



Annual Report 2007 / 2008

Contents

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Mayoral Message..... | 1 |
| 1. Annual Financial Reports | 6 |
| 2. Performance of Principal Activities | 6 |
| 3. State of the Environment Report | 6 |
| 4. Condition of Public Works | 8 |
| 5. Legal Proceedings..... | 9 |
| 6. Mayoral and Councillor Fees | 10 |
| 7. Senior Staff Contracts..... | 10 |
| 8. Major Contracts Awarded | 11 |
| 9. Bush Fire Hazard Reduction..... | 11 |
| 10. Multicultural Services | 12 |
| 11. Activities for Children..... | 13 |
| 12. Access and Equity Activities..... | 13 |
| 13. Private Works | 14 |
| 14. Contributions/Donations..... | 15 |
| 15. Human Resource Activities | 15 |
| 16. Equal Employment Opportunity..... | 16 |
| 17. External Bodies that Exercise Council Functions or Activities | 17 |
| 18. Controlling Interest in Companies..... | 17 |
| 19. Partnerships, Co-Operatives and Joint Ventures | 17 |
| 20. Additional Information | 18 |
| 21. Overseas Travel by Councillors, Council Staff or Other Persons while Representing the Council..... | 18 |
| 22. Category 1 Business Activities..... | 18 |
| 23. Category 2 Business Activities;..... | 19 |
| 24. Implementation of Competitive Neutrality Principles..... | 19 |
| 25. Competitive Neutrality Pricing Requirements in Relation to Category 1 Business Activities..... | 20 |
| 26. Competitive Complaints Handling Mechanism | 20 |
| 27. Stormwater Management Services | 20 |
| 28. Compliance with Companion Animals Act and Regulation | 21 |
| 29. Freedom of Information Act 1989 and Regulation | 22 |
| 30. Privacy and Personal Information Act 1998..... | 22 |
| 31. Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979..... | 22 |
| 32. Rates and Charges Written Off..... | 28 |
| Attachments | 29 |

MAYORAL MESSAGE

The past twelve months has been a year of further consolidation on the foundation set in the previous eighteen months. The team that represented the Uralla Community for the four and a half years up until the Council Election of 13 September 2008 worked cohesively towards developing a better future for the Uralla Shire Council and its citizens. This task has now been taken over by the new Council, consisting of four continuing and five new Councillors.

Council's priority for this past year has continued to be core services and it has concentrated upon the maintenance and rehabilitation of our infrastructure, whilst recovering the Working capital position for the General Fund. The shortfall in working capital in the General Fund was first disclosed in the financial statements for the year 2005/2006 when the working capital for the McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre was separated from the General Fund for the first time. The audit report to the accounts showed a working capital shortfall in the General Fund at 30 June 2006 of \$1.135M. Council took immediate steps to change its direction, restricting expenditure in the balance of year 2006/2007 and budgeting for surpluses for the years 2007/2008 and 2008/2009 of \$592,571 and \$232,555 respectively.

The financial year 2006/2007 provided an improvement in the General Fund working deficit of \$240K from \$1,135K to \$895K from a balanced budget. Since then there has been a steady recovery with the General Fund Working Capital deficit being reduced by a further \$192K to \$703K at 30 June 2007 and by \$487K to \$216K at 30 June 2008. The planned budget surplus for the year to 30 June 2009 is \$232,555, and if achieved, will return the General Fund Working Capital to a small surplus.

The improvement in the Council's Working Capital ratio, 0.64:1 to 1.24:1, has been after increasing internal restrictions for future works and employee entitlements from \$623,896 to \$1,021,387 and allowing for the possible loss on investments in Collateralised Debt Obligations (CDOs) and Forward Rate Notes (FRNs) of \$731,122.

Council had \$1,850,000 in face value of CDOs and FRNs which had an estimated value of \$1,118,878 at 30 June 2008. In the current financial year (2008/2009) Council has had one CDO valued at \$8,000 at 30 June 2008 returned for its full face value of \$200,000. The situation with regards to the possible return of the principal of other CDOs is still unclear; however Council is taking all reasonable steps to have the funds returned. Nonetheless it appears that the credit crisis will have a direct cost to the Uralla Shire Council of no less than \$450,000 and an unknown cost through the reduction in interest rates and increases in material costs caused by the reduction in the value of the Australian Dollar.

The \$244,000 net operating surplus for the year to 30 June 2008 means that Council is fully funding its depreciation of \$1,838,000. The capital program of \$1,459,000, representing 1.5% of the total fixed assets of the Council, maintains the condition of Council's assets.

The Annual Report is our Council's report card on what was set out to achieve at the beginning of the year, as promised in the Management Plan, and the actual performance. The Review of the Strategic Objectives, Objectives and Performance Targets, Statement of Means and Performance Assessment of the 2007/2008 Management Plan was reviewed by Council at its meeting of 15 December 2008 and a summary of the result of that review is on the following pages of my message.

MAYORAL MESSAGE (Continued)

| Page | | Achieved | Not Achieved | Total Outcomes |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | Governance | 8 | 2 | 10 |
| | Administration | | | |
| 2 | Corporate Support Services | 10 | 10 | 20 |
| 4 | Plant Services | 7 | 2 | 9 |
| | Public Order and Safety | | | |
| 5 | Fire Protection | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 5 | Animal and Abandoned Articles Control | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| 6 | Emergency Services | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| | Health | | | |
| 6 | Inspection Services | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| 7 | Noxious Plant Control | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| | Community Services and Education | | | |
| 7 | Youth Services and Education | 5 | 0 | 5 |
| 8 | Aged Units | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 8 | Aged Care Centres | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| 9 | Community Support Options Programs | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| 9 | Tablelands Community Transport | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| 10 | Community Centre | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| 10 | Bundarra Neighbour Aid Service | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| 11 | Other Community Services | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| | Housing and Community Amenities | | | |
| 11 | Urban and Rural Planning and Assessment | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| 12 | Garbage Collection and Disposal | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| 13 | Streetscape (Street Cleaning) | 6 | 0 | 6 |
| 13 | Urban Stormwater Drainage | 8 | 2 | 10 |
| 14 | Public Cemeteries | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| 15 | Environmental Control | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| 16 | Other Conveniences | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| | Water Supplies | | | |
| 16 | Uralla | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| 17 | Bundarra | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| 18 | Rural | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| | Sewerage Services | | | |
| 18 | Uralla | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| 19 | Bundarra | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| 20 | Rural | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| | Recreation and Culture | | | |
| 20 | Public Libraries | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| 21 | Public Halls | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| 21 | Swimming Facilities | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| 22 | Sporting Grounds and Facilities | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 23 | Parks, Gardens and Reserves | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 23 | Other Recreation and Culture | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| | Mining Manufacturing and Construction | | | |
| 24 | Quarries and Pits | 1 | 1 | 2 |

MAYORAL MESSAGE (Continued)

| Page | | Achieved | Not Achieved | Total Outcomes |
|------|------------------------------------|------------|--------------|----------------|
| | Transport and Communication | | | |
| 24 | Urban Roads | 7 | 2 | 9 |
| 25 | Sealed Rural Roads | 8 | 1 | 9 |
| 27 | Unsealed Rural Roads | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| 28 | Bridges | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| 28 | Footpaths | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| 29 | Parking Areas | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 29 | Miscellaneous Transport | 7 | 1 | 8 |
| | Economic Affairs | | | |
| 30 | Camping and Caravan Areas | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| 31 | Tourism | 5 | 0 | 5 |
| 31 | Economic Development | 5 | 2 | 7 |
| 32 | Private Works | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| 32 | Other Business | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| | | 176 | 57 | 233 |

The Management Plan listed 233 outcomes to achieve the actions planned for the Council. There were 176 outcomes that have been assessed as Achieved (or 75.5%). The 57 outcomes that were not achieved are noted in the Outcome column in bold lettering in ATTACHMENT A.

Governance (2)

These negative results were caused by the late completion of the Annual Financial Statements, bank reconciliation delays and rate collections.

Administration (10)

The most serious shortcomings 10 out of 20 outcomes were in Administration.

Staff training, excluding salaries, was 0.26% well short of the 2%, including salaries, target; the ratio of wages and salaries to other costs at 47% exceeded the target of 45% and the underlying debt service ratio of 4.36% was slightly higher than the target of 4.0%. The rate ratio set at 30% may need revision, in future years, as the additional grants and other income that Council receives, particularly in Community Services area that are more akin to service charges has reduced the rate percentage to 26%.

Plant Services (2)

The 5 year plan was not in place by 30 June 2008. The requirement to have all graders achieve 1,500 hours is not achievable with one grader stationed permanently at Bundarra. The other two graders achieved the 1,500 hour target.

Fire Protection (1)

The Zone Commander of the NSW Fire Brigade did not attend Council for his annual presentation.

Emergency Services (1)

No report on the DISPLAN made in March 2008.

Aged Units (1)

Advertisements for Retirement Village Units did not solicit sufficient agreements for the project to proceed.

McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre (1)

The Centre did not operate at a surplus of income. A careful watch of expenditure in 2008/2009 is required. As well, a review of the Council's administration charge of 2007/2008 and 2008/2009 is necessary.

MAYORAL MESSAGE (Continued)

Tablelands Community Support Options, Tablelands Community Transport and Bundarra Neighbour Aid Services (1 each)

The administration charge to Community Services listed above was made only once (annual) instead of the scheduled quarterly because of changes in and lack of communication with the finance team.

Urban and Rural Planning and Assessment (1)

The completion of the joint NESAC Regional Local Environmental Plan has been delayed until end of 2009 / early 2010 because of changes to Planning Laws, SEPPs and rules outside the control of the Consultants and Council staff.

Garbage Collection and Disposal (2)

The performance target of 100kgs of disposed garbage per head is unrealistic with disposal at 410kgs per head and will need review to say 400kgs per head. In addition, the amount of recycling at 85kgs per head was easily achieved at 295kgs and also should be revised upward to say 300kgs per head. Both targets would then be realistic stretches for the Community.

During the year there was no suitable clay material available from construction sites to be stockpiled for use in covering the landfill.

Urban Stormwater Drainage (2)

The proposed additional gross pollutant trap was not installed and the volumes of waste collected from the installed traps were not reported to Council.

Public Cemeteries (1)

An application for heritage funding of work at the old cemetery was not compiled and lodged.

Environmental Control (2)

As with previous years, the suggestions from the State of the Environment Report (November 2007) was not incorporated into the 2008/2009 Management Plan. As referred above in Urban and Rural Planning and Assessment the Regional LEP has not been completed.

Other Conveniences (1)

No work carried out on the taxi shelter.

Uralla Water Supply (3)

One water sample did not comply with Drinking Water Guidelines during the year. There was no report to Council on volume of water consumed. The target of 100 metres of main construction was not achieved with only 30 metres being constructed.

Bundarra Water Supply (2)

One water sample did not comply with Drinking Water Guidelines during the year. There was no report to Council on volume of water consumed.

Uralla Sewerage Services (1)

There was no sewer main construction during the year.

Bundarra Sewerage Services (2)

No funding opportunities arose or were taken during the year.

Rural Waste Water (1)

40 of the targeted 100 inspections made. This target needs to be revised in future years to a more realistic number with 40 as the targeted number.

Public Libraries (2)

The change in library access, reflected by all libraries in the Central Northern Libraries, is from books borrowed to computer access. The Uralla Library did not meet the target of 28,000 books borrowed with 18,647 nor did the ratio of 3.1:1 issues of stock meet the target of 3.5:1.

MAYORAL MESSAGE (Continued)

Parks and Reserves (1)

No funding was provided nor work carried out on stage 2 of the Mt Mutton Walking Trail.

Quarries and Pits (1)

There was no report to Council on volume of material won from its pits.

Urban Roads (2)

There was no sealing of roads in Bundarra this year in line with Council's changed strategic direction and the Bundarra Entry Statements have been commenced but not completed.

The Creative Village project, of one entry statement at the northern entry to town, was not completed as the design and materials was not finalised by the Committee.

Sealed Rural Roads (1)

Sixteen of the twenty kilometres of resealing planned completed.

Unsealed Rural Roads (3)

There was no sealing of rural roads this year in line with Council's changed strategic direction. Two reports, one on Council roads that had not been graded for more than 12 months and the other on regional roads that had not been graded for eight months, had not been produced.

Bridges (1)

There was no report to Council on the number of bridges not painted for more than 10 years.

Parking Areas (1)

There was no report to Council on the usage of car park at the rear of the Central Business District.

Miscellaneous Transport (1)

Line marking of road centrelines is a bi-annual programme and this year is a non line marking year.

Camping and Caravan Areas (2)

There was no report to Council on the operation of the lease in Uralla or the Park in Bundarra.

Economic Development (2)

No opportunity arose for the purchase of Industrial land.

The Bundarra Rural Transaction Centre Committee chose not to incorporate this year.

The overall assessment for the Review of the 2007/2008 Uralla Shire Council's Management Plan for the year to 30 June 2008 is therefore just satisfactory.

The reputation of the Uralla Community for the depth and extent of its Community spirit continues to grow. This is reflected in the work of our service organisations and volunteers who continue to support the operations of Council for the benefit of the Community. We are a diverse Community that cares enough about each other that we want to share each other's interests and the collective objectives of the whole. Council continues to support local initiatives particularly those that have positive economic and tourist potential.

We continue to be a proud Community that faces the future with confidence in our ability to provide services and facilities for the residents of our Shire and District to enjoy.



Mark Dusting
MAYOR

Footnote: The information in this message was compiled from reports available in Council Business Papers.

1. ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORTS
Section 428(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1993

ATTACHMENT A

2. PERFORMANCE OF PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES
Section 428(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1993

ATTACHMENT B

Legislative Context

Under s428 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council must prepare Annual Reports and which provide information on the performance of principal activities on its achievements with respect to the objectives and performance targets set out in its management plan for that year.

3. STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT
Section 428(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1993 and Clauses 218 to 226 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

ATTACHMENT C

Legislative Context

Amongst other items required by s428 of the Local Government Act 1993, the Annual Reports must contain a report as to the state of the environment in the area, and in particular in relation to the following environmental sectors:

- (i) land,
 - (ii) air,
 - (iii) water,
 - (iv) biodiversity,
 - (v) waste,
 - (vi) noise,
 - (vii) Aboriginal heritage,
 - (viii) non-Aboriginal heritage,
- with particular reference, with regard to each such environmental sector, to:
- (ix) management plans relating to the environment,
 - (x) special council projects relating to the environment,
 - (xi) the environmental impact of council activities.

State of Environment (SoE) Report Review

The current NESAC SoE Report addresses each of the eight environmental sectors outlined above (i – viii) and discusses specific environmental indicators within each sector, e.g. the chapter on water includes details of water quality, monitoring, consumption, environment protection license compliance, urban storm water activities, waterway management activities, etc. There is scope to include more detail regarding special Council projects and the environmental impact of Council activities.

State of Environment (SoE) Report Review (Continued)

The current reporting includes information on Council activities along with information from, or regarding, other sources, such as activities and/or projects of Southern New England Landcare, Rural Fire Service, Rural Lands Protection Board and Catchment Management Authorities.

With the likely future implementation of the Department of Local Government's integrated planning and reporting system; the Department is encouraging Councils, when preparing the 2008-2009 Comprehensive SoE Report, "to use the opportunity to identify environmental issues that are important to the community and that are within the Council's area of influence, so that the findings from the report can be used to inform Council's strategic planning and management programs".

With the above information in mind, it is intended that the NESAC SoE Report be reviewed in terms of its structure and content. In this regard, staff who contribute to the SoE Report have been asked to consider the following:

- how could the SoE report be developed to benefit or assist in your work?
- what are the issues that should be reported on?
- what data do you contribute to the SoE – is it meaningful, does it reflect measures or objectives in the Management Plan, is the data already collected or reported in another format?
- is the data useful in identifying levels of service, achievements, deficiencies, emerging issues and impacts on the environment (positive and negative)? Are these being reported?
- are responses, actions and projects that address environmental impacts being properly recorded and reported (e.g. case studies of high profile projects)?
- how are ecologically sustainable development principles being incorporated into Council activities and is this identified in the data provided for the SoE Report?
- how is information recorded and retrieved? Is it easy to access or could it be collected in a different way?

These submissions will be reviewed by Council's Environmental Committee prior to being incorporated into the 2008-2009 comprehensive State of Environment Report

4. CONDITION OF PUBLIC WORKS
Section 428 (2)(d) of the Local Government Act 1993

4.1 PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Public buildings and major facilities owned and/or managed by Council include:

- Council offices and chambers
- Works Depots
- Library
- Tourist Information Centre
- Community Centres
- Aged Accommodation Facilities
- Properties owned and let commercially
- Aquatic Centre Facilities
- Buildings and facilities in recreational areas
- Public Toilets

In accordance with the Department of Local Government requirements, Council buildings were re-valued during 2007/2008.

The total estimated cost of bringing public buildings and major facilities to a satisfactory standard is \$156,000 with an estimated annual maintenance expense of \$87,000.

4.2 PUBLIC ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE

Council maintains 961kms of roads (534kms of unsealed and 427kms of sealed roads). There are 820kms of local roads (520kms unsealed) and 141kms of regional roads (14kms unsealed). It was estimated that the required funding for re-sheeting of the unsealed road network over a 40 year circle would be \$400,000 (13.4kms) per annum and re-sealing of the sealed road network over a fifteen year circle would be \$500,000 (28.5kms) per annum with normal maintenance of \$1,575,000 per annum for an annual total of \$2.5m.

The total estimated cost of bringing public roads and associated structures to a satisfactory standard is \$3,560,000 with an estimated annual maintenance expense of \$2,149,000.

4.3 WATER SUPPLY

Council operates two Water Supply Schemes, one each for the townships of Uralla and Bundarra. Water is sourced from Kentucky Creek Dam for Uralla and from a pumping station located on the Gwydir River for Bundarra. The Dam on Kentucky Creek is subject to blue-green algae and action has been taken to reduce the severity and incidences of algae blooms.

The total estimated cost of bringing water supply infrastructure to a satisfactory standard is \$139,000 with an estimated annual maintenance expense of \$74,000.

4.4 SEWERAGE SCHEME

Council operates one sewerage scheme being for the township of Uralla. Council is currently trialling the running of the aeration tank with variable speed motors to reduce energy usage and noise. This will be linked to a Dissolved Oxygen Meter to ensure correct aeration.

The total estimated cost of bringing sewerage scheme infrastructure to a satisfactory standard is \$102,000 with an estimated annual maintenance expense of \$50,000.

The sewer servicing of the township of Bundarra was the subject of a Public Works Department Investigation Report in 1989. This study offered a number of alternatives including a common effluent scheme. The current estimated costs of \$2.5 million make it unaffordable unless 100% capital funding is secured. Recent funding received through Border Rivers-Gwydir CMA has been available for residents to improve their septic tanks and absorption trenches.

4.5 DRAINAGE ASSETS

Although the Council's constructed drainage infrastructure is performing within reasonable expectations there are areas of the town of Uralla where the drainage system has been identified as being inadequate. A number of drainage lines have had Gross Pollutant traps installed to remove litter and gravels.

The overall performance of drainage infrastructure within Uralla is currently under review by Council staff.

The total estimated cost of bringing the drainage network to a satisfactory standard is \$2,000 with an estimated annual maintenance expense of \$2,000.

5. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Section 428 (2)(e) of the Local Government Act 1993

Council instituted one legal action during the reporting period. This action was to obtain an Apprehended Violence Order to protect a staff member who was subject to an attack by an irate resident over a noise complaint.

Legal costs were incurred as a result of assistance requested in the following areas

| | | |
|---|---------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| * | Enforcement of Local Government regulations | 180.00 |
| * | Legal action | 4,256.00 |
| * | Legal opinions | <u>5,837.06</u> |
| | Total | <u>\$11,173.06</u> |

The action in respect to the Apprehended Violence Order was successful; however the staff member subsequently retired and left the district removing the need for any further action.

6. MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR FEES

Section 428 (2)(f) of the Local Government Act 1993 and Clause 217(1)(a1) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

The Council is constituted of nine Councillors and Council has adopted a Policy, reviewed and revised in October 2007, regarding the payment of expenses and the provision of facilities for Councillors. All fees and expenses are paid in accordance with that Policy.

The Mayoral allowance for 2007/2008 was set at \$12,000. An equipped office with telephone is provided for the Mayor adjacent to the Council Chambers. Councillors, including the Mayor, are paid an annual meeting fee of \$7,500, which is paid in equal monthly instalments regardless of whether or not meetings have been attended. Council subsidises the connection of Councillors to the internet and pays for expenses associated therewith. Stationary and secretarial support is available for the carrying out of authorised Council business.

In addition to the above fees, Council pays for all accommodation, meals and travelling costs for Councillors attending seminars and conferences outside the Council area, and reimburses Councillors for travelling expenses to attend Council meetings. The following expenses were paid during the reporting year:

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| * Mayoral Allowance | \$12,000.00 |
| * Councillor's Fees | \$67,500.00 |
| * Expenses associated with Delegations, Conferences: | \$ 1,743.62 |
| * Travelling and email connections | \$12,579.58 |
| * Mayor's mobile phone | <u>\$ 447.41</u> |
| Total | <u>\$94,270.61</u> |

7. SENIOR STAFF CONTRACTS

Section 428 (2)(g) of the Local Government Act 1993 and Clause 217(1)(b) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

The only staff member designated as a Senior Staff Member in accordance with the meaning of the Local Government Act 1993 is the General Manager. The remuneration package of the position at the end of the reporting period was \$140,947.01 compared to \$158,624.75 for the previous period. The General Manager is the sole Senior Staff member of Council and the remuneration package is as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| * Cash salary | 92,979.00 |
| * Salary Sacrifice: | |
| * Voluntary additional superannuation contribution | 30,832.94 |
| * Computer and professional subscriptions | <u>4,982.56</u> |
| * Sub-total | 128,794.50 |
| * Compulsory superannuation contribution | 11,597.19 |
| * Fringe benefits payable by Council on non-cash benefits | <u>0.00</u> |
| Total | <u>\$140,391.69</u> |

The Director of Corporate and Community Services was appointed to the position of General Manager on 10 July 2008 with a four year contract to 10 July 2012.

8. MAJOR CONTRACTS AWARDED
Section 428 (2)(h) of the Local Government Act 1993

During the reporting period the following contracts were awarded:

| | | |
|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| * | Forsyths, Chartered Accountants, audit services 2007/2008 to 2012/2013 commencing at | \$17,500.00 |
| * | Tamworth Regional Council, regional library services 2007/2008 to 2010/2011 commencing at | \$42,556.27 |

Work carried out by Contractors during the reporting period either under contracts entered into in previous years, or for significant amounts, for services were:

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| * | Campbell's Fuel Petroleum, distillate and oil | \$ 340,697.82 |
| * | Home Care Service Domestic Assistance to Community Options clients | \$ 332,655.40 |
| * | Armidale & District Home Nursing Home help for Community Options Clients | \$328,845.49 |
| * | Boral Construction Supply and spray bitumen | \$319,687.08 |
| * | Statecover Mutual Workers Compensation Insurance | \$180,450.28 |
| * | Jardine Lloyd Thompson Insurance for Assets and Public Liability | \$151,960.49 |
| * | Inverell Aggregate, Aggregate supplies | \$124,583.92 |
| * | EDI Downer Bitumen supplies | \$111,412.46 |
| * | Hamo's Sand and Gravel Supply of road-making materials | \$62,020.61 |
| * | Ward Brothers Gravel royalties | \$53,220.04 |

9. BUSH FIRE HAZARD REDUCTION
Section 428 (2)(i1) of the Local Government Act 1993

The responsibility for Bush Fire Hazard Reduction activities was passed to the NSW Rural Fire Service on 1 July 2001. This activity and other requirements of the Rural Fire Service Act 1997 are managed through a Service Level Agreement between the Uralla Shire Council and the New South Wales Rural Fire Service.

Council's general roadscape and recreational reserve maintenance activities also assisted in bushfire mitigation. During the year, orders were issued in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, requiring landowners to clean blocks and thereby suppress fire hazards.

Council received \$7,500 funding from the Rural Fire Service to undertake bushfire hazard reduction activities and these were expended primarily at the Uralla Landfill Facility.

10. MULTICULTURAL SERVICES

Section 428 (2)(j) of the Local Government Act 1993

The 2006 Census revealed that 88.8% of the population of the Shire was born in Australia. Of the 11.2% of the people living in Uralla Shire who were born overseas, the most common languages spoken at home other than English are German, Italian and Chinese. Uralla Shire Council does not have any specific services for people from non-English speaking backgrounds due to lack of demand for such services. Council's Social Plan has identified the need to develop a register of fluent non-English speakers who can be called upon to act as interpreters if needed.

The 2006 Census revealed that 5.8% of the Shire's population are of Aboriginal/Torres Strait Island origin. Council provides a number of services to our local Aboriginal community through its auspice of the Tablelands Community Support Options program. To manage its Aboriginal services projects, this program employs an Aboriginal Case Manager and an Aboriginal Project Officer to deliver services for the aged, people with a disability and their carers in the four Local Government areas of Uralla, Walcha, Guyra and Armidale-Dumaresq. These services are:

1. Community Options Project – Aboriginal: A HACC funded Case Management program which targets the elderly, people with a disability and their carers who have high and complex needs are at risk of premature and inappropriate institutionalisation. Ten Aboriginal specific packages in the Local Government areas of Guyra, Armidale Dumaresq, Uralla and Walcha are available.
2. Community Aged Care Packages – Aboriginal: Funding is received from the Australian Government to provide Community Aged Packages to the ATSI community in the New England area. Community Aged packages provide coordinated and flexible assistance to Aboriginal people aged 45 years plus to remain independent in their own homes. An extra 5 packages were received this year bringing the total number of packages available to the Aboriginal community in New England to twenty five.
3. Narwon Elders Group: This is a HACC funded program to provide a day respite group to the elders in the Aboriginal communities of the New England region.

Uralla Shire Council continues to auspice the Kamilaroi Aboriginal Respite Service in Tamworth with the Tablelands Community Support Options Manager providing support to this project. KADS has offices located in Tamworth, Inverell and Boggabilla.

ATTACHMENT D - (Annual Report of Tablelands Community Support Options for more details)

11. ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

Section 428(2)(r) of the Local Government Act 1993 and Clause 217(1)(c) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005)

The 2006 Census indicates that 1,626 persons were less than 20 years of age. This represents 28.35% of the population. Council has identified that this group as having special needs within the community. Council contributes to the following activities, which are provided for the children of the community:

| ACTIVITY | SUPPORT | TARGET AGE GROUP |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Uralla Neighbourhood Centre | Promote physical activities and use of Council facilities Youth Week | 5 to 19 – 22.3% of population |
| Library | Provision of facilities and activities | 0 to 90 - 100% of population |
| Uralla Pre-School Inc. | Financial assistance | 3 to 5 – 2.77% of population |
| Skate Park | Provision and maintenance of facilities | 5 to 19 22.3% of population |
| Sporting Complex | Provision and maintenance of facilities | 5 to 19 22.3% of population |

After several years when Youth Week activities were not organised in the council area the organisation of Youth Week was provided by the Uralla Neighbourhood Centre, with funding from the Uralla Shire Council and the Department of Community Services. Youth Week activities were arranged during Youth Week 5 to 13 April 2008.

12. ACCESS AND EQUITY ACTIVITIES

Section 428 (2)(r) of the Local Government Act 1993 and Clause 217(1)(d)(i) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

Council endeavours to ensure that all residents and ratepayers are aware of the services provided, their entitlement to information and their rights and obligations. Residents of the Shire who are not able to move within the community because of age, disability or remote locations within the Shire have been identified as requiring special consideration when accessing information from Council.

Council adopted a Community Social Plan in November 2004. This plan was reviewed by the Department of Local Government, which indicated a number of shortcomings within the plan.

12. ACCESS AND EQUITY ACTIVITIES (Continued)

A Regional Social Plan, in conjunction with other member councils of the New England Strategic Alliance of Councils (NESAC) will be prepared through the UNE Centre for Applied Research and Social Science (CARSS) commencing in December 2008 with a completion date of December 2009. The review will include widespread Community consultation in the year 2009.

Council has embarked on the following strategies, over and above the requirements of the Local Government Act, for communication with ratepayers to ensure that these target groups are not discriminated against in their access to information:

- Business Papers for Council meetings are available for inspection at seven locations within the Shire, the Council Office, Library, Visitors Information Centre, Bundarra General Store, Kentucky General Store, Kingstown General Store and Invergowrie General Store. These are also available, to residents and ratepayers, free of charge as required by the Act.
- Council Newsletter published monthly and distributed to every household in the Shire.

Uralla Shire Council is the auspicing body for the Tablelands Community Transport program which is a rural non-profit volunteer based organisation providing various levels of transport services to transport disadvantaged passengers in the local government areas of Uralla, Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra and Walcha.

Services include:

- * Fortnightly shopping bus runs to Armidale
- * Monthly outing for men with a disability
- * Monthly social outing for residents of McMaugh Gardens Aged Care facility
- * Transport to Safety service providing transport to Women's Refuges
- * Social outings for children with disabilities
- * Volunteer car driver scheme
- * Provision of an electric scooter available for hire through Crazy Clark's Store (based in Armidale)

ATTACHMENT E (Annual Report of Tablelands Community Transport for more details)

13. PRIVATE WORKS

Section 428 (2)(k) of the Local Government Act 1993

Council makes the following charges for work carried out on private land.

| | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Plant | Council adopts a standard schedule of hire charges for the use of plant on private land. The charge is on the basis of wet hire and is market competitive. |
| Additional Labour | Direct cost plus 25% for overheads. |
| Materials | Actual cost plus 12.5%. |

13. PRIVATE WORKS (Continued)

The rates are reviewed annually during the preparation of the Annual Budget and advertised with the Schedule of Fees and Charges attached to the Management Plan. Council has not carried out any work on private property during the 2007/2008 year except where proper private works orders have been raised.

14. CONTRIBUTIONS/DONATIONS

Section 428 (2)(l) of the Local Government Act 1993

Contributions totalling \$2,025.00 were made to local community groups under Section 356 of the Local Government Act 1993 as follows:

| | | |
|---|------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| * | Rotary Art Show Committee | \$ 770.00 |
| * | Uralla Central School | \$ 160.00 |
| * | St Josephs School | \$ 80.00 |
| * | Rocky River School | \$ 80.00 |
| * | Kingstown School | \$ 80.00 |
| * | Kentucky School | \$ 80.00 |
| * | Bundarra Central School | \$ 160.00 |
| * | Bundarra Tourism & Development Committee | \$ 170.00 |
| * | Australia Day Committee | <u>\$ 445.00</u> |
| | Total | <u>\$ 2,025.00</u> |

Uralla Shire Council provides local community groups with the use of a small shop, “*The Uralla Community Store*”, located in the main street from which to run fund-raising activities such as the sale of raffle tickets, produce, handicrafts and cake stalls. Applications are called for annually with one week per year being allocated to each group. The rent paid to the store owner in the 2007-08 year was \$1,189.00.

15. HUMAN RESOURCE ACTIVITIES

Section 428 (2)(m) of the Local Government Act 1993

Council continues to develop staff resources through the provision of training and vocational interaction to ensure that staff have the necessary skills and experience to carry out their duties. The Salary Administration System and Council’s staff Structure have been reviewed.

Employees are encouraged to attend professional conferences and vocation related regional group meetings. Training through attendance or assistance with the following during the reporting period included:

- * Master of Business Administration (Professional Accounting) (1)
- * Diploma in Community Services (Case Management) (2)
- * Certificate III Civil Construction (9 in progress)
- * Certificate III Horticulture (1 in progress).
- * Certificate III in Aged Care (3)
- * Environmental Health and Building Surveying (1)
- * Integrated Care Management (to provide services to the frail and aged)

15. HUMAN RESOURCE ACTIVITIES (continued)

- * Water Treatment (2).
- * First Aid (6)
- * Pool lifeguard update (2)
- * Chainsaw operation (6)
- * Chemical Spray operations (3)
- * OH&S Committee course (3)
- * Professional conferences.
- * Industry training groups.
- * Regional vocational group meetings.(6)

During the reporting period, Council expended costs of \$142,504.36 (including a wages and salaries component of \$70,874.57) on staff training.

16. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Section 428 (2)(n) of the Local Government Act 1993

Council had reviewed and adopted an EEO Management Plan in September 2000. The EEO Management Plan was extensively reviewed by the members of the Uralla Shire Council Equal Employment Opportunities Advisory Committee in six meetings from 10 August 2006 to 19 January 2007. The revised and updated E.E.O. Management Plan was adopted by Council at its meeting of Monday 26 February 2007 (Resolution 56/07). This plan was the basis for the Draft E.E.O. Management Plan prepared for the New England Strategic Alliance of Councils dated 20 September 2007.

At the meeting of the Uralla Shire Council Equal Employment Opportunities Advisory Committee held on 20 September 2007 the Committee recommended to Council, and these recommendations were adopted:

- That Council adopt the NESAC Equal Employment Opportunity Policy, and
- That Council agree with the concept of an umbrella Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan and that the Uralla Equal Employment Opportunity Advisory Committee should work with the assimilation of the NESAC Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan and the Uralla Shire Council Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan

A joint NESAC Equal Employment Opportunities Committee held its inaugural meeting on Thursday 13 December 2007. The first chairperson of the Committee was an Uralla Shire Council employee, Mrs Cheryl Cooper.

During the balance of the year the NESAC Equal Employment Opportunities Committee held meetings on Thursday 3 April 2008 and Thursday 5 June 2008.

Recruitment and retention of staff is carried out in accordance with the Plan and positions are advertised both internally and externally.

16. **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (Continued)**

Council adopted a Policy of Succession Planning on 30 August 2006 (Resolution 295/06). This policy provides for the mentoring of existing employees to facilitate the transition of management and leadership of the Council, over time. The Policy is driven by the desire that future leaders come from within the organisation, where possible.

Succession Planning is not about targeting particular individuals. It is about building capacity and capability of groups of people, who can then collectively compete on merit for promotion. It aims to overcome the common current experience where younger people leave the organisation after about five years of service. At the same time, Council believes that it is good personnel practice, good for the economy and valuable for the organisation to work with its senior executives and long term employees who are planning on transitioning to retirement.

17. **EXTERNAL BODIES THAT EXERCISE COUNCIL FUNCTIONS OR ACTIVITIES** *Section 428 (2)(o) of the Local Government Act 1993*

During the reporting period the following bodies acted under delegation:

- Australia Day Celebration Management Committee
- Bundarra School of Arts Hall Management Committee
- Bundarra Rural Transaction Centre
- Uralla Events Management Committee

18. **CONTROLLING INTEREST IN COMPANIES** *Section 428 (2)(p) of the Local Government Act 1993*

Council did not hold a controlling interest in any Company during the reporting period.

19. **PARTNERSHIPS, CO-OPERATIVES AND JOINT VENTURES** *Section 428 (2)(q) of the Local Government Act 1993*

During the reporting period Council was involved in the following joint arrangements:

- * **Central Northern Libraries** - Regional agreement with other Councils for the provision of library services. Tamworth City Council manages the agreement.

ATTACHMENT F

- * **Resource Sharing** -.Uralla Shire Council has joined with the Councils of Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra, Walcha and the New England Weeks Authority in an Alliance (New England Strategic Alliance of Councils – NESAC), which provides for an alternative local government model based on the delivery of selected services by means of a combination of shared services and voluntary joint cooperative arrangements whilst still maintaining local decision making capacity and service delivery.

20. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Section 428(2)(r) of the Local Government Act 1993

Section 428(2)(r) of the Local Government Act 1993 states “such other information as the regulations may require”.

In addition to the additional information provided in Sections 3, 6, 7, 11 and 12 above, the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 request additional information to be provided in Annual Reports. This information as well as additional information considered to be of interest is provided in the following sections.

21. OVERSEAS TRAVEL BY COUNCILLORS, COUNCIL STAFF OR OTHER PERSONS, WHILE REPRESENTING THE COUNCIL

Clause 217(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

No Councillor, Council staff or other persons travelled overseas while representing Council during the year 2008/2009.

22. CATEGORY 1 BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

Clause 217(1)(d)(ii) and (iv)(viii) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

The Uralla Shire Council has the following Category 1 Business Activities:

- ↳ Uralla Water Supply – for the town of Uralla.
- ↳ Uralla Sewerage Scheme – for the town of Uralla.

Detailed financial information regarding Business Activities are contained within the Special Purpose Financial Statements attached to this Report. The Water Supply Operation is Special Schedule 3 and the Sewerage Operation is Special Schedule 5.

Statement of Expenses, Revenues and Assets:

| ACTIVITY | WATER SUPPLY OPERATION | | SEWERAGE OPERATION | |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|
| | Actual | Budget | Actual | Budget |
| | \$000s | \$000s | \$000s | \$000s |
| Revenue excluding grants for acquisition of assets | 671 | 620 | 532 | 438 |
| Expenditure including depreciation | 1,008 | 751 | 749 | 521 |
| Surplus (Deficit) | (337) | (131) | (217) | (83) |
| Net Equity | 17,272 | 16,432 | 7,787 | 7,434 |
| Notional Return on Capital | (1.95%) | (0.80%) | (2.78%) | (1.11%) |

Comparison of Performance

The combined (Uralla and Bundarra) deficit for reporting of the Water Supply operations performance was \$206,000 more than budgeted due to the unexpected estimated loss on long term investment of \$328,000 offset by a reduction of \$101,000 in depreciation cost following revaluation and re-evaluation of useful life of the assets and an increase of \$48,000 in the interest received over the estimates.

Comparison of Performance (Continued)

The Sewer operation performance was \$134,000 more than budgeted due to the unexpected estimated loss on long term investment of \$327,000 plus additional employee costs of \$30,000 and materials and contracts of \$17,000 offset by a reduction of \$145,000 in depreciation cost following revaluation and re-evaluation of useful life of the assets and an increase of \$53,000 in the interest received and \$35,000 access charges over the estimates..

