilities and Communications Infrastructure and Connectivity:

- 3.5.1 Manage water assets in line with best practice standards and agreed priorities
- 3.5.2 Manage sewer assets in line with best practice standards and agreed priorities
- 3.5.3 Manage Stormwater in line with the agreed priorities
- 3.5.4 Advocate and improve mobile information and communications technology and infrastructure across the Murrumbidgee Local Government Area

Key Achievements

This first term in the history of Murrumbidgee Council has seen an ambitious capital development program where we have actively pursued Government funding. Here's a snapshot of what's been completed and what's ahead. A full listing of the roads projects can be found on pages 35-37.

Coleambally

- Sports Precinct Amenities/Junior Change Rooms
- Drought funding Round 1: footpaths (Bellbird and Sandpiper Sts, shade structures, seating). Funded by the Australian Government Drought Communities Programme.
- Morundah Road reconstruction

- Drought funding Round 2:Town Revitalisation
 Project (John McInnes Square, solar lighting, public
 art, town seating, Christmas decorations). Funded by
 the Australian Government Drought Communities
 Extension Programme.
- Bencubbin Avenue and Channel Nine Road reconstruction
- Wiradjuri Walk Project Town entrance pillars

Darlington Point

 Boat Ramp and Floating Pontoon - \$1.1 million project located on the Southern side of the Murrumbidgee River, opposite the Darlington Point Riverside Caravan Park and adjacent to the Darlington Point flood levee bank. Contractor: Comdain Infrastructure. Funded by: \$450,000



The captains of Darlington Point Primary School, along with community members, representatives from Boating NSW, Councillors and staff were present to celebrate the official opening of the Darlington Point Boat Ramp and Floating Pontoon on 10 March 2021. Pictured (L-R) Starlett Norris, Armani Coe, Mayor Ruth McRae, Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Premier Steph Cooke, Zane Lyons and Jed Strachan.

grant through the NSW Government's Boating Now Program, with the remainder funded by the NSW Government's Stronger Communities Fund. The project was officially opened by Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Premier Steph Cooke and Mayor Ruth McRae on 3 March 2021

- Goanna Walking Track signage
- Town entrance signs
- Drought funding Round 1: footpaths (McAlister Street, Barwidgee Blvd) shade structures, seating.
 Funded by the Australian Government Drought Communities Programme.
- Britts Road reconstruction
- Sports Facilities upgrade: change rooms, kiosk, toilets, kitchen.
- Lions Park amenities block and display Project cost:
 - \$580,712. New purpose built toilet block and display area for historic items. The new amenities also provides storage facilities for the local Lions Club. Contractors: Architect -Steven Murray, Construction - Adaptive Interiors. Funded by: NSW Government **Stronger Communities** Fund. This project was completed in August 2020 and was officially opened by Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Premier Steph Cooke and Mayor Ruth McRae on 3 March 2021.
- Drought funding Round 2: Town Revitalisation Project

 public art, solar lighting,
 Christmas decorations,
 landscaping. Funded by the
 Australian Government
 Drought Communities

 Extension Programme.
- Wiradjuri Walk project (public art, story boards, improvements in shared spaces/connectivity, town entrance statements).
- Museum upgrade
- Local Community
 Champions Youth Project
- Shire Hall upgrade

20

Jerilderie

- Independent Living units
- Coree Hall Playground shelter
- New Telstra mobile base station at Bundure -Location: Kidman Way, Bundure. Benefits: New and improved 4G mobile network coverage along the Kidman Way and more consistent data speeds for rural residents and visitors. Jointly funded by Telstra and Murrumbidgee Council (Council contributed \$400,000 through the NSW Government Stronger Communities Fund). Relevant dates: Switched on in March 2021.
- Jerilderie Showground amenities
- Replacing the lighting towers and upgrading the LED lighting at Monash Oval. \$158,000 was allocated from the NSW Government Stronger Communities



Locals and visitors will benefit from the new Telstra mobile base station at Bundure. Pictured (L-R) Captain Murrumbidgee Rural Fire District and Mid Murray Zone Andrew Browning, Cr Gaila Smith, Telstra Regional General Manager for South NSW Chris Taylor, Mayor Ruth McRae, Cr Pat Brown and Council's General Manager John Scarce, 9 March 2021.

- Fund (Round 3).
- Drought funding Round 1: footpath (Jerilderie St) kerb and guttering (Jerilderie St, Nowranie St), seating, Monash Park fence and seating, tree/ bin guards. Funded by the Australian Government Drought Communities Programme.
- Yamma Hall upgrade new toilets and upgraded kitchen. Funded through NSW Government Stronger Community Funding.
- Swimming Pool upgrade Project cost: \$1.96 million project. Funded by: NSW Government Stronger Country Communities Round 2 and Stronger Communities Fund. Completed in November 2020. It was officially opened by Member for Albury Justin Clancy MP and Mayor Ruth McRae on 10 March 2021.
- Racecourse grandstand roof Project cost: \$67,800, funded by the NSW Government Crown Lands Stimulus Funding \$67,800. Officially opened by Member for Albury Justin Clancy MP, Mayor Ruth McRae and President of the Jerilderie Race Club Des McRae on 10 March 2021.
- Lake Jerilderie Bank rehabilitation \$188,366
 was allocated to the project through the NSW
 Government Stronger Country Communities Fund,
 Round 3.
- Drought fund Round 2 Town Revitalisation Project 2020-2021: Christmas decorations, public art, solar lighting, landscaping, town seating, town clock, Council chambers facade. Funded by the Australian Government Drought Communities Extension Programme.
- Wiradjuri Walk Project: Town entrance statements
- Jerilderie stadium studio construction Project cost: \$225,000. Details: The studio room contains: full length mirrored wall, portable ballet stand, air-conditioning and lighting. Contractor: Kennedy Builders, Funded by: \$225,000 grant from the NSW Government's Sport Election Commitments Program for Female Sports Participation (Office of Sport). The studio room was completed in January 2021. It was officially opened by Member for Albury Justin Clancy MP and Mayor Ruth McRae on 10 March 2021.
- Electric Vehicle Fast Charging Station (funded by NRMA and the NSW Government).
- Bolton Street Reconstruction
- Oaklands Road reconstruction

Across the whole LGA

 Continuing liaison with Transgrid on the status of the Energy Connect project which involves the construction of the transmission line between Robertson in South Australia through to Wagga

- Wagga, with a connection to Red Cliffs in Victoria. A path of about 85 km will run through our Local Government Area.
- Continuous Improvement Program with Statewide Masterplans for Cemeteries.
- Crown Land Management Plan
- Murrumbidgee Council convenor or Digital Connectivty Subcommittee.
- Carrying out bulky waste and green waste kerbside collections in all three towns, particularly as an incentive to residents to clean up the yard in preparation for the summer fire season.
- Managing bush fire mitigation grading/slashing asset protection zones, fire access trails and other areas such as the levee bank. Council is currently part of two Bushfire Zones and Management Committees: the Mid Murray and the MIA.
- Running the Rural Addressing Campaign to educate rural landholders on the need to ensure their rural property numbering signage is legible and not obscured. This is particularly important to ensure a property can be found by emergency services. Anyone needing new signage can contact Council and we will replace it at no cost, with the landholder responsible for installing the new sign.