The method of pricing of water services has been established so that there is no cross subsidy between General Fund and the Water and Sewer Funds. This has involved examining the basis for charging of Administration Charges from Corporate Services to the various Council Activities. The Water and Sewerage operations are the only Council Business Undertakings, as specifically provided for in the Guidelines; therefore Council has taken no specific action regarding implementation of competitive neutrality.

23. CATEGORY 2 BUSINESS ACTIVITIES;

Clause 217(1)(d)ivii) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

McMaugh Gardens Aged Hostel
Private Works Contract Services

24. IMPLEMENTATION OF COMPETITIVE NEUTRALITY PRINCIPLES

Clause 217(1)(d)(v) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

Competitive neutrality policy aims to ensure that government businesses do not enjoy any competitive advantage over private companies as a result of their public ownership.

The New South Wales Government's response to the applying of competitive neutrality principles in the local government sector is to require businesses that have an annual gross operating income of more than \$2 million to adopt a corporatisation model and apply full cost attribution, while businesses below that income threshold must apply full cost attribution and make subsidies explicit.

The Uralla Shire Council has no business unit with a gross income of \$2 million or greater. Consequently only Council's water and sewerage operations are classified as Category 1 businesses.

The Uralla Shire Council has adopted the procedure of applying full cost attribution of administration and back office costs over all its principal activities and these costs are distributed to the Water and Sewer activities in the same manner and using the same cost drivers as other activities. An appropriate proportion of governance costs are also allocated to Water, Sewer, Domestic and other Waste operations. In addition; Water, Sewer, McMaugh Aged Care Centre and Domestic Waste are treated as separate funds and accounted within Council's Annual Financial Statements within the Special Purpose Financial Statements, which are subject to audit. The Special Purpose Financial Reports include notes to the accounts on National Competition Policy (Note 1 paragraph 3) and Best Practice Management Disclosures – Water Supply (Note 2) and Sewerage (Note 3).

25. COMPETITIVE NEUTRALITY PRICING REQUIREMENTS IN RELATION TO CATEGORY 1 BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

Clause 217(1)(d)(i) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

As set out in the aforementioned Section 24, the Uralla Shire Council has been applied to each Category 1 business (Water and Sewerage operations) and also to the Category 2 businesses, McMaugh Gardens Aged Hostel and Private Works Contract Services.

26. COMPETITIVE COMPLAINTS HANDLING MECHANISM

Clause 217(1)(d)(vii) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

Council established a complaints handling procedure for competitive neutrality complaints and no complaints have been received in respect to competitive neutrality. Council is not aware of any situation that may give rise to a complaint being lodged.

Set out below are statistics regarding competitive neutrality complaints for the reporting period:

| <u>Competitive Neutrality Complaints</u> | Total |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Brought Forward From Previous Year | Nil |
| New Complaints Received | Nil |
| Total to be processed | Nil |
| Complaints Completed During Reporting Period | Nil |
| Unfinished And Carried Forward To Next Reporting Period | Nil |

27. STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Clause 217(1)(e) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

Comparison of Performance

| | Budget | Actual |
|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Revenue | \$26,125 | \$23,312.50 |
| Expenditure | \$32,520 | \$20,018.07 |
| Surplus(deficit) | (\$6,395) | \$3,294.43 |

Council has continued to implement strategies to achieve the objectives outlined in the 2007-2008 Management Plan in relation to the management of urban stormwater drainage. Council maintained its current level of routine maintenance of the existing stormwater drainage system (5.6km) at a cost of \$982 per km per annum and replaced 50 metres of stormwater drain to improve flows in East Street Uralla. A number of drainage lines have had gross pollutant traps installed to assist in the removal of gravels and litter.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT SERVICES (continued)

A project to improve the quality of water flows in Uralla Creek in the vicinity of Shanahan's Bridge was undertaken with environmental weeds removed and the area replanted with appropriate native vegetation with the assistance of Greencorps.

Consultation with relevant community groups and the Catchment Management Authority has been sought and the development of a Stormwater and Flood Management Plan and a Sub-Catchment Management Plan for Uralla Creek are currently in progress.

28. COMPLIANCE WITH COMPANION ANIMALS ACT AND REGULATION *Reg cl 217(1)(f) and Companion Animals Act 1998*

The Companion Animals Shelter situated off the New England Highway approximately 18km north of Uralla is open to the public for 22 hours each week serving both the Uralla and Armidale Dumaresq Local Government areas.

In 2007-2008, Uralla Shire Council contributed \$20,111 to the running of this facility.

Pound Collection Data

| | 2007-08 |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Number of animals housed | 38 |
| Number of animals reclaimed | 7 |
| Number of animals re-housed | 14 |
| Number of animals euthanised | 17 |
| Number of Companion Animal complaints | 71 |

Companion Animal Complaints Received

| Dogs - Barking | Dogs - Aggressive | Dogs - General | Notices Issued |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 34 | 11 | 26 | 8 |

29. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1989 and REGULATION

Freedom of Information requests processed by Council for the 2007/2008 year were:

| <u>FOI Requests</u> | Personal | | Other | | Total | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | 2007/ 2008 | 2006/ 2007 | 2007/ 2008 | 2006/ 2007 | 2007/ 2008 | 2006/ 2007 |
| New (Including transferred in) | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Brought forward | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Total to be processed | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Completed | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Transferred out | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Withdrawn | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Total Processed | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Unfinished (carried forward | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |

30. PRIVACY AND PERSONAL INFORMATION ACT 1998

Council adopted its Privacy Management Plan in June 2000.

During the period July 2007 to June 2008, Council did not receive any requests for investigations into breaches under the PPIP Act 1998

31. ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT 1979

Shared Services for Planning Activities Within the New England Strategic Alliance (NESAC)

A Regulatory Directorate group with senior staff from all four Councils meet monthly to discuss issues of common interest and concern, opportunities for resource sharing and common procedures.

The new GEAC "Pathway" computer system continues to be implemented across all four Alliance Councils, providing access to a common database and processing system for all development related applications, including applications lodgement, enquiries and processing by staff in any of the four Council areas.

The system is still being expanded to its full functionality and now includes other modules including common Council licensing task such as food and on site waste water applications.

The new systems links with electronic mapping including cadastral information and planning controls and constraints for individual properties. In future, it is also anticipated that the new software will allow a range of on line functions to be available to the community including application lodgement and enquiry, as well as some automatically generated certificates.

Shared Services for Planning Activities Within the New England Strategic Alliance (NESAC) (Continued)

A major focus of the Directorate in 2007/2008 has been the preparation of the NESAC wide regional planning strategy.

Also in early 2008, the Directorate was successful in an application for a grant through the Commonwealth Department of Climate Change in its “Local Adaptation Pathways Program” (LAPP). The grant, for \$55,000 including GST, is to be supplemented by Council and in kind funds to bring the project value to almost \$100,000.

This grant will enable Councils to jointly undertake a Climate Change Risk Awareness and Adaptation Planning process in relation to all Council operations. The project is expected to be completed in the 2008/2009 year.

In the same period, Council also expects to complete, along with its NESAC partners, a Community Consultative Program on Climate Change under the auspices of the NSW Nature Conservation Council. This will in turn provide feedback from people living in our region into the LAPP project and also the NSW Climate Summit which is scheduled for early 2009.

Regional Development Strategy and NESAC LEP(s)

Consultants appointed to prepare the New England Strategic Alliance of Councils (NESAC) continued to work on the preparation of a Regional Development Strategy for all four Local Government Areas of Armidale Dumaresq, Uralla, Walcha and Guyra. This strategy, half funded by the NSW Department of Planning’s Planning Reform fund, is intended to review the planning and environmental situation across the Region, and inform a single LEP, or consistent LEPs for the Council areas within the Alliance. The resulting LEP(s) will replace the existing LEP(s) of the Alliance Councils.

The completion of this project will see local planning controls being incorporated into an LEP(s) based on the Standard LEP “template” which was introduced by the State Government in 2006 for all NSW Councils. This will, for example, result in standard land use and other definitions in planning instruments, as well as a reduction in the number and types of zoning provisions which councils can include in their LEPs.

Completion of the Draft Regional Development Strategy during 2007-2008 was dependant of resolving the issue of appropriate minimum lot sizes for subdivisions in rural areas. In August 2007, the State Government released the Central West Rural Land Inquiry which considered the issue of rural development and made recommendations relevant to regional areas in NSW. This led to the State Government introducing a State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) for Rural Lands in May 2008 which provided requirements and guidelines for determining minimum lot sizes for subdivision of rural land.

The Draft Regional Development Strategy was completed following the release of the Rural Lands SEPP. On 1 July 2008, the consultants will present the Draft Regional Development Strategy to all four Councils in NESAC with a view to seeking their endorsement for public exhibition of the document.

Regional Development Strategy and NESSAC LEP(s) (Continued)

When the Strategy is finalised work will commence on preparing the LEP(s) for NESAC. The NESAC LEP(s) will not only be informed by the outcomes in the Regional Development Strategy, but also the recommendations of the Armidale Bulky Goods Retailing Development and Industrial Lands Study (see Armidale Bulky Goods Retailing and Industrial Lands Study).

Review of Council's Bush Fire Prone Land Map

Under NSW legislation introduced in 2002, Council's are required to have Bushfire Prone Land (BPL) maps to use for planning and development control. The maps must be certified by the Commissioner of the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS). Councils are required to review their BPL maps every 5 years and submit any proposed changes to the Commissioner for certification.

The RFS provided Council with a certified BPL map on 26 August 2003. During 2007-2008 the required review of the map was undertaken by Council in accordance with the BPL mapping guidelines provided by the RFS. The review involved comparing current bushfire mapping with vegetation distribution utilizing satellite imagery to identify possible anomalies. Following preparation of a draft map, ground truthing of the mapping was undertaken with the RFS (New England Zone) and mainly focused on land on the periphery of Armidale.

The revised BPL map will be submitted to the RFS in July 2008, seeking certification of the map by the NSW Commissioner of the RFS.

Development Control – Applications Processing

In 2007-2008 some 148 Development Applications and Complying Development Certificates were determined for the Uralla Local Government area, pursuant the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

The estimated value of work for applications approved in 2007-2008, excluding requests to modify existing consents, was approximately \$7 Million. This represented an increase of \$0.6 Million in comparison to the equivalent figure for 2006-2007.

Since 2006-07, councils have been supplying the Department of Planning with detailed information on each Development Application and s96 modification determined by council, and on each Complying Development Certificate issued by council or private certifiers. This information has been compiled into Local Development Performance Monitoring 2007-2008 report released 3 November 2008.

Uralla Shire is part of the reported Western Division and has been placed in Group 10 along with Blaney, Cobar, Forbes, Glen Innes Severn, Gwydir, Lachlan, Narromine, Oberon, Walgett and Wellington Shires. This grouping has been based upon population figures released from the Bureau of Statistic as at 30 June 2007.

Development Control – Applications Processing (Continued)

Attached are some collated statistics relating to Uralla Shire from the Local Development Performance Monitoring 2007-2008 report (November 2008) issued by the Department of Planning. Collated are all of the Western Region Group 10 Councils and the State Average for information only.

Number and Estimated Cost of Development Applications Approved

| | No Da's Determined | | | No s96 | | Total Estimated Approved | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------------------|---------|---------|
| | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| Uralla | 164 | 153 | 135 | 4 | 13 | \$5.1m | \$6.4m | \$7m |
| State Group Average | n/a | 170 | 127 | 10 | 13 | n/a | \$22.5m | \$14m |

Percentage of Development Type Approved

| | % Alterations & Additions | | % Single New Dwellings | | % Commercial/ Retail/Office | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------|------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|---------|
| | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| Uralla | n/a | 57 | n/a | 22 | n/a | 0 |
| State Group Average | n/a | 32 | n/a | 19 | n/a | 8 |

Number of Complying Development Applications Approved

| | No CDCs Issued | | | Issued by Council | | Issued by Private Certifier | | Total Estimated Value | |
|----------------------------|----------------|---------|---------|-------------------|---------|-----------------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|
| | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| Uralla | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | \$0m | \$0m |
| State Group Average | n/a | 34 | 30 | n/a | 28 | n/a | 2 | \$0.9m | \$1m |

Development Application Determination Times

| | Mean Gross | | Mean Net | | Median Gross | | | Median Net | | | S96 Mean Gross | |
|----------------------------|------------|---------|----------|---------|--------------|---------|---------|------------|---------|---------|----------------|---------|
| | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| Uralla | 33 | 22 | 9 | 22 | 18 | 21 | 17 | 17 | 1 | 17 | n/a | 19 |
| State Group Average | 52 | 59 | 37 | 42 | n/a | 30 | 28 | n/a | 24 | 24 | n/a | 77 |
| NSW | 76 | 74 | 50 | 46 | n/a | 43 | 43 | n/a | 31 | 30 | n/a | 58 |

Development Control – Applications Processing (Continued)

Staff Allocated to Development Assessment

| | DA Staff | | Average DAs / Staff Member | | % Change from Previous Year | | DA's Determined | |
|----------------------------|----------|---------|----------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|---------|-----------------|---------|
| | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| Uralla | 2 | 2 | 77 | 67.5 | -53 | -11.8 | 153 | 135 |
| State Group Average | 3 | 2 | 55 | n/a | n/a | n/a | 132 | 127 |
| NSW | 22773 | 1195 | 4 | 68.9 | n/a | n/a | 86287 | 82404 |

Construction and Occupation Certificates Issued

| | Construction Certificates | | | Occupation Certificates | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------|---------|-------------------------|---------|---------|
| | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2005-06 | 2006-07 | 2007-08 |
| Uralla | 100 | 117 | 102 | 40 | 22 | 20 |
| State Group Average | 97 | 96 | 90 | 39 | 60 | 47 |

Planning Appeals and Related Legal Costs

There were no appeals against Council's Planning decisions in 2007/2008.

Applications and Activity

During the year, Council determined 34 new applications for on-site waste systems and undertook 28 inspections of premises involved in food preparation and sales, as well as various businesses regulated under the Public Health Act.

2008 Armidale Dumaresq & Uralla Heritage and Urban Design Awards

The 2008 Armidale Dumaresq and Uralla Heritage and Urban Design Awards Evening was held on Saturday 29 March 2008.

The winners and highly commended entries were:

Category 1 – Residential

65 Mann Street, "Opawa" Renovations/selves
Owner: Mr & Mrs Cooke

160 Faulkner Street, "Uloola" Additions/Magoffin and Deakin Architects
Owner: Mr Bain and Prof Sedgley

98 Mossman Street, Additions/Restoration/ Mahalath Halperin Architect/
Owner: Kerry Carrington and Russell Hogg

133 Dangar Street, "Aran House" Renovations/Richard Rowe Architect
Owner: Mr & Mrs Spring

2008 Armidale Dumaresq & Uralla Heritage and Urban Design Awards (Continued)

Category 2 – Non-residential

208 Beardy Street, “Old State Bank” Additions/ Magoffin and Deakin Architects
Owner: First National Real Estate

Category 3 – Landscaping

No awards in this category.

Special Award for Heritage Volunteer Work

Kilcoy Cemetery – Mary Finlayson – Conservation Work

Category 4 – Colour Schemes

164 Beardy Street “Old CBA Bank” KR & MI Love
Owner: J Barbato

Category 5 – Infill/Urban Design

15 Solomon Ave New Home/ Mahalath Halperin Architect
Owner: Mr & Mrs D Young

113 Dangar Street “NECU House” Offices/Hill Lockart Architects
Owner: Hook and Torbay Family Trust

Category 6 – Conservation Projects

University of New England 2351 four Conservation Management Plans.
Facilities Management University of New England
John Carr Architects/ Lee Scott historian
Owner: University of New England

Category 7 – Photographic Competition

Craig Flemming: Three dimensional aerial image mounted on canvas of broadcast House.
Jacqueline Weir: Series of black and white images various Uralla and Armidale images.
Lorraine Rigby: Colour image of Legacy House.

Enforcement in Relation to Unlawful Environmental Activity

Environmental matters addressed by Council during the year have included:

- Three occurrences of illegal display of signage.
- Condition of dilapidated buildings in Uralla and Bundarra. The sites were subsequently cleaned up.
- Illegal occupation of sheds for residential purposes.
- Four offences resulting in penalty notices in relation to littering and illegal deposition of waste.

32. RATES AND CHARGES WRITTEN OFF

Regulation 132 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005

Pension Rebates granted during the 2007/2008 financial year:

| | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| General | \$112,734.44 |
| Water | \$28,142.22 |
| Sewer | \$21,373.49 |
| Total | \$162,250.15 |

Note: Council receives a subsidy equivalent to 55% of the amount of Pension Rebates.

No further rates and charges were written off in 2007/2008.

ATTACHMENTS

NOTE: Attachments are available on the Uralla Shire Council Website if required:

www.uralla.nsw.gov.au

ATTACHMENT A

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A complete set of audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2008 is attached.

ATTACHMENT B

COMPARISON OF PERFORMANCE TO TARGETS

This comparison of Council's actual performance of its principal activities during the year ended 30 June 2008 (measured in accordance with the criteria set out in the 2006/2007 to 2007/2008 Management Plan) with the Council's projected performance of those activities (as contained in the aforementioned Management Plan), together with statements of reasons for differences follow the Audited Financial Statements.

ATTACHMENT C

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT

State of Environment Report 2007-2008

adopted by the New England Strategic Alliance of Councils.

ATTACHMENT D

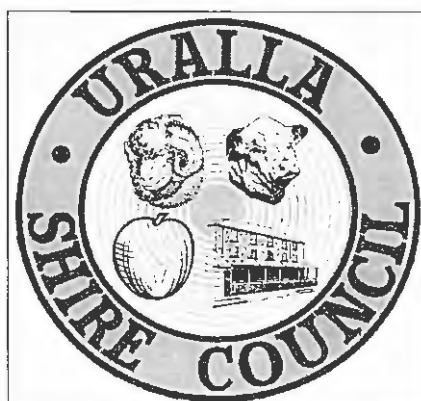
Tablelands Community Support Options Annual Report 2007-2008

ATTACHMENT E

Tablelands Community Transport Annual Report 2007-2008

ATTACHMENT F

Central Northern Regional Libraries Annual Report 2007-2008



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

GENERAL PURPOSE REPORTS SPECIAL PURPOSE REPORTS AND SPECIAL SCHEDULES

**YEAR ENDED
30 JUNE 2008**

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

General Purpose Financial Reports for the year ended 30th June 2008

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | <u>Page</u> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Council Certificate [s 413 (2)(c)] | 1 |
| Principal Financial Statements | |
| Income Statement | 2 |
| Balance Sheet | 3 |
| Statement of Changes in Equity | 4 |
| Cash Flow Statement | 5 |
| | |
| Notes to, and forming part of, the Principal Financial Statements | |
| Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies | N1 - N12 |
| Note 2 - Functions | N13 - N14 |
| Note 3 - Income | N15 - N18 |
| Note 4 - Expenses | N19 - N20 |
| Note 5 - Gain or Loss on Disposal of Assets | N21 |
| Note 6 - Cash and Investment Securities | N22-N23 |
| Note 7 - Receivables | N24 |
| Note 8 - Inventories & Other Assets | N25 |
| Note 9 - Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment | N26-N27 |
| Note 10 - Liabilities | N28-N29 |
| Note 11 - Reconciliation to Statement of Cash Flows | N30-N31 |
| Note 12 - Commitments for Expenditure | N32 |
| Note 13 - Statement of Performance Measures | N33 |
| Note 14 - Investment Property | N34 |
| Note 15 - Financial Risk Management | N35 - N38 |
| Note 16 - Significant Variations from original Budget | N39 - N40 |
| Note 17 - Statement of Developer Contributions | N41-N42 |
| Note 18 - Contingencies & Assets & Liabilities not Recognised | N43 - N44 |
| Note 19 - Joint Ventures and Associated Entities | N45 |
| Note 20 - Revaluation reserves & Retained Earnings | N46 - N47 |
| Note 21 - Reinstatement, rehabilitation & restoration liabilities | N48 |
| Note 23 - Events Occurring After Reporting Date | N49 |
| | |
| Auditors Report on the Financial Statements [s 417 (2)] | |
| | |
| Auditors Report on the Conduct of the Audit [s 417 (3)] | |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2008

STATEMENT BY COUNCILLORS AND MANAGEMENT MADE PURSUANT TO SECTION 413 (2)(c) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993 (as amended)

The attached Annual Financial Statements have been drawn up in accordance with

- The Local Government Act 1993 (as amended) and the Regulations made thereunder
- The Australian Accounting Standards and professional pronouncements
- The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting
- The Local Government Asset Accounting Manual.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these reports

- Present fairly the Council's financial position and operating result for the year, and
- Accord with Council's accounting and other records

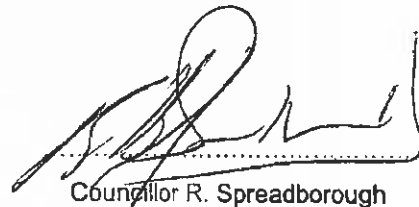
We are not aware of any matter that would render the reports false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 27 October 2008



Councillor M. Dusting

MAYOR



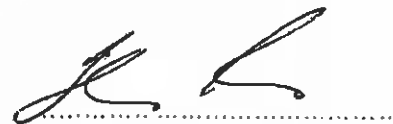
Councillor R. Spreadborough

DEPUTY MAYOR



Mr T. P. O'Connor (Chartered Accountant)

GENERAL MANAGER



Mr T. P. O'Connor (Chartered Accountant)

RESPONSIBLE ACCOUNTING OFFICER

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

INCOME STATEMENT for the year ended 30th June 2008

| Budget 2008 \$'000 | | Notes | Actual 2008 \$'000 | Actual 2007 \$'000 |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | INCOME | | | |
| | <i>Revenue:</i> | | | |
| 3,847 | Rates & Annual Charges | 3 | 3,700 | 3,669 |
| 1,317 | User Charges & Fees | 3 | 2,483 | 1,364 |
| 282 | Investment Revenues | 3 | - | 311 |
| 292 | Other Revenues | 3 | 216 | 219 |
| 7,670 | Grants & Contributions - Operating | 3 | 7,155 | 6,312 |
| - | Grants & Contributions - Capital | 3 | 681 | 896 |
| - | <i>Other Income:</i> | | | |
| - | Profit from Disposal of Assets | 5 | <u>121</u> | <u>-</u> |
| <u>13,408</u> | Total Income from Continuing Operations | | <u>14,356</u> | <u>12,771</u> |
| | EXPENSES | | | |
| 6,050 | Employee Costs | 4 | 6,332 | 6,206 |
| 3,894 | Materials & Contracts | 4 | 4,289 | 3,314 |
| 139 | Borrowing Costs | 4 | 144 | 173 |
| 1,647 | Depreciation & Amortisation | 4 | 1,838 | 1,965 |
| - | Impairment | 4 | - | - |
| 1,043 | Other Expenses | 4 | 1,091 | 962 |
| - | Interest and investment losses | 3 | 418 | - |
| - | Loss from Disposal of Assets | 5 | - | 14 |
| <u>12,773</u> | Total expenses from Continuing Operations | | <u>14,112</u> | <u>12,634</u> |
| <u>635</u> | NET OPERATING RESULT FOR YEAR | | <u>244</u> | <u>137</u> |
| | Attributable to: | | | |
| <u>635</u> | URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL | | <u>244</u> | <u>\$ 137</u> |
| <u>635</u> | | | <u>\$ 244</u> | <u>\$ 137</u> |
| <u>635</u> | Net operating result before capital grants and contributions | | <u>\$ (437)</u> | <u>\$ (759)</u> |

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET as at 30th June 2008

| | Notes | Actual 2008 \$'000 | Actual 2007 \$'000 |
|---------------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | |
| Cash & cash equivalents | 6 | 2,216 | 582 |
| Investments | 6 | 3,078 | 3,360 |
| Receivables | 7 | 1,168 | 1,169 |
| Inventories | 8 | 168 | 143 |
| Other | 8 | 92 | 65 |
| TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS | | <u>6,722</u> | <u>5,319</u> |
| NON-CURRENT ASSETS | | | |
| Receivables | 7 | 106 | 113 |
| Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment | 9 | 103,118 | 92,237 |
| TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS | | <u>103,224</u> | <u>92,350</u> |
| TOTAL ASSETS | | <u>109,946</u> | <u>97,669</u> |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | |
| Payables | 10 | 2,850 | 2,040 |
| Borrowings | 10 | 1,047 | 444 |
| Provisions | 10 | 1,375 | 1,543 |
| TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES | | <u>5,272</u> | <u>4,027</u> |
| NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | |
| Borrowings | 10 | 845 | 1,642 |
| Provisions | 10 | 752 | 630 |
| TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES | | <u>1,597</u> | <u>2,272</u> |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | | <u>6,869</u> | <u>6,299</u> |
| NET ASSETS | | <u>\$ 103,077</u> | <u>91,370</u> |
| EQUITY | | | |
| Accumulated Surplus | 20 | 77,132 | 74,912 |
| Revaluation Reserves | 20 | 25,945 | 16,458 |
| TOTAL EQUITY | | <u>\$ 103,077</u> | <u>91,370</u> |

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY for the year ended 30th June 2008

| | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| | Retained Earnings | Asset Reval. Reserve | Total | Retained Earnings | Asset Reval. Reserve | Total |
| Balance at beginning of the reporting period | 74,912 | 16,458 | 91,370 | 68,081 | 8,208 | 76,289 |
| Transfers to/(from) Asset Revaluation Reserve | - | 9,487 | 9,487 | - | 8,250 | 8,250 |
| Transfers to/(from) other reserves | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Income and expenses recognised directly in equity | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other adjustments | 1,976 | - | 1,976 | 6,694 | - | 6,694 |
| Cash Contributions by Outside Equity Interests | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Cash Distributions to Outside Equity Interests | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Adjustments to Outside Equity Interest | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net movements recognised directly in equity | 1,976 | 9,487 | 11,463 | 6,694 | 8,250 | 14,944 |
| Net Operating Result for the year | 244 | - | 244 | 137 | - | 137 |
| Total recognised income and expense for the year | 2,220 | 9,487 | 11,707 | 6,831 | 8,250 | 15,081 |
| Balance at end of the reporting period | 77,132 | 25,945 | 103,077 | 74,912 | 16,458 | 91,370 |
| <i>Effect of correction of errors in previous years on retained earnings</i> | 1,976 | - | 1,976 | 6,694 | - | 6,694 |
| <i>Effect of accounting policy changes on retained earnings</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| <i>Change in associated entities recognised</i> | - | - | - | - | - | - |

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

CASH FLOW STATEMENT for the year ended 30th June 2008

| Budget 2008 \$'000 | | Actual 2008 \$'000 | Actual 2007 \$'000 |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES | <u>Notes</u> | |
| | <u>Receipts</u> | | |
| 3,847 | Rates & Annual Charges | 3,558 | 3,631 |
| 1,317 | User Charges & Fees | 2,657 | 1,447 |
| 282 | Investments Income | 362 | 253 |
| 7,670 | Grants & Contributions | 8,401 | 6,140 |
| 292 | Other operating receipts | 153 | 1,514 |
| | <u>Payments</u> | | |
| (6,050) | Employee Costs | (6,463) | (6,278) |
| (3,894) | Materials & Contracts | (4,427) | (3,223) |
| - | Investments Income | - | - |
| (139) | Borrowing Costs | (150) | 173 |
| (1,043) | Other operating payments | (1,278) | (1,273) |
| <u>2,282</u> | Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities | <u>11</u> | <u>2,384</u> |
| | CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES | | |
| | <u>Receipts</u> | | |
| - | Proceeds from sale of Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment | 246 | 453 |
| - | Proceeds from sale of Investment Property | - | - |
| - | Proceeds from sale of Real Estate | - | - |
| - | Proceeds from sale of Investment Securities | 417 | - |
| - | Repayments from Deferred Debtors | - | - |
| - | Contributions to joint ventures by minority interests | 19 | - |
| - | Distribution received from associated entities | 19 | - |
| | <u>Payments</u> | | |
| (1,734) | Purchase of Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment | (1,170) | (2,689) |
| - | Purchase of Investment Property | - | - |
| - | Purchase of Real Estate | - | - |
| (125) | Purchase of Investment Securities | (915) | (3,360) |
| - | Loans to Deferred Debtors | - | - |
| - | Distributions from joint ventures to minority interests | 19 | - |
| - | Capital contributed to associated entities | 19 | - |
| <u>(1,859)</u> | Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities | <u>(1,422)</u> | <u>(5,596)</u> |
| | CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES | | |
| | <u>Receipts</u> | | |
| - | Proceeds from Borrowings & Advances | 192 | - |
| - | Proceeds from Retirement Home Contributions | 430 | 128 |
| | <u>Payments</u> | | |
| 49 | Repayments of Borrowings & Advances | (386) | (362) |
| - | Repayment of Finance Lease Liabilities | - | - |
| - | Repayment of Retirement Home Contributions | 7 | (1) |
| <u>49</u> | Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities | <u>243</u> | <u>(235)</u> |
| <u>472</u> | Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held | <u>1,634</u> | <u>(3,447)</u> |
| 582 | Cash Assets at beginning of reporting period | 11 | 582 |
| | Change in associated entities recognised | 1 | - |
| | Adjustment to Cash arising from Council restructure | 28 | - |
| <u>1,054</u> | Cash Assets at end of reporting period | <u>11</u> | <u>582</u> |

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2008

Note 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1 Basis of Preparation

This general purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRSs), other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, Urgent Issues Group Interpretations, the Local Government Act (1993) and Regulations and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

AAS 27

NSW Councils are required to comply with AAS 27 *Financial Reporting by Local Government*, and where AAS 27 conflicts with AIFRS, the requirements of AAS 27 have been applied. Where AAS 27 makes reference to another Australian accounting standard, the new Australian IFRS equivalent standards will apply. The specific 'not for profit' reporting requirements also apply.

1.1 Revenue recognition

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Revenue is measured on major income categories as follows:

Rates, annual charges, grants and contributions

Rates, annual charges, grants and contributions (including developer contributions) are recognised as revenues when the Council obtains control over the assets comprising these receipts. Developer contributions may only be expended for the purposes for which the contributions were required but the Council may apply contributions according to the priorities established in work schedules.

Control over assets acquired from rates and annual charges is obtained at the commencement of the rating year as it is an enforceable debt linked to the rateable property or, where earlier, upon receipt of the rates. A provision for doubtful debts on rates has not been established as unpaid rates represent a charge against the rateable property that will be recovered when the property is next sold.

Control over granted assets is normally obtained upon their receipt (or acquittal) or upon earlier notification that a grant has been secured, and is valued at their fair value at the date of transfer.

Income is recognised when the Council obtains control of the contribution or the right to receive the contribution, it is probable that the economic benefits comprising the contribution will flow to the Council and the amount of the contribution can be measured reliably.

Where grants or contributions recognised as revenues during the financial year were obtained on condition that they be expended in a particular manner or used over a particular period and those conditions were undischarged at balance date, the unused grant or contribution is disclosed in Note 3(g). The note also discloses the amount of unused grant or contribution from prior years that was expended on Council's operations during the current year.

A liability is recognised in respect of revenue that is reciprocal in nature to the extent that the requisite service has not been provided at balance date.

User charges and fees

User charges and fees (including parking fees and fines) are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided, the payment is received, or when the penalty has been applied, whichever first occurs. A provision for doubtful debt is recognised when collection in full is no longer probable.

Sale of plant, property, infrastructure and equipment

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2008

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

The profit or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has irrevocably passed to the buyer.

Interest and rents

Interest and rents are recognised as revenue on a proportional basis when the payment is due, the value of the payment is notified, or the payment is received, whichever first occurs.

Sale of plant, property, infrastructure and equipment

The profit or loss of an asset is determined when control of the asset has irrevocably passed to the buyer.

1.2 Compliance with Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards

This general purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS) as they apply to not-for-profit entities, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, Urgent Issues Group Interpretations, the NSW Local Government Act 1993 and regulations thereunder and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

1.3 Historical Cost Convention

The financial report has been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting and, except where specifically indicated in these Notes, in accordance with the historical cost convention.

1.4 Critical Accounting Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with AIFRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates, and requires management to exercise its judgement in applying Council's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or cases where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are specifically referred to in the relevant sections of this Note. Nothing contained within this report may be taken to be an admission of any liability to any person under any circumstance.

In particular, the valuation of collateralised debt obligations (CDOs) is subject to the difficulties set out in Appendix B to the *Review of NSW Local Government Investments* (Cole Inquiry Report). Valuations were provided by the promoters or distributors of the product, and largely represent an estimate of the market price. The valuations adopted for the purposes of these financial statements is consistent with the information contained within the Cole Inquiry Report and other information subsequently obtained by Council.

2. The Local Government Reporting Entity

Uralla Shire Council is incorporated under the NSW Local Government Act 1993 (as amended) and has its principal place of business at 32 Salisbury Street, Uralla, NSW 2358. These financial statements include the consolidated fund and other entities through which the Council controls resources to carry on its functions. In the process of reporting on the Council as a single unit, all transactions and balances between activity areas and controlled entities have been eliminated.

The following Special Rate funds and Committees established pursuant to the Act are included:

- Uralla Shire Water Supply Fund
- Uralla Shire Sewerage Fund
- McMaugh Gardens

Other joint ventures and associated entities in which Council is involved are included to the extent set out in paragraph 13 below and in Note 19.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2008

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

2.1 The Trust Fund

In accordance with the provisions of Section 411 of the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended), a separate and distinct Trust Fund is maintained to account for all monies and property received by the Council in trust which must be applied only for the purposes of or in accordance with the trusts relating to these monies. Trust monies and property subject to Council's control have been included in these reports.

Trust monies and property held by Council but subject to the control of other persons have been excluded from these reports. A separate statement of moneys held in the Trust Fund is available for inspection at the Council Office by any person free of charge.

3. Cash Assets and other Financial Instruments

Cash Assets include all amounts readily convertible to cash on hand at Council's option with an insignificant risk of changes in value with a maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

Receivables for rates and annual charges are secured over the subject land, and bear interest at rates determined in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended) and the Regulations and Determinations made thereunder. Other receivables are generally unsecured and do not bear interest. Loans made to sporting and community groups at concessional interest rates are recognised at their nominal amounts; interest revenues foregone by the Council effectively being a reduction of interest revenue in the period to which it relates.

All receivables are reviewed as at the reporting date and adequate allowance made for amounts the receipt of which is considered doubtful.

4. Receivables

Receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost, less provision for doubtful debts. Receivables are due for settlement no more than 30 days from the date of recognition.

Collectability of receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts which are known to be uncollectible are written off. A provision for doubtful receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the Council will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of receivables. The amount of the provision is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the effective interest rate.

5. Inventories

Inventories held in respect of stores have been valued by using the weighted average cost on a continual basis, after adjustment for loss of service potential. Inventories held in respect of business undertakings have been valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

6. Investments and other financial assets.

Classification

Council classifies its investments in the following categories: financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, loans and receivables, held-to-maturity investments and available-for-sale financial assets. The classification depends on the purpose for which the investments were acquired. Management determines the classification of its investments at initial recognition and, in the case of assets classified as held-to-maturity, re-evaluates this designation at each reporting date.

(i) Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are financial assets held for trading. A financial asset is classified in this category if acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short term. Derivatives are classified as held for trading unless they are designated as hedges. Assets in this category are classified as current assets.

(ii) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They are included in current assets, except for those with maturities greater

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2008

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

than 12 months after the balance sheet date which are classified as non-current assets. Loans and receivables are included in trade and other receivables in the balance sheet.

(iii) Held-to-maturity investments

Held-to-maturity investments are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturities that the Council's management has the positive intention and ability to hold to maturity. If Council were to sell other than an insignificant amount of held-to-maturity financial assets, the whole category would be tainted and reclassified as available-for-sale. Held-to-maturity financial assets are included in non-current assets, except for those with maturities less than 12 months from the reporting date, which are classified as current assets.

(iv) Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets, comprising principally marketable equity securities, are non-derivatives that are either designated in this category or not classified in any of the other categories. They are included in non-current assets unless management intends to dispose of the investment within 12 months of the balance sheet date. Investments are designated as available-for-sale if they do not have fixed maturities and fixed or determinable payments and management intends to hold them for the medium to long term.

Recognition and derecognition

Regular purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on trade-date - the date on which Council commits to purchase or sell the asset. Investments are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs for all financial assets not carried at fair value through profit or loss. Financial assets carried at fair value through profit or loss are initially recognised at fair value and transaction costs are expensed in the income statement. Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or have been transferred and Council has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership.

When securities classified as available-for-sale are sold, the accumulated fair value adjustments recognised in equity are included in the income statement as gains and losses from investment securities.

Subsequent measurement

Loans and receivables and held-to-maturity investments are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Available-for-sale financial assets and financial assets at fair value through profit and loss are subsequently carried at fair value. Gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of the financial assets at fair value through profit or loss category are presented in the income statement within other income or other expenses in the period in which they arise. Dividend income from financial assets at fair value through profit and loss is recognised in the income statement as part of revenue from continuing operations when Council's right to receive payments is established. Changes in the fair value of other monetary and non-monetary securities classified as available-for-sale are recognised in equity.

Fair value

The fair values of quoted investments are based on current bid prices. If the market for a financial asset is not active (and for unlisted securities), Council establishes fair value by using valuation techniques. These include the use of recent arm's length transactions, reference to other instruments that are substantially the same, discounted cash flow analysis, and option pricing models making maximum use of market inputs and relying as little as possible on entity-specific inputs.

Impairment

Council assesses at each balance date whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired. In the case of equity securities classified as available-for-sale, a significant or prolonged decline in the fair value of a security below its cost is considered as an indicator that the securities are impaired. If any such evidence exists for available-for-sale financial assets, the cumulative loss - measured as the difference between the acquisition cost and the current fair value, less any impairment loss on that financial asset previously recognised in profit or loss - is removed from equity and recognised in the income statement. Impairment losses recognised in the income statement on equity instruments classified as available-for-sale are not reversed through the income statement.