Future years

- Coleambally Sporting Precinct redevelopment, Stage 2 (completion delayed due to COVID delays). Details: new player and umpire change rooms and amenities, and upgrades to the existing clubhouse, including the amenities and scorer's box. It will also see additions to the netball change rooms, including upgraded amenities and a gymnasium, upgrades and additions to the youth hall and a new cricket pitch. Funded by: NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Rounds 2 and 3, Stronger Communities Fund grants.
- Bencubbin Avenue reconstruction, Coleambally. Funded by: Federal Government's Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program (\$626,000) and Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (\$1,008,021) and NSW Government's Stronger Communities Fund (\$750,000). Murrumbidgee Council will also contribute to the project.
- Channel Nine Road reconstruction
- Coleambally Community Hall upgrade
- Brolga Place, Coleambally redevelopment
- Jerilderie Early Learning Centre New purpose built early education facility to accommodate both a preschool program and long day care. It will offer 48 places for babies up to 5 year olds and will be instrumental in filling the void in childcare services in

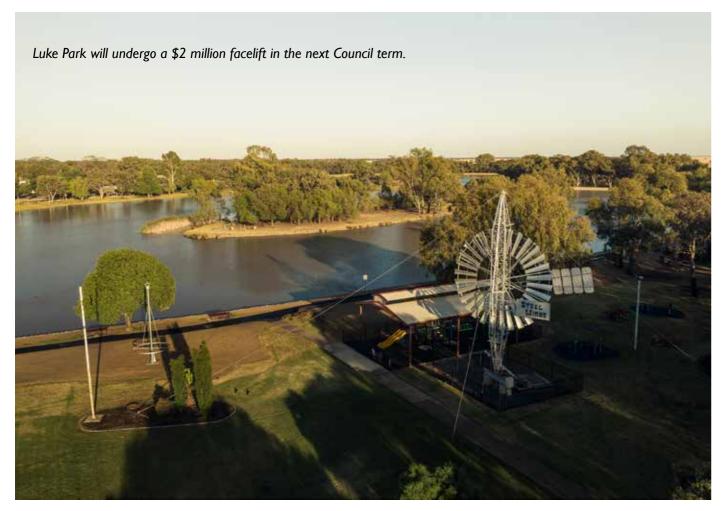


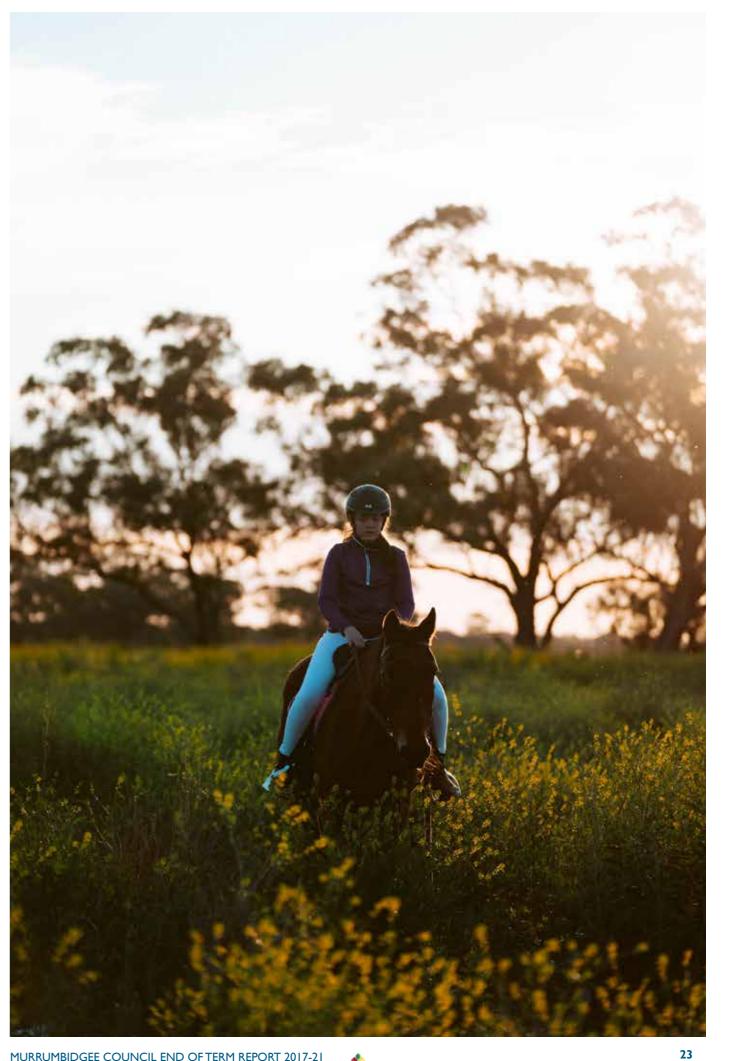


the area. Location: It will be built on the site of the old tennis courts at Elliott Park. Funded by: NSW Government Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 2 and Stronger Communities Fund grants, as well as grants sourced by the ELC Committee. It is anticipated the new centre will be finished by January

- Luke Park redevelopment Project cost: \$2 million. Details: upgrade of Luke Park will see the connections enhanced within and outside the park precinct. Elements of the project include a deck extension to connect Jerilderie Civic Hall to increase the open space experiences available and pedestrian and visual connections. Other works will include improvements to the Bush Tucker Trail, the walking trail, public art and signage and cultural heritage awareness elements. Funded by: NSW Government Public Spaces Legacy Program 2020-21.
- Jerilderie Skate Park and Pump Track Details: Designed as both a skatepark and pumptrack, it will cater for skateboards, scooters and BMX bikes. Funded by: NSW Stronger Country Communities Fund, Round 3 and Australian Government Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Fund.
- Young Street Residential Subdivision, Darlington Point
- Darlington Point Amenities block (in front of the cemetery) - this facility will include a Lift and Change

- facility for disabled users.
- Darlington Point Mini Skate Bowl Location: CWA Park (addition to existing Skate Park). Features: flatbanks, roll-ins, high rails, quarter pockets and a mogul blend. Funded by: Australian Government Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.
- Darlington Point Splash Park to be located near the existing Darlington Point Swimming Pool. Funded by: **NSW Government Stronger Country Communities** Fund Round 3, \$316,528.00 (GST exclusive).
- Water and Sewerage Treatment works upgrades in each town.
- Under the Federal Government's Regional Connectivity Program (RCP), adding new 'true broadband' technology on three existing towers and building two new 45m telco towers along the Newell Highway and Kidman Way. Murrumbidgee LGA Project partners: Federal Government, Field Solutions Group, Murrumbidgee Council, Nokia (technology partner), Altina Wildlife Park, Cavaso Farming, Cotton Australia and Coleambally Irrigation. \$1,242,800 total project cost.
- Redevelopment of Darlington Point Riverside Caravan Park (\$9 million upgrade, pending funding.)





Strategic Theme #4:

Our Economy: Creating our own opportunities

STRATEGIES

- 4.1 Welcoming and Supporting our Business and Industries Growth, Diversity and Productivity.
- 4.2 Promoting and Supporting a Regional Economy and Growth
- 4.3 Promoting and Developing Tourism Strategies and Opportunities
- 4.4 Supporting Community Access to Education, Training and Future Opportunities
- 4.5 Fostering and Developing a Resilient, Vibrant Agricultural Sector

4.1 Promoting Businesses and Industries Growth, Diversity and Productivity:

- 4.1.1 Partner with local business to create market opportunity for local product through high technology, improved freight and logistics pathways and cooperation with other local government areas
- 4.1.2 Promote Murrumbidgee and its towns and potential light manufacturing wholesale and retail business opportunities to diversify industry and stimulate employment growth
- 4.1.3 Progress the sale and development of blocks of industrial land in Murrumbidgee's industrial areas

4.2 Promoting a Regional Economy and Growth:

- 4.2.1 Work with other levels of government and private industry to build the Murrumbidgee Council profile and maximize cooperative opportunities
- 4.2.2 Work collaboratively with regional stakeholders to build Murrumbidgee Council profile
- 4.2.3 Contribute to regional tourism initiatives and major events in the region
- 4.2.4 Ensure there is adequate supply of residential and industrial land to stimulate business and population growth
- 4.2.5 Support local business with access to available training, workforce skills and technology

4.2.6 Build data and analysis of business and industry in the Murrumbidgee Local Government Area

4.3 Promoting Tourism Strategies and Opportunities:

- 4.3.1 Provide professional information services promoting tourism, visitor ventures and activities in our towns
- 4.3.2 Provide promotion and resources for tourism service providers
- 4.3.3 Provide promotion and support for major events within our Destination Management Plan
- 4.3.4 Develop and implement a Murrumbidgee tourism strategic plan aligned with regional, state and Federal priorities including outcomes of relevant evaluation reports and reviews
- 4.3.5 Encourage opportunities for further recreation activities on or around the rivers and lakes

4.4: Supporting Access to Education and Training and Future Opportunities:

- 4.4.1 Raise community awareness of TAFE, university and other regional education providers
- 4.4.2 Identify opportunities to enhance community and business's access to internet, broadband and mobile services through the Local Government Area

4.5: Fostering a Resilient, Vibrant Agricultural Sector:

- 4.5.1 Actively support development which is congruent with our lifestyle
- 4.5.2 Enhance and maintain key economic drivers to the agricultural supply chain including our road networks
- 4.5.3 Link Council's Economic Development Plan within the Regional Plan to develop regional initiatives stimulating interest in Murrumbidgee as an agribusiness hub for the Riverina and/or upper Murray regions
- 4.5.4 Influence the protection and enhancement of Murrumbidgee's agricultural supply chain's economic output, investment and employment

Key Achievements

Economic Development

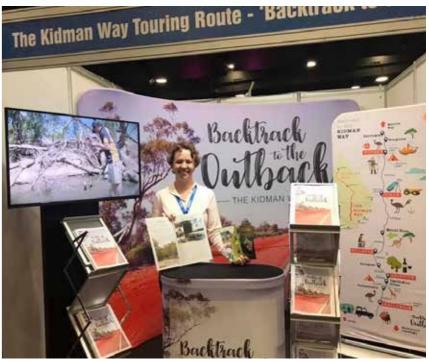
- Assisting to establish business chambers in Darlington Point (Business Connect) and Jerilderie (Jerilderie United).
- Hosting events to support businesses, for example, the Women in Business Networking event in Coleambally as part of 2021 NSW Women's Week, Grant Writing for businesses and Digital Marketing Workshops for Businesses held at Jerilderie and virtually in October 2020 as part of Small Business Week.
- Implementing the NSW Government 'Easy to do Business' initiative.
- Providing public access to economic and community data via Profile.id on the Council website.
- Providing one-on-one consultations to inform and refer the investment decisions of micro, small and medium enterprises.
- Adopting and implementing the actions of the Murrumbidgee Council Economic Development Strategy 2019. The strategy guides economic development activity in the Council area.
- Establishing the monthly Business e-newsletter (500+ businesses have subscribed to the mailing list).
- Communicating with and assisting local businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Strategically placing features in local newspapers to promote local businesses, for example, 'Keep it Local' feature in the Southern Riverina News on Jerilderie businesses. This was accompanied by social media campaigns on the Council social media channels.

MURRUMBIDGEE COUNCIL END OF TERM REPORT 2017-21

Successfully applying for numerous grants.

Tourism

- Installing TASAC (Tourist Attraction Signposting Assessment Committee) brown and white tourism signs for the Ned Kelly Raid Trail in Jerilderie.
- Producing a new bird walking trail in Coleambally (funded through the Australian Government Drought Communities Programme).
- Updating the tourism image gallery for Coleambally, Darlington Point and Jerilderie. The images will be used for advertising and promotional campaigns.
- Promoting the Council area by attending the Victoria Caravan and Camping Show with the Kidman Way.
- Continuing membership and support for regional marketing activities including Ned Kelly Touring Route, Kidman Way Promotions Committee, Newell Highway Promotions Committee and Thrive Riverina.
- Launching the Murrumbidgee Trails Visitor Guide



Council's Economic & Tourism Manager Kellie Dissegna promoting our area at the 2020 Victoria Caravan and Camping Show on the Kidman Way Promotions Committee.



- and campaign a joint marketing initiative between Leeton Shire, Lockhart Shire, Narrandera Shire and Murrumbidgee Councils.
- Installing new public art throughout the Council area made possible through NSW Government Streets as Shared Spaces Program and the Australian Government Drought Communities Programme.
- Establishing and co-ordinating the Murrumbidgee Economic and Tourism Advisory Group (METAG). The group assists Council to deliver strategies and actions for economic and tourism development.
- Participating in tourism campaigns, such as our own 'School's out' campaign to promote the LGA post 2020 lockdown and Destination Riverina Murray's 'Go with the Flow' marketing campaign to increase awareness of the Riverina.
- Achieving Jerilderie's status as a RV Friendly town.
- Promoting the Murrumbidgee area through the various tourism communication tools, such as the travel show Postcards, The Wanderer magazine and Caravanning Australia magazine.
- Updating the Ned Kelly Touring Route brochure.
- Adding Darlington Point (combined with Coleambally businesses) as a town in its own right for the VisitNSW website.