Policy

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2008

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

Council has an approved investment policy complying with Section 625 of the Local Government Act and S212 of the LG (General) Regulations 2005. Investments are placed and managed in accordance with that policy and having particular regard to authorised investments prescribed under the Local Government Investment Order. Council maintains an investment policy that complies with the Act and ensures that it or its representatives exercise care, diligence and skill that a prudent person would exercise in investing council funds.

Fair Value estimation.

The fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities must be estimated for recognition and measurement or for disclosure purposes.

The fair value of financial instruments traded in active markets is based on quoted market prices at the balance sheet date.

The fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market is determined using valuation techniques. Council uses a variety of methods and makes assumptions that are based on market conditions existing at each balance date. Quoted market prices or dealer quotes for similar instruments are used for long-term debt instruments held. Other techniques, such as estimated discounted cash flows, are used to determine fair value for the remaining financial instruments.

The nominal value less estimated credit adjustments of trade receivables and payables are assumed to approximate their fair values. The fair value of financial liabilities for disclosure purposes is estimated by discounting the future contractual cash flows at the current market interest rate that is available to the Council for similar financial instruments.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2008

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

7. Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment

7.1 Transitional Provisions

Council has elected not to recognise land under roads in accordance with the deferral arrangements under AASB 1045.

7.2 Recognition

All non-current assets purchased or constructed are capitalised as the expenditure is incurred and depreciated as soon as the asset is held "ready for use".

Crown reserves, and improvements thereon, under Council's care and control are recognised as assets of the Council. While ownership of the reserves remains with the Crown, Council retains operational control of the reserves and is responsible for their maintenance and use in accordance with the specific purposes to which the reserves are dedicated.

Council has title to, and is the registered owner of, 11 rural fire appliances and associated rural fire fighting equipment. These assets are under the control of the Rural Fire Services to enable that Department to provide the bushfire protection defences set out in their Service Level Agreement with Council, and accordingly have not been recognised in these reports. In accordance with normal Rural Fire Service funding arrangements, Council continues to contribute to the costs of maintenance of this equipment.

7.3 Materiality

Assets with an economic life in excess of one year are only capitalised where the cost of acquisition exceeds materiality thresholds established by Council for each type of asset. In determining (and in annually reviewing) such thresholds, regard is had to the nature of the asset and its estimated service life. Examples of capitalisation thresholds applied during the year under review are provided in Note 9 to these accounts.

7.4 Valuation

Council's assets are being progressively revalued to fair value in accordance with a staged implementation advised by the Department of Local Government. At balance date the following classes of IPPE were stated at their fair value:

- Operational land (External Valuation).
- Buildings – Specialised/Non Specialised (External Valuation).
- Water/Sewerage Networks (Internal Valuation).
- Plant and equipment (as approximated by depreciated historical cost).

Increases in the carrying amounts arising on revaluation are credited to the asset revaluation reserve. To the extent that the increase reverses a decrease previously recognising profit or loss, the increase is first recognised in profit or loss. Decreases that reverse previous increases of the same asset are first charged against revaluation reserves directly in equity to the extent of the remaining reserve attributable to the asset; all other decreases are charged to the Income statement.

7.5 Depreciation of Non-Current Assets

Other than land, all assets recognised are systematically depreciated over their useful lives in a manner which reflects the consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets.

Depreciation is recognised on a straight-line basis. Depreciation periods for infrastructure assets have been estimated based on the best information available to Council, but appropriate records covering the entire life cycle of these assets are not available, and extreme care should be used in interpreting financial information based on these estimates.

Land is not depreciated. Depreciation on other assets is calculated using the straight line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2008

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

| | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Motor Cars - Sedans | 5 years | Dams & Reservoirs | 100 years |
| Trucks and Utilities | 5-10 years | Water Mains | 80 -100 years |
| Dozers, Graders, Rollers, Tractors, Backhoes, Loaders | 10 years | Water Treatment Plant | 70 -100 years |
| Office Equipment | 5-20 years | Meters & Plant | 10 years |
| Furniture & Fittings | 5-20 years | Sewerage Treatment Plants | 50 -100 years |
| Library Books | 5 years | Sewer Mains & Pump Stations | 70 -100 years |
| Buildings - masonry | 50 to 100 years | Roads - Unsealed | 30 - 70 years |
| Buildings - other construction | 20 to 40 years | - Sealed | 80 -120 years |
| Playground equipment | 5 to 15 years | - Concrete | 60 years |
| Benches, seats, etc | 10 to 20 years | Bridges - Timber | 40 years |
| | | - Concrete | 120 years |

7.6 Impairment

Assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to depreciation and are reviewed annually for impairment. Assets that are subject to depreciation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount (which is the higher of the *present value of future cash inflows* or *value in use*).

For assets whose future economic benefits are not dependent on the ability to generate cash flows, and where the future economic benefits would be replaced if Council were deprived thereof, the *value in use* is the depreciated replacement cost. In assessing impairment for these assets, a rebuttable presumption is made that the current replacement cost exceeds the original cost of acquisition.

7.7 Borrowing Costs

Interest costs are expensed as they occur.

8 Payables

8.1 Goods & Services

Creditors are amounts due to external parties for the supply of goods and services and are recognised as liabilities when the goods and services are received. Creditors are normally paid 30 days after the month of invoice. No interest is payable on these amounts.

8.2 Payments Received in Advance & Deposits

Amounts received from external parties in advance of service delivery, and security deposits held against possible damage to Council assets, are recognised as liabilities until the service is delivered or damage reinstated, or the amount is refunded as the case may be.

8.3 Retirement Home Contributions

Revenue from Accommodation Bonds is recognised monthly, in accordance with the Aged Care Act 1997. The balance of the Accommodation Bond is refunded to the resident within 2 months of the vacancy of the bed and is shown as a payable within the Balance Sheet.

9 Borrowings

Loans are carried at their principal amounts which represent the present value of future cash flows associated with servicing the debt. Interest is accrued over the period to which it relates, and is recorded as part of "Payables".

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2008

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

10. Employee Benefits

10.1 Salaries, Wages & Compensated Absences

Liabilities for employees' entitlements to salaries, wages and compensated absences expected to be paid or settled within 12 months of reporting date are accrued at nominal amounts (including payroll based oncosts) measured in accordance with AASB 119 *Employee Benefits*.

Liabilities for employee benefits not expected to be paid or settled within 12 months are measured as the present value of the estimated future cash outflows (including payroll based oncosts) to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. Present values are calculated using government guaranteed securities rates with similar maturity terms.

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Weighted average discount rate | 6.57% (2007, 6.43%) |
| Weighted average settlement period | 15 years (2007, 15 years) |

Council does not make payment for untaken sick leave.

10.2 Superannuation

The Council makes employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the Local Government Superannuation Scheme. The Scheme has two types of membership, each of which is funded differently.

Accumulation Fund Members

The accumulation fund receives both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are normally based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings in accordance with Superannuation Guarantee Legislation (9% in 2007/08; 9% in 2006/07). No further liability accrues to the employer as the superannuation benefits accruing to employees are represented by their share of the net assets of the Fund.

Defined Benefit Members

Council makes employer contributions to the defined benefits categories of the Scheme at rates determined by the Scheme's Trustee. The rate is currently 0.95 times members' contributions (0.95 times members' contributions in 2006/2007). Employees also make member contributions to the Fund. As such, assets accumulate in the Fund to meet the member's benefits, as defined in the Trust Deed, as they accrue.

The Fund's Defined Benefit Plan is a multi-employer sponsored plan. As the Fund's assets and liabilities are pooled and are not allocated by employer, the Actuary is unable to allocate benefit liabilities, assets and costs between employers. As provided by AASB 119.32(b), Council does not use defined benefit accounting for these contributions.

11. Construction Contracts

Construction works undertaken by Council for third parties (principally the Roads & Traffic Authority for works on national and state highways) are generally on an agency basis where the third party reimburses Council for actual costs incurred, and usually do not extend beyond the reporting period. As there is no profit component, such works are treated as 100% completed. Reimbursements not received are recognised as receivables and reimbursements received in advance are recognised as "payments received in advance".

12. Joint Ventures and Associated Entities

Council participates in cooperative arrangements with other Councils for the provision of services and facilities. This arrangement is based on a resource sharing model where shared costs are distributed to other Councils. The NESAC organisation is not a formal structure, however, each participant agrees to share resources on a charge basis. Debtors for works performed by Uralla Shire and chargeable to other members are included in note 7 and creditors for works performed by other members and chargeable to Uralla Shire are included as creditors in Note 10..

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2008

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

13. Leases

Lease arrangements have been accounted for in accordance with AASB 117.

In respect of finance leases, where Council substantially carries all of the risks incident to ownership, the leased items are initially recognised as assets and liabilities equal in amount to the present value of the minimum lease payments. The assets are disclosed as assets under lease, and are amortised to expense over the period during which the Council is expected to benefit from the use of the leased assets. Lease payments are allocated between interest expense and reduction of the lease liability, according to the interest rate implicit in the lease.

In respect of operating leases, where the lessor substantially retains all of the risks and benefits incident to ownership of the leased items, lease payments are charged to expense over the lease term.

14. GST Implications

In accordance with UIG Interpretation 1031 "Accounting for the Goods & Services Tax"

- Receivables and Creditors include GST receivable and payable.
- Except in relation to input taxed activities, revenues and operating expenditures exclude GST receivable and payable.
- Non-current assets and capital expenditures include GST net of any recoupment.
- Amounts included in the Statement of Cash Flows are disclosed on a gross basis.

15. Provision for close down and restoration and for environmental clean up costs – Tips and Quarries

(i) Restoration

Close down and restoration costs include the dismantling and demolition of infrastructure and the removal of residual materials and remediation of disturbed areas. Estimated close down and restoration costs are provided for in the accounting period when the obligation arising from the related disturbance occurs, whether this occurs during the development or during the operation phase, based on the net present value of estimated future costs. Provisions for close down and restoration costs do not include any additional obligations which are expected to arise from future disturbance. The costs are estimated on the basis of a closure plan. The cost estimates are calculated annually during the life of the operation to reflect known developments, eg updated cost estimates and revisions to the estimated lives of operations, and are subject to formal review at regular intervals.

Close down and restoration costs are a normal consequence of tip and quarry operations, and the majority of close down and restoration expenditure is incurred at the end of the life of the operations. Although the ultimate cost to be incurred is uncertain, Council estimates the respective costs based on feasibility and engineering studies using current restoration standards and techniques.

The amortisation or 'unwinding' of the discount applied in establishing the net present value of provisions is charged to the income statement in each accounting period. The amortisation of the discount is shown as a borrowing cost.

Other movements in the provisions for close down and restoration costs, including those resulting from new disturbance, updated cost estimates, changes to the estimated lives of operations and revisions to discount rates are capitalised within property, plant and equipment. These costs are then depreciated over the lives of the assets to which they relate.

(ii) Rehabilitation

Where rehabilitation is conducted systematically over the life of the operation, rather than at the time of closure, provision is made for the estimated outstanding continuous rehabilitation work at each balance sheet date and the cost is charged to the income statement.

Provision is made for the estimated present value of the costs of environmental clean up obligations outstanding at the balance sheet date. These costs are charged to the income statement. Movements in the environmental clean up provisions are presented as an operating cost, except for the unwind of the discount which is shown as a borrowing cost. Remediation procedures generally commence soon after the time the damage, remediation process and estimated remediation costs become known, but may continue for many years depending on the nature of the disturbance and the remediation techniques.

As noted above, the ultimate cost of environmental remediation is uncertain and cost estimates can vary in response to many factors including changes to the relevant legal requirements, the emergence of new

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2008

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

restoration techniques or experience at other locations. The expected timing of expenditure can also change, for example in response to changes in quarry reserves or production rates. As a result there could be significant adjustments to the provision for close down and restoration and environmental clean up, which would affect future financial results.

16. Intangible Assets

Bed Licences

The Council, as a result of changes to Federal Legislation, has received for no cost, bed licenses. These entitlements can be sold should the Council decide to reduce or cease its activities.

The Council has not recorded the bed licenses in the financial report as there is was no fair value on acquisition of these entitlements.

17. Crown Reserves

Crown Reserves under Council's care and control are recognised as assets of the Council. While ownership of the reserves remains with the Crown, Council retains operational control of the reserves and is responsible for their maintenance and use in accordance with the specific purposes to which the reserves are dedicated.

Improvements on Crown Reserves are also recorded as assets, while maintenance costs incurred by Council and revenues relating the reserves are recognised within Council's Income Statement.

A working party of interested representatives from both State and Local Government is being formed to consider the accounting issues related to the Crown Reserves, with the intention of developing a consistent approach to their recognition and future accounting treatment across both tiers of government.

18. Rural Fire Service assets

Under section 119 of the Rural Fire Services Act 1997, "*all fire fighting equipment purchased or constructed wholly or from money to the credit of the Fund is to be vested in the council of the area for or on behalf of which the fire fighting equipment has been purchased or constructed*". Until such time as discussions on this matter have concluded and the legislation changed, Council will continue to account for these assets as it has been doing in previous years.

19. Budget Information

The Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Cash Flows and Note 2 provide budget information of revenues and expenditures by type and for each of the major activities of the Council. Budget figures presented are those approved by Council at the beginning of the financial year and do not include Council approved variations throughout the year. Short explanations of the most significant variations are given in Note 16, and further information of the nature and amount of all variations is available from the Council office upon request.

20. Rounding

In accordance with the Code of Accounting Practice all amounts shown in the Financial Statements are in Australian currency and have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2008

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

21. New Accounting Standards & UIG Interpretations

Certain new accounting standards and UIG interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2008 reporting period. Councils assessment of the impact of these new standards and interpretations is set out below.

| | Title and topic | Issued | Applicable(1) | Impact |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (a) | AASB-I 12 Service Concession Arrangements, AASB 2007-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB Interpretation 12, revised UIG 4 Determining whether an Arrangement contains a Lease and revised UIG 129 Service Concession Arrangements: Disclosures | February 2007 | 1 January 2008 | Nil – Council is not party to any Service Concession Arrangements. |
| (b) | AASB 8 Operating Segments and AASB 2007-3 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 8 | February 2007 | 1 January 2009 | Nil – The Standard is not applicable to not-for-profit entities. |
| (c) | Revised AASB 123 Borrowing Costs and AASB 2007-6 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 123 [AASB 1, AASB 101, AASB 107, AASB 111, AASB 116 & AASB 138 and Interpretations 1 & 12] | June 2007 | 1 January 2009 | Nil – The revised Standard has removed the option to expense all borrowing costs and – when adopted – will require the capitalisation of all borrowing costs directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of a qualifying asset. There will be no impact on the financial report of the Council as the Council already capitalises borrowing costs relating to qualifying assets. |
| (d) | AASB-I 13 Customer Loyalty Programmes | August 2007 | 1 July 2008 | Nil – Council has no Customer Loyalty Programmes. |
| (e) | AASB-I 14 The Limit on a Defined Benefit Asset, Minimum Funding Requirements and their Interaction | August 2007 | 1 January 2008 | Nil – The Interpretation provides guidance on the maximum amount that may be recognised as an asset in relation to a defined benefit plan and the impact of minimum funding requirements on such an asset. Council does not recognise any assets in respect of its contributions to defined benefit plans as they cannot be reliably measured. As a result, |

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2008

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

| | | | | |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | | | there is not expected to be any impact on the financial statements. |
| (f) | Revised AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements and AASB 2007-8 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 101 and AASB 2007-10 Further Amendments to <i>Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 101</i> | September 2007 and December 2007 | 1 January 2009 | Nil – The revised Standard requires the presentation of a Statement of comprehensive income and makes changes to the Statement of changes in equity, but will not affect any of the amounts recognised in the financial statements. If Council has made a prior period adjustment or has reclassified items in the financial statements, it will need to disclose a third balance sheet (Statement of financial position), this one being as at the beginning of the comparative period. |
| (g) | AASB 1049 Whole of Government and General Government Sector <i>Financial Reporting</i> | October 2007 | 1 July 2008(2) | Nil – The Standard is not applicable to Local Governments. |
| (h) | AASB 1050 Administered Items; AASB 1051 Land Under Roads, AASB 1052 Disaggregated Disclosures, revised AASB 1004 Contributions, AASB 2007-9 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the review of AAS 27, AAS 29 and AAS 31 and revised interpretation 1038 Contributions by Owners Made to Wholly-Owned Public Sector Entities | December 2007 | 1 July 2008(2) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AASB 1050 is only applicable to Government departments and will have no impact on Council. • AASB 1051 will allow Council to recognise or not recognise land under roads acquired before 30 June 2008. Land under roads acquired after 30 June 2008 must be recognised. This Standard will have a significant impact on the Council's financial statements. • AASB 1052 requires disclosure of financial information by function or activity. Council already provides this information in Note 2(a) so there will be no additional impact on the financial statements. • AASB 1004 requires contributions made to Council to be recognised at fair value when they are controlled and to be appropriately disclosed. Council already accounts for contributions in this manner so there will be no additional impact on the financial statements. |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 2 - FUNCTIONS

| | REVENUES, EXPENSES AND ASSETS HAVE BEEN DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES | | | | | | | | | | TOTAL ASSETS HELD (CURRENT & NON-CURRENT) | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|--|
| | Income from continuing operations | | | Expenses from continuing operations | | | Operating result from continuing operations | | | | GRANTS INCLUDED IN INCOME | | | |
| | ORIGINAL BUDGET | ACTUAL | ACTUAL | ORIGINAL BUDGET | ACTUAL | ACTUAL | ORIGINAL BUDGET | ACTUAL | ACTUAL | 2007 | 2008 | 2007 | 2008 | |
| 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 | 2008 \$'000 | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 | 2008 \$'000 | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 | 2008 \$'000 | | |
| GOVERNANCE | - | - | 436 | (442) | - | (438) | - | - | - | 6 | 1,733 | 9,251 | 5,469 | |
| ADMINISTRATION | 355 | 161 | 358 | (420) | 635 | 262 | (474) | 282 | (474) | 278 | 38 | 830 | 236 | |
| PUBLIC ORDER & SAFETY | 37 | 47 | 271 | (207) | 217 | 26 | (170) | 26 | (170) | - | - | - | - | |
| HEALTH | 5 | 2 | 104 | (83) | 135 | (99) | (133) | (99) | (133) | - | - | - | - | |
| COMMUNITY SERVICES & EDUCATION | 4,278 | 4,241 | 4,448 | (170) | 4,485 | 73 | (244) | 73 | (244) | 3,781 | 3,328 | 9,836 | 5,608 | |
| HOUSING & COMMUNITY AMENITIES | 1,012 | 754 | 1,115 | (103) | 1,052 | (125) | (298) | (125) | (298) | 78 | 11 | 2,702 | 1,787 | |
| WATER SUPPLIES | 597 | 514 | 741 | (144) | 787 | (334) | (273) | (334) | (273) | 13 | 13 | 16,917 | 16,329 | |
| SEWERAGE SERVICES | 438 | 506 | 513 | (75) | 463 | (209) | 43 | (209) | 43 | 19 | 20 | 7,777 | 7,391 | |
| RECREATION & CULTURE | 65 | 92 | 500 | (435) | 585 | (540) | (493) | (540) | (493) | 32 | 30 | 5,068 | 2,231 | |
| FUEL & ENERGY | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | |
| MINING, MANUFACTURING & CONSTRUCTION | - | - | 7 | (7) | 2 | (2) | (2) | (2) | (2) | - | - | 12 | 13 | |
| TRANSPORT & COMMUNICATION | 1,506 | 1,643 | 3,383 | (1,877) | 3,773 | (2,578) | (2,130) | (2,578) | (2,130) | 339 | 1,077 | 56,739 | 57,795 | |
| ECONOMIC AFFAIRS | 366 | 220 | 517 | (151) | 500 | (325) | (280) | (325) | (280) | - | 29 | 806 | 810 | |
| TOTALS - FUNCTIONS | 8,659 | 9,825 | 14,112 | (4,114) | 12,634 | (4,287) | (4,454) | (4,287) | (4,454) | 4,546 | 6,279 | 109,938 | 97,669 | |
| GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUES | 4,749 | 4,591 | | 4,749 | 4,591 | 4,531 | 4,591 | 4,531 | 4,591 | 1,826 | - | - | - | |
| TOTALS | 13,408 | 14,356 | 12,771 | 12,773 | 14,112 | 14,112 | 137 | 244 | 137 | 6,372 | 6,279 | 109,938 | 97,669 | |

The above functions conform to those used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics and provide a basis for comparison with other Councils.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2008

Note 2 (cont) - COMPONENTS OF FUNCTIONS

The activities relating to Council functions are as follows:

Governance

Costs relating to Council's role as a component of democratic government, including elections, meetings and associated activities, area representation, and public disclosure and compliance, together with related administration costs.

Administration

Costs not otherwise attributed to functions.

Public Order & Safety

Fire protection, animal control, enforcement of local government regulations, emergency services, other.

Health

Administration and inspection, immunisations, food control, insect & vermin control, noxious plants, health centres, other.

Community Services & Education

Administration, family day care, child-care, youth services, other services to families and children, aged and disabled, migrant services, Aboriginal services, other community services, education.

Housing & Community Amenities

Housing, town planning, domestic waste management services, other waste management services, street cleaning, other sanitation and garbage, urban stormwater drainage, environmental protection, public cemeteries, public conveniences, other community amenities.

Water Supplies

Sewerage Services

Recreation & Culture

Public libraries, museums, art galleries, community centres, public halls, other cultural services, swimming pools, sporting grounds, parks and gardens, lakes, other sport and recreation.

Fuel & Energy - Gas Supplies.

Mining, Manufacturing & Construction

Building control, abattoirs, quarries and pits, other.

Transport & Communication

Roads and streets, bridges, footpaths, aerodromes, parking areas, bus shelters and services, water transport, works undertaken for Roads & Transport Authority, street lighting, other.

Economic Affairs

Camping areas, caravan parks, tourism and area promotion, industrial development promotion, saleyards and markets, real estate development, commercial nurseries, private works, other business undertakings.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 3 - INCOME

| RATES & ANNUAL CHARGES | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| <u>Ordinary Rates</u> | | |
| Residential | 951 | 894 |
| Farmland | 1,735 | 1,655 |
| Business | 31 | 78 |
| | <u>2,717</u> | <u>2,627</u> |
| <u>Special Rates</u> | | |
| TV Rate | 11 | 11 |
| | <u>11</u> | <u>11</u> |
| <u>Annual Charges</u> | | |
| Domestic Waste Management | 250 | 253 |
| Water Supply | 294 | 248 |
| Sewerage Services | 405 | 383 |
| Drainage | 23 | - |
| Other Waste Management | - | 147 |
| | <u>972</u> | <u>1,031</u> |
| Total Rates & Annual Charges | 3,700 | 3,669 |
| <u>USER CHARGES & FEES</u> | | |
| <u>User Charges</u> | | |
| Water Supply | 262 | 191 |
| Sewerage Services | 28 | 23 |
| Drainage Services | 12 | 13 |
| Other Waste Management | 442 | 14 |
| Other | 1 | 5 |
| | <u>745</u> | <u>246</u> |
| <u>Fees</u> | | |
| Private Works | 706 | 199 |
| Tablelands Community Transport | 14 | 14 |
| Sale of scrap metal | 88 | 93 |
| Aged Care | 522 | 441 |
| Town Planning and building | 130 | 127 |
| Tablelands Community Service Option | 138 | 121 |
| Rents | 87 | 50 |
| Cemeteries | 16 | 16 |
| Swimming Pool | 16 | 17 |
| Other | 23 | 40 |
| | <u>1,738</u> | <u>1,118</u> |
| Total User Charges & Fees | 2,483 | 1,364 |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 3 - REVENUES (cont)

| | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| INVESTMENT REVENUES | | |
| Interest on overdue rates & charges | 32 | 22 |
| Interest on cash assets & investments | | |
| externally restricted | | |
| <i>Sewer Fund</i> | 64 | 7 |
| <i>Water Fund</i> | 77 | 55 |
| internally restricted | - | 27 |
| unrestricted | 189 | 21 |
| Premiums recognised on financial instruments | - | 179 |
| Gross Investment Revenues | 362 | 311 |
| Fair Value Adjustment | | |
| externally restricted | | |
| <i>Sewer Fund</i> | (327) | - |
| <i>Water Fund</i> | (328) | - |
| internally restricted | - | - |
| unrestricted | (125) | - |
| Total Investment Revenues | (418) | 311 |
| Council's net return on investments during the year has been materially affected by the potential loss in value of certain financial instruments, full details of which have been provided in Note 15. | | |
| OTHER REVENUES | | |
| Other fines | 1 | 3 |
| Insurance Claims | 2 | 15 |
| Commissions & Agency Fees | 1 | - |
| Miscellaneous sales | 134 | 134 |
| Other | 78 | 67 |
| Total Other Revenues | 216 | 219 |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 3 - INCOME (cont)

| | Notes | OPERATING | | CAPITAL | |
|--------------------------------------------|-------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 |
| GRANTS | | | | | |
| General Purpose (Untied) | | | | | |
| Financial Assistance | | 1,783 | 1,689 | - | - |
| Pensioner Rates Subsidies (General) | | 43 | 44 | - | - |
| Specific Purpose | | | | | |
| Pensioner Rates Subsidies | | | | | |
| Water Supplies | | 13 | 13 | - | - |
| Sewerage Services | | 19 | 20 | - | - |
| Domestic Waste Management | | 11 | 11 | - | - |
| Bundarra Neighbourhood Aid | | 45 | 44 | - | - |
| Economic Development Program | | - | 25 | - | - |
| Youth | | - | 40 | - | - |
| Aged Care Facilities | | 1,066 | 928 | - | 102 |
| Other Frail Aged and Disables Services | | 873 | 518 | 18 | - |
| Library | | 29 | 28 | - | - |
| Tablelands Community Service Options | | 1,473 | 1,562 | 40 | - |
| Tablelands Community Transport | | 218 | 320 | - | - |
| Roads & Bridges | | - | 968 | 332 | 732 |
| Employment & Training Programs | | 15 | - | - | - |
| Heritage & Cultural Services | | - | 2 | - | - |
| Community Care Services | | 40 | - | - | - |
| Bushfire & Emergency Services | | 55 | 38 | 223 | - |
| Other | | 77 | 29 | - | - |
| Total Grants & Subsidies | | 5,760 | 6,279 | 613 | 834 |
| <i>Comprising:</i> | | | | | |
| - Commonwealth funding | | 3,722 | 3,101 | 332 | 102 |
| - State funding | | 2,038 | 3,178 | 281 | 732 |
| - Other funding | | - | - | - | - |
| | | 5,760 | 6,279 | 613 | 834 |
| CONTRIBUTIONS & DONATIONS | | | | | |
| Developer Contributions | | | | | |
| Section 94 | 17 | - | - | 53 | 5 |
| RTA Contributions | | 895 | 5 | 15 | - |
| Section 64 | | | | | |
| Water | 17 | - | - | - | 57 |
| Traineeship contributions | | - | 14 | - | - |
| Paving | | - | 1 | - | - |
| Other Councils - Joint Works | | 447 | - | - | - |
| Other | | 53 | 13 | - | - |
| Total Contributions & Donations | | 1,395 | 33 | 68 | 62 |
| TOTAL GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS | | 7,155 | 6,312 | 681 | 896 |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 3 - INCOME (cont)

CONDITIONS OVER GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS

Grants and contributions which were obtained on the condition that they be expended for specified purposes or in a future period, but which are not yet expended in accordance with those conditions, are as follows:

| | 2008 \$'000 | | 2007 \$'000 | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | <u>Grants</u> | <u>Contrib</u> | <u>Grants</u> | <u>Contrib</u> |
| <i>Unexpended at the close of the previous reporting period</i> | 743 | 235 | 595 | 173 |
| <i>Less: expended during the current period from revenues recognised in previous reporting periods</i> | | | | |
| <i>Section 94/64 Developer Contributions</i> | - | 57 | - | - |
| <i>Roads Infrastructure</i> | 337 | - | 432 | - |
| <i>Heritage & Cultural Services</i> | 7 | - | - | - |
| <i>Community Care Services</i> | 89 | - | 120 | - |
| <i>Other</i> | - | - | - | - |
| <i>Subtotal</i> | <u>433</u> | <u>57</u> | <u>552</u> | <u>0</u> |
| <i>Plus: amounts recognised as revenues in this reporting period but not yet expended in accordance with the conditions</i> | | | | |
| <i>Section 94/64 Developer Contributions</i> | - | 53 | - | 62 |
| <i>Roads Infrastructure</i> | 206 | - | 409 | - |
| <i>Heritage & Cultural Services</i> | 234 | - | 9 | - |
| <i>Community Care Services</i> | 74 | - | 282 | - |
| <i>Other</i> | - | - | - | - |
| <i>Subtotal</i> | <u>514</u> | <u>53</u> | <u>700</u> | <u>62</u> |
| <i>Unexpended at the close of this reporting period and held as restricted assets</i> | <u>824</u> | <u>231</u> | <u>743</u> | <u>235</u> |
| <i>Net increase (decrease) in restricted assets in the</i> | <u>81</u> | <u>-4</u> | <u>148</u> | <u>62</u> |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 4 - EXPENSES

| | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| EMPLOYEE COSTS | | |
| Salaries and Wages | 4,832 | 4,891 |
| Travelling | 1 | - |
| Employee Leave Entitlements | 786 | 817 |
| Superannuation - defined contribution plan contributions | 370 | 318 |
| Superannuation - defined benefit plan contributions | 82 | 115 |
| Workers' Compensation Insurance | 197 | 256 |
| Fringe Benefits Tax | 55 | 17 |
| Training Costs (excluding Salaries) | 17 | 7 |
| Other | 142 | 125 |
| Less: Capitalised and distributed costs | <u>(150)</u> | <u>(340)</u> |
| Total Operating Employee Costs | <u>6,332</u> | <u>6,206</u> |
| | | |
| Total Number of Employees | 101 | 100 |
| (Full time equivalent at end of reporting period) | | |
| | | |
| BORROWING COSTS | | |
| Interest on Loans | 144 | 130 |
| Unwinding of present value discounts & premiums | - | 43 |
| Gross Interest Charges | <u>144</u> | <u>173</u> |
| Less: Borrowing Costs capitalised | - | - |
| Total Interest Charges | <u>144</u> | <u>173</u> |
| | | |
| MATERIALS & CONTRACTS | | |
| Raw materials & consumables | 3,106 | 2,373 |
| Contractor and consultancy costs | 1,158 | 920 |
| Auditor's Remuneration | | |
| - Audit Services | 14 | 7 |
| Legal Expenses | | |
| - Planning & Development | 1 | 3 |
| - Other Legal Expenses | 10 | 11 |
| Total Materials & Contracts | <u>4,289</u> | <u>3,314</u> |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 4 - EXPENSES (cont)

| | IMPAIRMENT | | DEPRECIATION | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2008 | 2007 |
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION & IMPAIRMENT | | | | |
| Plant and Equipment | - | - | 784 | 626 |
| Office Equipment | - | - | 36 | 74 |
| Furniture & Fittings | - | - | 51 | 49 |
| Leased Property, Plant & Equipment | - | - | - | - |
| Land | - | - | - | - |
| Land Improvements | - | - | - | - |
| Buildings - non-specialised | - | - | 122 | 117 |
| Buildings - specialised | - | - | - | - |
| Other Structures | - | - | 74 | 75 |
| Infrastructure | | | | |
| - roads, bridges & footpaths | - | - | 708 | 686 |
| - stormwater drainage | - | - | 15 | 15 |
| - water supply network not elsewhere included | - | - | 50 | 146 |
| - sewerage network not elsewhere included | - | - | 12 | 161 |
| Other assets | | | | |
| - heritage collections | - | - | - | - |
| - library books | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| Future Reinstatement Costs | | | | |
| - Tips | - | - | 31 | 42 |
| Less: Capitalised and distributed costs | - | - | (46) | (27) |
| Total Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>1,838</u> | <u>1,965</u> |
| | | 2008 | | 2007 |
| | | \$'000 | | \$'000 |
| OTHER EXPENSES | | | | |
| Mayoral fee | | 12 | | 9 |
| Councillors' Fees & Allowances | | 88 | | 60 |
| Councillors' (Incl. Mayor) Expenses | | 14 | | 21 |
| Insurances | | 199 | | 202 |
| Street Lighting | | 63 | | 50 |
| Light, Power & Heating | | 188 | | 161 |
| Telephone & Communications | | 108 | | 96 |
| Donations & Contributions to Local & Regional Bodies | | 241 | | 189 |
| Advertising | | 12 | | 15 |
| Bank Charges | | 9 | | 14 |
| Postage and Freight | | 37 | | 32 |
| Items for Resale | | 2 | | - |
| Printing and Stationery | | 55 | | 34 |
| Promotion and Publicity | | 14 | | 11 |
| Valuation fees | | 13 | | 14 |
| Subscriptions & Publications | | 56 | | 54 |
| Total Other Expenses | | <u>1,091</u> | | <u>962</u> |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 5 - GAIN OR LOSS ON DISPOSAL OF ASSETS

| | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| DISPOSAL OF INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANT & EQUIPMENT | | |
| Proceeds from disposal | 246 | 453 |
| Less: Carrying amount of assets sold | <u>125</u> | <u>467</u> |
| Gain (Loss) on disposal | <u>121</u> | <u>(14)</u> |
| | | |
| DISPOSAL OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS | | |
| Proceeds from disposal | 417 | - |
| Less: Carrying amount of assets sold | <u>417</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Gain (Loss) on disposal | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| | | |
| TOTAL GAIN (LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OF ASSETS | <u>121</u> | <u>(14)</u> |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 6 - CASH ASSETS & INVESTMENT SECURITIES

| | 2008 | | 2007 | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| | \$'000 | | \$'000 | |
| | <u>Current</u> | <u>Non-Current</u> | <u>Current</u> | <u>Non-Current</u> |
| CASH ASSETS | | | | |
| Cash on Hand and at Bank | 1,210 | | 472 | |
| Deposits at Call | - | | - | |
| Short Term Deposits & Bills, etc | <u>1,006</u> | | <u>110</u> | |
| Total Cash Assets | <u>2,216</u> | | <u>582</u> | |
| <i>Cash Assets comprise highly liquid investments with short periods to maturity subject to insignificant risk of changes of value.</i> | | | | |
| INVESTMENT SECURITIES | | | | |
| Summary | | | | |
| Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss | 1,119 | - | 2,316 | - |
| Held to maturity investments | <u>1,959</u> | - | <u>1,044</u> | - |
| Total | <u>3,078</u> | - | <u>3,360</u> | - |
| Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss | | | | |
| At beginning of year | 2,316 | - | - | - |
| Revaluation to Income Statement | (780) | - | - | - |
| Additions | - | - | 2,316 | - |
| Disposals | <u>(417)</u> | - | - | - |
| At end of year | <u>1,119</u> | - | <u>2,316</u> | - |
| Held for trading: | | | | |
| - CDOs | 619 | - | 1,008 | - |
| - FRNs | <u>500</u> | - | <u>1,308</u> | - |
| | <u>1,119</u> | - | <u>2,316</u> | - |
| Held to Maturity Investments | | | | |
| At beginning of year | 1,044 | - | 1,044 | - |
| Additions | <u>915</u> | - | - | - |
| At end of year | <u>1,959</u> | - | <u>1,044</u> | - |
| Comprising: | | | | |
| - Term Deposits | 1,959 | - | 1,044 | - |
| | <u>1,959</u> | - | <u>1,044</u> | - |

The permitted forms of investment in financial instruments of the Council are defined in an order made by the Minister of Local Government on 15 July 2005, and may broadly be described as "Trustee Securities". Deposits and Bills are with, or have been accepted by, banks and credit unions and bear various rates of interest between 3% and 7% (2007 - 3% and 6%). NCDs, CDOs, FRNs and Managed Funds are all with organisations with credit ratings that comply with the Minister's Order and bear various rates of return between 4% and 9% (2007 - 4% and 8%). For further information refer to Note 15 below.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 6 - CASH ASSETS & INVESTMENT SECURITIES (cont)

RESTRICTED CASH ASSETS & INVESTMENT SECURITIES

| | 2008 \$'000 | | 2007 \$'000 | |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| | Current | Non-Current | Current | Non-Current |
| Cash & Cash Equivalent Assets | 2,216 | - | 582 | - |
| Investment Securities | 3,078 | - | 3,360 | - |
| TOTAL CASH & INVESTMENT SECURITIES | 5,294 | - | 3,942 | - |
| External Restrictions | 3,433 | - | 3,317 | - |
| Internal Restrictions | 1,021 | - | 625 | - |
| Unrestricted | 840 | - | - | - |
| | 5,294 | - | 3,942 | - |

DETAILS OF MOVEMENTS OF RESTRICTED CASH ASSETS & INVESTMENT SECURITIES

| | Notes | Opening Balance 30 June 2007 \$'000 | Movements | | Closing Balance 30 June 2008 \$'000 |
|------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| | | | Transfers To Restriction \$'000 | Transfers From Restriction \$'000 | |
| External Restrictions | | | | | |
| Included in liabilities | | | | | |
| Unexpended Loans | | 33 | - | - | 33 |
| Aged Care Bonds | | 752 | 433 | - | 1,185 |
| | | 785 | 433 | - | 1,218 |
| Other | | | | | |
| Developer Contributions | 17 | 235 | 53 | 57 | 231 |
| RTA Contributions | | - | - | - | - |
| Unexpended Grants | | 743 | 515 | 434 | 824 |
| Water Supply funds | | 747 | - | 306 | 441 |
| Sewerage funds | | 807 | - | 88 | 719 |
| | | 2,532 | 568 | 885 | 2,215 |
| Total External Restrictions | | 3,317 | 1,001 | 885 | 3,433 |

External Restrictions arise pursuant to section 409(3) of the Local Government Act, the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 1999 and other applicable legislation. Further information relating to Developer Contributions is provided in Note 17 and Unexpended Grants in Note 3. Amounts raised by special rates (eg. Water & Sewer) or for Domestic Waste Management may only be used for those purposes.

Internal Restrictions

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Employee Leave Entitlements | 557 | - | 93 | 464 |
| Plant replacement | 68 | 930 | 748 | 250 |
| Carry-over works | - | 307 | - | 307 |
| Total Internal Restrictions | 625 | 1,237 | 841 | 1,021 |

Internal Restrictions arise pursuant to resolutions of Council to set aside reserves of cash resources either relating to liabilities recognised in these reports or to fund future expenditure for the stated purpose. Such reserves are not permitted to exceed the amounts of cash assets and cash investments not otherwise restricted.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 7 - RECEIVABLES

| | 2008 | | 2007 | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| | \$'000 | | \$'000 | |
| | <u>Current</u> | <u>Non-Current</u> | <u>Current</u> | <u>Non-Current</u> |
| Rates & Annual Charges | 384 | - | 242 | - |
| Interest & Extra Charges | 62 | - | 10 | - |
| User Charges & Fees | 160 | - | 289 | - |
| Accrued Revenues | 202 | - | 58 | - |
| Other levels of Government | 27 | - | 311 | - |
| Retirement Home Contributions | - | 106 | - | 113 |
| Other | 335 | - | 261 | - |
| Total | <u>1,170</u> | <u>106</u> | <u>1,171</u> | <u>113</u> |
| Less: Allowance for Doubtful Debts | | | | |
| User Charges & Fees | 2 | - | 2 | - |
| | <u>1,168</u> | <u>106</u> | <u>1,169</u> | <u>113</u> |

Rates, Annual Charges, Interest & Extra Charges

Overdue rates and annual charges (being amounts not paid on or before the due date determined in accordance with the Local Government Act) are secured over the relevant land and are subject to simple interest at a rate of 10.00% (2007: 9.00%). Although Council is not materially exposed to any individual ratepayer, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council boundaries in the State of New South Wales.

Deferred Debtors

Loans made to ratepayers under the assisted housing scheme and to local organisations bear interest at rates varying between NIL and 9%. Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, and credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council boundaries in the State of New South Wales.

Other levels of Government

Amounts due have been calculated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the respective programs following advice of approvals, and do not bear interest. All amounts are due by Departments and Agencies of the Government of New South Wales and the Government of Australia.

Retirement Home Contributions

Pursuant to Commonwealth legislation certain intending residents are required to contribute amounts on an interest free basis. The amounts are subject to certain deductions as prescribed by the legislation, the balance being repaid on termination of tenancy. Compliance with these procedures is subject to separate audit in accordance with that Act.

Other Receivables

Amounts due (other than User Charges which are secured over the relevant land) are unsecured and do not bear interest. Although Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries in the State of New South Wales.

AGGREGATE ASSET ARISING FROM EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

| | <u>0</u> | | <u>0</u> | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| RESTRICTED RECEIVABLES | | | | |
| Water Supply | 218 | - | 412 | - |
| Sewerage Services | 73 | - | 129 | - |
| Domestic Waste Management | 34 | - | 45 | - |
| Other | - | 106 | - | 113 |
| Total Restrictions | <u>325</u> | <u>106</u> | <u>586</u> | <u>113</u> |
| Unrestricted Receivables | 843 | - | 583 | - |
| Total Receivables | <u>1,168</u> | <u>106</u> | <u>1,169</u> | <u>113</u> |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 8 - INVENTORIES & OTHER ASSETS

| | 2008 \$'000 | | 2007 \$'000 | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| | <u>Current</u> | <u>Non-Current</u> | <u>Current</u> | <u>Non-Current</u> |
| INVENTORIES | | | | |
| Stores & Materials | 168 | - | 143 | - |
| Total Inventories | <u>168</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>143</u> | <u>-</u> |
| <i>Inventories not expected to be realised within the next 12 months.</i> | | | | |
| | - | - | - | - |
| <i>Aggregate write-downs and other losses recognised as an expense, and reversals of these, were not material in amount in either year. All such reversals occurred principally as a result of clerical inaccuracies during stores operations.</i> | | | | |
| OTHER ASSETS | | | | |
| Prepayments | 92 | - | 65 | - |
| Total Other Assets | <u>92</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>65</u> | <u>-</u> |
| RESTRICTIONS EXIST IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING: | | | | |
| Inventories | | | | |
| Other Assets | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 9 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

| | 2007 \$'000 | | | | | | 2008 \$'000 | | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| | AT COST | AT FAIR VALUE | ACCUM DEPN | CARRYING AMOUNT | Asset Purchases | Asset Disposals | Depreciation | Net Revaluation | AT COST | AT FAIR VALUE | ACCUM DEPN | CARRYING AMOUNT |
| Capital Work-in-progress | - | - | - | 3,187 | 683 | - | (784) | - | - | 6,239 | (3,278) | 2,960 |
| Plant & Equipment | 6,498 | - | (3,311) | 3,187 | 683 | (126) | (784) | - | - | 6,239 | (3,278) | 2,960 |
| Office Equipment | 588 | - | (514) | 74 | 28 | - | (36) | - | - | 616 | (550) | 66 |
| Furniture & Fittings | 785 | - | (501) | 284 | 32 | - | (51) | - | - | 817 | (553) | 264 |
| Leased Plant & Equipment | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Land | - | - | - | 1,018 | - | - | - | 2,084 | - | 3,102 | - | 3,102 |
| - Operational Land | - | - | - | 1,018 | - | - | - | - | - | 666 | - | 666 |
| - Community Land | - | - | - | 666 | - | - | - | - | - | 17 | - | 17 |
| - non deprec land improv'ts | - | - | - | 17 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| - land under roads | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Land Improvements - depreciable | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 8,305 | - | 15,680 | (683) | 15,007 |
| Buildings - non-specialised | 8,320 | - | (2,538) | 6,782 | 43 | - | (122) | - | - | 15,680 | (683) | 15,007 |
| Buildings - specialised | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Structures | 2,002 | - | (1,008) | 994 | 37 | - | (74) | - | - | 2,039 | (1,063) | 956 |
| Infrastructure | - | - | - | 37,791 | 536 | - | (708) | - | - | 49,567 | (11,948) | 37,619 |
| - Roads, bridges, footpaths | 49,031 | - | (11,240) | 37,791 | 536 | - | (708) | - | - | 49,567 | (11,948) | 37,619 |
| - Bulk earthworks (non-deprec.) | 18,860 | - | - | 18,860 | - | - | - | - | - | 18,860 | - | 18,860 |
| - Stormwater drainage | 889 | - | (255) | 634 | - | - | (15) | - | - | 889 | (270) | 619 |
| - Water Supply Network | - | 15,768 | (578) | 15,190 | 4 | - | (50) | 757 | - | 16,539 | (658) | 15,901 |
| - Sewerage Network | - | 7,071 | (889) | 6,382 | 30 | - | (12) | 319 | - | 7,456 | (737) | 6,719 |
| Other Assets | - | - | - | 30 | - | - | - | - | - | 36 | (6) | 30 |
| - Heritage Collections | 35 | - | (6) | 30 | - | - | - | - | - | 36 | (6) | 30 |
| - Library Books | - | - | - | 13 | - | - | (1) | - | - | 18 | (6) | 12 |
| - Other | 19 | - | (6) | 13 | - | - | (1) | - | - | 18 | (6) | 12 |
| Future Reinstatement Costs | - | - | (105) | 315 | 36 | - | (31) | - | - | 456 | (136) | 320 |
| - Tips | 420 | - | - | 315 | 36 | - | (31) | - | - | 456 | (136) | 320 |
| - Quarries | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| - Other remediation assets | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Totals | 90,148 | 22,839 | (20,750) | 92,237 | 1,429 | (126) | (1,884) | 11,465 | - | 123,027 | (19,909) | 103,118 |
| Asset acquisitions were apportioned between: | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Building & Infrastructure Renewals | 536 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Building & Infrastructure New Assets | 77 | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Other Assets | 816 | | | | | | | |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 9 (cont) - RESTRICTED PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

| | 2008 \$'000 | | | | 2007 \$'000 | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| | AT COST | AT VALUATION | ACCUM DEPN | CARRYING AMOUNT | AT COST | AT VALUATION | ACCUM DEPN | CARRYING AMOUNT |
| Water Supply | | | | | | | | |
| Plant & Equipment | - | 5 | (5) | - | 8 | - | (4) | 4 |
| Land | - | 234 | - | 234 | 67 | - | - | 67 |
| - Operational | - | 1 | - | 1 | 2 | - | - | 2 |
| - non depreciable land improv' | - | 335 | (22) | 313 | 310 | - | (104) | 206 |
| Buildings | - | 16,559 | (658) | 15,901 | - | 15,768 | (578) | 15,190 |
| Water Supply Infrastructure | 7 | - | (2) | 5 | - | - | - | - |
| - Other | 7 | - | (2) | 5 | - | - | - | - |
| Total Water Supply | 7 | 17,134 | (687) | 16,454 | 387 | 15,768 | (686) | 15,469 |
| Sewerage Services | | | | | | | | |
| Land | - | 169 | - | 169 | 41 | - | - | 41 |
| Land Improvements - depreciab | - | 6 | - | 6 | - | - | - | - |
| Buildings | - | 100 | (2) | 98 | 124 | - | (28) | 96 |
| Other Structures | 40 | - | (15) | 25 | 40 | - | (14) | 26 |
| Sewerage Infrastructure | - | 7,456 | (737) | 6,719 | - | 7,072 | (689) | 6,383 |
| - Roads, bridges, footpaths | - | 42 | (4) | 38 | 42 | - | (3) | 39 |
| Total Sewerage Services | 40 | 7,773 | (758) | 7,055 | 247 | 7,072 | (734) | 6,585 |
| Domestic Waste Management | | | | | | | | |
| Plant & Equipment | - | 13 | (5) | 8 | 13 | - | (4) | 9 |
| Land | - | 80 | - | 80 | 83 | - | - | 83 |
| - Operational | - | - | - | - | 147 | - | (74) | 73 |
| Other Structures | 147 | - | (87) | 60 | 25 | - | (14) | 11 |
| - Other | 25 | - | (15) | 10 | 268 | - | (92) | 176 |
| Total Domestic Waste | 172 | 93 | (107) | 158 | 268 | - | - | 176 |
| TOTAL RESTRICTIONS | 219 | 25,000 | (1,552) | 23,667 | 902 | 22,840 | (1,512) | 22,230 |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 10 - LIABILITIES

| | 2008 \$'000 | | 2007 \$'000 | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|
| | Current | Non-Current | Current | Non-Current |
| PAYABLES | | | | |
| Goods & Services | 676 | - | 679 | - |
| Payments received in advance | 65 | - | 121 | - |
| Accrued Expenses | 299 | - | 305 | - |
| Alliance Private Works | 623 | - | 183 | - |
| Retirement Home Contributions | 1,185 | - | 752 | - |
| Other | 2 | - | - | - |
| Total Payables | <u>2,850</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>2,040</u> | <u>-</u> |

Current payables not expected to be settled within the next 12 months.

698

627

BORROWINGS

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| Bank Overdraft | - | - | - | - |
| Loans | | | | |
| - Secured | 1,047 | 845 | 444 | 1,642 |
| Total Borrowings | <u>1,047</u> | <u>845</u> | <u>444</u> | <u>1,642</u> |

All interest bearing liabilities are secured over the future revenues of the Council.

PROVISIONS

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| Annual Leave | 539 | - | 503 | - |
| Sick Leave | 72 | - | 105 | - |
| Long Service Leave | 608 | 330 | 779 | 278 |
| Reinstatement, Remediation, etc. (see also Note 21) | 129 | 422 | 129 | 352 |
| Other | 27 | - | 27 | - |
| Total Provisions | <u>1,375</u> | <u>752</u> | <u>1,543</u> | <u>630</u> |

Current payables not expected to be settled within the next 12 months.

736

1,357

| Movements In Provisions | Employee Benefits 2008 \$'000 | Insurance Losses 2008 \$'000 | Reinstatement, etc. 2008 \$'000 | Other 2008 \$'000 |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Opening Balance | 1,865 | - | 481 |
| Add Additional amounts recognised | 218 | - | - | - |
| Unwinding of present value discount | - | - | 34 | - |
| (Less) Payments | (332) | - | - | - |
| Add (Less) Remeasurement Adjustments | - | - | 36 | - |
| Closing Balance | <u>1,549</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>551</u> | <u>27</u> |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

NOTE 10 - LIABILITIES (cont)

Provision for Insurance Losses

At any time Council may be involved in defending a number of separate actions arising from various causes, further details of which are given in Note 18. Council makes provision for the best estimate of the probable costs it will incur in defending such actions, and records a contingent liability for the balance of potential losses.

Provision for Reinstatement, rehabilitation & restoration liabilities

Council is required by law to reinstate/ rehabilitate the areas of certain tips and quarries for roadmaking materials when it ceases to use each facility. Engineering estimates have been made based on current reinstatement standards and discounted to its present value over the estimated remaining life of each facility at the rates applicable to government securities.

| | 2008 \$'000 | | 2007 \$'000 | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | <u>Current</u> | <u>Non-Current</u> | <u>Current</u> | <u>Non-Current</u> |
| AGGREGATE LIABILITY ARISING FROM EMPLOYEE BENEFITS | | | | |
| | <u>1,219</u> | <u>330</u> | <u>1,387</u> | <u>278</u> |
| LIABILITIES relating to RESTRICTED ASSETS | | | | |
| <u>Water Supplies</u> | | | | |
| Payables | 3 | - | - | - |
| Subtotal | <u>3</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| <u>Sewerage Services</u> | | | | |
| Payables | 46 | - | 46 | - |
| Interest Bearing Liabilities | - | 15 | - | 15 |
| Subtotal | <u>46</u> | <u>15</u> | <u>46</u> | <u>15</u> |
| <u>Other</u> | | | | |
| Payables | 1,185 | - | 125 | 627 |
| Interest Bearing Liabilities | 2 | 86 | | 94 |
| Provisions | 221 | 83 | | |
| Subtotal | <u>1,408</u> | <u>169</u> | <u>125</u> | <u>721</u> |
| TOTAL | <u>1,457</u> | <u>184</u> | <u>171</u> | <u>736</u> |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 11 - RECONCILIATION TO CASH FLOW STATEMENT

(a) Reconciliation of Cash

Cash Assets comprise highly liquid investments with short periods to maturity subject to insignificant risk of changes of value. Cash at the end of the reporting period as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Balance Sheet as follows:

| | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Total Cash Assets (Note 6) | 2,216 | 582 |
| Less: Bank Overdraft (Note 10) | - | - |
| Balances per Statement of Cash Flows | 2,216 | 582 |

**(b) Reconciliation of Change in Net Assets to Cash
from Operating Activities**

| | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Net Operating Result from Income Statement | 244 | 137 |
| Add: Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment | 1,884 | 1,965 |
| Unwinding of present value discounts & premiums | 34 | 76 |
| Increase in other provisions | 36 | 53 |
| Decrease in receivables | 1 | - |
| Decrease in inventories | - | 8 |
| Decrease in other assets | - | 251 |
| Increase in trade creditors | 386 | 133 |
| Increase in accrued expenses payable | - | 303 |
| Increase in other payables | 2 | - |
| Loss on Sale of Assets | - | 14 |
| Investment Revaluations | 780 | - |
| | 3,367 | 2,940 |
| Less: Decrease in provision for doubtful debts | - | - |
| Decrease in employee benefits provisions | 116 | 72 |
| Increase in receivables | - | 458 |
| Increase in inventories | 25 | - |
| Increase in other assets | 27 | - |
| Decrease in trade creditors | - | - |
| Decrease in accrued expenses payable | 6 | - |
| Gain on Sale of Assets | 121 | - |
| Non-cash Capital Grants and Contributions | 259 | 26 |
| Net Cash provided by (or used in) operations | 2,813 | 2,384 |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 11 (cont) - RECONCILIATION TO CASH FLOW STATEMENT

| | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| (c) Non-Cash Financing and Investing Activities | | |
| Acquisition of assets by means of: | | |
| - PWD Construction | - | - |
| - Bushfire Grants | 223 | - |
| - Developer Contributions received in kind | - | - |
| - Non-cash issues of Shares in Other Companies | - | - |
| - Estimated future reinstatement, etc costs | 36 | 26 |
| - Other | - | - |
| | <u>259</u> | <u>26</u> |
| - Finance Leases | - | - |
| - Land taken over for non-payment of Rates | - | - |
| | <u>259</u> | <u>26</u> |

(d) Financing Arrangements

Unrestricted access was available at balance date to the following lines of credit:

| | | |
|------------------------|-----|-----|
| Bank Overdrafts | | |
| Total Facilities | 100 | 100 |
| Corporate Credit Cards | 25 | 25 |

The bank overdraft facilities may be drawn at any time and may be terminated by the bank without notice. Interest rates on overdrafts are variable while the rates for loans are fixed for the period of the loan.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 12 - COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE

| | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| (a) Other Expenditure Commitments | | |
| Other expenditure committed for (excluding inventories) at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities: | | |
| Audit Services | 119 | 19 |
| Library Services | 134 | 137 |
| Tourism Services | 98 | 63 |
| Microsoft Licencing Program | 15 | 15 |
| | <u>366</u> | <u>234</u> |
| These expenditures are payable: | | |
| Not later than one year | 153 | 107 |
| Later than one year and not later than 5 years | 213 | 127 |
| Later than 5 years | - | - |
| | <u>366</u> | <u>234</u> |
| <i>Commitments for other Expenditures relating to Joint Ventures and Partnerships are set out in Note 19.</i> | | |
| (b) Remuneration Commitments | | |
| Commitments for the payment of salaries and other remuneration under long-term employment contracts in existence at reporting date but not recognised as liabilities, payable: | | |
| Not later than one year | 145 | 157 |
| Later than one year and not later than 5 years | 435 | - |
| Later than 5 years | - | - |
| | <u>580</u> | <u>157</u> |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 13 - STATEMENT OF PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

| | <u>Amounts</u> | <u>2008 Indicators</u> | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Unrestricted Current Ratio | | | | | |
| <u>Unrestricted Current Assets*</u> | \$2,964 | 1.24:1 | 0.64:1 | 0.82:1 | 1.33:1 |
| Current Liabilities not relating to Restricted Assets | \$2,381 | | | | |
| Debt Service Ratio | | | | | |
| <u>Net Debt Service Cost</u> | \$517 | 6% | 7% | 5% | 5% |
| Operating Revenue | \$8,346 | | | | |
| Rate & Annual Charges Coverage Ratio | | | | | |
| <u>Rates & Annual Charges Revenues</u> | \$3,700 | 26% | 29% | 30% | 30% |
| Total Revenues | \$14,356 | | | | |
| Rates & Annual Charges Outstanding Percentage | | | | | |
| <u>Rates & Annual Charges Outstanding</u> | \$446 | 11.19% | 6.45% | 5.67% | 4.40% |
| Rates & Annual Charges Collectible | \$3,984 | | | | |
| Building & Infrastructure Renewals Ratio | | | | | |
| <u>Asset renewals</u> | \$536 | 0.59:1 | 0.74:1 | <i>New ratio introduced 2008 - no comparatives available.</i> | |
| Depreciation, Amortisation, Impairment | \$907 | | | | |

Detailed methods of calculation of these Indicators is defined in the Code.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30th June 2008**

Note 14 - INVESTMENT PROPERTY

Council does not hold investment properties

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 15 - FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks including price risk, credit risk, liquidity risk and interest rate risk. All financial instruments are denominated in Australian dollars, and hence currency risk does not apply. Since August 2007 Council has been caught in the world credit crisis that has subsequently increased the credit and liquidity risk significantly.

Financial risk management is carried out by Council's Finance section in accordance with policies approved by Council and in accordance with statutory requirements, and seeks to attain diversification, and maximise revenue while protecting the corpus of the funds invested. To manage interest rate risk Council invested in a range of approved fixed income securities and term deposits. Investment in fixed income securities required specialist skills and access to information not available to Council's staff. To manage the financial risks Council outsourced the portfolio administration to Grange Securities who evaluate and select investment securities other than term deposits through an individually managed portfolio contract.

Council held the following financial instruments at balance date:

| | Carrying Value | | Fair Value | |
|------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 |
| Financial Assets | | | | |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents | 2,216 | 582 | 2,216 | 582 |
| Receivables | 1,274 | 1,282 | 1,274 | 1,282 |
| Financial assets at fair value through profit & loss | 1,119 | 2,316 | 1,119 | 2,316 |
| Available-for-sale financial assets | 1,959 | 1,044 | 1,959 | 1,044 |
| Held-to-maturity investments | - | - | - | - |
| | <u>6,568</u> | <u>5,224</u> | <u>6,568</u> | <u>5,224</u> |
| Financial Liabilities | | | | |
| Payables | 2,850 | 2,040 | 2,850 | 2,040 |
| Borrowings | 1,892 | 2,086 | 1,892 | 2,086 |
| | <u>4,742</u> | <u>4,126</u> | <u>4,742</u> | <u>4,126</u> |

Fair value is estimated as follows:

* Cash & equivalents, receivables & payables - due to the short-term nature, face value (carrying value) approximates fair value.

* Held-to-maturity investments and borrowings - anticipated future cash flows discounted by current market interest rates applicable to assets and liabilities with similar risk profiles.

* Financial assets at fair value through profit & loss, and available-for-sale - based on quoted market prices (where a liquid market exists) or independent valuation. Particular difficulties were experienced in assessing fair value of CDOs, and these have been reported in Note 1.

Cash and cash Equivalents

Financial assets at fair value through profit & loss

Available-for-sale financial assets

Held-to-maturity investments

Council's objective is to maximise its return on cash and investments whilst maintaining an adequate level of liquidity and preserving capital. The Credit crisis has affected Council's liquidity through the inability to liquidate many of the CDO securities and the FRN's at a reduced market price.

The major risk associated with investments is price risk - the risk that the capital value of investments may fluctuate due to changes in market prices, whether these changes are caused by factors specific to individual financial instruments or their issuers or factors affecting similar instruments traded in a market.

Cash and investments are also subject to interest rate risk - the risk that movements in interest rates could affect returns.

Another risk associated with cash and investments is credit risk - the risk that a contracting entity will not complete its obligations under a financial instrument resulting in a financial loss to Council.

The investment portfolio is managed in accordance with Council's policy which complies with the Local Government Act & Regulations, and the Minister's Order. The investment policy is reviewed regularly, and monthly reports provided to Council in accordance with section 625 of the Act.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 15 - FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (cont)

Council updated its policy in April 2008 to align with the Cole report recommendations. Council also took action to appoint a new Independent advisor to assist in managing out the existing CDO and FRN securities held.

The investment portfolio is managed so as to provide adequate liquidity at all times, particularly during the periods between the quarterly receipt of rates instalments and grants. In addition, Council has access to overdraft facilities set out in Note 12. Funds held in the Grange Individually Managed Portfolio when the credit crisis started has negatively affected liquidity due to the loss of the secondary market. Council had previously been able to sell securities in an active secondary market with minimal impact on capital for long dated securities. With current market conditions Council has limited option but to hold the CDO contracts until maturity. Current Fair Value of securities are based on alternative pricing valuations and are not necessarily prices that can be attained on the open market.

Council's portfolio is invested in products that are subject to price risk, principally CDOs. Council viewed the loss in market value - which has been recognised in these reports - as deriving principally from a lack of liquidity in the market. Council has determined to retain these financial instruments on a long term basis, and reviewing its liquidity projections quarterly so to confirm with this strategy. Council expects to recoup the majority of the amounts of principal and interest over the life of the investment, but with a deterioration in the quality of the securities over the financial year have engaged legal and financial specialists to assist council in managing the increased default risk. Council has some CDO's that are at a higher risk of defaulting but no advice that they have formally defaulted has been received and council continues to receive regular interest payments.

Due to the lack of market activity and reluctance of Institutions to disclose information, reliable CDO valuations have been very difficult to obtain. Council sort valuations from different sources applying different methodologies. The method used for valuation was through seeking bids from financial institutions first, and where there were no bids available then a process of determining a valuation based on asset prices and future discounted cashflow were applied. These valuations were then compared to Lehmans Mid price valuation which were calculated using a proprietary Lehman Brothers model. This proprietary pricing model is consistent with best market practice. The model uses as key inputs:

- credit spreads on each of the names in the portfolio
- maturity
- the correlation between the various names in the portfolio

These inputs are sourced from the Inter-dealer market where they are traded regularly. The model then creates as an output, the CDO mid price valuation. The overall variation between using the methods was less than 1% which provided a high level of confidence in the eventual written down value of the investments.

The remainder of Council's investment portfolio consists of deposits at fixed and variable interest rates, generally for periods of less than 120 days. Whilst these are subject to interest rate risk, this is minimised by the short term of the financial assets held.

| Interest Sensitivity Analysis | 2008 | 2007 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| Impact of a 30% movement in price of investments (for assets subject to price risk only) | | |
| - Equity | 923 | 1,008 |
| - Income Statement | 923 | 1,008 |
| Impact of a 1% change in interest rates on cash & investments | | |
| - Equity | 31 | 34 |
| - Income Statement | 31 | 34 |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 15 - FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (cont)

Receivables

Credit risk on receivables for rates, annual charges and service charges made under section 502 is minimised as these are secured over the subject land. The security extends to interest levied for late payment.

Other receivables are subject to a range of credit risk minimisation procedures as appropriate, varying from credit checks to specific security pledges. Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, and credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council boundaries in the State of New South Wales. There are no material receivables that have been subject to re-negotiation of repayment terms.

Council receives regular summary reports of receivables due, and detailed reports where appropriate.

Problems with Data conversion of accounts in 2006/2007 into the new NESAC computer system and a period where the debt collection role was not filled in 2007/2008 has resulted in higher level of outstanding debt. These issues have been rectified and councils debt collection policies are being applied to reduce the outstanding debt.

At reporting date, all amounts receivable were reviewed, and adequate allowance made for amounts considered doubtful.

| | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Percentage of Rates & Annual Charges | | |
| - Current | 73% | 65% |
| - Overdue | 27% | 35% |

Payables

Borrowings

Payables and borrowings are subject to liquidity risk - the risk that insufficient funds may be on hand to meet payment obligations as they fall due. The investment portfolio is managed so as to provide adequate liquidity at all times, particularly during the periods between the quarterly receipt of rates instalments and grants. In addition, Council has access to overdraft facilities set out in Note 11.

Liquidity Sensitivity Table

The contractual undiscounted cash flows of Council's payables and borrowings are shown below:

| | 2008 '000 | Due | | | Total Contractual | Carrying Value |
|------------|--------------|----------|-------------|-----------|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| | | ≤ 1 year | 2 - 5 years | > 5 years | | |
| Payables | | 2,152 | 698 | - | 2,850 | 2,850 |
| Borrowings | | 88 | 1,804 | - | 1,892 | 1,892 |
| | | 2,240 | 2,502 | - | 4,742 | 4,742 |
| | | | | | | |
| | 2007 '000 | Due | | | Total Contractual Cash Flows | Carrying Value |
| | | ≤ 1 year | 2 - 5 years | > 5 years | | |
| Payables | | 1,413 | 627 | - | 2,040 | 2,040 |
| Borrowings | | 362 | 1,336 | 388 | 2,086 | 2,086 |
| | | 1,775 | 1,963 | 388 | 4,126 | 4,126 |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 15 - FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (cont)

Borrowings are also subject to interest rate risk - the risk that changes in interest rates could adversely affect funding costs. Council manages this risk by generally borrowing long term, commonly at rates fixed for the duration of the loan. Bank overdraft and less than 10% of borrowings are at variable rates; the associated interest rate risk is not considered material.

The following interest rates were applicable to Council's borrowings at balance date:

| | 2008 | | 2007 | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| | Wtd ave interest rate | Balance | Wtd ave interest rate | Balance |
| Overdraft | | - | | - |
| Loans - fixed interest rate | 7.11% | <u>1,892</u> | 7.00% | <u>2,086</u> |
| | | <u>1,892</u> | | <u>2,086</u> |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2008

Note 16 - SIGNIFICANT VARIATIONS FROM ORIGINAL BUDGET

Council's original budget comprised part of the Management Plan adopted by Council on Monday 25 June 2007 (Resolution 279/07). The original projections on which the budget was based have been affected by decisions and new grant programs initiated by State and Federal Governments, by the weather, and by decisions made by the Council.

This Note sets out the principal variations between the original Budget and Actual results for the Statement of Financial Performance.

Further information of the nature and amount of all variations is available from the Council office upon request.

INCOME STATEMENT

| | | | |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Revenue from Ordinary Activities | Favourable \$948k | 7.1% |
| 1.1 | User Charges & Fees | Favourable \$1,080 k | 82.0% |
| | Private works were budgeted at \$303 k and resulted in \$706 k an unanticipated increase of \$403 k. Other Waste Management Charges of \$442, were budgeted for in Annual Charges as \$427 k, however the charges are accounted for in these financial statements as user charges and fees. | | |
| 1.2 | Investment revenues | (unadjusted) Unfavourable \$282 k (adjusted) Favourable \$ 80 k | 100.0% 28.4% |
| | The placement of Council's long term funds into an Individually Managed Portfolio and the increased utilisation of investment in overnight funds resulted in an increase of \$80 k in investment income over the budget. However the funds in the Individually Managed Portfolio were invested by Grange Securities, on behalf of Council, in structured credit financial instruments, which while providing an initial increase in investment income, have suffered a potential loss of principal for which a write down of \$780 k has been made in the current year resulting in the Interest and Investment Losses of \$418 k Disclosed in Expenses. | | |
| 1.3 | Grants and Contributions | Unfavourable \$515 k | 6.7% |
| | The original budget included Roads to Recovery Grants of \$265 k in Rural Sealed Roads and \$490 k in Rural Unsealed Roads. The actual amount received of \$332 k has been accounted for as a Capital Grant. | | |
| | Council received additional unbudgeted grants during the year. These additional grants included \$77 k for environmental projects and \$13 k for Tablelands Community Support Options. | | |
| 2 | Expenditure for Ordinary Activities | Unfavourable \$1,336 k | 10.5% |
| 2.1 | Materials and Contracts | Unfavourable \$315 k | 8.1% |
| | The additional Private Works of \$403 k included \$119 k of material and contracts which exceeded the budget allocation by \$109K. Increases in fuel and steel costs have greatly exceeded the 3.5% estimate used when calculating the budget in early 2007. | | |
| 2.2 | Depreciation and Amortisation | Unfavourable \$191 k | 11.6% |
| | The depreciation estimate of \$1,647 k was affected by the revaluation of water and sewer assets in the prior year and a change in the depreciation basis for Plant and Equipment. | | |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2008

Note 16 - Significant Variations from Original Budget (cont)

| | | | |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 2.3 | Other expenses | Unfavourable \$125 k | 11.9% |
| | Council contributes to Regional bodies, in particular the Rural Fire Service. The Rural Fire Service increased its charge by greater than the 3.5% that Council had allowed in its budget. During the year increases in electricity charges, insurances and telecommunications also exceeded the anticipated and budgeted for increases. | | |
| 2.4 | Interest and Investment Losses | Unfavourable \$418 k | 100.0% |
| | This is was a totally unexpected cost to Council when the budget was approved on 25 June 2007. The effect of the Global Credit Crisis since August 2007 could not have been anticipated at that time. The 780 k provided for the write down of Council's investments in structured investments exceeds the interest actually received by Council during the year ended 30 June 2008 by \$418 k. | | |
| 3 | Revenue from Capital Grants and Contributions | | |
| | | Favourable \$681k | 100.0% |
| 3.1 | Capital Grants | Favourable \$613 k | 100.0% |
| | The Roads to Recovery Grant of \$322 was budgeted as operational income. Unanticipated grants of \$281 k were received from the Rural Fire Service, \$40 k for Tablelands Community Support Options Program and \$18 k for Kamilaroi Aged and Disabled Services. | | |
| 3.2 | Capital Contributions | Favourable \$68 k | 100.0% |
| | Unbudgeted capital contributions were received during the year for Section 94 contributions of \$53 k and \$15 k from the Roads and Traffic Authority. | | |
| 4 | Cash Flow Variations | | |
| | | Favourable \$1162 k | 246.2% |
| 4.1 | From Investing Activities | Favourable 937 k | 50.4% |
| | The net expenditure on infrastructure, property and plant was a favourable \$564 k. which was assisted by a further \$246 k in sales. | | |
| 4.2 | From Financing Activities | Favourable 198 k | 504.0% |
| | The loan repayments exceeded budget by \$148 k. This over budget amount was offset by loan proceeds in excess of budget of \$143 k. | | |
| | The contributions of Retirement Home Bonds (net contributions and draw down amounts) of \$430 k were not included in the original budget. | | |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 17 - STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTION PLANS

SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS

| PURPOSE | OPENING BALANCE | CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED DURING YEAR | | INTEREST EARNED DURING YEAR | EXPENDE D DURING YEAR | HELD AS RESTR- ICTED ASSET | EST. FUTURE CONTRIB S | EST. WORKS OUT- STANDIN | EST. OVER/ (UNDER) FUNDING |
|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | CASH | NON-CASH | | | | | | |
| | | \$'000 | \$'000 | | | | | | |
| Roads | 140 | 33 | - | - | - | 173 | - | 173 | - |
| Traffic Facilities | 4 | - | - | - | - | 4 | - | 4 | - |
| Community facilities | 20 | 20 | - | - | - | 40 | 60 | 100 | - |
| Other | 14 | - | - | - | - | 14 | - | 14 | - |
| Subtotal S94 under plans | 178 | 53 | - | - | - | 231 | 60 | 291 | - |
| Sec 64 Contributions | 57 | - | - | - | 57 | - | - | - | - |
| Total Contributions | 235 | 53 | - | - | 57 | 231 | | | |

Note: The above summary of contribution plans represents the total of Council's Individual contribution plans. Individual plan details are shown below.

CONTRIBUTION PLAN - DCP ZONE #1 @RURAL - INVERGOWRIE

| PURPOSE | OPENING BALANCE | CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED DURING YEAR | | INTEREST EARNED DURING YEAR | EXPENDE D DURING YEAR | HELD AS RESTR- ICTED ASSET | EST. FUTURE CONTRIB S | EST. WORKS OUT- STANDIN | EST. OVER/ (UNDER) FUNDING |
|----------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | CASH | NON-CASH | | | | | | |
| | | \$'000 | \$'000 | | | | | | |
| Roads | 49 | - | - | - | - | 49 | - | 49 | - |
| Traffic Facilities | 4 | - | - | - | - | 4 | - | 4 | - |
| Community facilities | 20 | 20 | - | - | - | 40 | 60 | 100 | - |
| Other | 9 | - | - | - | - | 9 | - | 9 | - |
| Total | 82 | 20 | - | - | - | 102 | 60 | 162 | - |

CONTRIBUTION PLAN - DCP ZONE #1 @RURAL

| PURPOSE | OPENING BALANCE | CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED DURING YEAR | | INTEREST EARNED DURING YEAR | EXPENDE D DURING YEAR | HELD AS RESTR- ICTED ASSET | EST. FUTURE CONTRIB S | EST. WORKS OUT- STANDIN | EST. OVER/ (UNDER) FUNDING |
|--------------|--------------------|------------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | CASH | NON-CASH | | | | | | |
| | | \$'000 | \$'000 | | | | | | |
| Other | 5 | - | - | - | - | 5 | - | 5 | - |
| Total | 5 | - | - | - | - | 5 | - | 5 | - |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 17 - STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTION PLANS (cont)

CONTRIBUTION PLAN - DCP ROAD MAINTENEANCE ROYALTIES

| PURPOSE | OPENING BALANCE \$'000 | CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED DURING YEAR | | INTEREST EARNED DURING YEAR \$'000 | EXPENDE D DURING YEAR \$'000 | HELD AS RESTR- ICTED ASSET \$'000 | EST. FUTURE CONTRIB S \$'000 | EST. WORKS OUT- STANDIN \$'000 | EST. OVER/ (UNDER) FUNDING \$'000 |
|--------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| | | CASH \$'000 | NON-CASH \$'000 | | | | | | |
| Roads | 91 | 33 | - | - | - | 124 | - | 124 | - |
| Total | 91 | 33 | - | - | - | 124 | - | 124 | - |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2008

Note 18 - CONTINGENCIES AND ASSETS AND LIABILITIES NOT RECOGNISED IN THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

The following assets and liabilities do not qualify for recognition in the Statement of Financial Position but knowledge of those items is considered relevant to user of the financial report in making and evaluating decisions about the allocation of scarce resources.

1. POTENTIAL INSURANCE LOSSES

Council is a multi-purpose organisation providing a large range of building, parks infrastructure, playgrounds and other facilities accessible to the public. At any time, it is likely that claims will have been made against Council that remain unsettled.

Council insures against all known insurable risks using a range of insurance policies, each of which is subject to a deductible "insurance excess", the amount of which varies according to the class of insurance.

Council has recognised the potential losses arising from claims known at reporting date based on average historical net cost (including insurance excess) of similar types of claims. Other potential claims not reported to Council may have existed at reporting date.

1.1. HIH Insurance

During the period 1995 - 1997 portion of Council's public risk insurance cover was insured or re-insured with a member of the HIH Insurance group of companies.

At reporting date, there are no known claims outstanding from that period.

2. STATECOVER MUTUAL LTD

Council has been a member of Statecover Mutual Ltd; a corporation formed for the purchase and management of workers compensation insurances on behalf of its members, since 1 July 2004.

Statecover has issued shares with no par value and may make calls on its members to meet trading losses and to comply with prudential requirements. There is no recognised market for the sale of Statecover shares.

Council is of the opinion that there is insufficient certainty of recovery of capital contributed \$30,621.55 (2006: \$30,621.55; 2005: \$20,396.30) to qualify for recognition as an asset. There was no call (2006 \$10,225.25; 2005 \$20,396.30) made in respect of the Council's shares for the current reporting period.

3. LEGAL EXPENSES

Council is the planning consent authority for its area under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (as amended). Pursuant to that Act, certain persons aggrieved by a planning decision of the Council may appeal to the Land and Environment Court. It is the Court's normal practice that parties bear their own legal costs. At the date of these reports, Council had no notice of any appeals against planning decisions made prior to reporting date. All known costs have been recognised, but the amount of further costs cannot be known until the appeals are determined.