Education Support

We provided support for students residing within the Murrumbidgee LGA through the following scholarships:

 Monash Bursary – \$2,000 bursary provided annually in recognition of the incredible contribution Sir John Monash made on the national and global scale. Recipients

2020 - Simon Toscan

2019 - Grace Leeds

2018 - Zac Barlow

26

2016 - Alysha Knight

Charles Sturt University Foundation Scholarship – We provide \$4,000 every year for a student at Charles Sturt University who is from Murrumbidgee Local Government Area. Recipients were:

2021 - Josie Moore 2020 - Jayden Wensing and Zachary Leach-Deahm

Murrumbidgee Council Student Scholarship Program – \$1,000 each awarded to locals undertaking tertiary study. Recipients were:

2021 - Dharian Causon, Jonathan Foster, Olivia Mauger and Millie Rossato

2020 - Danielle Mannes, Anna Pinnuck and Claire Robb 2019 - Anthony Toscan, Isabella Catena, Lauren Knight, Sophie Chauncy, Thomas Mannes

2018 - Alysha Knight, Emma Teusner, Harrison Curtin, Joshua Fattore

2017 - Alysha Knight, Cindy Brown, Luke Wilson

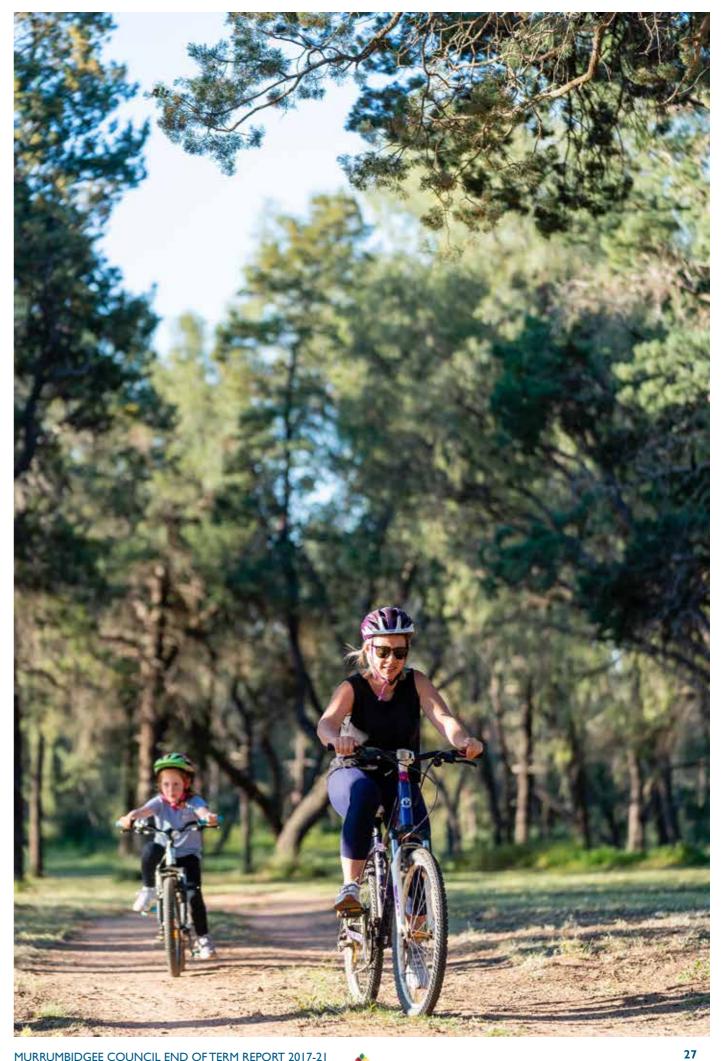
- Coleambally/Darlington Point Country Education Foundation Scholarships - funding provided annually through Murrumbidgee Council Community Grants.
- Murrumbidgee Council Awards at local schools funding provided annually.

Future directions

- Developing a New Resident Guide for people new to the area or considering the move.
- Building on the Ned Kelly Raid Trail by developing virtual tours, videos of artefacts and updating the Ned Kelly Trail website and the marketing material.
- Developing tourism videos for each town.
- Promoting and selling residential land in the Young Street, Darlington Point sub-division.
- Developing an Investment Attraction Prospectus.
- Conducting a bi-annual business survey of all businesses to identify economic development gaps and opportunities for our region.
- Developing the Explore Murrumbidgee Business and Tourism Guide.



The Monash Bursary recipient for 2019 is pictured (L-R) with her father David Leeds, Mayor Cr Ruth McRae and special guest at the Monash Dinner, Monash's great grandson, Michael Bennett, 20 September 2019.



Strategic Theme #5:

Our Leadership: Looking to our future

Council's leadership role encompasses sound, futurefocused outcomes for the whole of Murrumbidgee Council. The leadership challenge is in developing a holistic approach that operates ethically, implements good governance to develop and ensure a positive future for the community.

STRATEGIES:

- Demonstrating Transparent Leadership through Accountability and Community Representation
- 5.2 **Engaging With Future Community Leaders**
- Investigating Funding, Services and Programs Strengthening Communities in the Region
- Promoting Council as an 'Employer of Choice' through Relationships
- Cooperating and Collaborating with other Councils to Achieve a Strong Voice in Regional Arenas

5. I Transparent leadership through Sustainability, **Accountability and Community Representation:**

- 5.1.1 Provide leadership through ethical accountable and legislative decision making processes
- 5.1.2 Optimise council's revenue streams and assets in its Long Term Financial Plan
- 5.1.3 Ensure community participation in the Community Strategic Plan is reflected in Council's budget
- 5.1.4 Fully integrate Council's asset management, strategy, system and program in the Councils Long Term Financial Plan
- 5.1.5 Review and implement an appropriate procurement, risk and project management frameworks and cultures
- 5.1.6 Actively source external grants and funds for identifies projects and initiatives

5.2. Engaging with Future Leaders:

28

5.2.1 Promote opportunities for leadership development for our community groups

- 5.2.2 Link and promote programs for young people to improve their leadership skills
- 5.3 Investigating Funding, Services and Programs **Strengthening Communities in the Region:**
- 5.3.1 Continue to engage equally with residents of smaller communities within the Murrumbidgee LGA
- 5.3.2 Partner with providers of emergency services to ensure appropriate response levels to community emergencies
- 5.3.3 Ensure a coordinated and multi-faceted approach to all of Council communications with the community

5.4 Council is an 'Employer of Choice':

- 5.4.1 Maintain a positive safety and risk culture supported by quality assurance, audit and training programs
- 5.4.2 Develop our people
- 5.4.3 Leverage new technology to monitor and innovate in our people and service development

5.5 Cooperating and Collaborating with Other Councils to Achieve a Strong Voice in the Region:

5.5.1 Build strong, effective and productive alliance and partnerships with community organisations, state and federal governments

Key Achievements

Demonstrating transparent leadership

There are many aspects of our operations, strategic directions, events and activities that we engage with the community on.

We do this through regular communication across a variety of channels. We have worked hard to build a strong connection with the community as a whole and the various sub-sections within it. This is guided by the Communications Strategy, the Media and Communications Strategy and the Code of Conduct.

With the continuing restrictions on room capacity, Council meetings were again available by live stream on Facebook. This was well received by the community, with people taking the opportunity to watch the meetings who would possibly had never attended a Council meeting in person.

Communicating about COVID has been a significant part of our work. This includes messages about public safety, availability of Council services, Public Health Orders (particularly for NSW, but also for Victoria if it affects our community) and the vaccination campaign.

We also play an important part in supporting campaigns of network organisations that our Council is part of, for example, joint tourism networks, RAMJO, etc.

Additionally, we use our communication channels to get the word out about the amazing events and activities our community groups and organisations are involved with.