4. RURAL FIRE FIGHTING ASSETS

Council has title to, and is the registered owner of, 11 rural fire appliances and associated rural fire fighting equipment. These assets are under the control of the Rural Fire Services to enable that Department to provide the bushfire protection defences set out in their Service Level Agreement with Council, and accordingly have not been recognised in these reports.

In accordance with normal Rural Fire Service funding arrangements, Council continues to contribute to the costs of maintenance of this equipment.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2007

Note 18 – Contingencies and Assets and Liabilities not Recognised in the Statement of Financial Position (cont)

5. SUPERANNUATION – Defined Benefits Schemes

Council makes employer contributions to the defined benefits categories of the Scheme at rates determined by the Scheme's Trustee. The rate since 1 July 2005 the rate has been 95% of member's contributions plus 1.25% of superable salary. Employees also make contributions to the Fund. As such, assets accumulate in the Fund to meet the member's benefit, as defined in the Trust Deed, as they accrue.

Council has an ongoing obligation to share in the future experience of the Scheme. Favourable or unfavourable variations may arise should the experience of the Scheme differ from the assumptions made by the Scheme's actuary in estimating the Scheme's accrued benefits liability. The Scheme's liability for accrued benefits was determined by reference to expected future salary levels and by application of a market-based risk-adjusted discount rate and relevant actuarial assumptions. It was determined that the net assets of the Scheme were more than sufficient to meet the accrued benefits of the Scheme's defined benefit category members.

The Local Government Superannuation Scheme – Pool B (the scheme) is a defined benefit plan that has been deemed to be a 'multi-employer fund' for the purpose of AASB 119. Sufficient information is not available to account for the scheme as a defined benefit plan because the assets to the Scheme are pooled together for all Councils. The amount of employer contributions recognised as an expense for the year ending 30 June 2008 was \$81,474. The last valuation of the Scheme was performed by Mr Martin Stevenson BSc, FIA, FIAA on 19th June 2007 and covers the period ended 30 June 2006. The valuation found that the schemes assets were \$3,291.1 million and its past service liabilities \$2,980.3 million giving it a surplus of \$310.8 million. The existence of this surplus has resulted in Councils contributing in 2006/07 at half the normal level of contributions. The financial position is monitored annually.

6. CENTRAL NORTHERN LIBRARIES

The Uralla Shire Council is a member of the Central Northern Libraries Group. This group operates under the Central Northern Library Regional Library Agreement made on 1 July 2005 and administered by the Tamworth Regional Council on behalf of the six members. Clause 7.1 of the Agreement states "Tamworth Regional Council shall own the assets acquired from Central Northern Regional Library's budget subject to the 'reimbursement rights' held by each of the Delegating Councils as provided by this clause."

Clause 7.3 states "Upon the termination of this agreement, a proportion of the assets identified in the asset register shall be distributed to the Delegating Councils. The method for determining the asset distribution to each Delegating Council is specified in Schedule 4 of this Agreement." Schedule 4 determines that the distribution of the net assets shall be apportioned in the ratio of the contributions made in the three preceding years or the current life of the existing agreement. The net assets of the Central Northern Regional Library at 30 June 2008 was not available. Council expects the net assets of the library to be in line with the previous years results (\$868,287 – 2007) and the percentage of contribution by the Uralla Shire Council is 6.65%.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30th June 2008**

Note 19 - JOINT VENTURES & ASSOCIATED ENTITIES

Council does not have any material Joint Ventures

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 20 - REVALUATION RESERVES & RETAINED EARNINGS

| | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| <i>Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment</i> | | |
| Balance at beginning of reporting period | 16,458 | 8,208 |
| Add: Revaluation increments transferred to the reserve relating to: | | |
| Land | | |
| - Council owned (freehold) | 2,084 | - |
| Buildings | 6,327 | - |
| Water Infrastructure | 757 | 7,168 |
| Sewerage Infrastructure | 319 | 1,082 |
| Subtotal | 9,487 | 8,250 |
| Less: Revaluation decrements transferred from the reserve relating to: | | |
| Land | - | - |
| Subtotal | - | - |
| Balance at end of reporting period | 25,945 | 16,458 |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30th June 2008**

Note 20 - REVALUATION RESERVES & RETAINED EARNINGS (CONT)

| <i>Retained Earnings</i> | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| As previously reported (beginning of year) | 74,912 | 68,081 |
| Transfers from asset revaluation reserve (IPP&E) | - | - |
| Correction of errors - see below | 1,976 | 6,694 |
| Effect of accounting policy changes (see Note 1) | - | - |
| Change in associated entities recognised (see Note 19) | - | - |
| Net operating result for the year | <u>244</u> | <u>137</u> |
| At end of year | <u>77,132</u> | <u>74,912</u> |

Correction of errors in previous years

(i) In previous years Council had not consistently reviewed the estimates of usefulives of certain assets. In the course of the revaluations carried out in the current reporting period, it was found that the combined effect resulted in a significant reduction in the depreciation that had previously been charged.

It was found to be impracticable to calculate the distortion occurring in each of the previous years, and the adjustment has been made to current year balances.

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|-------|
| - Water Infrastructure | - | 3,700 |
| - Sewerage Infrastructure | - | 2,994 |
| - Buildings | <u>1,976</u> | - |

(ii) In the course of the revaluations carried out in the current reporting period, it was found that a number of buildings had not previously been recognised.

An estimate has been made of the depreciation that should have been charged in the previous year had they been correctly recognised at the appropriate time, and the comparative amounts have been adjusted accordingly.

- -

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

NOTE 21 - REINSTATEMENT, REHABILITATION AND RESTORATION LIABILITIES

Tip remediation

Council is required by law to restore the present tip site at Uralla to parkland/farmland at the end of its useful life in 2017. The projected cost of this restoration is \$551K, based on feasibility and engineering studies and has been discounted to its present value at 4.5% per annum being the estimated consumer price index.

| | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| At beginning of year | 481 | 429 |
| Amounts capitalised to Tip asset | | |
| -New distributions | - | - |
| -Revised cost | 36 | 27 |
| -Revised life | - | - |
| -Revised discount rate | - | - |
| Amortised of discount - expensed to borrowing costs | 34 | 25 |
| At end of year | <u>551</u> | <u>481</u> |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 23 - EVENTS OCCURRING AFTER BALANCE SHEET DATE

On Tuesday 9th September 2008 Council was advised by Lehman Brothers Australia that the conservatorship of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac was a Credit Event. This event affects the majority of Council's Collateralised Debt Obligations (CDOs) investments by reducing the number of credit events now available before principal is impacted and in some CDOs may reduce some coupon payments by an estimated 20%.

The final impact of this Credit event and the Lehman Brothers Bankruptcy on Council's investment portfolio is still being evaluated.

On Monday Morning 15th September 2008 New York Time Lehman Brothers Holding Inc filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. The US bankruptcy code gives debtor's (Lehman) protection from creditors while they attempt to reorganise the business. On Friday 26 September 2008 the Australian branch of Lehman Brothers went into voluntary Administration. The affect of this on Council's Collateralised Debt Obligations (CDOs) investments remain uncertain and any recovery in these CDOs will be subject to the liquidation process.

Clients of Lehman Brothers may be affected several different ways depending on whether Lehman's were the Arranger or Issuer of the Security. Each CDO has its own legal structure and Council has engaged legal and financial advice to assist with any claims against Lehman's as they restructure and liquidate certain assets.

On Friday 26th September 2008 Washington Mutual was seized by regulators and placed into receivership. Deposits, Assets and Certain Liabilities were acquired by J P Morgan. It is expected that the collapse of Washington Mutual will be deemed another credit event however formal advice has not been received to date.

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

S417(2) – Report on the general purpose financial report

Qualified audit opinion

In our opinion except for the effects on the financial statements of the matter referred to in the paragraph below titled Basis for qualified Auditor's Opinion:

- (a) the Council's accounting records have been kept in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993, Chapter 13 part 3 Division 2; and
- (b) the financial report:
 - (i) has been presented in accordance with the requirements of this Division;
 - (ii) is consistent with the Council's accounting records;
 - (iii) presents fairly the Council's financial position, the results of its operations and its cash flows; and
 - (iv) are in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia.
- (c) all information relevant to the conduct of the audit has been obtained; and
- (d) there are no material deficiencies in the accounting records or financial report that have come to light during the course of the audit.

This opinion must be read in conjunction with the rest of our audit report.

Basis for Qualified Auditor's Opinion

Since July 2007, global financial markets have experienced a period of high volatility led by events in the US housing market, particularly sub prime loans, which has impacted the value, recoverability, liquidity, cash flows and rates of return of many financial assets including Collateralised Debt Obligations (CDOs), Equity Linked Notes (ELNs) and certain other Managed Funds.

At 30 June 2008, Uralla Shire Council's investment portfolio totalled \$3.1 million and included securities totalling \$1.1 million that have been impacted by this market volatility. The impact on individual securities varies depending on their degree of exposure to affected markets.

At 30 June 2008, Uralla Shire Council's investment portfolio included CDO securities totaling \$0.6 million. Many of these securities do not have market values that are independently quoted and they are not widely traded. Independent market valuations are not readily available and in many cases, values are assessed based on estimates from issuers and/or evaluation models for which there is limited market evidence available to verify their reasonableness in the current economic environment. Further, the ongoing volatility of financial markets creates greater uncertainty in the valuation process and determination of future cash flows that can be attributed to these securities.

These circumstances have resulted in our inability to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to satisfy ourselves as to the fair value and recoverability of \$0.6 million of Council's total investment portfolio. The maximum impact on the operating surplus and net assets is the carrying amount of these investments.

Scope and summary of our role

The financial report and Council's responsibility

The financial report comprises the Balance Sheet, Income Statement, Cash Flow Statement, accompanying notes to the financial statements, and the Statement by Councillors and Management in the approved form as required by Section 413(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 for Uralla Shire Council (the Council), for the year ended 30 June 2008.

The Council is responsible for the preparation and true and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993. This includes responsibility for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error, and for the accounting policies and accounting estimates inherent in the financial report.

Audit approach

We conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on them to the Council. Our audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, in order to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. Our audit responsibility does not extend to the Original Budget figures included in the Income Statement, Cash Flow Statement and the Original Budget disclosures in Notes 2(a) and 16 to the financial statements and accordingly, we express no opinion on them. The nature of an audit is influenced by factors such as the use of professional judgement, selective testing, the inherent limitations of internal control, and the availability of persuasive rather than conclusive evidence. Therefore, an audit cannot guarantee that all material misstatements have been detected.

We performed procedures to assess whether in all material respects the financial report presents fairly, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia, a view which is consistent with our understanding of the Council's financial position, and its performance as represented by the results of its operations and cash flows.

Forsyths

We formed our audit opinion on the basis of these procedures, which included:

- examining, on a test basis, information to provide evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial report, and
- assessing the appropriateness of the accounting policies and disclosures used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Council.

When this audit report is included in an Annual Report, our procedures include reading the other information in the Annual Report to determine whether it contains any material inconsistencies with the financial report.

While we considered the effectiveness of management's internal controls over financial reporting when determining the nature and extent of our procedures, our audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

Our audit did not involve an analysis of the prudence of business decisions made by Councillors or management.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.



Forsyths Business Services Pty Ltd



Paul R Cornall
Principal

31 October 2008
111 Faulkner Street Armidale

Liability limited by the Accountants Scheme, approved under the Professional Standards Act 1994 (NSW)"

31 Oct 08

The Mayor
Uralla Shire Council
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Forsyths Business Services Pty Ltd
ABN 66 182 761 401

Dear Mr Mayor,

AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008

We are pleased to report that we have completed the audit of Council's records for the year ended 30th June 2008 and have reported on the general purpose financial report and special purpose financial report as required by the provisions of Section 417(2) of the Local Government Act 1993.

Under Section 417(3) of the Local Government Act we are also required to report on the conduct of the audit.

Audit Objectives

The overall objectives of the audit were to enable us to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the general purpose financial statements:

- were presented fairly in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993 and prescribed Regulations and the Australian Accounting Standards; and
- presented a view which was consistent with our understanding of the Council's financial position, the results of its operations and its cash flows.

Scope of the Audit

Audit procedures were primarily aimed at achieving audit objectives and did not seek to confirm for management purposes the effectiveness of all internal controls. The planning of the audit procedures was based on an assessment of the risk of the existence of errors and/or irregularities which could materially affect the financial statements.



The Council is responsible for preparing a financial report that gives a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Council, and that complies with Accounting Standards in Australia, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993. This includes responsibility for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error, and for the accounting policies and accounting estimates inherent in the financial report.

We conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on them to the Council. Our audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, in order to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. Our audit responsibility does not extend to the Original Budget figures included in the Income Statement and Cash Flow Statement and the Original Budget disclosures in Notes 2(a) and 16 to the financial statements and accordingly, we express no opinion on them. The nature of an audit is influenced by factors such as the use of professional judgement, selective testing, the inherent limitations of internal control, and the availability of persuasive rather than conclusive evidence. Therefore, an audit cannot guarantee that all material misstatements have been detected.

We performed procedures to assess whether in all material respects the financial report presents fairly, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia, a view which is consistent with our understanding of the Council's financial position, and its performance as represented by the results of its operations and cash flows.

We formed our audit opinion on the basis of these procedures, which included:

- examining, on a test basis, information to provide evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial report, and
- assessing the appropriateness of the accounting policies and disclosures used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Council.

While we considered the effectiveness of management's internal controls over financial reporting when determining the nature and extent of our procedures, our audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

We performed procedures to assess whether the substance of business transactions was accurately reflected in the financial report. These and other procedures did not include consideration or judgement of the appropriateness or reasonableness of the business plans or strategies adopted by the Council.

We have issued our qualified audit opinion as required by Section 417(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 on the basis of the foregoing comments.

Additional Reporting Requirements

In accordance with Section 417(3) of the Local Government Act we make the following comments in relation to the results and financial trends.

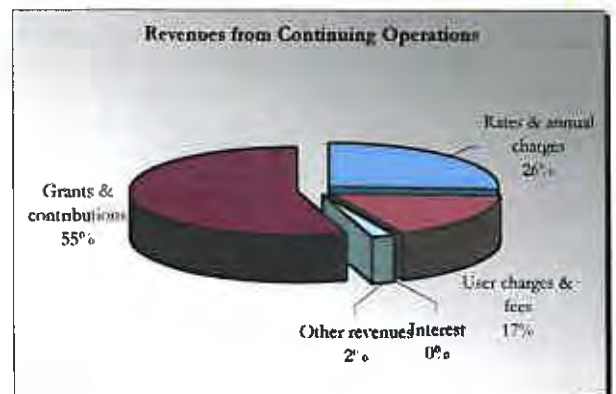


The Income Statement for the year ended 30th June 2008 discloses the following operating result:

| INCOME STATEMENT | Budget | Actual | Actual | Variance | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| | 2008 | 2008 | 2007 | Actual | Budget |
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | % | % |
| INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS | | | | | |
| Rates & annual charges | 3,847 | 3,700 | 3,670 | 0.8% | -3.8% |
| User charges & fees | 1,317 | 2,483 | 1,363 | 82.2% | 88.5% |
| Interest | 282 | 0 | 311 | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Other revenues from ordinary activities | 292 | 216 | 219 | -1.4% | -26.0% |
| Grants & contributions for operating purposes | 7,670 | 7,155 | 6,312 | 13.4% | -6.7% |
| Grants & contributions For capital purposes | 0 | 681 | 896 | -24.0% | 0.0% |
| Gain from sale of assets | 0 | 121 | 0 | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Total income from continuing operations | 13,408 | 14,356 | 12,771 | 12.4% | 7.1% |
| EXPENSES FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS | | | | | |
| Employee benefits & oncosts | 6,050 | 6,332 | 6,206 | 2.0% | 4.7% |
| Borrowing costs | 139 | 144 | 173 | -16.8% | 3.6% |
| Materials and contracts | 3,894 | 4,289 | 3,314 | 29.4% | 10.1% |
| Depreciation & amortisation | 1,647 | 1,838 | 1,965 | 13.4% | 11.6% |
| Other expenses from ordinary activities | 1,043 | 1,091 | 962 | -6.5% | 4.6% |
| Loss from disposal of assets | 0 | 0 | 14 | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Invstment losses | 0 | 418 | 0 | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Total Expenses from continuing operations | 12,773 | 14,112 | 12,634 | 11.7% | 10.5% |
| OPERATING RESULT FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS | 635 | 244 | 137 | 78.1% | -61.6% |
| NET OPERATING RESULT BEFORE CAPITAL GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS | 635 | (437) | (759) | -42.4% | -168.8% |

Council achieved a deficit before capital amounts of \$437,000 compared to the deficit in 2007 of \$759,000.

Operating revenue, excluding capital grants, increased as a result of higher user charges and fees (private works and waste management charges, which was also reclassified from rates and annual charges compared to 2007) and grants and contributions for operating purposes including RTA contributions of \$890,000 and NESAC joints works of \$447,000.



The increase in expenses includes costs related to materials and contracts (due to an increase in RTA works activity and higher fuel and steel costs) and the net loss on investments of \$418,000. The global credit crisis had a major impact on credit linked products such as CDO's and FRN's. Council expects to hold most of these investments until maturity but events subsequent to balance date have increased the risk of investment defaults, especially with the collapse of Lehman Brothers and the structure of the investments. At the date of this report it is uncertain which investments may not recover but it is expected some of the book losses will convert to actual losses in the coming two years.

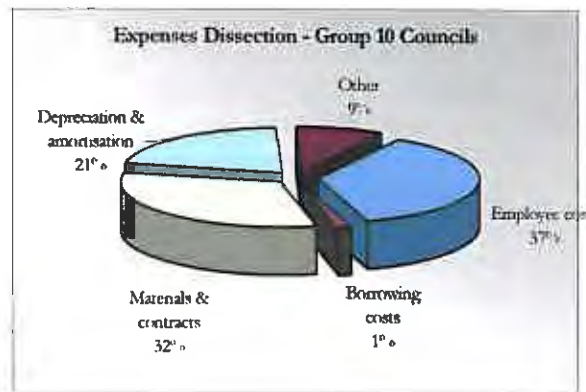
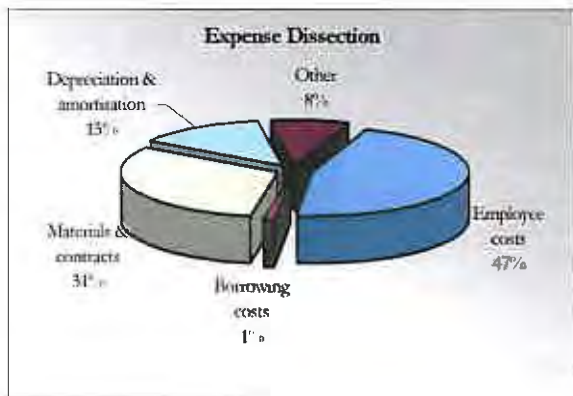


The budget amounts included above are those adopted in the original budget and exclude re-votes from the previous year and variations to the budget during the year. The actual operating surplus for the year of \$244,000 compares with the original budget surplus of \$635,000. The major variations between the actual results and the original budget are as follows:

- User charges and fees (favourable \$1.2m) – Private works revenues were better than planned and waste management charges of \$442,000 were included in the original budget under rates and annual charges.
- Interest revenue – (unfavourable \$282,000) - Council made a net loss on investments shown in expenses with investment returns netted against this figure.
- Interest and Investment losses – (unfavourable \$418,000) - Council did not budget for investment devaluations nor predict the magnitude of the credit crisis and market volatility. The investment loss of \$780,000 was offset by investment returns of \$362,000.
- Materials and contracts (unfavourable \$395,000) – Increase due to higher RTA and user charges activity noted above as well as increases in raw material prices (especially fuel and steel).

It is pleasing to note that, had Council not incurred the investment loss, that it would have achieved its budgeted result. As mentioned in previous reports, it is still critical for Council to focus on strong budget surpluses to rebuild its financial reserves.

Below is a comparison of expense dissections for the Council for 2008 compared to the Group 10 council average (2006 data).

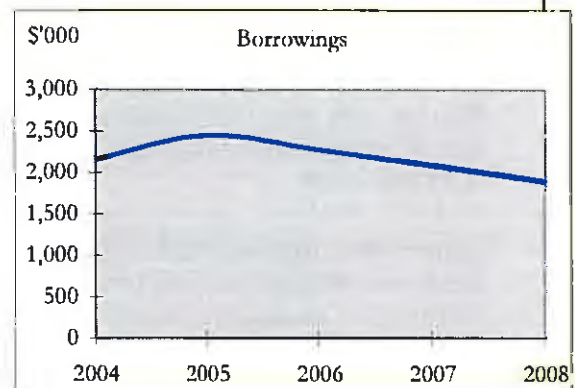
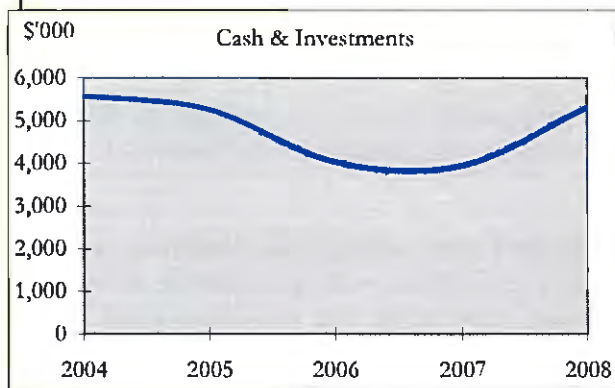


There is a significant variation in the levels of employee costs and depreciation compared to the Group 10 average. We believe this is due to Council having a lower level of depreciation expense than other Councils in the group (as it has a smaller level of infrastructure compared to the other Group 10 Councils) together with the additional employee costs associated with sponsoring Community Service.



The following schedule of assets and liabilities has been extracted from the Balance Sheet as at 30th June 2008. This schedule discloses the consolidated assets and liabilities of all functions.

| SCHEDULE OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES | | | |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | Variance |
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | % |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 2,216 | 582 | 280.8% |
| Investments | 3,078 | 3,360 | -8.4% |
| Receivables | 1,168 | 1,169 | -0.1% |
| Inventories | 168 | 143 | 17.5% |
| Other | 92 | 65 | 41.5% |
| TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS | 6,722 | 5,319 | 26.4% |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | |
| Payables | 2,850 | 2,040 | 39.7% |
| Borrowings | 1,047 | 444 | 135.8% |
| Provisions | 1,375 | 1,543 | -10.9% |
| TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES | 5,272 | 4,027 | 30.9% |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | 1,450 | 1,292 | 12.2% |
| NON-CURRENT ASSETS | | | |
| Receivables | 106 | 113 | -6.2% |
| Infrastructure, Property Plant & Equipment | 103,118 | 92,237 | 11.8% |
| TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS | 103,224 | 92,350 | 11.8% |
| NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | |
| Provisions | 752 | 630 | 19.4% |
| Borrowings | 845 | 1,642 | -48.5% |
| TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES | 1,597 | 2,272 | -29.7% |
| NET ASSETS | 103,077 | 91,370 | 12.8% |



Net current assets increased by \$158,000 or 12% mainly due to an increase cash balances arising from improved cash flow performance in 2008 compared the a cash loss in 2007.



The significant increase in infrastructure, property, plant and equipment of \$10.9m is mainly due to the rise in values from the revaluation of operational land and buildings assets in 2008, causing an adjustment to correct over depreciation in prior years for these assets and increases in replacement value since the last revaluation.

NET CURRENT ASSETS

The Net Current Asset position at year end is an important financial indicator as it discloses the working capital available to Council to fund day to day operations and finance infrastructure and new community projects. However, included in Current Assets are assets which are "Restricted" by regulation or other externally imposed requirements and therefore are not available for other than their restricted purpose, as outlined below.

| | Water \$'000 | Sewerage \$'000 | Dom Waste \$'000 | McMaugh Gardens | General \$'000 | Total \$'000 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Current Assets | 659 | 792 | 34 | 1,185 | 4,052 | 6,722 |
| Current Liabilities | 3 | 46 | - | 1,408 | 3,815 | 5,272 |
| Net Current Assets | 656 | 746 | 34 | (223) | 237 | 1,450 |
| Add Liabilities > 12 Months | - | - | - | 698 | 736 | 1,434 |
| Total Funds before Restrictions | 656 | 746 | 34 | 475 | 973 | 2,884 |
| LESS: Restricted Cash & Investments (Included in Revenue) | | | | | | |
| Developer Contributions | - | - | - | - | 231 | 231 |
| Specific Purpose Grants & Contributions | - | - | - | - | 824 | 824 |
| | - | - | - | - | 1,055 | 1,055 |
| NET FUNDS AVAILABLE | 656 | 746 | 34 | 475 | (82) | 1,829 |
| LESS Internal Restrictions | - | - | - | - | 1,021 | 1,021 |
| Net Funds After All Restrictions | 656 | 746 | 34 | 475 | (1,103) | 808 |

The above table demonstrates that after excluding McMaugh Gardens Hostel, the general function of working capital balance is in deficit and unable to support the internal restrictions it has created as at 30 June 2008. Also, the balance of funds in McMaugh Gardens is in deficit and therefore there is no cash reserves outside of the cash needed to cover bonds commitments to fund its own operations.

We also note, that if all the current liabilities Council believed would not expected to be settled in the next 12 months were called upon, that Council would have no general fund reserves to cover them as at 30 June 2008.

Council has restricted \$1,021,000 in cash to partly fund plant replacements, carry-over projects and employee entitlements provisions. However, as there is negative working capital, we are of the view that there is inadequate cash to meet both working capital needs and fund these restrictions. As mentioned in the past report, Council should consider reversing the restrictions.

Councils 2009 budget provides for a cash surplus for the General Fund. However, this surplus will only be achieved by Council continuing to limit its capital expenditure and also reviewing some of its services and community support activities.



We believe that Council should have a positive unrestricted working funds balance in the general function of at least \$500,000. On current trends, Council will still be behind this benchmark by the end of the 2009 financial year if the value of its investments continues to decline, including the strong probability some of the “paper” losses for investments will crystallise in the coming 2 years.

We again recommend that Council continues to review the current and 2010 Management Plan to consider further savings and ensure that future budgets achieve surpluses that will allow the rebuilding of the unrestricted working capital position. Further, Council will need to remain vigilant in controlling its expenditure and retaining its revenue sources for the remainder of the 2009 financial year.

The Code of Accounting Practice requires the mandatory disclosure of certain performance indicators. These financial indicators are useful in assessing performance, financial position and the likely financial burden to be placed on ratepayers.

The key financial indicators disclosed in the Financial Statements are:

| RATIO | PURPOSE | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| UNRESTRICTED RATIO | To assess the adequacy of working capital after excluding all restricted assets and liabilities. | 1.24 | 0.64 | 0.82 | 1.33 |
| DEBT SERVICE RATIO | To assess the degree to which revenues are committed to the repayment of debt. | 6.0% | 7.0% | 5.0% | 7.0% |
| RATE COVERAGE RATIO | To assess the degree of dependence upon revenues from rates and annual charges. | 26.0% | 29.0% | 29.0% | 30.0% |
| OUTSTANDING RATES % | To assess the impact of uncollected rates and charges on liquidity and the adequacy of recovery efforts. | 11.2% | 6.5% | 5.7% | 4.4% |
| ASSET RENEWALS RATIO | To assess the rate at which assets are being renewed against the rate they are being depreciated | 0.59 | 0.74 | | |

The unrestricted ratio excludes all current assets and liabilities that are restricted to specific purposes such as water, sewer, domestic waste management functions and specific purpose unexpended grants & contributions. This ratio is before setting aside cash to fund internal restrictions relative to the general function. While the ratio has increased from 0.64 to 1.24, for reasons outlined earlier in this report, the ratio continues to be below that required. An unrestricted ratio of 1.24 indicates that for every \$1 of current liabilities as at 30 June 2008, which is expected to be paid out within the following twelve months, Council has only 1.24 to meet this commitment. As a comparison, Category 10 Councils in 2006 had an average unrestricted ratio of 2.8.

The debt service ratio of 6% has decreased slightly. We note the ratio is higher than the average for similar sized Councils of 3.7% (2006 data).

The outstanding rates ratio continues to rise compared to prior years due to continued disruptions in collections. The cause of these problems arose from changes in accounting software and NESAC implementation issues. Council needs to increase its focus on collection activities in the coming year.



The asset renewals ratio is a new ratio established by the Department of Local Government from the 2007 year. The ratio is to assist readers of the financial statements to assess Council's performance with renewing its infrastructure assets against the level of infrastructure asset deterioration (as represented by depreciation expense). We advise that due to a lack of a definition in the accounting code for what is an asset "renewal" that we cannot comment on the accuracy of the ratio disclosed in the financial statements. Further, this ratio is a new requirement and there is no historic trends to assess how Council is performing in this area in the longer term. With the revaluation of infrastructure program over the coming years the accuracy of this ratio is also expected to improve.

Based on the above context, the ratio seems to indicate that Council expended less on asset renewals compared to the estimated asset deterioration in the same period. In essence, Council's overall infrastructure condition, in financial terms, reduced across Council in the past 2 years. In the longer term Council should aim to have an asset renewal ratio of at least 1.1.

With Council's performance indicators being below benchmarks and the low working capital position within the general function (before internal restrictions), the overall financial standing of Council remains poor and requires continued attention.

The increase in current cash and investments reflected in the Balance Sheet is also evident in the following table extracted from the Cash Flow Statement.

| CASH MOVEMENTS | Actual | Actual | Variance |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | |
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | % |
| CASH INFLOWS | | | |
| Operating Receipts | 14,769 | 12,985 | 13.7% |
| Proceeds from Assets Sales | 246 | 453 | -45.7% |
| Net receipt of retirement home bonds | 437 | 128 | 241.4% |
| Proceeds from investments | 417 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Proceeds from Borrowings | 192 | 0 | 0.0% |
| TOTAL RECEIPTS | 16,061 | 13,566 | 18.4% |
| CASH OUTFLOWS | | | |
| Operating Payments | 11,956 | 10,601 | 12.8% |
| Purchase of investments | 915 | 3,360 | -72.8% |
| Purchase of Assets | 1,170 | 2,689 | -56.5% |
| Repayment of Loans | 386 | 362 | 6.6% |
| Net repayment of retirement home bonds | 0 | 1 | 0.0% |
| TOTAL PAYMENTS | 14,427 | 17,013 | -15.2% |
| TOTAL CASH MOVEMENT | 1,634 | -3,447 | -147.4% |
| Total Cash & Investments on Hand | 5,294 | 3,942 | 34.3% |

Cash outflows for Purchase of Assets included road and bridge construction totalling \$0.5m. This compares to the \$0.7 m annual rate of depreciation of these assets. In assessing the replacement rate of depreciating assets it is also important to note that Special Schedule No.7, which is an unaudited statement prepared in conjunction with the financial report, discloses that the estimated cost to bring road and bridges to a "satisfactorily" standard is \$3.6m. This is considerably less than the average for most rural Councils, so should not place a significant burden on Council during a period where rebuilding of working capital and reserves should take priority.



However, it is also important to note that the deferral of some plant and equipment replacements (due to a lack of sufficient funds in a plant replacement reserve) and continued deferral of infrastructure renewal (reflected in the poor asset renewal ratio and a need to keep capital expenditure to a minimum to rebuild reserves) will continue to place a strain on Council's resources for the longer term.

Council will be reviewing its depreciation useful lives for infrastructure assets (roads and bridges) in the 2009 financial year as required by the Accounting Code. This will provide more certainty regarding the level of depreciation expense and Council will be able to obtain a better understanding of its abilities to fund infrastructure in the longer term.

SPECIAL PURPOSE REPORTS

Council is required to report the financial results of identified Business Units in accordance with National Competition Policy guidelines. The reports are known as Special Purpose Financial Reports and are subject to audit. Council has identified Water, Sewerage, private works and McMaugh Gardens Hostel as Category 2 Business Units.

WATER SUPPLY FUNCTION

The Special Purpose Financial Reports disclose that the Water Supply function recorded an operating deficit (before capital funding) of \$337,000 after allowing for depreciation of \$50,000. The deficit was mainly due to the functions share of investment losses of some \$328,000.

The Net Current Asset position records a positive balance of \$656,000. This surplus plus the fact that it has minimal debt, indicates a sound financial position to meet operational requirements given the size of the function and the water infrastructure condition (per unaudited Special Schedule 7) being of "satisfactory" standard.

SEWERAGE SERVICES

This function recorded an operating deficit (before capital funding) of \$217,000 after allowing for depreciation of \$16,000. The deficit was mainly due to the functions share of investment losses of some \$327,000.

The Net Current Assets position show a surplus of \$746,000. Given the size of the operations, the minimal level of debt and the sewer infrastructure condition (per unaudited Special Schedule 7) being of "satisfactory" standard, the sewerage function is in a sound financial position.

MCMAUGH GARDENS HOSTEL

The Special Purpose Financial Reports disclose that McMaugh Gardens Hostel recorded an operating deficit of \$365,000, excluding capital grant income, for the 2008 year compared to the deficit of \$147,000 in the prior year. This result is after depreciation expense of \$38,000.

The net current asset position is a deficit of \$223,000 after allowing for resident's bonds amounting to \$1,185,000. Therefore the Hostel as at 30 June 2008 had no cash reserves to fund its operations, outside of bond commitments. Council needs to focus on cost control at the Hostel to improve its financial position and reduce its impact on Council's general fund.



SUBSEQUENT EVENTS AND OUTLOOK FOR 2009

Note 23 to the accounts records "Events occurring after Balance Sheet Date". This note makes reference to further turmoil that has occurred in global credit markets since the 30 June 2008. Based on available information, this event has had a further impacted on the market value of investments. The most significant market impacts occurred in September and October 2008 to date. Further, Lehman Brothers filed for bankruptcy protection during September 2008. It is unclear at the date of this report the ultimate affect on the investment's Council holds with Lehman's. There have also been several credit events which increases the risk of default due to the structure of the investments, where the more credit events that occur the higher the risk of loss of principal.

At the time of this report it is impossible to assess the impact on the value of investments, due to the lack of market evidence. We however, believe that some "book" losses recorded to date will convert to actual losses in the coming two years.

GENERAL

Limitation of audit opinion

Since July 2007, global financial markets have experienced a period of high volatility led by events in the US housing market, particularly sub prime loans, which has impacted the value, recoverability, liquidity, cash flows and rates of return of many financial assets including Collateralised Debt Obligations (CDOs), Equity Linked Notes (ELNs) and certain other Managed Funds.

At 30 June 2008, Council's investment portfolio totalled \$3.1 million and included securities totaling \$1.1 million that have been impacted by this market volatility. The impact on individual securities varies depending on their degree of exposure to affected markets.

At 30 June 2008, Council's investment portfolio included CDO securities totalling \$0.6 million. Many of these securities do not have market values that are independently quoted and they are not widely traded. Independent market valuations are not readily available and in many cases, values are assessed based on estimates from issuers and/or evaluation models for which there is limited market evidence available to verify their reasonableness in the current economic environment. Further, the ongoing volatility of financial markets creates greater uncertainty in the valuation process and determination of future cash flows that can be attributed to these securities.

These circumstances have resulted in our inability to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to satisfy ourselves as to the fair value and recoverability of \$0.6 million of Council's total investment portfolio. The maximum impact on the operating surplus and net assets is the carrying amount of these investments.

We have therefore qualified our audit opinion in relation to CDO investment valuations for the 2008 financial statements.



Accounting system control issues

Council introduced new accounting computer applications during the 2007 financial year, which included new software (especially Finance One and GEAC Pathway) and new hardware systems. To ensure there was a common software platform for NESAC and due to perceived pressure to commence NESAC by the Department of Local Government, a short timeframe was imposed to implement all the new software in July and August 2006. The implementation was not as successful as anticipated in terms of control over accounting transaction processing and control over IT change management processes.

All of the above factors contributed to significant problems in processing transactions on a timely basis and not allowing timely completion of reconciliations of critical general ledger balances. The 2007/08 monthly reconciliations were eventually completed late in the 2008 financial year and up to date as at 30 June 2008.

Matters of a technical nature have been documented in a management letter to the General Manager, with some of the issues being raised directly related to the delay in critical reconciliation's as noted above.

Reporting obligations under the Local Government Act

It is pleasing to report that Council's systems and records have improved during the year and the audited accounts will be submitted to the Department of Local Government within the prescribed time provide for in Division 2 of the Local Government Act 1993.

We take this opportunity of thanking the General Manager and his staff for their co-operation and assistance during the course of the audit.

Under section 419 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council is required to give public notice of a Council meeting for the purpose of presenting the audited financial statements and the auditor's report. A principal of our firm is available to attend this meeting to address any questions in respect of the audit report or the conduct of the audit.

Yours faithfully
Forsyths Business Services Pty Ltd

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P.R. Cornall'.

Paul R Cornall
Principal

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
Special Purpose Financial Reports
for the year ended 30th June 2008

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | <u>Page</u> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORTS | |
| Council Certificate | P1 |
| Statement of Financial Performance | |
| Water Supply Business Activity | P2 |
| Sewerage Business Activity | P3 |
| Other Business Activities | P4 |
| Statement of Financial Position | |
| Water Supply Business Activity | P5 |
| Sewerage Business Activity | P6 |
| Other Business Activities | P7 |
| Notes to, and forming part of, the Special Purpose Financial Statements | |
| Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies | P8 - P11 |
| Note 2 - Best Practice Management Disclosures - Water Supply | P12 |
| Note 3 - Best Practice Management Disclosures -Sewerage | P13 |
| Auditors Report | |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2008

STATEMENT BY COUNCILLORS AND MANAGEMENT MADE PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF ACCOUNTING PRACTICE AND FINANCIAL REPORTING

The attached special purpose Financial Statements have been drawn up in accordance with the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting and the

- NSW Government Policy Statement "*Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government*"
- Department of Local Government guidelines "*Pricing & Costing for Council Businesses: A Guide to Competitive Neutrality*".
- The Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability "*Best Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage*" guidelines.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these reports

- Present fairly the financial position and operating result for each of Council's declared Business Units for the year, and
- Accord with Council's accounting and other records

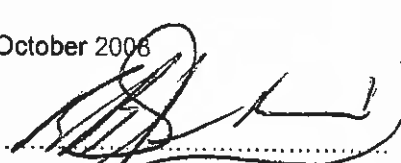
We are not aware of any matter that would render the reports false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 27 October 2008



Councillor M. Dusting

MAYOR



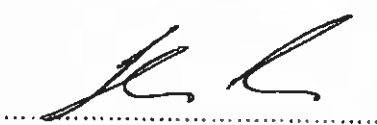
Councillor R. Spreadborough

DEPUTY MAYOR



Mr T.P. O'Connor (Chartered Accountant)

GENERAL MANAGER



Mr T.P. O'Connor (Chartered Accountant)

RESPONSIBLE ACCOUNTING OFFICER

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

INCOME STATEMENT
WATER SUPPLY BUSINESS ACTIVITY
for the year ended 30th June 2008

| | Notes | 2008 '000 | 2007 '000 | 2006 '000 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS | | | | |
| Access Charges | | 313 | 248 | 291 |
| User Charges | | 262 | 195 | 186 |
| Fees | | - | 3 | 16 |
| Interest Received | | 83 | 55 | 79 |
| Grants & Contributions - Operating | | 13 | 13 | 31 |
| TOTAL | | <u>671</u> | <u>514</u> | <u>603</u> |
| EXPENSES FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS | | | | |
| Employee Costs | | 376 | 427 | 262 |
| Materials & Contracts | | 254 | 228 | 63 |
| Borrowing Costs | | - | - | 6 |
| Depreciation & Amortisation | | 50 | 150 | 152 |
| Loss on Investments | | 328 | - | 114 |
| TOTAL | | <u>1,008</u> | <u>805</u> | <u>597</u> |
| CONTINUING OPERATIONS RESULT BEFORE CAPITAL AMOUNTS | | | | |
| | | (337) | (291) | 6 |
| SURPLUS (DEFICIT) BEFORE TAX | | | | |
| Grants & Contributions - Capital | | - | - | - |
| | | (337) | (291) | 6 |
| SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR YEAR | | | | |
| Corporate Taxation Equivalent | 1 | - | - | 2 |
| | | (337) | (291) | 4 |
| Add: Accumulated Surplus brought forward | | | | |
| <i>Adjustments for amounts unpaid</i> | | 8,738 | 5,329 | 5,324 |
| Fair value adjustments | | 86 | 3,700 | - |
| Corporate Tax Equivalent retained | 1 | - | - | 2 |
| Less: Dividends Paid | 1 | - | - | - |
| ACCUMULATED SURPLUS | | <u>8,487</u> | <u>8,738</u> | <u>5,329</u> |
| RATE OF RETURN ON CAPITAL | 1 | NIL | N/A | 0.24% |
| NOTIONAL SUBSIDY FROM COUNCIL | 1 | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| <i>Calculation of Dividend Payable during next financial year</i> | | | | |
| <i>Surplus after tax</i> | | -337 | -291 | 0 |
| <i>Less: Capital grants & contribs from LWUs</i> | | 13 | 13 | 0 |
| <i>Surplus for dividend calculation purposes</i> | | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |
| <i>Dividend calculated from surplus</i> | | 0 | 0 | 0 |

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

INCOME STATEMENT
SEWERAGE BUSINESS ACTIVITY
as at 30th June 2008

| | Notes | 2008 '000 | 2007 '000 | 2006 '000 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| INCOME FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS | | | | |
| Access Charges | | 405 | 382 | 380 |
| User Charges | | 28 | 40 | - |
| Liquid Trade Waste Charges | | 12 | - | 65 |
| Interest Received | | 68 | 7 | 9 |
| Grants & Contributions - Operating | | 19 | 20 | - |
| Gain on Disposal of Assets | | - | - | 21 |
| TOTAL | | 532 | 449 | 475 |
| EXPENSES FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS | | | | |
| Employee Costs | | 242 | 173 | 193 |
| Materials & Contracts | | 164 | 92 | 131 |
| Borrowing Costs | | - | - | 1 |
| Depreciation & Amortisation | | 16 | 167 | 161 |
| Loss on Investments | | 327 | - | - |
| TOTAL | | 749 | 432 | 486 |
| CONTINUING OPERATIONS RESULT BEFORE CAPITAL AMOUNTS | | | | |
| | | (217) | 17 | (11) |
| SURPLUS (DEFICIT) BEFORE TAX | | | | |
| Grants & Contributions - Capital | | - | 57 | - |
| | | (217) | 74 | (11) |
| SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR YEAR | | | | |
| Corporate Taxation Equivalent | 1 | - | 5 | - |
| | | (217) | 69 | (11) |
| ACCUMULATED SURPLUS | | | | |
| Add: Accumulated Profits brought forward | | 5,185 | 2,117 | 2,128 |
| Adjustments for amounts unpaid | | | | |
| Fair value adjustments | | 29 | 2,994 | - |
| Corporate Tax Equivalent retained | | - | 5 | - |
| Less: Dividends Paid | 1 | - | - | - |
| | | 4,997 | 5,185 | 2,117 |
| RATE OF RETURN ON CAPITAL | | | | |
| | 1 | <i>NIL</i> | 0.26% | <i>NIL</i> |
| NOTIONAL SUBSIDY FROM COUNCIL | | | | |
| | 1 | <i>N/A</i> | <i>N/A</i> | <i>N/A</i> |
| <i>Calculation of Dividend Payable during next financial year</i> | | | | |
| Surplus after tax | | -217 | 69 | 0 |
| Less: Capital grants & contribs from LWUs | | 19 | 20 | 0 |
| Surplus for dividend calculation purposes | | 0 | 49 | 0 |
| <i>Dividend calculated from surplus</i> | | | | |
| | | 0 | 25 | 0 |

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

INCOME STATEMENT BY BUSINESS ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 30th June 2008

| | | BUSINESS ACTIVITIES | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | | Private Works '000 | | McMaugh Gardens '000 | |
| | | 2008 | 2007 | 2008 | 2007 |
| | Notes | | | | |
| REVENUE FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS | | | | | |
| User Charges & Fees | | 862 | 180 | 1,074 | 928 |
| Interest Received | | - | - | 58 | 19 |
| Grants & Contributions - Operating | | - | - | 531 | 441 |
| Other Operating Revenues | | - | - | 31 | - |
| | TOTAL | 862 | 180 | 1,694 | 1,388 |
| EXPENSES FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS | | | | | |
| Employee Costs | | 303 | 74 | 1,297 | 1,157 |
| Materials & Contracts | | 597 | 70 | 504 | 137 |
| Borrowing Costs | | - | - | 6 | 7 |
| Depreciation & Amortisation | | - | - | 38 | 84 |
| Other Operating Expenses | | 4 | 42 | 106 | 150 |
| Fair Value Adjustments | | - | - | 108 | - |
| | TOTAL | 904 | 186 | 2,059 | 1,535 |
| CONTINUING OPERATIONS RESULT BEFORE CAPITAL AMOUNTS | | | | | |
| | | (42) | (6) | (365) | (147) |
| Grants & Contributions - Capital | | - | - | - | 102 |
| Corporate Taxation Equivalent | 2 | - | - | - | - |
| SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR YEAR | | (42) | (6) | (365) | (45) |
| Add: Accumulated Profits brought forward | | - | - | 3,095 | 3,140 |
| NCP Imputation Payments retained revaluation adjustments | 1 | - | - | 535 | - |
| ACCUMULATED SURPLUS | | (42) | (6) | 3,265 | 3,095 |
| RATE OF RETURN ON CAPITAL | 2 | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL |
| NOTIONAL SUBSIDY FROM COUNCIL | 2 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
BALANCE SHEET
WATER SUPPLY BUSINESS ACTIVITY
as at 30th June 2008

| | Notes | 2008 '000 | 2007 '000 |
|---------------------------------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | |
| Cash & cash equivalents | | 441 | 747 |
| Receivables | | 218 | 146 |
| TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS | | <u>659</u> | <u>893</u> |
| NON-CURRENT ASSETS | | | |
| Receivables | | 162 | 211 |
| Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment | | 16,454 | 15,469 |
| TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS | | <u>16,616</u> | <u>15,680</u> |
| TOTAL ASSETS | | <u>17,275</u> | <u>16,573</u> |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | |
| Payables | | 3 | - |
| TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES | | <u>3</u> | <u>-</u> |
| NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | |
| TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES | | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | | <u>3</u> | <u>-</u> |
| NET ASSETS | | <u>\$ 17,272</u> | <u>16,573</u> |
| EQUITY | | | |
| Accumulated Surplus | | 8,487 | 8,738 |
| Asset Revaluation Reserve | | 8,785 | 7,835 |
| TOTAL EQUITY | | <u>\$ 17,272</u> | <u>16,573</u> |

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET SEWERAGE BUSINESS ACTIVITY as at 30th June 2008

| | Notes | 2008 '000 | 2007 '000 |
|---------------------------------------------|-------|-----------------|--------------|
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | |
| Cash & cash equivalents | | 719 | 807 |
| Investments | | - | 57 |
| Receivables | | 73 | 129 |
| TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS | | <u>792</u> | <u>993</u> |
| NON-CURRENT ASSETS | | | |
| Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment | | 7,056 | 6,585 |
| TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS | | <u>7,056</u> | <u>6,585</u> |
| TOTAL ASSETS | | <u>7,848</u> | <u>7,578</u> |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | |
| Payables | | 46 | 46 |
| TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES | | <u>46</u> | <u>46</u> |
| NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | |
| Interest bearing liabilities | | 15 | 15 |
| TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES | | <u>15</u> | <u>15</u> |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | | <u>61</u> | <u>61</u> |
| NET ASSETS | | <u>\$ 7,787</u> | <u>7,517</u> |
| EQUITY | | | |
| Accumulated Surplus | | 4,997 | 5,185 |
| Asset Revaluation Reserve | | 2,790 | 2,332 |
| TOTAL EQUITY | | <u>\$ 7,787</u> | <u>7,517</u> |

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET by BUSINESS ACTIVITIES
as at 30th June 2008

| | Notes | BUSINESS ACTIVITIES | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------|------|-------------------------|-------|
| | | Private Works '000 | | McMaugh Gardens '000 | |
| | | 2008 | 2007 | 2008 | 2007 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | | | |
| Cash & cash equivalents | | - | 9 | - | - |
| Investments | | - | - | 1,185 | 752 |
| Receivables | | - | - | - | 113 |
| TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS | | - | 9 | 1,185 | 865 |
| NON-CURRENT ASSETS | | | | | |
| Receivables | | - | - | 106 | - |
| Property; Plant & Equipment | | - | - | 3,551 | 3,076 |
| TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS | | - | - | 3,657 | 3,076 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | | - | 9 | 4,842 | 3,941 |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | | | |
| Payables | | - | 9 | 1,185 | 752 |
| Interest bearing liabilities | | - | - | 2 | - |
| Provisions | | - | - | 221 | - |
| TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES | | - | 9 | 1,408 | 752 |
| NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | | | |
| Payables | | - | - | - | - |
| Interest bearing liabilities | | - | - | 86 | 94 |
| Provisions | | - | - | 83 | - |
| TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES | | - | - | 169 | 94 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | | - | 9 | 1,577 | 846 |
| NET ASSETS | | \$ - | - | 3,265 | 3,095 |
| EQUITY | | | | | |
| Accumulated Surplus | | - | - | 3,265 | 3,095 |
| Asset Revaluation Reserve | | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL EQUITY | | \$ - | - | 3,265 | 3,095 |

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORTS for the year ended 30 June 2008

Note 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1. **The Special Purpose Financial Reports**

These financial statements are a Special Purpose Financial Report prepared for use by the Council, the Department of Local Government, and the Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability. They have been prepared to report the results of business units determined by Council in accordance with the requirements of National Competition Policy guidelines, and the specific requirements relating to Best Practice Management of water and sewer business units.

In preparing these reports, each business unit has been viewed as a separate unit, and accordingly transactions between different business units, and between business units and other Council operations, have not been eliminated.

2. **Basis of Accounting**

2.1 **Compliance**

The financial reports comply with the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting and the Local Government Asset Accounting Manual, and with the principles of the June 1996 NSW Government Policy Statement *"Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government"*, the Department of Local Government's July 1997 guidelines *"Pricing & Costing for Council Businesses: A Guide to Competitive Neutrality"* and the Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability's May 2004 guidelines *"Best-Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage"*.

Except where directed to the contrary by the above documents, the financial report also complies with all applicable Australian Accounting Standards and professional pronouncements, and is based on information consistent with that forming the basis of Council's general purpose Annual Financial Statements for the year.

2.2 **Basle**

The financial report has been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting and, except where specifically indicated in these Notes or in the Notes to the general purpose Annual Financial Statements, in accordance with the historical cost convention.

3. **National Competition Policy**

In accordance with the framework set out in the June 1996 NSW Government Policy Statement *"Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government"* and other guidelines and documentation in relation to this matter, Council has declared that the following are to be considered as Business Units:

Uralla Shire Combined Water Supplies

Comprising the whole of the operations and assets of the water supply systems

Uralla Shire Sewerage Service

Comprising the whole of the operations and assets of the sewerage reticulation and treatment system servicing the city and suburbs

The Department of Local Government's July 1997 guidelines *"Pricing & Costing for Council Businesses: A Guide to Competitive Neutrality"* outline the process for identifying and allocating costs to activities and provide a standard of disclosure requirements. These disclosures are reflected in Council's pricing and/or financial reporting systems and include taxation equivalents, council subsidies, rate of return on investments in business units and dividends paid. The Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability's May 2004 guidelines *"Best-Practice*

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2007

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

Management of Water Supply and Sewerage include specific requirements relating to the calculation and payment of "dividends" by water supply and sewerage business units.

3.1 Taxation Equivalent Payments

Council does not pay certain taxes and duties that are paid by equivalent private sector operations, but is liable for others. The Special Purpose Financial Reports disclose the effect of imputing these taxes to the declared business units at the several rates that would have applied to equivalent private sector operations. From 30 June 2004 the Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability's May 2004 guidelines *"Best-Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage"* require that imputed amounts be paid into the general funds of the Council where it may be applied for any permitted purpose of the Local Government Act 1993 (as amended).

Details of the rates of each tax or duty applicable to each different business unit are set out in the table forming item 7 of this Note. The narration "applies" indicates that the tax or duty has in fact been paid to the taxing authority by the Business Unit, and that these costs have been included in actual Operating Expenses, and the narration "various" indicates that Council has based the calculation of imputed tax on the differing rates of tax or duty applicable to different purchases.

3.2 Council Rates, Charges & Fees

Council rates have been *imputed* in relation to all non-rateable land, and *applied* in relation to all rateable land, owned or exclusively used by all business units. Annual and User Charges, and Regulatory and Other Fees, have been *applied* in relation to all services supplied to business units by Council or other business units.

3.3 Loan & Debt Guarantee Fees

The debt guarantee fee is designed to ensure that Council's business units face equivalent commercial borrowing costs to private sector competitors. In order to calculate the debt guarantee fees, Council has determined the average differential between actual and commercial borrowing rates for each business unit.

3.4 Corporate Taxation Equivalent

In accordance with the Code of Local Government Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting, income taxation has been calculated on the Operating Result before Capital Amounts disclosed in the Statements of Financial Performance of the Special Purpose Financial Reports. No allowance has been made for non-deductible items, timing differences or carried forward losses. Australian Accounting Standard AASB 112 "Income Taxes" has not been applied.

3.5 Dividends Paid

In accordance with National Competition Policy guidelines, it is expected that business units will pay dividends to its owner, Council, equivalent to those paid by private sector competitors. In accordance with the Code of Local Government Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting, the rate of dividend paid has been expressed as a percentage of the Change in Net Assets Resulting from Operations after Taxation.

Council is permitted, but not required, to pay a dividend to the general funds of the Council from surpluses generated by water supply and sewerage operations. The maximum amount of such dividend permitted under the *"Best-Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage"* guidelines is set out at the foot of the relevant Statements of Financial Performance. Actual payment of the dividend is subject to compliance with the procedures set out in the guidelines.

3.6 Return on Investment (Rate of Return)

The Policy statement states that Category 1 businesses "would be expected to generate a rate of return on capital funds employed that is comparable to rates of return for private businesses operating in a similar field." In accordance with the Code of Accounting Practice, the rate of return on monopoly businesses such as water and sewerage services has been set at an amount sufficient to cover costs and replace assets needed to maintain services. For competitive markets, the rate of return has been set equal to or better than the return on Commonwealth 10 year bonds.

In accordance with the Code of Accounting Practice, the rate of return has been calculated as the Operating Result before Capital Amounts plus Interest Expense expressed as a percentage of the carrying value of Property, Plant & Equipment at the reporting date.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 30 June 2007

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

3.7 Notional Subsidy from Council

Government policy requires that subsidies provided to customers and the funding of those subsidies must be explicitly disclosed. Subsidies occur where Council provides services on a less than cost recovery basis, or accepts a lower rate of return on its investment in the business unit than would be acceptable to a private sector competitor.

In accordance with the Code of Accounting Practice, this amount has been calculated as the dollar difference between the required and actual rates of return.

4. Special Rate Funds

The Local Government Act 1993 (as amended) requires that moneys raised by way of Special Rates (or for Domestic Waste Management) be used only for those purposes, except for "dividends" payable in accordance with the "Best-Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage" guidelines, which also impose limits on the amounts payable. Accordingly, *imputed* amounts in excess of the permitted limits have been retained in those funds, and added back to Accumulated Surplus.

For Business Units not involving Special Rate Funds, *imputed* amounts have been transferred to Council's General Fund and are available to Council for utilisation for other purposes.

All such amounts have been eliminated in the course of preparation of the Council's general purpose Annual Financial Statements.

5. Other Accounting Policies and Notes

Other accounting policies relating to the determination of revenues and expenses, and assets and liabilities, not specifically referred to above are reported in Note 1 to the Council's Annual Financial Statements, and should be read in conjunction with this Note. Note references in the Statements of Financial Performance of Business Activities and the Statement of Financial Position of Business Activities that are prefixed "A" refer to the Notes to the Annual Financial Statements.

6. Rounding

In accordance with the Code of Accounting Practice all amounts shown in these statements are in Australian currency and, other than Notes 2 & 3, have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars; amounts in Notes 2 & 3 are shown in whole dollars to meet the requirements of the Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability.

7. National Competition Policy Notional Payments

The table forming part of this Note immediately follows.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORTS

NOTE 1 Table - NATIONAL COMPETITION POLICY NOTIONAL PAYMENTS
for the year ended 30th June 2008

| BUSINESS ACTIVITIES | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|------|-------|------|---------------|------|-----------------|------|
| WATER | | SEWER | | Private Works | | McMaugh Gardens | |
| 2008 | 2007 | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2007 |
| | | | | | | | |

Category

TAXATION EQUIVALENT PAYMENTS

Land Tax
Stamp Duty
Payroll Tax
Fringe Benefits Tax

| Rate | Rate | Rate | Rate | Rate | Rate | Rate | Rate |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| applies | applies | applies | applies | applies | applies | applies | applies |
| applies | applies | applies | applies | applies | applies | applies | applies |

COUNCIL RATES, CHARGES & FEES

See Note 1, Item 3.2

LOAN & DEBT GUARANTEE FEES

| | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 3.00% | 3.00% | 3.00% | 3.00% | 3.00% | 3.00% | 3.00% | 3.00% |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|

CORPORATE TAXATION EQUIVALENT

| | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 30% | 30% | 30% | 30% | 30% | 30% | 30% | 30% |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

DIVIDENDS PAID

| | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

RATE OF RETURN ON CAPITAL

Required Rate of Return
Actual Rate of Return

| | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL | NIL |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE SPECIAL PURPOSE STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 2 - BEST PRACTICE MANAGEMENT DISCLOSURES - WATER SUPPLY

2008
\$

Values shown in this Note are expressed in WHOLE DOLLARS

Calculation and Payment of Tax-Equivalents

| | | |
|-------|------------------------------------------------|-------|
| (i) | Calculated Tax Equivalents | 0 |
| (ii) | No of assessments multiplied by \$3/assessment | 4,668 |
| (iii) | Amounts payable for Tax Equivalents | 0 |
| (iv) | Tax Equivalents paid | 0 |

Dividend from Surplus

| | | |
|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| (i) | 50% of Surplus before Dividends <i>(Calculated in accordance with Best Practice Management for Water Supply and Sewerage guidelines.)</i> | 0 |
| (ii) | No of assessments multiplied by \$30/assessment, less tax equivalent charges/assessment | 46,680 |
| (iii) | Cumulative Surplus before Dividends for 3 years to 30 June 2007, less cumulative dividends paid for 2 years to 30 June 2006 | |
| (iv) | Maximum Dividend from Surplus (least of (i), (ii) and (iii)) | 0 |
| (v) | Dividend paid from Surplus | |

Required Outcomes for 6 Criteria

| | | |
|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| (i) | Completion of Strategic Business Plan (including Financial Plan) | NO |
| (ii) | Pricing with full cost-recovery, without significant cross subsidies <i>(Item 2(a) in Table 1 on page 18 of Best practice guidelines)</i> | NO |
| | Complying charges <i>(Item 2(b) in Table 1)</i> | YES |
| | DSP with Commercial Developer Charges <i>(Item 2(e) in Table 1)</i> | YES |
| | If Dual Water Supplies, Complying Charges <i>(Item 2(g) in Table 1)</i> | NO |
| (iii) | Sound Water Conservation & Demand Management Implemented | YES |
| (iv) | Sound Drought Management implemented | YES |
| (v) | Complete Performance Reporting Form (by 15 September each year) | NO |
| (vi) | Complete Integrated Water Cycle Management Evaluation | NO |
| (vii) | Complete and implement Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy | NO |

National Water Initiative (NWI) Financial Performance Indicators

| | | | |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| NWI F1 | Total Revenue (Water) | \$'000 | 594 |
| NWI F4 | Residential Revenue from Usage Charges (Water) | % | 45.57 |
| NWI F9 | Written Down Replacement Cost of Fixed Assets (Water) | \$'000 | 15,901 |
| NWI F11 | Operating Cost (OMA) (Water) | \$'000 | 630 |
| NWI F14 | Capital Expenditure (Water) | \$'000 | 4 |
| NWI F17 | Economic Real Rate of Return (Water) | % | -0.52 |
| NWI F20 | Capital Works Grants (Water) | \$'000 | |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE SPECIAL PURPOSE STATEMENTS for the year ended 30th June 2008

Note 3 - BEST PRACTICE MANAGEMENT DISCLOSURES - SEWERAGE

| | | 2008 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| <i>Values shown in this Note are expressed in WHOLE DOLLARS</i> | | \$ |
| Calculation and Payment of Tax-Equivalents | | |
| (i) Calculated Tax Equivalents | | 0 |
| (ii) No of assessments multiplied by \$3/assessment | | 3,048 |
| (iii) Amounts payable for Tax Equivalents (lesser of (i) and (ii)) | | 0 |
| (iv) Tax Equivalents paid | | 0 |
| Dividend from Surplus | | |
| (i) 50% of Surplus before Dividends <i>(Calculated in accordance with Best Practice Management for Water Supply and Sewerage guidelines.)</i> | | 0 |
| (ii) No of assessments multiplied by \$30/assessment, less tax equivalent charges/assessment | | 30,480 |
| (iii) Cumulative Surplus before Dividends for 3 years to 30 June 2007, less cumulative dividends paid for 2 years to 30 June 2006 | | |
| (iv) Maximum Dividend from Surplus (least of (i), (ii) and (iii)) | | 0 |
| (v) Dividend paid from Surplus | | |
| Required Outcomes for 4 Criteria | | |
| (i) Completion of Strategic Business Plan (including Financial Plan) | | NO |
| (ii) Pricing with full cost-recovery, without significant cross subsidies (Item 2(a) in Table 1 on page 18 of Best practice guidelines) | | NO |
| Complying charges (a) Residential (Item 2(c) in Table 1) | | YES |
| (b) Non-Residential (Item 2(c) in Table 1) | | YES |
| (c) Trade Waste (Item 2(d) in Table 1) | | YES |
| DSP with Commercial Developer Charges (Item 2(e) in Table 1) | | NO |
| Liquid Trade Waste Approvals & Policy (Item 2(f) in Table 1) | | NO |
| (iii) Complete Performance Reporting Form (by 15 September each year) | | NO |
| (iv) Complete Integrated Water Cycle Management Evaluation | | NO |
| (v) Complete and implement Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy | | NO |
| National Water Initiative (NWI) Financial Performance Indicators | | |
| NWI F2 Total Revenue (Sewerage) | \$'000 | 468 |
| NWI F10 Written Down Replacement Cost of Fixed Assets (Sewerage) | \$'000 | 6,719 |
| NWI F12 Operating Cost (Sewerage) | \$'000 | 406 |
| NWI F15 Capital Expenditure (Sewerage) | \$'000 | 30 |
| NWI F18 Economic Real Rate of Return (Sewerage) | % | 1 |
| NWI F27 Capital Works Grants (Sewer) | \$'000 | 0 |
| NWI F3 Total Income (Water & Sewerage) | \$'000 | 1,062 |
| NWI F5 Revenue from Community Service Obligations (Water & Sewerage) | % | 3 |
| NWI F13 Operating Cost (Water & Sewerage) | \$'000 | 1,036 |
| NWI F16 Capital Expenditure (Water & Sewerage) | \$'000 | 34 |
| NWI F19 Economic Real Rate of Return (Water & Sewerage) | % | -0 |
| NWI F20 Dividend (Water & Sewerage) | \$'000 | 0 |
| NWI F21 Dividend Payout Ratio (Water & Sewerage) | % | 0 |
| NWI F22 Net Debt to Equity (Water & Sewerage) | % | -5 |
| NWI F23 Interest Cover (Water & Sewerage) | times | 0 |
| NWI F24 Net Profit after Tax (Water & Sewerage) | \$'000 | -554 |
| NWI F25 Community Service Obligations (Water & Sewerage) | \$'000 | 32 |

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT
Report on the special purpose financial reports

Forsyths

To Uralla Shire Council

SCOPE

We have audited the **special purpose financial reports** of Uralla Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2008, comprising the Statement by Councillors and Management, Income Statement of Business Activities, Balance Sheet by Business Activities, and accompanying Notes to the Accounts. The financial statements include the accounts of the business activities of the Council and the entities it controlled at the year's end or from time to time during the year.

Councils' responsibility for the financial report

The Council is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are appropriate to meet the requirements of the Department of Local Government and Council. The Councils' responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the Council or the Department of Local Government. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Council's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Council, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The special purpose financial reports have been prepared for distribution to the Council and the Department of Local Government for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of National Competition Policy reporting. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial statements to which it relates to any person other than the Council or the Department of Local Government or for any purpose other than for which the report was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

INDEPENDENCE

In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Forsyths

AUDIT OPINION

In our opinion, the Special Purpose Financial Reports of the Uralla Shire Council for the year ended 30 June 2008 are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the requirements of those applicable Accounting Standards detailed in Note 1 and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

Forsyths

Forsyths Business Services Pty Ltd

P.R. Cornall

Paul R Cornall
Principal

31 October 2008
111 Faulkner Street Armidale

Liability limited by the Accountants Scheme, approved under the Professional Standards Act 1994 (NSW)

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

Special Schedules

for the year ended 30th June 2008

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | <u>Page</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| SPECIAL SCHEDULES (<i>not Audited</i>) | |
| Special Schedule 1 - Net Cost of Services | S1-S3 |
| Special Schedule 2(1) - Statement of Long Tern Debt (All Purpose) | S4 |
| Special Schedule 2(2) - Statement of Internal Loans | S5 |
| Special Schedule 3 - Water Supply Operations | S6-S7 |
| Special Schedule 4 - Water Supply - Net Assets Committed | S8 |
| Special Schedule 5 - Sewerage Services Operations | S9-S10 |
| Special Schedule 6 - Sewerage Services - Net Assets Committed | S11 |
| Special Schedule 7 - Condition of Public Works | S12-S14 |
| Special Schedule 8 - Financial Projections | S15 |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 1 NET COST OF SERVICES for the year ended 30th June 2008

\$'000

| Function or Activity | Expenses from continuing operations | | Income from continuing operations | | | NET COST OF SERVICES | |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| | Expenses | Group Totals | Non-capital revenues | Capital revenues | Group Totals | Net Cost | Group Totals |
| GOVERNANCE | 436 | | - | | | 436 | |
| | | 436 | | | - | | 436 |
| ADMINISTRATION | | | | | | | |
| Corporate Support | 244 | | 468 | | | (224) | |
| Engineering & Works | 114 | | 152 | | | (38) | |
| Other Support Services | - | | - | | | - | |
| | | 358 | | | 620 | | (262) |
| PUBLIC ORDER & SAFETY | | | | | | | |
| Statutory Contribution - Fire Service Levy | - | | | | | - | |
| Fire Protection - Other | 221 | | 277 | | | (56) | |
| Animal Control | 36 | | 9 | | | 27 | |
| Beach Control | - | | - | | | - | |
| Enforcement of Local Govt Regulations | 12 | | 11 | | | 1 | |
| Emergency Services | 2 | | - | | | 2 | |
| Other | - | | - | | | - | |
| | | 271 | | | 297 | | (26) |
| HEALTH | | | | | | | |
| Administration & Inspection | 104 | | 5 | | | 99 | |
| Immunisations | - | | - | | | - | |
| Food Control | - | | - | | | - | |
| Insect/Vermin Control | - | | - | | | - | |
| Noxious Plants | - | | - | | | - | |
| Health Centres | - | | - | | | - | |
| Other | - | | - | | | - | |
| | | 104 | | | 5 | | 99 |
| COMMUNITY SERVICES & EDUCATION | | | | | | | |
| Administration | - | | - | | | - | |
| Family Day Care | - | | - | | | - | |
| Child Care | - | | - | | | - | |
| Youth Services | 10 | | - | | | 10 | |
| Other Families & Children | 50 | | 40 | | | 10 | |
| Aged & Disabled | 3,512 | | 3,489 | | | 23 | |
| Migrant Services | - | | - | | | - | |
| Aboriginal Services | 1,181 | | 1,334 | | | (153) | |
| Other Community Services | 117 | | 80 | | | 37 | |
| Education | - | | - | | | - | |
| | | 4,870 | | | 4,943 | | (73) |
| HOUSING & COMMUNITY AMENITIES | | | | | | | |
| Housing | - | | - | | | - | |
| Town Planning | 214 | | 241 | | | (27) | |
| Domestic Waste Management | 407 | | 338 | | | 69 | |
| Other Waste Management | 512 | | 573 | | | (61) | |
| Street Cleaning | - | | - | | | - | |
| Other Sanitation & Garbage | - | | - | | | - | |
| Drainage | 19 | | 23 | | | (4) | |
| Stormwater Management | - | | - | | | - | |
| Environmental Protection | 66 | | - | | | 66 | |
| Public Cemeteries | 31 | | 16 | | | 15 | |
| Public Conveniences | 67 | | - | | | 67 | |
| Other Community Amenities | - | | - | | | - | |
| | | 1,316 | | | 1,191 | | 125 |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 1 - NET COST OF SERVICES (cont)

| Function or Activity | Expenses from continuing operations | | Income from continuing operations | | | NET COST OF SERVICES | |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| | Expenses | Group Totals | Non-capital revenues | Capital revenues | Group Totals | Net Cost | Group Totals |
| WATER SUPPLIES | 677 | | 343 | | | 334 | |
| | | 677 | | | 343 | | 334 |
| SEWERAGE SERVICES | 414 | | 205 | | | 209 | |
| | | 414 | | | 205 | | 209 |
| RECREATION & CULTURE | | | | | | | |
| Public Libraries | 220 | | 29 | | | 191 | |
| Museums | - | | - | | | - | |
| Art Galleries | - | | - | | | - | |
| Community Centres | - | | - | | | - | |
| Public Halls | 65 | | 8 | | | 57 | |
| Other Cultural Services | 20 | | 9 | | | 11 | |
| Swimming Pools | 97 | | 28 | | | 71 | |
| Sporting Grounds | 63 | | - | | | 63 | |
| Parks & Gardens, Lakes | 148 | | 1 | | | 147 | |
| Other Sport & Recreation | - | | - | | | - | |
| | | 613 | | | 73 | | 540 |
| FUEL & ENERGY | | | | | | | |
| Gas Supplies | - | | - | | | - | |
| | | - | | | - | | - |
| MINING, MANUFACTURING & CONSTRUCTION | | | | | | | |
| Building Control | - | | - | | | - | |
| Abattoirs | - | | - | | | - | |
| Quarries & Pits | 2 | | - | | | 2 | |
| Other | - | | - | | | - | |
| | | 2 | | | - | | 2 |
| TRANSPORT & COMMUNICATION | | | | | | | |
| Urban Roads: Local | 195 | | (1) | | | 196 | |
| Urban Roads: Regional | 98 | | - | | | 98 | |
| Sealed Rural Roads: Local | 707 | | 332 | | | 375 | |
| Sealed Rural Roads: Regional | 828 | | 514 | | | 314 | |
| Unsealed Rural Roads: Local | 1,201 | | - | | | 1,201 | |
| Unsealed Rural Roads: Regional | 87 | | 107 | | | (20) | |
| Bridges - Urban Roads: Local | 11 | | - | | | 11 | |
| Bridges - Urban Roads: Regional | 26 | | 190 | | | (164) | |
| Bridges - Sealed Rural Roads: Local | 95 | | - | | | 95 | |
| Bridges - Sealed Rural Roads: Regional | 124 | | 50 | | | 74 | |
| Bridges - Unsealed Rural Roads: Local | 17 | | - | | | 17 | |
| Bridges - Unsealed Rural Roads: Regional | - | | - | | | - | |
| Footpaths | 85 | | 15 | | | 70 | |
| Aerodromes | - | | - | | | - | |
| Parking Areas | 42 | | - | | | 42 | |
| Bus Shelters & Services | - | | - | | | - | |
| Water Transport | - | | - | | | - | |
| RTA Works - State Roads | 14 | | - | | | 14 | |
| Street Lighting | 88 | | 6 | | | 82 | |
| Other | 211 | | 38 | | | 173 | |
| | | 3,829 | | | 1,251 | | 2,578 |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 1 - NET COST OF SERVICES (cont)

| Function or Activity | Expenses from continuing operations | | Income from continuing operations | | | NET COST OF SERVICES | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|
| | Expenses | Group Totals | Non-capital revenues | Capital revenues | Group Totals | Net Cost | Group Totals |
| ECONOMIC AFFAIRS | | | | | | | |
| Camping Areas | - | | - | | | - | |
| Caravan Parks | 9 | | 11 | | | (2) | |
| Tourism & Area Promotion | 281 | | 4 | | | 277 | |
| Industrial Development Promotion | - | | - | | | - | |
| TV Black Spot Program | 14 | | - | | | 14 | |
| Saleyards & Markets | - | | - | | | - | |
| Real Estate Development | - | | - | | | - | |
| Commercial Nurseries | - | | - | | | - | |
| Other Business Undertakings | 918 | | 882 | | | 36 | |
| | | 1,222 | | | 897 | | 325 |
| TOTALS - FUNCTIONS | | 14,112 | | | 9,825 | | 4,287 |
| General Purpose Revenues | | | 4,531 | | | 4,531 | |
| Equity accounted Income (loss) | - | | | | | - | |
| | | | | | 4,531 | | 4,531 |
| NET OPERATING RESULT FOR YEAR | | | | | | | 244 |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 2 (1) STATEMENT OF LONG TERM DEBT (ALL PURPOSE) for the year ended 30th June 2008

\$'000

| Classification of Debt | Principal Outstanding at beginning of year | | New Loans Raised | Debt Redemption | | Tfirs to Sinking Funds | Interest applicable for year | Principal outstanding at end of year | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| | Current | Non-Current | | From Revenue | Sinking Funds | | | Current | Non-Current |
| LOANS (by source) | | | | | | | | | |
| Commonwealth Government | | | - | | | | | | |
| Treasury Corporation | | | - | | | | | | |
| Other State Government | | | - | | | | | | |
| Public Subscription | | | - | | | | | | |
| Financial Institutions | 380 | 1,602 | 1,982 | 373 | - | - | 144 | 980 | 821 |
| Other | | 57 | 57 | - | - | - | - | - | 57 |
| Total Loans | 444 | 1,642 | 2,039 | 373 | - | - | 144 | 980 | 878 |
| OTHER LONG TERM DEBT | | | | | | | | | |
| Ratepayers' Advances | | | - | | | | | | |
| Government Advances | | | - | | | | | | |
| Finance Leases | | | - | | | | | | |
| Deferred Payment | | | - | | | | | | |
| Other | | | - | | | | | | |
| Total Other Long Term Debt | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL LONG TERM DEBT | 444 | 1,642 | 2,039 | 373 | - | - | 144 | 980 | 878 |

This Schedule excludes Internal Loans and refinancing of existing borrowings.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 2 (2) STATEMENT OF INTERNAL LOANS for the year ended 30th June 2008

\$'000

SUMMARY OF INTERNAL LOANS

| Borrower (by purpose) | Amount Originally Raised | Total Repaid During Year Principal & Interest | Principal Outstanding at End of Year |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| General | 389 | 49 | 162 |
| Water | | | |
| Sewerage | | | |
| Domestic Waste Management | | | |
| Gas | | | |
| Other | | | |
| Totals | 389 | 49 | 162 |

The above summary of internal loans represents the total of Council's internal loans categorised according to the purpose of the borrower. Details of individual internal loans are set out below.