Our communication channels include: the quarterly community newsletters (distributed to all addresses in the Council area), monthly e-newsletters (500 subscribers), media releases (average of 4 per month), social media, direct mail-outs/letter drops, posters, Council's website, forums and word of mouth. Our social media presence continued to grow with our Facebook reach growing by 20.3% over the previous year and our Instagram reach growing by 64.2%.

Integrated Planning and Reporting

Local councils have important statutory obligations through an Integrated Planning and Reporting process.

MURRUMBIDGEE COUNCIL END OF TERM REPORT 2017-21

The central plan that guides Council's activities was developed in 2017 and is called the Community Strategic Plan (CSP).

The CSP was developed through extensive community input. It identifies the community's priorities and how these will be achieved. It is a 10 year plan. As we are due for Local Government Elections on 4 December 2021, the plan will be reported on by the outgoing Council and then reviewed by the incoming Council.

All other plans sit underneath the CSP, namely:

- Delivery Program (4 year plan) how the community's priorities and wishes in the Community Strategic Plan will be achieved.
- Operational Plan (annual) The activities within a financial year to achieve the actions in the Delivery Program.
- Resourcing Strategy, made up of the following:
 - I. Long Term Financial Plan (10 year plan) how Council affords to meet current and future needs (ensuring we are financially sustainable).
 - 2. Workforce Management Plan (minimum 4 years) - human resourcing requirements.
 - 3. Asset Management Plan (minimum of 10 years) - accounting for and planning for all our existing assets (including their condition) and future community assets as proposed in the Delivery

Our activities are reported to the community through the:

- Annual Report summarizes our performance and achievements in the preceding financial year. It tracks the implementation of the Delivery Program and Operational Plan and also includes some information required by the Local Government regulations.
- End of Term Report (this report) details our achievements in implementing the Community Strategic Plan over the previous four years.





Engaging with future community leaders

We have actively promoted opportunities for our youth to contribute ideas to future events. We have also promoted opportunities for youth to become involved in regional and state led committees and taskforces.

Advocacy - Making submissions on matters of importance

During the term of Council, we have made numerous submissions on public inquiries and also to our local Members of Parliament on other matters. This includes the inclusion of our LGA in the COVID border bubble, the Murray Darling Basin Plan and public health.

Collaborating with others

We have continued to play an important part in the Regional and Murray Joint Organisation (RAMJO), which comprises: Albury City Council, Berrigan Shire Council, Carrathool Shire Council, Edward River Council, Federation Council, Griffith City Council, Hay Shire Council, Leeton Shire Council, Murray River Council, Murrumbidgee Council and Narrandera Shire Council.

Through RAMIO, we collaborate on strategic planning, priority setting, advocating, engaging with Governments and key stakeholders. This enables the organisation to facilitate infrastructure development and ensure the long term sustainability, well-being and liveability of the region's communities.

Key priorities for the organisation are: water security, energy security and affordability, transport connectivity, digital connectivity, better health services, waste management and industry, workforce and jobs.

We also utilise regional tourism organisations to leverage our promotional activities. This includes the newly established Murrumbidgee Trails network, which is a collaborative campaign by Leeton Shire Council, Lockhart Shire Council, Narrandera Shire Council and ourselves. We are also members of the Newell Highway Promotional Committee, Thrive Riverina and the Kidman Way Promotional Committee.

Other external committees we are involved in relate to the environment, bushfire management, water, libraries, arts and community development.

We have Council representation on the following external committees:

Standing and Special Committees of Council

- Internal Audit, Risk & Improvement Committee
- General Manager's Review Committee
- Darlington Point Caravan Park Committee
- Darlington Point Floodplain Risk Management Committee (formerly DP Levee Committee)

- Traffic Committee
- Local Emergency Management Committee

Section 355 Committees of Council

- Coleambally Australia Day Committee
- Jerilderie Australia Day Committee
- Coleambally Townlife Committee
- Darlington Point Townlife/Australia Day Committee
- Heritage Darlington Point
- Balmeringa Management Committee
- Central Coree Sports Complex Management Committee
- Yamma Recreation Reserve Management Committee
- Jerilderie Tidy Towns Committee

Advisory Committees

- Monash Park Users
- Coleambally Sports Precinct Advisory Committee
- Boat Ramp Darlington Point-Advisory Committee
- Darlington Point Master Landuse Plan Advisory Committee

External Committees with Council Representation

- CICL/Coleambally Environmental and Reference Committee (CERC)
- Kidman Way Promotional Committee
- Newell Highway Promotional Committee
- Mid Murray Zone Bushfire Management Committee
- Berrigan Jerilderie Community Network
- MIA Zone Bushfire Management Committee
- MIA Zone Rural Fire Service Liaison Committee
- Murray Darling Association
- Western Riverina Libraries Committee
- South West Zone Library Committee
- Western Riverina Arts
- Thrive Riverina
- Roads and Maritime Services Consultative Committee
- Riverina & Murray Joint Organisation
- Western Region Joint Planning Panel

Positioning Council as an Employer of Choice

We are one of the biggest employees in the Murrumbidgee Council area. Ways we position ourselves as an employer of choice are:

- The ability for staff to have flexible work arrangements.
- Nine day fortnight for staff.
- A strong commitment to professional and personal development through training. Each staff member has an Annual Training Plan to ensure they have the means to access career development. The training opportunities not only build on our capabilities in delivering quality services and business excellence, they also address emerging changes in the operation of the organisation. Benefits include study leave, as well as reimbursement of study costs, travel, accommodation and stationery.
- A strong commitment to workplace health and safety and risk management.

Staff Recognition Ceremonies

Throughout the Council term, recognition ceremonies

were held to celebrate milestone years of service. Staff receive framed certificates, gifts and plaques to commemorate their respective years. Congratulations to the following staff:

10 Years: Peter Keating, Wayne Church, Steve Krause, Catie Purtell, Ben Nash, Wayne Neilson, Bernadette Dowdle, Michael McCann, John O'Hara, Peter Keating and Aaron Purcell.

20 Years: Brad Casey, Zenda Purcell, Chris Baldwin, Martin Barratt, Janelle Dickson

30 Years: Shane Curphey, Paul Talent, Ken Saunders,

40 Years: Vince Strano

Retiring Staff: Zenda Purcell, Greg Purcell and Terry McGee

Actively pursuing Government funding

We have had tremendous success in securing Government funding to support the ambitious capital expansion program. The following pages outline the grant programs we have secured.



The Recognition Ceremony held on 16 June 2021 (L-R) Peter Keating, Zenda Purcell, Janelle Dickson, Vince Strano, Martin Barrett, Chris Baldwin and Brad Casey.



Stronger Communities Fund

Following the merger of Murrumbidgee Shire Council and Jerilderie Shire Council in May 2016, Council received a grant under the Stronger Communities Fund of \$14.365 million. Of this, at least \$1 million was to be allocated to community groups. Over \$1.4 million was allocated as follows:

Jerilderie			
	D 1 (42.250.07	
Jerilderie Community Gym	Purchase of gym equipment	43,358.97	
Jerilderie Tennis Club	Construct shed/ disabled toilet	45,454.55	
Jerilderie Tennis Club	Re-roof Jerilderie Sports Club building	44,708.69	
Jerilderie CWA	Upgrade toilet facility	18,003.61	
Jerilderie Cricket Club	Install seating, shade & access	21,500.00	
Jerilderie Football Club	Replace boundary fencing & interchange facility	39,674.00	
Jerilderie Pre School	Refurbish indoor areas	44,098.40	
Jerilderie Swimming Club	Upgrade lane ropes & storage box	5,859.73	
Jerilderie Public School P & C	Soft fall rubber in playground	49,280.00	
Jerilderie Arts & Talent Society	Purchase sound equipment etc	9,868.22	
Jerilderie Tennis Club	Disabled toilet within the Jerilderie Sports Club	27,272.73	
Jerilderie Tennis Club	Upgrade golf green flags & putting cups	1,340.00	
Jerilderie Public School P & C	Development of computer & musical skills	7,946.36	
Jerilderie Men's Shed	Purchase of property	50,000.00	
Jerilderie RSL Sub Branch	2 Honour Boards and glass display cabinet	4,577.27	
St Joseph's Parent's and Friends Inc	Play area soft fall and shade sail	35,374.74	
Coleambally			

32

Sweatbox Community Gym	Purchase gym equipment, rubber flooring etc	30,340.00	
Coleambally Pistol Club	Build a clubhouse, range & water tank	46,538.00	
Coleambally Clay Target Club	Construct new trap houses	45,260.00	
Coleambally Pre School	Install solar panels	7,233.44	
Coleambally Pre School	Resurface floor & install storage shed	11,412.73	
Coleambally Lions Club	Purchase of ride on lawn mower	7,520.00	
Coleambally Lions Club	Painting of Bucyrus Dragline	4,632.65	
Coleambally Chamber of Commerce	Equipment for community events	10,116.20	
Coleambally Chamber of Commerce	Quilting workshops	4,250.00	
Coleambally Chamber of Commerce	Purchase of sewing machines, overlockers & tables	21,122.73	
Riverina Vintage Machinery Club	Purchase of portable building with disabled access	41,000.00	
Coleambally Community Club	Installation of playground & outdoor family area	45,454.55	
Coleambally Central School P & C	Build sandpit & resurface basketball court	50,000.00	
Coleambally Golf Club Inc	Automatic watering for fairways 3 & 9	44,600.00	
Coleambally Golf Club Inc	Automatic watering for fairways 1 & 6	25,450.00	
St Peters Primary School	Replace school quadrangle	28,172.73	
Coleambally Men's Shed	Construct storage facility	44,463.19	
Murrumbidgee Experimental Farm	Develop 22ha for farming	45,454.55	
Coleambally Pre School	Floor resurfacing	13,594.55	

Coleambally Pre School	Shade sails & shed storage	12,272.73	
Coleambally Lions Club	Jumping castle & trailer project	5,835.00	
Coleambally Community Club	Level Bowling Greens, Upgrade Main Bar & Toilet area	21,909.09	
Coleambally Central School P & C	Outdoor Settings	18,840.00	
St Peters Primary School	Multi-purpose court	5,000.00	
C/DP Country Education Fund	Oral History Book Production	3,000.00	
Coleambally Motorcycle Club Inc	Construct club house & install watering system to track	50,000.00	
Coleambally Pony Club	Grounds upgrade & revamp	6,642.86	
Fusion Drop in Centre	Coleambally youth development	4,545.45	
St Peters Catholic Church	Replacement of chairs	6,363.64	
Coleambally Tennis Club	Replacement of synthetic courts	50,000.00	
Darlington Point			
Anglican Parish of Coly/ Darlington Pt	Install air conditioning to Darlington Point Hall	17,423.59	
Darlington Point Men's Shed	Construct meeting room & improve stormwater	45,454.55	
Darlington Point Lions Club	Addition of BBQ & bench	20,000.00	
Darlington Point Men's Shed	Installation of solar panels	8,547.55	
Apex Club of Darlington Point	Flag pole installation and fingerling purchase	12,659.00	
Darlington Point Club Ltd	Bowling green & club grounds irrigation	45,454.55	
Darlington Point Club Ltd	Workshop for maintenance staff	36,363.64	
Darlington Point Club Ltd	Machinery storage shed	25,650.00	

Darlington Point	l I	43,928.00
	board upgrade throughout the	
rac	school	

The majority of these projects have been finalised, with the exception of the Jerilderie Pre-School which is on hold until construction of Long Day Care Centre has been completed and the Coleambally Pistol Club which still has some minor works to be undertaken.

The remainder of the \$14.365 m grant was allocated to major projects within the Council area as follows:

Jerilderie			
Tidy Towns Committee	Solar Lighting Walkway Project	13,167.00	
Jerilderie Netball Club	Netball Courts Upgrade	204,535.30	
Central Coree Hall	Upgrade Hall and Play Equipment	45,363.42	
Balmeringa Senior Citizens Units	Kerbing & sealing of driveway & carpark	41,100.15	
Tidy Towns Committee	Installation of playground at Luke Park	76,516.71	
Tidy Towns Committee	Installation of exercise stations around Lake	53,420.72	
Tidy Towns Committee	Installation of additional seating in Luke Park	29,029.00	
Tidy Towns Committee	Purchase of equipment/ride on mower	9,552.13	
Tidy Towns Committee	Construction of footpath through Luke Park	20,067.53	
Yamma Management Committee	Yamma Hall Toilet Block/ Kitchen Redevelopment	156,833.64	
Water Filtration Plant Replacement	Water Filtration Plant Replacement	685,843.98	
Jerilderie Independent Living Inc	Independent Living Units	550,000.00	
Jerilderie Civic Hall	Kitchen Upgrade	182,309.00	
Jerilderie Town Water Supply	Purchase 686,470.63 of water entitlement		
Jerilderie Swimming Pool	Swimming Pool Restoration	568,306.02	

Jerilderie Racecourse	Showground Amenities Upgrade	70,332.17	
Jerilderie Pre School & Long Day Care	Long Day Care Centre	636,000.00	
Coleambally			
Coleambally	Resurface	54,057.39	
Squash Club	existing walls		
Coleambally Sports Ground Upgrade	Coleambally Netball Court Upgrade	282,318.57	
Coleambally Sports Ground Upgrade	Coly Sports Precinct Upgrade	600,000.00	
Brolga Place Streetscape/ Masterplan Upgrade	Streetscape Upgrade	1,500,000.00	
Coleambally Water Treatment	Treatment Works Upgrade	600,000.00	
Bencubbin Avenue	Rehabilitation	750,000.00	
Coleambally Sports Ground Upgrade	Multipurpose indoor gym/ sports centre	500,000.00	
Coleambally Community Hall	Community Hall Upgrade	565,000.00	
Darlington Poin	t		
Heritage Darlington Point	Purchase & install solar panelling	6,544.41	
Anglican Parish of Coleambally/ Darlington Pt	Upgrade to Shire Hall	400,000.00	
Darlington Point Townlife Committee	Town information boards & tourism maps	58,000.00	
Apex Boat Ramp	Boat Ramp Installation	858,212.62	
Lions Park Facilities & Display	Lions Park Facilities Upgrade & Display	547,012.21	
Town Water Treatment	Update Water Treatment Facilities	691,787.38	
Waddi Community Centre	Demolition/ Cultural Garden	80,000.00	
Darlington Point Caravan Park	Management Plan	350,000.00	

Darlington Point Sports Precinct	Upgrade to Facilities	367,750.00
Waddi Community Centre	Stage 1 & 2 Education Arts & Cultural Centre	300,000.00
Young Street Subdivision	Young Street Subdivision	1,500,000.00

Some of the major projects were not completed as at 30 June 2021 including the Jerilderie Water Filtration Plant Replacement, Coleambally Water Treatment Upgrade and the Darlington Point Water Treatment Facilities Update. These were all awaiting the outcome of the Integrated Water Cycle Management (IWCM) Plan which is still with consultants.