| Borrower (by purpose) | Lender (by purpose) | Date of Minister's Approval | Date Raised | Term (years) | Maturity Date | Rate of Interest | Amount Originally Raised | Paid During Year - Princ and Interest | Principal Outstanding End of Year |
|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| General Fund (Loan 162) | Water | 13/09/2001 | 30/09/2001 | 10 | 13/09/2011 | | 48 | 5 | 19 |
| General Fund (Loan 170) | Water | 4/10/2002 | 30/06/2003 | 12 | 30/06/2015 | | 88 | 6 | 59 |
| General Fund (Loan 171) | Water | 4/10/2002 | 30/06/2003 | 6 | 30/06/2009 | | 61 | 11 | 12 |
| General Fund (Loan 173) | Water | 4/10/2002 | 30/06/2003 | 6 | 30/06/2009 | | 46 | 8 | 9 |
| General Fund (Loan 174) | Water | 4/10/2002 | 30/06/2003 | 8 | 30/06/2011 | | 102 | 13 | 44 |
| General Fund (Loan 175) | Water | 4/10/2002 | 30/06/2003 | 8 | 30/06/2011 | | 44 | 6 | 19 |
| Totals | | | | | | | 389 | 49 | 162 |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 3 WATER SUPPLY OPERATIONS (Gross Including Internal Transactions) for the year ended 30th June 2008

| <u>A. EXPENSES & REVENUES</u> | 2008 | 2007 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| <u>EXPENSES</u> | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| 1.a. Management - Administration | 135 | 79 |
| b. - Engineering & Supervision | 98 | 60 |
| 2 Operations | | |
| a. - Dams & Weirs - Operation Expenses | | |
| b. - Maintenance Expenses | 4 | 13 |
| c. - Mains - Operation Expenses | | |
| d. - Maintenance Expenses | 80 | 103 |
| e. - Reservoirs - Operation Expenses | | |
| f. - Maintenance Expenses | 3 | 28 |
| g. - Pumping Stations - Operation Expenses | | |
| h. - Energy Costs | 7 | 7 |
| l. - Maintenance Expenses | 11 | 93 |
| j. - Treatment - Operation Expenses | | |
| k. - Chemical Costs | 41 | 57 |
| l. - Maintenance Expenses | 249 | 207 |
| m. - Other - Operation Expenses | | |
| n. - Maintenance Expenses | 2 | 8 |
| o. - Purchase of Water | | |
| 3.a. Depreciation - System Assets | 50 | 150 |
| b. - Plant & Equipment | | |
| 4.a. Miscellaneous - Interest | | |
| Fair value adjustments | 328 | - |
| - Revaluation decrements | | |
| b. - Other | | |
| - NCP Tax & Other Equivalents | - | - |
| 5 Total Expenses | 1,008 | 805 |
| <u>REVENUE</u> | | |
| 6 Residential Charges | | |
| a. - Access (including rates) | 313 | 248 |
| b. - User Charges | 262 | 195 |
| 7 Non-Residential Charges | | |
| a. - Access (including rates) | | |
| b. - User Charges | | |
| 8 Extra Charges | 6 | - |
| 9 Interest | 77 | 55 |
| 10 Other Income | - | 3 |
| 11.a. Grants - Acquisition of Assets | | |
| b. - Pensioner Rebates | 13 | 13 |
| c. - Other | | |
| 12.a. Contributions - Developer Charges | | |
| b. - Developer Provided Assets | | |
| c. - Other Contributions | | |
| 13 Total Revenues | 671 | 514 |
| 14 Gain (Loss) on Disposal of Assets | | |
| 15 OPERATING RESULT | (337) | (291) |
| 15a. Operating Result before Grants for Acquisition of Assets | (337) | (291) |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 3 - WATER SUPPLY OPERATIONS (cont)

| | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------|
| <u>B. CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS</u> | | |
| <u>Non - Operating Expenditure</u> | | |
| 16 Acquisition of Fixed Assets | | |
| a. - Subsidised Scheme | | |
| b. - Other New System Assets | 4 | 12 |
| c. - Renewals | | |
| d. - Plant & Equipment | | |
| 17 Repayment of Debt | | |
| a. - Loans | | |
| b. - Advances | | |
| c. - Finance Leases | | |
| 18 Transfers to Sinking Funds | | |
| 19 Total Non-Operating Expenditure | 4 | 12 |
| <u>Non-Operating Funds Employed</u> | | |
| 20 Proceeds from Disposal of Assets | | |
| 21 Borrowings Utilised | | |
| a. - Loans | | |
| b. - Advances | | |
| c. - Finance Leases | | |
| 22 Transfers from Sinking Funds | | |
| 23 Total Non-Operating Funds Employed | - | - |
| <u>C. RATES & CHARGES</u> | | |
| 24 Number of Assessments | | |
| a. - Residential (occupied) | 1231 | |
| b. - Residential (unoccupied) | 168 | |
| c. - Non-Residential (occupied) | 116 | |
| d. - Non-Residential (unoccupied) | 41 | |
| 25 Number of ETs for which Developer Charges were | ET | |
| 26 Total Amount of Pensioner Rebates | 26 \$'000 | |
| <u>D. BEST PRACTICE ANNUAL CHARGES & DEVELOPER CHARGES</u> | | |
| 27 Annual Charges | | |
| a Does Council have best-practice water supply annual charges and usage charges? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES | |
| If Yes, go to 28a. | | |
| If No, has Council removed <u>land value</u> from access charges (i.e. rates)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| b Cross subsidy <u>from</u> residential customers using less than allowance | | _____ |
| c Cross subsidy <u>to</u> non-residential customers | | _____ |
| d Cross subsidy <u>to</u> large connections in unmetered supplies | | _____ |
| 28 Developer Charges | | |
| a Has Council completed a water supply Development Servicing Plan? | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO | |
| b Total cross-subsidy in water supply developer charges | | _____ |
| 29 TOTAL OF CROSS SUBSIDIES | | - |

Councils which have not yet implemented best practice water supply pricing should disclose cross subsidies in items 27b, 27c and 27d above. However, disclosure of cross-subsidies is not required where a Council has implemented best practice pricing and is phasing in such pricing over a period of 3 years.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 4 WATER SUPPLY - NET ASSETS COMMITTED (Gross Including Internal Transactions) for the year ended 30th June 2008

| | <u>Current</u> \$'000 | <u>Non-Current</u> \$'000 | <u>Total</u> \$'000 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| ASSETS | | | |
| 30 Cash and Investments | | | |
| a. - Developer Charges | | | - |
| b. - Specific Purpose Grants | | | - |
| c. - Accrued Leave | | | - |
| d. - Unexpended Loans | | | - |
| e. - Sinking Funds | | | - |
| f. - Other | 441 | | 441 |
| 31 Receivables | | | |
| a. - Specific Purpose Grants | | | - |
| b. - Rates & Availability Charges | 218 | | 218 |
| c. - Other | | 162 | 162 |
| 32 Inventories | | | - |
| 33 Property, Plant & Equipment | | | |
| a. - System Assets | | 15,901 | 15,901 |
| b. - Plant & Equipment | | 553 | 553 |
| 34 Other | | | - |
| 35 Total Assets | <u>659</u> | <u>16,616</u> | <u>17,275</u> |
| LIABILITIES | | | |
| 36 Bank Overdraft | | | - |
| 37 Creditors | 3 | | 3 |
| 38 Borrowings | | | |
| a. - Loans | | | - |
| b. - Advances | | | - |
| c. - Finance Leases | | | - |
| 39 Provisions | | | |
| - Tax Equivalents | | | - |
| a. - Dividend | - | | - |
| b. - Other | | | - |
| 40 Total Liabilities | <u>3</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>3</u> |
| 41 NET ASSETS COMMITTED | <u>656</u> | <u>16,616</u> | <u>17,272</u> |
| EQUITY | | | |
| 42 Accumulated Surplus | | | 8,487 |
| 43 Asset Revaluation Reserve | | | 8,785 |
| 44 Total Equity | | | <u>17,272</u> |
| 45 Current Replacement Cost of System Assets | | | 16,560 |
| 46 Accumulated Current Cost Depreciation of System Assets | | | 659 |
| 47 Written Down Current Cost of System Assets | | | <u>15,901</u> |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 5 SEWERAGE SERVICE OPERATIONS (Gross including Internal Transactions) for the year ended 30th June 2008

| <u>A. EXPENSES & REVENUES</u> | 2008 | 2007 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <u>EXPENSES</u> | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| 1.a. Management - Administration | 104 | 51 |
| b. - Engineering & Supervision | 64 | 32 |
| 2 Operations & Maintenance Expenses | | |
| a. -Mains - Operation Expenses | 40 | 26 |
| b. -Maintenance Expenses | | 27 |
| c. - Pumping Stations - Operation Expenses | | |
| d. - Energy Costs | 2 | 1 |
| e. - Maintenance Expenses | 15 | 14 |
| f. - Treatment - Operation Expenses | | |
| g. - Chemical Costs | 7 | 6 |
| h. - Energy Costs | 36 | 34 |
| i. - Effluent Management | - | 2 |
| j. - Biosolids Management | 1 | 2 |
| k. - Maintenance Expenses | 137 | 70 |
| l. - Other - Operation Expenses | | |
| m. - Maintenance Expenses | - | |
| 3.a. Depreciation - System Assets | 16 | 167 |
| b. - Plant & Equipment | | |
| 4.a. Miscellaneous - Interest | | |
| Fair Value Adjustment | 327 | |
| - Revaluation decrements | | |
| b. - Other | | |
| - NCP Tax & Other Equivalent | - | |
| 5 Total Expenses | 749 | 432 |
| <u>REVENUE</u> | | |
| 6 Residential Charges (including rates) | 405 | 382 |
| 7 Non-Residential Charges | | |
| a Access (Including rates) | | |
| b User Charges | 28 | 40 |
| 8 Trade Waste Charges | | |
| a Annual Fees | | |
| b User Charges | 12 | |
| c. Excess Mass Charges & Re-inspection Fees | | |
| 9 Extra Charges | 4 | |
| 10 Interest | 64 | 7 |
| 11 Other Income | | |
| 12.a. Grants - Acquisition of Assets | | |
| b. - Pensioner Rebates | 19 | 20 |
| c. - Other | | |
| 13.a Contributions - Developer Charges | | |
| b. - Developer Provided Assets | | |
| c. - Other Contributions | | 57 |
| 14 Total Revenues | 532 | 506 |
| 15 Gain (Loss) on Disposal of Assets | | |
| 16 OPERATING RESULT | (217) | 74 |
| 16.a. Operating Result before Grants for Acquisition of Assets | (217) | 74 |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 5 - SEWERAGE SERVICE OPERATIONS (cont)

| | 2008 \$'000 | 2007 \$'000 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| <u>B. CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS</u> | | |
| <u>Non - Operating Expenditure</u> | | |
| 17 Acquisition of Fixed Assets | | |
| a. - Subsidised Scheme | | |
| b. - Other New System Assets | 30 | 118 |
| c. - Renewals | | |
| d. - Plant & Equipment | | |
| 18 Repayment of Debt | | |
| a. - Loans | | |
| b. - Advances | | |
| c. - Finance Leases | | |
| 19 Transfers to Sinking Funds | | |
| 20 Total Non-Operating Expenditure | 30 | 118 |
| <u>Non-Operating Funds Employed</u> | | |
| 21 Proceeds of Disposal of Assets | | |
| 22 Borrowings Utilised | | |
| a. - Loans | | |
| b. - Advances | | |
| c. - Finance Leases | | |
| 23 Transfers from Sinking Funds | | |
| 24 Total Non-Operating Funds Employed | - | - |
| <u>C. RATES AND CHARGES</u> | | |
| 25 Number of Assessments | | |
| a. - Residential (occupied) | 856 | |
| b. - Residential (unoccupied) | 36 | |
| c. - Non-Residential (occupied) | 112 | |
| d. - Non-Residential (unoccupied) | 12 | |
| 26 Number of ETs for which Developer Charges were | ET | |
| 27 Total Amount of Pensioner Rebates | 38 \$'000 | |
| <u>D. BEST PRACTICE ANNUAL CHARGES & DEVELOPER CHARGES</u> | | |
| 28 Annual Charges | | |
| a Does Council have best-practice sewerage annual charges, usage charges and trade waste fees and charges? | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | |
| If Yes, go to 29a. | | |
| If No, has Council removed <u>land value</u> from access charges (i.e. rates)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| b Cross subsidy <u>to</u> non-residential customers | | |
| c Cross subsidy <u>to</u> trade waste dischargers | | |
| 29 Developer Charges | | |
| a Has Council completed a sewerage Development Servicing Plan? | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | |
| b Total cross-subsidy in sewerage developer charges | | |
| 30 TOTAL OF CROSS SUBSIDIES | | - |

Councils which have not yet implemented best practice sewerage pricing and trade waste pricing should disclose cross subsidies in items 28b and 28c above. However, disclosure of cross-subsidies is not required where a Council has implemented best practice sewerage and liquid trade waste pricing and is phasing in such pricing over a period of 3 years.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 6 SEWERAGE SERVICES - NET ASSETS COMMITTED (Gross Including Internal Transactions) for the year ended 30th June 2008

| ASSETS | <u>Current</u> \$'000 | <u>Non-Current</u> \$'000 | <u>Total</u> \$'000 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 31 Cash and Investments | | | |
| a. - Developer Charges | | | - |
| b. - Specific Purpose Grants | | | - |
| c. - Accrued Leave | | | - |
| d. - Unexpended Loans | | | - |
| e. - Sinking Funds | | | - |
| f. - Other | 719 | | 719 |
| 32 Receivables | | | |
| a. - Specific Purpose Grants | | | - |
| b. - Rates & Availability Charges | 73 | | 73 |
| c. - Other | | | - |
| 33 Inventories | | | - |
| 34 Property, Plant & Equipment | | | |
| a. - System Assets | | 6,719 | 6,719 |
| b. - Plant & Equipment | | 337 | 337 |
| 35 Other | | | - |
| 36 Total Assets | <u>792</u> | <u>7,056</u> | <u>7,848</u> |
| LIABILITIES | | | |
| 37 Bank Overdraft | | | - |
| 38 Creditors | 46 | | 46 |
| 39 Borrowings | | | |
| a. - Loans | | 15 | 15 |
| b. - Advances | | | - |
| c. - Finance Leases | | | - |
| 40 Provisions | | | |
| - Tax Equivalents | | | - |
| a. - Dividend | | | - |
| b. - Other | | | - |
| 41 Total Liabilities | <u>46</u> | <u>15</u> | <u>61</u> |
| 42 NET ASSETS COMMITTED | <u>746</u> | <u>7,041</u> | <u>7,787</u> |
| EQUITY | | | |
| 43 Accumulated Surplus | | | 4,997 |
| 44 Asset Revaluation Reserve | | | 2,790 |
| 45 Total Equity | | | <u>7,787</u> |
| 46 Current Replacement Cost of System Assets | | | 7,456 |
| 47 Accumulated Current Cost Depreciation of System Assets | | | 737 |
| 48 Written Down Current Cost of System Assets | | | <u>6,719</u> |

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 7 CONDITION OF PUBLIC WORKS as at 30th June 2008

| Asset Class | Asset Category | Depreciation Rate (%) | Depreciation Expense '000 | Cost '000 | Valuation '000 | Accumulated Depreciation '000 | Carrying Value '000 | Asset Condition (see Notes attached) | Estimated Cost to bring to a Satisfactory Standard '000 | Estimated Annual Maintenance Expense '000 | Program Maintenance Works for current year '000 |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| | <i>References</i> | <i>Note 9</i> | <i>Note 4</i> | | <i>Note 9</i> | | | | <i>Local Govt. Act 1993, Section 428 (2d)</i> | | |
| Public Buildings | Council Offices | | 11 | | 1,123 | 61 | 1,062 | 3 | 50 | 6 | 6 |
| | Works Depot | | 5 | | 1,744 | 158 | 1,586 | 3 | 35 | 10 | 10 |
| | Halls | | 3 | | 1,209 | 59 | 1,150 | 4 | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| | Aged accommodation | | 40 | | 5,816 | 160 | 5,656 | 2 | 15 | 20 | 20 |
| | Community Centres | | 13 | | 678 | 16 | 662 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| | Visitor centre | | 3 | | 336 | 7 | 329 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| | Community Services | | 2 | | 805 | 56 | 749 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 5 |
| | Other | | 32 | | 2,198 | 114 | 2,084 | - | 10 | 5 | 5 |
| | Library | | 8 | | 972 | 27 | 945 | 1 | - | 3 | 3 |
| | RFS Buildings | | 3 | | 363 | 7 | 356 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| | Amenities/Toilets | | 2 | | 447 | 20 | 427 | 2 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| | Subtotal | | 122 | - | 15,691 | 685 | 15,006 | | 156 | 87 | 87 |
| Public Roads | Sealed Roads | | 390 | 34,432 | | 4,544 | 29,888 | 4 | 750 | 1,050 | 1,150 |
| | Unsealed Roads | | 89 | 16,327 | | 2,560 | 13,767 | 4 | 450 | 880 | 910 |
| | Sealed Roads | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Structure | | 169 | 14,166 | | 4,058 | 10,108 | 0 | 2,200 | 75 | 75 |
| | Bridges | | 22 | 929 | | 84 | 845 | 4 | 20 | 54 | 54 |
| | Footpaths | | 2 | 98 | | 15 | 83 | 4 | 10 | 15 | 15 |
| | Cycleways | | 4 | 528 | | 45 | 483 | 3 | 25 | 10 | 10 |
| | Parking areas | | 28 | 1,798 | | 590 | 1,208 | 4 | 60 | 35 | 35 |
| | Kerb & Gutter | | 8 | 148 | | 52 | 96 | 4 | 45 | 30 | 30 |
| | Road Furniture | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Subtotal | | 712 | 68,426 | - | 11,948 | 56,478 | | 3,560 | 2,149 | 2,279 |

This Schedule is to be read in conjunction with the explanatory notes following.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 7 - CONDITION OF PUBLIC WORKS (cont)
as at 30th June 2008

| Asset Class | Asset Category | Depreciation Rate (%) | Depreciation Expense '000 | Cost '000 | Valuation '000 | Accumulated Depreciation '000 | Carrying Value '000 | Asset Condition (see Notes attached) | Estimated Cost to bring Satisfactory Standard '000 | Estimated Annual Maintenance Expense '000 | Program Maintenance Works for current year '000 |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| | | Note 9 | Note 4 | | Note 9 | | | | Local Govt. Act 1993, Section 428 (2d) | | |
| Water | References | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Treatment Plants | | 41 | | 5,868 | 512 | 5,356 | 2 | 50 | 24 | 24 |
| | Reservoirs | | 7 | | 1,902 | 83 | 1,819 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 5 |
| | Dams | | 1 | | 2,545 | 2 | 2,543 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 6 |
| | Pipelines | | 1 | | 5,482 | 10 | 5,472 | 4 | 75 | 34 | 34 |
| | Pump Stations | | - | | 764 | 53 | 711 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| | Subtotal | | 50 | - | 16,561 | 660 | 15,901 | | 139 | 74 | 74 |
| Sewerage | Pump Stations | | 2 | | 1,125 | 88 | 1,037 | 3 | 30 | 4 | 4 |
| | Pipelines | | 4 | | 3,032 | 55 | 2,977 | 4 | 22 | 11 | 11 |
| | Treatment Works | | 6 | | 3,299 | 594 | 2,705 | 2 | 50 | 35 | 55 |
| | Subtotal | | 12 | - | 7,456 | 737 | 6,719 | | 102 | 50 | 70 |
| Drainage Works | Retarding Basins | | 15 | 889 | | 270 | 619 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| | Subtotal | | 15 | 889 | - | 270 | 619 | | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Total Classes - All Assets | | | 911 | 69,315 | 39,708 | 14,300 | 94,723 | | 3,959 | 2,362 | 2,512 |

This Schedule is to be read in conjunction with the explanatory notes following.

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 7 - CONDITION OF PUBLIC WORKS (cont) as at 30th June 2008

"SATISFACTORY" CONDITION OF PUBLIC ASSETS

In assessing the condition of Public Assets Council has had regard to the condition, function and location of each asset, based on the original design standard. Changes in standards or proposed or potential enhancements to the existing asset design standard have been ignored (Code p A702). Assets within each Asset Category have been assessed on an overall basis, recognising that an average standard of "satisfactory" may be achieved even though certain assets may be above or below that standard on an individual basis.

Council recognises that the standard that it considers to be "satisfactory" may be different from that adopted by other Councils.

The information contained in this Schedule comprises accounting estimates formulated in accordance with the NSW Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting. Nothing contained within this Schedule may be taken to be an admission of any liability to any person under any circumstance.

ASSET CONDITION

The following condition codes have been used in this Schedule.

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Newly constructed |
| 2 | Over 5 years old but fully maintained in "as new" condition |
| 3 | Good condition |
| 4 | Average condition |
| 5 | Partly worn - beyond 50% of economic life. |
| 6 | Worn but serviceable |
| 7 | Poor - replacement required |

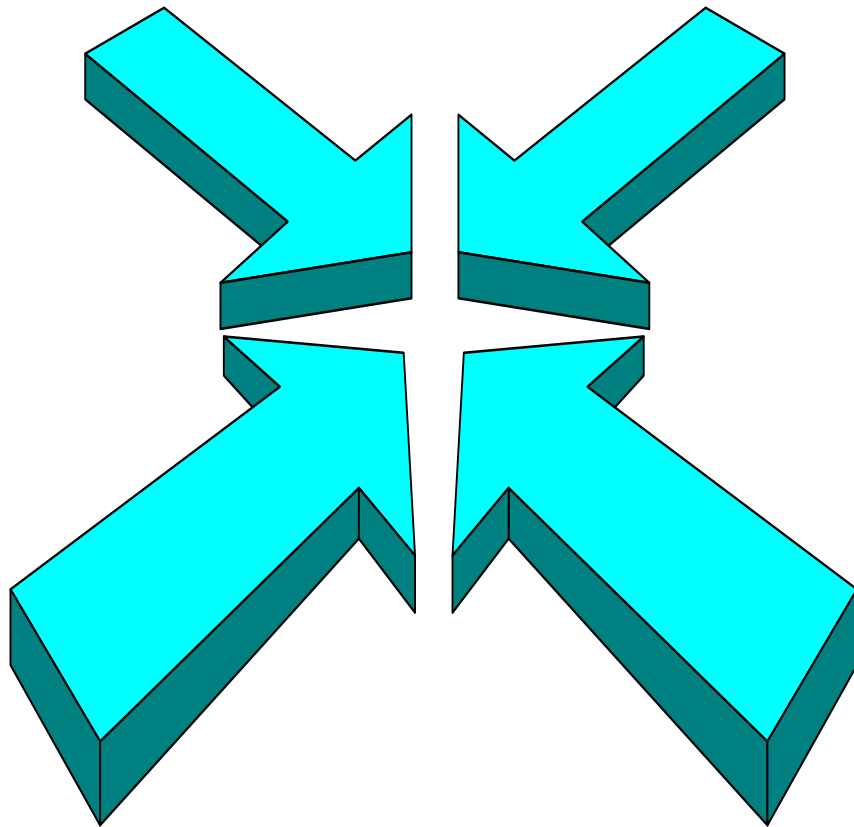
URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULE NO 8 - FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS as at 30th June 2008

| | 2008 \$'m | 2009 \$'m | 2010 \$'m | 2011 \$'m | 2012 \$'m | 2013 \$'m |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Recurrent Budget | | | | | | |
| Income from continuing operations | 14 | 14 | 15 | 15 | 16 | 16 |
| Expenses from continuing operations | 14 | 13 | 14 | 14 | 15 | 15 |
| Operating result from continuing operations | - | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Capital Budget | | | | | | |
| New Works | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Replacement of existing assets | - | 2 | - | - | 3 | - |
| | 1 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 2 |
| Funded by | | | | | | |
| - Loans | - | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| - Reserves | - | - | - | - | 2 | - |
| - Other | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 |



2007/2008 MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW



Review of Strategic Objective, Objectives and Performance
Targets, Statement of Means and Performance Assessment

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008
INDEX**

| | Page |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|
| Governance | 1 |
| Administration | |
| Corporate Support Services | 2 |
| Plant Services | 4 |
| Public Order and Safety | |
| Fire Protection | 5 |
| Animal and Abandoned Articles Control | 5 |
| Emergency Services | 6 |
| Health | |
| Inspection Services | 6 |
| Noxious Plant Control | 7 |
| Community Services and Education | |
| Youth Services and Education | 7 |
| Aged Units | 8 |
| Aged Care Centres | 8 |
| Community Support Options Programs | 9 |
| Tablelands Community Transport | 9 |
| Community Centre | 10 |
| Bundarra Neighbour Aid Service | 10 |
| Other Community Services | 11 |
| Housing and Community Amenities | |
| Urban and Rural Planning and Assessment | 11 |
| Garbage Collection and Disposal | 12 |
| Streetscape (Street Cleaning) | 13 |
| Urban Stormwater Drainage | 13 |
| Public Cemeteries | 14 |
| Environmental Control | 15 |
| Other Conveniences | 16 |
| Water Supplies | |
| Uralla | 16 |
| Bundarra | 17 |
| Rural | 18 |
| Sewerage Services | |
| Uralla | 18 |
| Bundarra | 19 |
| Rural | 20 |
| Recreation and Culture | |
| Public Libraries | 20 |
| Public Halls | 21 |
| Swimming Facilities | 21 |
| Sporting Grounds and Facilities | 22 |
| Parks, Gardens and Reserves | 23 |
| Other Recreation and Culture | 23 |

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008
INDEX**

| | |
|----------------------------------------------|----|
| Mining Manufacturing and Construction | |
| Quarries and Pits | 24 |
| Transport and Communication | |
| Urban Roads | 24 |
| Sealed rural Roads | 25 |
| Unsealed rural Roads | 27 |
| Bridges | 28 |
| Footpaths | 28 |
| Parking Areas | 29 |
| Miscellaneous Transport | 29 |
| Economic Affairs | |
| Camping and Caravan Areas | 30 |
| Tourism | 31 |
| Economic Development | 31 |
| Private Works | 32 |
| Other Business | 32 |

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity:

Service:

Strategic Objective:

1. Administration

1.1 Governance

To provide appropriate opportunity for residents to attend Council Meetings, to advertise its proposals openly, to ensure convenient access to its management plans and associated reports and to encourage the democratic process.

Principal Responsibility:

Mayor and General Manager

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 2, 4

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Council meetings held monthly | 1. Meetings held monthly on the fourth Monday of the month | 1. Twelve meetings a year, one per month | Achieved |
| 2. Distribute Business Papers prior to meeting | 2. Reports for Business Paper close 10 working days prior to ordinary meeting. | 2. Business Paper distributed 5 days prior to meeting | Achieved |
| 3. No more than two complaints received each quarter about inconvenient meeting times. | 3. Council to set meeting times at times which suit residents. | 3. No more than two complaints per quarter about inconvenient meeting times. | Achieved |
| 4. Minute of meeting prepared and distributed | 4. Preparation of the minutes given top priority following meeting | 4. Minutes prepared and distributed within 5 working days of meeting. | Achieved |
| 5. Council activities publicised | 5. Staff to prepare a one-page monthly <i>Newsletter</i> distributed to all postal addresses in the Shire. | 5. (a) 12 issues per year issues of Council's <i>Newsletter</i> produced. (b) No more than 1 complaint per issue received. | Achieved Achieved |
| 6. Improve the efficiency of communication to Councillors by meeting work related e-mail expenses and connecting Councillors to an ISP where relevant. | 6. Funds in the budget and the current policy amended. | 6. 6 Councillors using this e-mail facility. | Achieved |
| 7. Comply with statutory requirements of the Local Government and other Acts | 7. Utilise the Strategic Tasks for Councils Checklist prepared by the Department of Local Government | 7. All items on the Strategic Tasks for Councils Checklist completed within statutory timeframes. | Not Achieved |
| 8. Participate in the New England Strategic Alliance, develop best practice and utilise service delivery and co-operative arrangements for the provision of services. | 8. Use of shared services. | 8. New service delivery methods i) Implemented ii) Operating | Achieved Not Achieved |

The Governance service was funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$441,852 (2006/2007 - \$386,295) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 – Nil) capital expenditure. Actual expenditure was \$497,670.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity:

Service:

Strategic Objective:

1. Administration

1.2 Corporate Support Services

To provide the optimum level of staff and equipment to enable Council to operate as a corporate body in an efficient and cost effective manner so that Council is properly funded and professionally managed in accordance with appropriate Acts and Regulations for the good of all residents of the Shire.

Principal Responsibility:

Director of Corporate and Community Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, and 10

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 1. To consult widely in the preparation of Council's Management Plan | 1. Press releases, advertising in Newsletter, available at the public library and other convenient access points. | 1. At least 5 copies of the Management Plan are distributed to individuals and organisations and 3 comments on Plan received | Achieved |
| 2. To ensure the individual rate burden on the Shire is reasonable. | 2. Council to set rate levels each year | 2. Rate per capita (General Fund) in comparison to the Group 10 Councils in DLG Comparative Information is no higher than 6 th highest for residential, and 20 th highest for business. | Achieved |
| 3. To ensure financial stability by ensuring that the ratio of rates revenue to total revenue does not fall below 30%. | 3. Council to set rate levels each year | 3. Budgeted ratio achieved. (General Fund) | Not Achieved |
| 4. Establish a Strategic Alliance wide IT platform and joint shared software. | 4. Strategic Alliance focus groups to implement recommended option. | 4. VOIP or Telstra Communication System up and operating by 30 September 2007. | Achieved |
| 5. Have in place and operating a best practice management accounting reporting system | 5. Continued development of Council's management accounting format. | 5. Monthly reports to users on 1 st working day and to Finance Committee on 2 nd Monday of month. | Not Achieved |
| 6. Within Local Government guidelines and Council's policies invest funds to the best advantage of Council. | 6. Utilise the Strategic Alliance capacity to achieve the highest rate or most suitable terms within Council's policy. | 6. (a) Interest earned on investment for all funds to be \$266,000 for year. (b) Average return rate to be 1% higher than bank rate. | Not Achieved Not Achieved |
| 7. To assess the degree to which revenues are committed to the repayment of debt in the General Fund. | 7. Analysis of Annual Financial Statements | 7. The underlying debt service ratio (not including debt redemption) to be less than 4%. | Not Achieved |
| 8. To ensure the receipt of moneys due to Council. | 8. Strict and constant Debtor Control | 8. Ratio of over three months overdue amounts to be less than 10% of outstanding debtors. | Not Achieved |
| 9. To maintain a high level of Rate Debtor collection to provide the funds to resource the Council's activities. | 9. (a) To ensure that, as far as possible, all general rates are paid within the prescribed period by instituting a sound follow-up system. | 9. (a) Report percentage of rates collected quarterly as a % of levy and total due. * First quarter 30% * Second quarter 53% * Third quarter 77% * Fourth quarter 97% | Not Achieved |

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity:
Service:

1. Administration (Continued)
1.2 Corporate Support Services (Continued)

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 9. To maintain a high level of Rate Debtor collection to provide the funds to resource the Council's activities. | 9. (b) Maintain staff expertise and communications skills, through rates training and seminars. | 9. (b) Two training session attended per annum. | Achieved |
| 10. Invest adequate resources into training staff to maintain necessary skill levels. | 10. Develop Training Plan through Consultative Committee and allocate funds in Budget. | 10. Percentage of staff training budget to salaries and wages costs to be no less than 2%. | Not Achieved |
| 11. To continue to provide safe and comfortable working conditions at Uralla and Bundarra offices and Works Depots. | 11. Provide an office/meal room at Bundarra Depot and upgrade existing toilets | 11. Works completed | Achieved |
| 12. To maintain effective control over stock on hand with minimal stock write-off. | 12. (a) Ensure that a sound stock control system is being maintained with spot check conducted by nominated staff (b) Ensure an adequate skill level is maintained by the supervising storemen. | 12. (a) Value of stock written off is less than \$5,000 per annum. (b) Storeman attends 1 training course or seminar per year | Achieved Achieved |
| 13. To measure the extent to which Council's operations are labour intensive. | 13. Information from Financial Statements. | 13. Ratio of wages and salaries (including on-costs) is no greater than 45% of total expenses from ordinary activities. | Not Achieved |
| 14. To lose no work days to industrial disputes. | 14. Effective operation of the Consultative Committee. | 14. Number of days lost. | Achieved |
| 15. To maintain a low rate of occupational injuries. | 15. Effective operation of the Safety Committee. | 15. Workplace to be below 25 injuries per 100 workers | Achieved |
| 16. To Participate in the New England Strategic Alliance, develop best practice and utilise service delivery and co-operative arrangements for the provision of services | 16. Shared Services for Finance, Revenue, Customer Services, Human Resources, I.T., Plant and Fleet and Works Operation | 16. New service delivery methods i) Implemented ii) Operating | Achieved Not Achieved |

The Corporate Support service is funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$2,445,540 (2006/2007 - \$1,785,557) recurrent expenditure and \$30,000 (2006/2007 - \$144,308) capital expenditure.

The net recurrent costs of Administration, after allowing for income of \$354,504, of \$1,670,735 (2006/2007 - \$1,785,557) are distributed over all other Principal Activities in proportion to the recurrent costs of those activities less debt servicing and depreciation. The actual cost of Administration distributed to other Principal Activities was \$1,559,799 after allowing for income of \$468,207

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity:
Service:
Strategic Objective

1. Administration
1.3 Plant Services

To own and operate a modern plant fleet, of appropriate size and composition, effectively and efficiently, in order to carry out the provision of services for the benefit of the Shire's residents.

Principal Responsibility: **Director of Works and Environmental Services**

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 3, 5

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. To ensure that equipment and vehicles are maintained in a serviceable condition at all times. | 1. Maintain a Service Register of all major equipment and ensure that staff and skill levels are maintained to achieve full servicing. | 1. Report number of major breakdowns/or accidents due to faulty plant. | Achieved |
| 2. To ensure Council's operators and workshop staff are adequately skilled and appropriately licensed and have access to modern tools and equipment. | 2. (a) Send staff to appropriate training courses which are to be included in Council's training plan. | 2 (a) All staff with appropriate licenses. | Achieved |
| | (b) Keep staff records of all licences needed and held. | (b) Records maintained up to date | Achieved |
| | (c) Small plant and tools maintained | (c) Small plant and tools up-dated | Achieved |
| 3. To achieve no less than 1000 operating hours per year for major plant items and 1500 operating hours for key machines such as graders. | 3. (a) Start and finish crews on the job when working at sites more than 30km from the depot. | 3. (a) All Graders operate for 1,500 hrs per annum. (b) Report reasons for any plant items not meeting the targets hours | Not Achieved |
| | (b) Review work practices to take advantage of good weather conditions | (c) Work practices reviewed. | Achieved |
| 4. To set plant hire rates which will cover plant operating costs. | 4. Rates set by staff using historical records. | 4. Profit on plant operation. | Achieved |
| 5. Replace – Plant to be determined by the April Works Committee meeting. | 5. By tender or quotation in conjunction with the Strategic Alliance | 5. Purchases completed by March 2008 | Achieved |
| 6. Establish and adopt a five year Plant Replacement Program | 6. Plant utilisation and Service Register for data | 6. Five year Plan in place for Budget 2008/2009 | Not Achieved |

The Plant service is funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$Nil, after distribution of costs of \$1,469,660 (2006/2007 - \$Nil, after distribution of costs of \$1,238,622) net recurrent expenditure and \$225,000 (2006/2007 \$515,000) capital expenditure.

Actual expenditure was \$1,584,943 (including depreciation of \$683,580) and cost distribution of \$1,356,877.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 2. Public Order and Safety
Service: 2.1 Fire Protection
Strategic Objective: To provide effective, cost-efficient fire protection for the residents of Uralla Shire.
Principal Responsibility: Director of Works and Environmental Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. To facilitate an effective Bush Fire protection through a mutually agreed Service Level Agreement with the Rural Fire Service. | 1. Service Level Agreement with the Rural Fire Service and the MW | 1. SLA reviewed annually in November and reported to Council. | Achieved |
| 2. To facilitate an effective Urban Fire protection through a mutually agreed Service Level Agreement with the Board of Fire Commissioners | 2. Liaison with the Zone Commander of the NSW Fire Brigade | 2. Annual attendance and report to Council by the Zone Commander of the NSW Fire Brigade held | Not Achieved |

The Fire Protection service is funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$180,250 (2006/2007 -\$203,528) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 -\$140,000) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 2. Public Order and Safety
Service: 2.2 Animal and Abandoned Articles Control
Strategic Objective: To ensure the residents of Uralla Council are protected from animal nuisance and that safety and amenity is enhanced by removal of stock and abandoned articles from public areas
Principal Responsibility: Manager Works
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. To protect the residents of the Shire from animal nuisance and reduce number of associated complaints. | 1. Provide adequate numbers of authorised impounding staff, through the Strategic Alliance, and provide an education program for animal owners. | 1. The number of complaints per <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 registered dogs • 100 registered cats • other total complaints reduced by 5% | Achieved |
| 2. Provide an efficient and effective pound facility. | 2. Regional dog and cat pound, shared services and local rangers. | 2. Average cost of operating the joint facility per dogs and cats impounded less than prior year. | Achieved |
| 3. To have abandoned articles and vehicles removed from public areas. | 3. Shared Services rangers. | 3. All complaints actioned within 3 working days. | Achieved |

The Animal and Abandoned Articles Control service is funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$56,931 (2006/2007 - \$45,695) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$4,006) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 2. Public Order and Safety
Service: 2.3 Emergency Services
Strategic Objective: To provide a management structure for the efficient operation and coordination of Emergency Services, welfare support and rehabilitation in the event of an emergency occurring.
 To aid in the protection of the community through cooperation with local policing authority.

Principal Responsibility: Director of Works and Environmental Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 5

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. To ensure currency of the DISPLAN. | 1. Annual review of the joint DISPLAN with Armidale Dumaresq Council and bring Guyra and Walcha into the Plan. | 1. Report to Council of currency of the DISPLAN by March 2008. | Not Achieved |
| 2. To ensure an effective SES service is provided. | 2. Appointment of SES Co-ordinator and appropriate accommodation. | 2. The number of incidents attended by the SES reported to Council. | Achieved |
| 3. Ensure that the local Community Safety Committee is operating and effective. | 3. Facilitate meetings of the Community Safety Committee. | 3. Regular meetings of the Safety Committee held. | Achieved |

The Emergency Services are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$6,551 (2006/2007 - \$6,533) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 3. Health
Service: 3.1 Inspection Services
Strategic Objective: To assist in the maintenance and improvement of the general overall health of all residents of, and visitors to, the Shire of Uralla.