Works have commenced on the Jerilderie Long Day Care Centre in conjunction with a further grant from the Stronger Country Communities Fund. The Brolga Place Streetscape/Masterplan Upgrade in Coleambally has been delayed with concept plans now being considered. Works on the Bencubbin Avenue, Coleambally rehabilitation have now commenced. Draft plans for the Coleambally Community Hall have been finalised and are out for tender.

Some proposed works on the Darlington Point Shire Hall have commenced with more to be completed. The upgrade to the amenities block at the Darlington Point Sports precinct have been completed with further upgrade works ongoing. The Young Street, Darlington Point Subdivision is awaiting further scheduling to commence.

Stronger Country Communities Fund

Round 1:\$699,005 allocated to the Council area for the following projects:

Coleambally "Pride of Place"	Junior Sports Changerooms No 2 Oval	134,000.00
	Cemetery Toilets	51,000.00
	Town Information Signage	40,000.00
Promoting and Improving Recreation and Sporting Infrastructure	Goanna Walking Track Upgrading Signage	27,500.00
	Tourism Information Signage	64,500.00
	Female Changerooms	130,000.00
Racecourse Amenities	Replacement of Amenities Block	252,005.00

Round 2, \$3,86	1,970:	
Coleambally Sports Precinct	AFL Changerooms, upgrade amenities, gym	705,825.00
	Stadium Upgrade	320,000.00
Darlington Point Sportsground	Amenities Upgrade	320,000.00
Darlington Point Golf Course	Greening 9 Holes	190,715.00
Jerilderie Swimming Pool	Swimming Complex Upgrade	1,331,250.00
Jerilderie Long Day Care Centre	Pre-School and Long Day Care	994,000.00
Round 3, \$1,24	4,519:	
Murrumbidgee Champions	Youth Project	100,000.00
Darlington Point Splash Park	Splash Park 316,528.0	
Coleambally Sports Precinct	Youth Hall Upgrade 80,000.00	
	Cricket Pitches	60,000.00

MURRUMBIDGEE COUNCIL END OF TERM REPORT 2017-21

	Coleambally Pool Equipment	25,000.00
	Physical Culture Mirrors	2,725.00
Monash Park, Jerilderie	Lighting Upgrade	158,000.00
Jerilderie Lake	Banks Restoration	188,366.00
Jerilderie Pump Track	Pump Track/ Skatepark	263,900.00
Darlington Point Public School P&C	Facilities Upgrade	50,000.00

New Council Implementation Fund

The New Council Implementation Fund provided \$6.225m to cover the up-front costs of implementing the new Council following the merger.

	OLG Reporting Budget	Council Budget	Expenditure to 30/06/2021
PMO & Other Staffing Costs	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,600,090.75
Asset Management	330,000	330,000	336,299.93



The new lights at Monash Park Jerilderie with Under 17 AFL Captain Brad Aylett, President Jerilderie Football Club Dean Knight, Mayor Ruth McRae and Murrumbidgee Council Development Officer Ben Nash, 26 August 2020.



Communications & Web Page	74,500	74,500.00	67,254.21
Information Technology	1,800,000	18,00,000	1,717,111.47
Policy Development	31,000	31,000	30,521.64
HR - Staff Training & Accommodation	265,000	265,000	304,475.61
Marketing & Branding	92500	92,500	92,439.64
Service Reviews	180,000	240,000.00	126,671.95
Signage Uniforms & Rebranding	127,000	127,000.00	120,870.91
SCF Grant Administration	50,500	50,500.0	50,335.40
Miscellaneous	509,500	200,000.00	247,948.12
GIS Conversion Project	80,000	80,000	31,585.00
Master Key System		25,000.00	
Radio Network Conversion		40,000.00	
Local Representation Committee		124,500.00	124,117.53
Provision for adjustment to new Salary System		120,000.00	335,971.38
Purchase & Install Integrated Telephone System	60,000		61,058.34
Provision of 50% funding for telephone tower at Bundure	425,000	425,000	369,385.91
Integration and updating of LEP and DCP's	350,000	350,000.00	144,256.50
Provision of Integrated Risk Management Systems	150,000	150,000	
Provision of project readiness - design briefs and estimates	300,000	300,000	296,726.01
Total	6,225,000	6,225,000	6,057,120.30

Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Grant

Phase I		
Bencubbin Avenue, Coleambally	Reconstruction, widening & drainage	\$1,008,021.00

Phase 2		
Playground renewal and softfall	Softfall Upgrade	\$225,000.00
Darlington Point Skatepark	Mini Skatebowl	\$100,000.00
Jerilderie Skatepark	Mini Skatebowl	\$100,000.00
Darlington Point	Off-road Carparking & Disabled Amenities	\$349,980.00

Heavy Vehicle Safety Program

-	_	_
Bencubbin	Reconstruction,	\$626,000.00
Avenue,	widening & drainage	
Coleambally		

Fixing Country Roads

Eulo Road, Coleambally	Reconstruction	\$882,274.00
McDonald Road, Coleambally	Reconstruction	\$1,267,076.00
Channel 9 Road, Coleambally	Reconstruction	\$1,036,400.00

Fixing Local Roads

Bolton Street,	Rehabilitation	\$150,000
Jerilderie		

Cycleways

Bolton Street,	Footpath	\$42,075.00
Jerilderie	Replacement	
Kennedy Street,		
Jerilderie		

Roads to Recovery

Since 2016 over \$6.83 million has been spent on Council roads through Roads to Recovery funding from the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communication.

The following works were carried out under the Federal Government funding:

2016/2017	

Kyola Road, Coleambally	Resheeting 3.8km	\$129,588
Raithby's Lane, Jerilderie	Resheeting 2.4km	\$52,800
South Coree Road, Jerilderie	Rehabilitation and Sealing 7 km	\$755,000 (Joint Funded)
Main Canal Road, Coleambally	Resheeting 5.5km	\$131,000
Ercildoune Road, Coleambally	Resheeting 2.5km	\$70,000
Culley Road, Coleambally	Resheeting 2km	\$56,000
Wallin Road, Coleambally	Resheeting 1.86km	\$52,500
2017/2018		
O'Neill Street, Jerilderie	Kerb and Gutter	\$25,355
Mahonga Street, Jerilderie	Kerb and Gutter 210m	\$57,684
Fraser Road, Coleambally	Resheeting 5.3km	\$148,400
Wallin Road, Coleambally	Resheeting 2.75km	\$77,000
Main Canal Road, Coleambally	Resheeting 1.5km	\$42,000
Steele Road, Coleambally	Resheeting 1km	\$28,000
Donald Ross Drive, Coleambally	Resealing 3.3km	\$88,023
Pine Drive, Coleambally	Resealing 1.62km	\$29,317
Four Corners Road, Coleambally	Resealing 4.2km	\$40,195
Macleay Street, Darlington Point	Resealing 100m	\$4,148
Six Mile Lane, Jerilderie	Resheeting 5km (0-5km)	\$85,798
Six Mile Lane, Jerilderie 2018/2019	Resheeting 5km (5-10km)	\$85,798
Donald Ross Drive, Coleambally	Reconstruction & Widening 2.3km	\$414,421
Coreen Street, Jerilderie	Kerb and Gutter 210m	\$54,896

Mahonga Street, Jerilderie	Kerb and Gutter 210m	\$47,272
Bolton Street, Jerilderie	Kerb and Gutter 116m	\$22,207
Coreen Street, Jerilderie	Kerb and Gutter 201m	\$38,655
Innes Bridge Road, Jerilderie	Resheeting 5.4km	\$113,996
Harveys Well Road, Coleambally	Resheeting 3.6km	\$105,242
Bonnars Lane, Coleambally	Resheeting 2.7km	\$39,975
Citrus Drive, Coelambally	Resheeting 1.2km	\$41,417
Bull Road, Coleambally	Resheeting 3.6km	\$149,058
Fernbank Road, Jerilderie	Resheeting 3.5km	\$31,052
Channel 9 Road, Coleambally	Resealing 2.15km	\$63,984
Main Canal Road, Coleambally	Resheeting 1.5km	\$ 12,672
Main Canal Road, Coleambally	Resealing 1.96km	\$53,570
Nyora Road, Jerilderie	Resealing 4.28km	\$143,723
Green Swamp Road, Jerilderie	Resheeting 3.8km	\$27,087
Four Corners Road, Coleambally	Resheeting 4.3km	\$74,078
Greens Lane, Jerilderie	Sealing 1.85km	\$230,032
McDonald Road, Coleambally	Reconstruction & Widening 8km	\$16,341 (Joint Funded)
Eulo Road, Coleambally	Reconstruction & Widening 5.25km	\$131,935 (Joint Funded)
Wilson Road, Jerilderie	Reseal 3km	\$ 42,561 (Joint Funded)
2019/2020		
Graham Road, Coleambally	Resheeting 3.19km	\$66,182
Old Corowa Road, Jerilderie	Resheeting 4.52km	\$38,443

Graham Road, Coleambally Graham Road, Coleambally Hardy Road, Coleambally Greens Lane, Jerilderie Green Swamp Road, Jerilderie Jimmy Cull Road, Coleambally Willows Road, Jerilderie Harveys Well Road, Coleambally North Coree Resheeting 2km \$27,933 \$27,933 \$27,933 \$21,3219 \$113,219 \$116,129 \$286,767 \$286,767 \$88,209 \$88,209 \$53,393 \$154,377 \$154,377 \$154,377 \$154,377
Coleambally Hardy Road, Coleambally Greens Lane, Jerilderie Green Swamp Road, Jerilderie Jimmy Cull Road, Coleambally Willows Road, Jerilderie Harveys Well Road, Coleambally Resheeting 3.61km \$116,129 \$286,767 \$286,767 \$88,209 \$88,209 \$53,393 \$154,377 \$154,377 \$286,767 \$88,209 \$88,209 \$154,377 \$154,377 \$154,377 \$154,377 \$154,377 \$154,377 \$154,377
Coleambally Greens Lane, Jerilderie Green Swamp Road, Jerilderie Jimmy Cull Road, Coleambally Willows Road, Jerilderie Harveys Well Road, Coleambally Resheeting 4.5km \$88,209 \$53,393 \$154,377 \$154,377 \$154,377 \$286,767
Jerilderie Green Swamp Road, Jerilderie Jimmy Cull Road, Coleambally Willows Road, Jerilderie Harveys Well Road, Coleambally Resealing 5.53km \$154,377 \$82,127
Road, Jerilderie Jimmy Cull Road, Coleambally Willows Road, Jerilderie Harveys Well Road, Coleambally Resealing 2.07km \$53,393 \$154,377 \$154,377 \$82,127
Cull Road, Coleambally Willows Road, Jerilderie Harveys Well Road, Coleambally Resealing 5.53km \$154,377 \$82,127
Jerilderie
Well Road, Coleambally
North Corps Poshooting 4km \$127,499
Road, Jerilderie
Britts Road, Darlington Point Reconstruction and \$60,367 Sealing 1km (Joint Funded)
Four Corners Resheeting 2.86km \$109,692 Road, Coleambally
Telephone Gate Resheeting 4km \$72,532 Road, Jerilderie
Wilson Road, Resealing 4.2km \$115,163 Jerilderie \$115,163
2020/2021
Harveys Resheeting 2km \$96,579 Well Road, Coleambally
North Coree Resheeting 5km \$155,320 Road, Jerilderie
Old Corowa Resheeting 4.6km \$139,506
Boerema Road, Reseal 2.13km \$86,030 Coleambally
Gilbert Road, Coleambally Reseal 3.67km \$81,653
Four Corners Reseal 1.67km \$38,901 Road, Coleambally
South Coree Reseal 3.5km \$81,104 Road, Jerilderie
Four Corners Resheeting Ikm \$51,110 Road, Coleambally
Four Corners Resheeting 0.65km \$33,222 Road,

Colombo Road, Jerilderie	Resheeting 6.5km	\$167,098
Gaston Road, Coleambally	Resheeting 1.1km	\$31,561
Four Corners Road, Coleambally	Resheeting 1.8km	\$91,998
Main Canal Road, Coleambally	Resealing 2.2km	\$56,405
McGrath Road, Coleambally	Resheeting 3.42km	\$158,634
Willows Road, Jerilderie	Resealing 4km	\$132,720
Wilson Road, Jerilderie	Resealing 4km	\$110,190 (Joint Funded)

Crown Lands Improvement Fund Grants

Darlington Point Museum	Re-stumping Police Residence	33,000.00
Darlington Point Museum	Museum Upgrade	113,607.00
Darlington Point Pre-School	Fence	39,350.00

Showgrounds Stimulation Fund

Jerilderie	Grandstand Re-	70,527.00
Showgrounds	roofing	

Crown Lands Management Plans Grant

Crown Lands	Management Plans	85,000.00
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Drought Communities Extension Programme

2019-20 Round	926,404.00
2020-21 Round	1,000,000.00

Streets as Shared Spaces Program

Wiradjuri Walk	Beautification Program	460,000.00