Principal Responsibility: Manager Works
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. To ensure that effective Health Inspection services are conducted in accordance with the appropriate Acts, regulations and local policies that result in an annual improvement in premises that do not meet satisfactory standards. | 1. (a) MHBS to ensure that: | 1 (a) | Achieved |
| | (i) Health related inspections are conducted as required and | (i) MW to report on the number of complaints received. | Achieved |
| | (ii) that inspections are carried out following any complaint or request. | (ii) All inspections from complaints or requests are carried out immediately for food and within 2 working days for other complaints. | Achieved |
| 2. To ensure that inspections are carried out at less than full net cost to the general community and are partially on a “user pays” basis. | (b) MW to ensure the issuing or serving of orders, where necessary. | (b) Orders issued promptly. | Achieved |
| | 2. Set fees and charges in Annual Budget. | 2. Fees for inspection services set to recover costs less 25% CSO. | Achieved |

The Inspection Services are funded in the 2006/07 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$87,680 (2006/2007 - \$58,997) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$15,000) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 3. Health
Service: 3.2 Noxious Plant Control
Strategic Objective: To contribute to the overall control of noxious weeds in the Council area to protect the natural environment
Principal Responsibility: Director of Corporate and Community Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 6

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|----------|
| 1. To support membership of the New England Tablelands (Noxious Weeds) County Council at previous year's level plus rate pegging increase. | 1. Pay contribution to NET(NW)CC. | 1. Contribution made. | Achieved |

The Noxious Weed Control service is funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$58,000 (2006/2007 - \$61,415) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 4. Community Services and Education
Service: 4.1 Youth Services and Education
Strategic Objective: To support the providers of services aimed at enhancing the quality of life for the Shire's youth, particularly where these services result in people continuing to live in the Shire or moving to the Shire.
Principal Responsibility: Director of Corporate and Community Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 8

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. To meet all costs of transporting the Life Education Van into and around the Shire on its annual visit to the schools in the Shire. | 1. Plant and works personnel to move Life Education van. | 1. Van moved when requested. | Achieved |
| 2. To facilitate the provision of recreational and leisure opportunities and support programs for youth. | 2. Financial assistance to private clubs and other organisations that provide services for youth. | 2. Financial assistance provided. | Achieved |
| 3. To maintain Council's education facilities. | 3. Maintenance of the outside of the Uralla Pre-School building. | 3. No work outstanding. | Achieved |
| 4. To assist the operations of the Helping Children and Families Group. | 4. By auspicing the funding of the Uralla and Walcha project through a Section 355 Committee of Council and \$10,926 in support | 4. (a) Service fee charged quarterly. (b) Programme income plus carry over exceeds expenditure | Achieved Achieved |

The Youth Services and Education is funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$59,551 (2006/2007 - \$56,) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 4. Community Services and Education
Service: 4.2.1. Aged and Disabled Services (Aged Units)
Strategic Objective: To support the providers of services aimed at enhancing the quality of life of the Shire's aged and disabled people particularly where these services result in those people continuing to live in the Shire or the region.

Principal Responsibility: Director of Corporate and Community Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 5

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. To continue to provide accommodation for the aged in self-contained units in Uralla at no net cost to the community | 1 (a) Renting of the four Hill Street Units. (b) carry out improvements. | 1 (a) Rental income exceeds expenditure with a return on Capital invested. (b) Work completed. | Achieved |
| 2. To research the methods and funding sources to provide additional units in Hill Street. | 2. Review of funding sources and survey of potential residents. | 2. Plan for sale of units off plans to be presented to Council's October 2007 meeting | Achieved Not Achieved |

The Aged and Disabled Services (Aged Units) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$17,718 (2006/2007 - \$19,443) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 4. Community Services and Education
Service: 4.2.2. Aged and Disabled Services (Aged Care Centres)
Strategic Objective: (as above).

Principal Responsibility: Director of Corporate and Community Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 5

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. To operate the McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre through an Advisory Committees of Council, with Council representation on the Committee. | 1. Delegation under Section 355 of the Local Government Act, with Council representatives and DCCS to attend Committee meetings as necessary. | 1. Meetings held, attended by DCCS and Council's representatives. | Achieved |
| 2. To operate the Grace Munro Centre Aged Care Facility through a management agreement with McLean Retirement Village. | 2. Management agreement. | 2. Grace Munro Centre operating at cost to council; interest on loan of \$28,545 and building operation costs of \$30,995. | Achieved |
| 3. To assist McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre by operating their accounts providing advice and other financial, administrative services to Management and the Committees so that they can operate as an autonomous viable unit. | 3. Council administration staff to provide service (at a fee) and DCCS to advise Centre Manager as necessary | 3. (a) Administration charge made (b) McMaugh Gardens management confirms satisfaction with advice and service. | Achieved Achieved |
| 4. To operate McMaugh Gardens Aged Care Centre as a viable autonomous unit. | 4. Centre Management and staff | 4. Centre operates with income in excess of expenditure. | Not Achieved |

The Aged and Disabled Services (Aged Care Centres) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$1,680,045 (2006/2007 - \$1,367,993) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$155,259) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 4. Community Services and Education
Service: 4.2 3 Aged and Disabled Services (Community Support Options Programmes)
Strategic Objective: To support the providers of services aimed at enhancing the quality of life of the Shire's aged and disabled people particularly where these services result in those people continuing to live in the Shire or the region.

Principal Responsibility: Director of Corporate and Community Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 5

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 1. To auspice the Tablelands Community Support Options Project, on a 100% grant funding basis through an Advisory Committee as a Committee of Council, chairing the Committee. | 1. Two Advisory Committee with delegation under Section 355 of the LG Act. (i) Tablelands Community Support Options Advisory Committee, (ii) Kamilaroi Ageing and Disabilities Services Advisory Committee | 1. Meetings held. | Achieved |
| 2. To auspice the Tablelands Community Support Options Project and Kamilaroi Ageing and Disabilities Services on a 100% grant funding basis employing the staff, operating the project accounts and providing office accommodation. | 2. Council staff and resources to operate accounts on a fee-for-service basis and rental for accommodation with the DCCS advising the Project Manager on financial matters. | 2. (a) Service fee charged quarterly. (b) Rental fee charged quarterly. (c) Programme income plus carry over exceeds expenditure | Not Achieved Achieved Achieved |

The Aged and Disabled Services (Community Options Programmes) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$2,333,100 (2006/2007 - \$2,417,) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$27,200) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 4. Community Services and Education
Service: 4.2 4 Aged and Disabled Services (Tablelands Community Transport)
Strategic Objective: (as above)

Principal Responsibility: Director of Corporate and Community Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 5

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 1. To auspice the Tablelands Community Transport, on a 100% grant funding basis through an Advisory Committee. | 1. Advisory Committee with delegation under Section 355 of the LG Act. | 1. Meetings held. | Achieved |
| 2. To auspice the Tablelands Community Transport, on a 100% grant funding basis employing the staff, operating the project accounts and providing office accommodation. | 2. Council staff and resources to operate accounts on a fee-for-service basis and rental for accommodation with the DCCS advising the Project Manager on financial matters. | 2. (a) Administration fee charged quarterly. (b) Rental fee charged quarterly. (c) Programme income plus carry over exceeds expenditure | Not Achieved Achieved Achieved |

The Aged and Disabled Services (Tablelands Community Transport) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$239,800 (2006/2007 - \$239,917) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$5,900) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 4. Community Services and Education
Service: 4.2 5 Aged and Disabled Services (Community Centre)
Strategic Objective: To support the providers of services aimed at enhancing the quality of life of the Shire's aged and disabled people particularly where these services result in those people continuing to live in the Shire or the region.

Principal Responsibility: Director of Corporate and Community Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 5

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Operate the Community Centre in Uralla at minimal net cost to the community. | 1. Set rents to cover operating costs. | 1. Income plus 25% CSO exceeds the expenses. | Achieved |
| | 2. Maintain the building to a set maintenance schedule. | 2. Works completed. | Achieved |
| | 3. Advertising the facilities to the Community through the Newsletter and other media | 3. Additional use of the Centre over the base year of 2005/2006 | Achieved |

The Aged and Disabled Services (Community Centre) is funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$62,657 (2006/2007 - \$53,500) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$ Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 4. Community Services and Education
Service: 4.2 6 Aged and Disabled Services (Bundarra Neighbour Aid)
Strategic Objective: (as above).

Principal Responsibility: Director of Corporate and Community Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 5

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. To auspice the Bundarra Neighbour Aid, on a 100% grant funding basis through an Advisory Committee as a Committee of Council. | 1. Advisory Committee with delegation under Section 355 of the LG Act. | 1. (a) Meetings held. | Achieved |
| | | (b) Bundarra Neighbour Aid management confirms satisfaction with advice and service. | Achieved |
| 2. To auspice the Bundarra Neighbour aid, on a 100% grant funding basis employing the staff, operating the project accounts and providing office accommodation. | 2. Council staff and resources to operate accounts on a fee-for-service basis and rental for accommodation with the DCCS advising the Project Manager on financial matters and \$3,500 in support. | 2. (a) Service fee charged quarterly. | Not Achieved |
| | | (b) Rental fee charged quarterly. | Achieved |
| | | (c) Programme expenditure does not exceed income by more than \$3,500. | Achieved |

The Aged and Disabled Services (Bundarra Neighbour Aid) is funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$55,480 (2006/2007 -\$54,528) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity:

Service:

Strategic Objective:

4. Community Services and Education

4.2 7 Aged and Disabled Services (Other Community Services)

To support the providers of services aimed at enhancing the quality of life of the Shire's aged and disabled people particularly where these services result in those people continuing to live in the Shire or the region.

Principal Responsibility:

Director of Corporate and Community Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 5

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. To fund Council's commitment to the Community Centre construction | 1. Continue to repay Loan 168 interest and principal repayments of \$9,207. | 1. Loan 168 interest and principal repayments made. | Achieved |
| 2. To fund Council's commitment of \$400,000 financial institution borrowings for the Grace Munro Centre. | 2. Continue to repay Loan 177 interest and principal repayments of \$36,210 | 2. Loan 177 interest and principal repayments made. | Achieved |
| 3. To monitor Mclean Village \$100,000 interest free loan to Council. | 3. Interest free loan for 5 year with repayments, after two years from share of profits | 3. No loan repayments required | Achieved |

The servicing of Loans 168 and 177 are made in budget allocations to Community Centre (Section 4.2.5) and Grace Munro Centre (Section 4.2.2) respectively and no individual budget item appears for these commitments of Council.

Principal Activity:

Service:

Strategic Objective:

5. Housing and Community Amenities

5.1 Urban and Rural Planning and Development Assessment

To manage and control development and service provision within the Shire to ensure that it is balanced and environmentally sensitive, that the overall aesthetic value of the Shire is maintained and that services are provided to match the needs of the Shire's residents. To ensure that Council consciously adopts a fully ecologically sustainable development focus.

Principal Responsibility:

Manager Works

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 2, 4, 6, and 7

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 1. Community to be satisfied with land use control. | 1. Consulting with the public on proposed amendments to planning instruments and major developments. | 1. Report number and type of objections received from Shire residents to decisions of Council. | Achieved |
| 2. To ensure that DAs and land use enquiries are dealt with as expeditiously as possible. | 2. (a) Utilising trained staff and having the DAU meet as required to deal with applications in an efficient manner. (b) By delegations of authority where appropriate (c) By reviewing Council's local approvals and orders policies regularly. | 2. (a) To meet the following process times: DAs.: less than 25 days Construction. Certificates: less than 15 days (b) Delegation of authority used as appropriate. (c) No of appeals that go to the land and Environment Court are lost. | Achieved Achieved Achieved |

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 5. Housing and Community Amenities (Continued)
Service: 5.1 Urban and Rural Planning and Development Assessment (Continued)

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 3. Review Council's adopted Community Plan including the strategies for Minority groups, Disability Action Cultural Development, Community Safety and Health. | 3. Social, Cultural and disability Action Plans undertaken on a Regional Basis through the Strategic Alliance. | 3. Ongoing review in line with Council resolution 503/04 to keep the Plan under constant review. | Achieved |
| 4. A Regional Local Environmental Plan prepared through the Strategic Alliance to incorporate the Local Environmental Plan | 4. Consultants with funding provided in 2005/2006 of \$100,000 from DIPNR and \$25,000 from Council (matched by other councils in the Alliance) | 4. Work program progressing within the timeline for completion by December 2007. | Not Achieved |

The Housing and Community Amenities (Urban and Rural Planning and Development Assessment) is funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$185,255 (2006/2007 - \$174,731) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 5. Housing and Community Amenities
Service: 5.2 Garbage Collection and Disposal Services
Strategic Objective: To provide an efficient, cost-effective and environmentally responsible waste collection, recycling and/or disposal service, for all ratepayers of the Uralla Shire.

Principal Responsibility: Manager Works
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3 5

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. To ensure an efficient and effective waste collection service in Uralla, Bundarra and Invergowrie and for Walcha by contract. | 1. By Council single person collection truck. | 1. Number of complaints concerning missed collections less than 12 per quarter. | Achieved |
| 2. To ensure an efficient and effective weekly recycling service in Uralla and Invergowrie. | 2. By Council day labour. | 2. Mass of material recycled. Recyclables/head -85kgs. Domestic waste/head – 100 kgs. | Achieved Not Achieved |
| 3. Operate the Uralla landfill site as a separate viable operation | 3. By Council day labour. | 3. Landfill site operates within budget and maximises recycling income. | Achieved |
| 4. Comply with EPA Licence Conditions at Waste Disposal Tips. | 4. By monitoring of operation at landfill site and manning the Bundarra landfill site. | 4. Non compliance limited to 4 per year | Achieved |
| 5. Prepare for the timely rehabilitation of all Council's landfill sites. | 5. Bringing clay and suitable materials in from Council works. | 5. All available material brought onto site and stockpiled. | Not Achieved |

The Housing and Community Amenities (Garbage Collection and Disposal) is funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$351,028 for collections and \$405,245 for landfill operations (2006/2007 - \$466,500 combined) recurrent expenditure and \$98,214 (2006/2007 - \$4,476) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 5. Housing and Community Amenities
Service: 5.3 Streetscape (formerly called Street Cleaning)
Strategic Objective: To sweep and rinse gutters and empty street garbage bins to provide a clean and pleasant streetscape in Uralla and Bundarra towns.
Principal Responsibility: Director of Works and Environmental Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 1. In Uralla, (a) to sweep gutters on Monday, Wednesday and Friday (b) empty bins daily in the CBD that is: Bridge Street, from the Coachwood and Cedar Hotel to the Tourist Information Centre, and in Hill Street from the Post Office to Bridge Street. (c) provide an extra 15.6 hours per week of cleaning of the CBD, footpath, blisters and gutters | 1. (a) Council day labour - by hand. (b) Council day labour - by hand. (c) Council day labour - by hand. | 1. (a) No more than 3 complaints per quarter about dirty gutters or overflowing or smelly bins. (b) No missed collection days (c) no more than 1 complaint per quarter about dirty footpaths or untidy blisters | Achieved Achieved Achieved |
| 2. In Bundarra, to empty street bins on Mondays. | 2. Council day labour - by hand. | 2. (a) No days missed. (b) No more than 1 complaints per quarter about overflowing or smelly bins. | Achieved Achieved |
| 3. In Invergowrie, to slash public areas around Fire Shed. | 3. Council day labour | 3. Cleared at least twice a year. | Achieved |

The Housing and Community Amenities (Streetscapes) is funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$66,490 (2006/2007 - \$64,102) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 5. Housing and Community Amenities
Service: 5.4 Urban Stormwater Drainage
Strategic Objective: To plan, design, construct and manage new and additional stormwater drainage systems and catchment areas, to collect, transport and discharge stormwater runoff effectively, efficiently and economically to reduce flooding, soil erosion, pollution and improve water quality.
Principal Responsibility: Director of Works and Environmental Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9 and 10

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Continue current level of routine maintenance of existing storm water drainage system (5.6km). | 1. Council day labour. | 1. (a) No more than 1 complaint per quarter about drainage problems. (b) Cost of maintenance per km of existing stormwater pipe at \$982 per km per annum | Achieved Achieved |
| 2. Improve stormwater flows along East Street | 2. Council day labour. | 2. Replacement of 50 metres of stormwater drain in East Street. | Achieved |

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 5. Housing and Community Amenities (Continued)
Service: 5.4 Urban Stormwater Drainage (continued)

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 3. Improve quality of water flow at Shanahan's Bridge, Uralla Creek, and clean up of environmental weeds along the surrounding Uralla Creek. | 3. Council day labour. | 3. (a) Installation of gross pollutant trap. (b) Removal of environmental weeds and replanting with appropriate vegetation in defined area. | Not Achieved Achieved |
| 4. Monitor the effectiveness of gross pollution traps | 4. Council day labour. | 4. Report to Council on the annual volume of gross pollutants recovered from traps | Not achieved |
| 5. Maintain the retention basins. | 5. Council day labour. | 5. maintenance completed within budget and retention basins clean. | Achieved |
| 6. Plan for future stormwater management. | 6. External consultant | 6. Stormwater and Flood Management Plan completed and presented to Council | Achieved |
| 7. Community consultation and involvement with Council Stormwater Management Projects and additional revenue for projects sourced | 7. Meeting between relevant community groups, Catchment Management Authority, General Manager Project Manager. Council to pursue any additional funding possibilities. | 7. All opportunities for additional funding taken. All offers of non-council assistance with stormwater management projects taken. | Achieved Achieved |

The Housing and Community Amenities (Urban Stormwater Drainage) is funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$32,520 (2006/2007 - \$22,083) recurrent expenditure and \$26,125 (2006/2007 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 5. Housing and Community Amenities
Service: 5.5 Public Cemeteries
Strategic Objective: To provide cemetery facilities for the public, which are attractive, efficient, cost-effective and are adequately maintained and that preserve the history of the area.
Principal Responsibility: Manager Works
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 5

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. To keep an accurate perpetual record of details of all interment. | 1. Record all details on a permanent register. | 1. No more than 3 enquiries per quarter that were not satisfied because of inadequate records, for records of interments after 1968. | Achieved |

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 5. Housing and Community Amenities (Continued)
Service: 5.5 Public Cemeteries (Continued)

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 2. To ensure that all cemeteries are adequately and attractively maintained. | 2. (a) Ensure that regular inspections are carried out on all cemeteries. (b) Repair any damage to fencing. (c) Seek heritage funding for the planned restoration of the old cemetery in Uralla | 2. (a) Number of complaints received in respect of maintenance of cemeteries and cemetery facilities. (b) Repairs completed. (c) Heritage funding application lodged | Achieved Achieved Not achieved |
| 3. To aim that eventually all cemetery facilities and services are provided at no net direct cost to Council. | 3. Set fees and charges to recover no less than 60% (2006/2007 60%) of operating costs. (representing 40% CSO). | 3. Fees and charges at 60% or more of operating costs. | Achieved |

The Housing and Community Amenities (Public Cemeteries) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$36,540 (2006/2007 - \$36,029) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 5. Housing and Community Amenities
Service: 5.6 Environmental Control

Strategic Objective: To implement programs aimed at protecting and enhancing the environment of the Shire to ensure the health and well being of its residents.

Principal Responsibility: Manager Works

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 2, 4, and 6

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Review and update the State of Environment Report annually and use it to identify specific environmental programs. | 1. Strategic Alliance with in-house staff. | 1. (a) Report completed. (b) Programs identified in the SOE report incorporated into the 2007/2008 budget estimates. | Achieved Not Achieved |
| 2. Incorporate the Local Environmental Plan into a Regional Environmental Plan | 2. Strategic Alliance with in-house staff. (Refer to Section 5.1) | 2. Agreement completed with Alliance. | Not Achieved |
| 3. To access appropriate Heritage advice and guidance | 3. Engage a Heritage Advisor | 3. council and staff refer items to Heritage advisor | Achieved |
| 4. | | | |

The Housing and Community Amenities (Environmental Control) is funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$8,800 (plus \$4,000 for the State of Environment Report within Development Control Section 5.1) (2006/2007 - \$Nil) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 5. Housing and Community Amenities
Service: 5.7 Other Conveniences
Strategic Objective: To provide community amenities for the general convenience of residents of and visitors to the Shire.
Principal Responsibility: Manager Works
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 4

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Clean, maintain and repair public privies to a satisfactory condition. | 1. (a) Council day labour to clean and maintain facilities with at least one service, weekday and once on weekends. (b) Random inspection of public privies (c) Assuming the cleaning of the public toilets at the Sports Centre from the Squash club | 1. (a) No more than 6 complaints per quarter regarding unsatisfactory toilet conditions. (b) Inspections find public privies to be well maintained. | Achieved Achieved |
| 2. To provide a community asset in the form of a taxi shelter and street store facilities. | 2. Council providing funding for the renting of the street store. | 2. Street stall used at least 12 week-ends per quarter. | Achieved |
| 3. To continue to upgrade street facilities (taxi shelter and street store) | 3. Council day labour, community support and contractors. | 3. Work completed on time and within budget | Not Achieved |

The Housing and Community Amenities (Other Conveniences) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$37,650 (2006/2007 - \$29,810) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 6. Water Supplies
Service: 6.1 Uralla Water Supply
Strategic Objective: To provide safe, cost effective and affordable water supply facilities complying with statutory requirements, for the benefit of both present and future residents of the town of Uralla.
Principal Responsibility: Manager Works
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, and 10

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. To comply with current drinking water guidelines and improve the quality of water delivered to the reticulation system by best practice methodology. | 1. (a) Operate the Treatment Plant effectively and regularly test raw and treated water. (b) MW to maintain staff skill levels to effectively carry out these duties. | 1. (a) No samples of treated water samples which do not comply with the Drinking Water Guidelines. (b) Water operator and back up operator have Level III training in plant operation. | Not Achieved Achieved |
| 2. Aim of an average annual residential consumption rate of not more than 400 Kl per connection. | 2. User pays principles under best practice pricing to control consumption. | 2. Report to Council on the annual water consumption per connection in June. | Not Achieved |

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 6. Water Supplies
Service: 6.1 Uralla Water Supply (Continued)

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| 3. Progressively replace old mains on a planned basis. | 5. Council day labour. | 3. 100 metres of main replaced. | Not Achieved |

The Water Supplies (Uralla) is funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$586,732 (2006/2007 \$448,776) recurrent expenditure and \$197,000 (2006/2007 \$37,000) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 6. Water Supplies
Service: 6.2 Bundarra Water Supply
Strategic Objective: To provide safe, cost-effective and affordable water supply facilities complying with statutory requirements, for the benefit of both present and future residents of the village of Bundarra.

Principal Responsibility: Manager Works
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, and 10

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. To comply with current drinking water guidelines and improve the quality of water delivered to the reticulation system by best practice methodology. | 1. Operate the treatment plant effectively and regularly test raw and treated water. | 1. No samples of treated water samples which do not comply with the Drinking Water Guidelines | Not Achieved |
| 2. Aim of an average annual residential consumption rate of not more than 400 Kl per connection. | 2. User pays principles under best practice pricing to control consumption. | 2. Report to Council on the annual water consumption per connection in June. | Not Achieved |

The Water Supplies (Bundarra) is funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$163,959 (2006/2007 - \$140,992) recurrent expenditure and \$20,250 (2006/2007 - \$15,607) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 6. Water Supply
Service: 6.3 Rural Water Supplies
Strategic Objective: To control water storage capacity on rural residential blocks, provide advice on water storage and quality to rural residents and to provide a water quality testing service

Principal Responsibility: Manager Works

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 10

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. To ensure that rural residential dwellings have adequate available water supplies. | 1. MW to apply the provisions of DCP No 2 in respect of quantities of water available to rural residential residents. | 1 Report to management on the volume of water sold from Uralla and Bundarra water supplies. | Achieved |
| 2. To provide advice on the quality of water to rural residents and monitor the quality of that water. | 2. (a) MW to provide a water testing service for rural residents on a fee for service basis. (b) MW to monitor and record requests for results of tests and from where the water was drawn. | 2. Report to management on (a) The number of tests requested. (b) The number and percentage of tests that pass and do not pass. | Achieved Achieved |

The Water Supplies (Rural) requires no separate funding through the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B).

Principal Activity: 7. Sewerage Services
Service: 7.1 Uralla Sewerage
Strategic Objective: To provide safe, cost-effective and affordable sewerage facilities complying with statutory requirements, for the benefit of both present and future residents of the village of Uralla, without creating significant pollution problems in the disposal of the wastewater.

Principal Responsibility: Manager Works

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, and 10

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. To maintain a net debt ratio for the fund of less than 2%. | 1. No new borrowings till at least 2010. | 1. Net debt service ratio less than 2% | Achieved |
| 2. To comply with the licensing requirements of the EPA in relation to quality of effluent discharged to Rocky Creek and noise levels on and near the site. | 2. (a) Operate the plant effectively and regularly test effluent quality. (b) Monitor noise levels. | 2. (a) No samples of treated effluent water samples which do not comply with EPA licence. (b) Compliance with noise level limits. | Achieved Achieved |
| 3. To extend the hours of operation of the waste water treatment plant to give higher quality discharge. | 3. hours extended during daylight saving days. | 3. Nitrate levels maintained below EPA limits | Achieved |

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 7. Sewerage Services
Service: 7.1 Uralla Sewerage (Continued)

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 4. Upgrade the sewer pipe system to cater for growth and increased flows. | 4. Operate “black box” flow recorder in the pipe network to monitor flows and rainfall. | 4. Report to Council of current likely expected upgrading requirements and timeframes each January. | Achieved |
| 5. To replace old mains on a planned progressive basis. | 5. Council day labour. | 5. 100 metres of main replaced. | Not Achieved |

The Sewer Services (Uralla) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$520,926 (2006/2007 - \$466,889) recurrent expenditure and \$110,000 (2006/2007 - \$36,209) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 7. Sewerage Services
Service: 7.2 Bundarra Sewerage
Strategic Objective: To introduce a safe, cost-effective and affordable sewerage facilities complying with statutory requirements, for the benefit of both present and future residents of the village of Bundarra, without creating significant pollution problems in the disposal of wastewater.

Principal Responsibility: Manager Works
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, and 10

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. The community and Council have recognised the need to replace the septic tank and absorption trench method of disposing of wastewater, particularly south of the Gwydir River and that a sewerage/common effluent scheme may not be affordable for the residents of Bundarra based on current government subsidy rates of 50% of capital cost. | 1. Council, on behalf of the community, is to pursue the eligibility of such works for both Federal and State Government Funding so that the community would have a water and sewer access charge of approximately that of the Uralla users 2007/2008 total of \$603.65, by using the DPWS Report No SR 103 dated November 1989 in submissions and delegations to DEUAS, State and Federal Politicians. | 1. All opportunities for funding taken. | Not Achieved |
| 2. When funding has been achieved to proceed with the works in stages | 2. responding to any written offer made. | 2. All offers responded to in a timely manner | Not Achieved |

The Sewer Services (Bundarra) has no specific funding in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) at this time and all preliminary funding application costs are carried by the Governance and Corporate Support Services functions of Council.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 7. Sewerage Services
Service: 7.3 Rural Waste Water
Strategic Objective: To ensure that the health of rural residents and the quality of groundwater and surface waters is not threatened by wastewater disposal in areas where sewerage is not available.

Principal Responsibility: Manager Works
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, and 10

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. To ensure that installed aerated waste treatment plants are regularly serviced by qualified people. | 1. MW to raise a register of dates of services to plants installed. | 1. Register maintained and manufacturers advised when services are overdue. | Achieved |
| 2. Carry out necessary registration and inspection of Sewage Treatment Devices. | 2. In-house staff. | 2. (a) No less than 100 devices inspected per annum. (b) Register of the Number of devices maintained. | Not Achieved Achieved |

The Sewer Services (Rural Waste Water) requires no separate funding through the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B).

Principal Activity: 8. Recreation and Culture
Service: 8.1 Public Libraries – Uralla
Strategic Objective: To provide a service to assist and support the community's cultural, educational and recreational needs.

Principal Responsibility: Director of Corporate and Community Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 5, and 8

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 1. To maintain the number of member borrowers at 1,490 or more (1,400 at Uralla and 90 at Bundarra) and the annual number of books borrowed at 28,000. | 1. (a) Continue the opening hours of 30h/week in new Library (b) Increase the type and number of books available. (c) Publicise access for member borrowers to use Armidale and Inverell Libraries. | 1. a) Library operating 30 hours per week (b) Number of member borrowers at or above 1,490. (c) Books borrowed. * First quarter 5,000 * Second quarter 15,000 * Third quarter 22,000 * Fourth quarter 28,000 | Achieved Achieved Not Achieved |
| 2. To increase the ratio of books borrowed to number of books in stock to 3.5:1 and to member borrowers to 19:1. | 2. Librarian to use CNL to increase stock replacement rate, weed out unpopular material, and increase the number of popular categories of stock. | 2. Annual Ratio of 3.5:1 for issues to stock and 19:1 for issues to members. | Not Achieved |
| 3. To operate the new Library as a branch library of a regional library system. | 3. Through Tamworth Regional Council until 30 June 2008. | 3. New agreement with TRC formalised. | Achieved |

The Recreation and Culture Services (Public Libraries) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$193,976 (2006/2007 - \$196,430) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$14,452) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 8. Recreation and Culture
Service: 8.2 Public Halls
Strategic Objective: To maintain the School of Arts Hall at Bundarra and the Uralla Memorial Hall as the centres of focus for the local community so that provision is made for recreational, educational, cultural and sporting activities.

Principal Responsibility: Manager Works
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 5, and 8

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 1. To ensure that the halls are adequately maintained and are available for public use at minimal net cost to the community. | 1. (a) By delegation to advisory committees and by Council staff. (b) MBHS to inspect the halls annually and report to Council. (c) Halls to be provided at a CSO contribution of 90% plus depreciation. | 1. (a) The halls are used for activities on at least 20 days per annum for the Uralla Hall and 10 days per year for the Bundarra School of Arts Hall. (b) Report to management on the condition of the halls each quarter. (c) Income to be 10% of operating cost without depreciation. | Achieved Achieved Achieved |
| 2. Advertise the availability of the halls for hire and use at every possible occasion. | 2. Newsletter and other media sources | 2. Increased use of the facilities with new users. | Achieved |

The Recreation and Culture Services (Public Halls) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$29,919 (2006/2007 - \$27,719) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 8. Recreation and Culture
Service: 8.3 Swimming Facilities
Strategic Objective: To provide economical recreational and sporting water facilities for present and future residents of the Shire

Principal Responsibility: Manager Works
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 5, and 8

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. To provide an adequate number of appropriately trained staff to manage the Uralla Swimming Pool. | 1. Manage the pool by Council day labour and to be open for 7 days per week. | 1. Pool appropriately staffed for 7-day weeks during the pool season. | Achieved |
| 2. To aim that attendance at the Uralla Pool averages 15,000 people. | 2. Pool to operate 7-day weeks for a pool season of 17 weeks (20 weeks in 2006/2007) | 2. Annual pool attendance to be no less than 15,000. | Not achieved |
| 3. Ensure that at all times the water quality is within the Water Quality Guidelines. | 3. Water tests to be carried out regularly and appropriate action taken to correct anomalies. | 3. Chlorine levels and pH to be checked at least three times daily, bacteriological tests to be taken at least weekly and full chemical analysis every six weeks. | Achieved |

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 8. Recreation and Culture
Service: 8.3 Swimming Facilities (Continued)

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 4. While acknowledging that currently each pool user is subsidised at a rate of at least \$5.50 per attendance (on average) the Community acknowledges that to increase pool entry fees to the maximum level is more than the market will bear without discouraging attendance. | 4. All Season tickets to be discontinued. Admission fees to be raised by 33.3% for this season, with CSO identified as \$75,300 (2006/2007 - \$80,800). Council to examine the cost benefit of early morning swimming and the possibility | 4. (a) Report to Council in May of the cost per head of use of the CSO for the operation of the swimming pool. (b) Report to Council on options regarding early morning swimming and Contract operation. | Achieved Achieved |
| 5. Continue feasibility study into a new pool complex. | 5. Consultants, community consultation and in-house staff. | 5. Report to Council on alternatives by March 2008. | Achieved |
| 6. To determine a five year program for the funding and upgrading of a new aquatic centre complex | 6. In-house staff | 6. Report to Council by November 2007 for inclusion in the forward capital budget considerations. | Achieved |

The Recreation and Culture Services (Swimming Facilities) are funded in the Draft Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$100,330 (2006/2007 - \$110,447) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 8. Recreation and Culture
Service: 8.4 Sporting Grounds and Facilities
Strategic Objective: To provide suitable sporting facilities for the present and future residents of Uralla and the Shire.

Principal Responsibility: Manager Works
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, and 8

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. To maintain the existing grounds, fields and facilities to the community's satisfaction. | 1. Council day labour. | 1. No more than 2 complaints per quarter received about unsatisfactory conditions. | Achieved |

The Recreation and Culture Services (Sporting Grounds and Facilities) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$43,999 (2006/2007 - \$49,449 recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$ Nil) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 8. Recreation and Culture
Service: 8.5 Parks, Gardens and Reserves
Strategic Objective: To maintain and improve parks, gardens and reserves and, over time, upgrade facilities for the benefit of all present and future users.

Principal Responsibility: Manager Works

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, and 8

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. To maintain the existing parks, gardens and reserves to the community's satisfaction. | 1. Council day labour and Landcare groups. | 1. No more than 2 complaints per quarter received about unsatisfactory conditions. | Achieved |
| 2. Improve the amenities at Council's passive parks and gardens on a regular basis. | 2. Provision of Shade and playground equipment. | 2. Additional shade erected at Alma Park. | Achieved |
| 3. Continue the four stage development of the Mt Mutton Walking Trail | 3. Development of stage 2 of the program | 3. Work commenced on project | Not Achieved |

The Recreation and Culture Services (Sporting Grounds and Facilities) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$116,157 (2006/2007 - \$104,523) recurrent expenditure and \$13,000 (2006/2007 - \$40,863) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 8. Recreation and Culture
Service: 8.6 Other Recreation and Culture
Strategic Objective: To continue to develop cultural and historical activities to the benefit of the Shire's residents.

Principal Responsibility: Director Corporate and Community Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 8

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Encourage the continued work of the Uralla Arts Council in promoting cultural activities and concentrate on local activities. | 1. Funding the employment of the Regional Arts Development Officer (RADO). | 1. UAC continues and community activities resumed. | Achieved |
| 2. Encourage the continued operation of the Uralla Historical Society. | 2. Continue to make the Thunderbolt Paintings available to the Society for Display in McCrossin's Mill. | 2. (a) Annual income from the display of the paintings. (b) UHS continues. | Achieved Achieved |

The Recreation and Culture Services (Other Recreation and Culture) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$15,120 (2006/2007 - \$7,019) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 9. Mining, Manufacturing and Construction
Service: 9.1 Quarries and Pits
Strategic Objective: To manage, operate and control gravel pits and quarries in the Shire, in an economical and environmentally appropriate manner.

Principal Responsibility: Manager Works

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, 6, and 9

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. To operate and access material from pits and quarries to support the Council's Works Program. | 1. Council day labour and contract. | 1. MW to report total Volume of material won by Council from its pits. | Not Achieved |
| 2. Ensure that use of sand and gravel won from gravel pits in the Shire is used for the benefit of Uralla Shire residents or, if used outside the Shire, road usage costs are charged. | 2. Reconciling annually costs and charges imposed in development consents (Section 94 Contributions charges) relating to material used outside the Shire. | 2. Income and expenditure from Section 94 charges reconciled quarterly. | Achieved |

The Mining, Manufacturing and Construction Services are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$7,000 (2006/2007 - \$4,606) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications
Service: 10.1 Urban Roads
Strategic Objective: To manage, maintain and develop the system of urban roads in the Shire effectively and efficiently

Principal Responsibility: Manager Works

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. To seal all the streets in the Uralla village area by the Year 2010. | 1. (a) Funding from the General Fund, Developer Charges, FAGs Grant and Roads to Recovery Funding. (b) Work carried out by combination of Council day labour, contract and Strategic Alliance. (c) Investigate the immediate sealing of all unsealed roads in Uralla. | 1. 200 metres of road length sealed in Uralla this year. | Achieved |
| 2. To seal streets in Bundarra by the Year 2010. | 2. (a) Funding from the General Fund, FAGs Grant and Roads to Recovery Funding. (b) Work carried out by combination of Council day labour, contract and Strategic Alliance. (c) Investigate the immediate sealing of all unsealed roads in Bundarra. | 2. 200 metres of road length sealed in Bundarra this year. | Not Achieved |

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications
Service: 10.1 Urban Roads (Continued)

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 3. To grade all unsealed roads on average once per year, efficiently and effectively. | 3. Council day labour and Council's grading crews. | 3. 1.4 kms of unsealed urban roads graded. | Achieved |
| 4. To reseal all sealed pavements on average once every 12 years. | 4. (a) Program works to budget allocation. | 4. (a) Budget allocation made up to 7.5% of sealed road length. | Achieved |
| | (b) Work carried out by combination of Council day labour, contract and Strategic Alliance | (b) 1,700 metres of road resealed this year. | Achieved |
| 5. To kerb and gutter all urban streets on a progressive basis. | 5. (a) Program works to budget allocation. | 5. (a) No Capital Budget allocation made for 2007/2008. | Achieved |
| | (b) Council day labour and contract. (b) Ratepayer 50% contribution (\$45.00 per metre). | | |
| 6. To select and implement Creative Village Project Works. | 6. (a) projects developed on the advice of the Creative village committee. | 6. (a) Recommendations received from the Creative village committee. | Achieved |
| | (b) Program works to budget allocation. | (b) Budget allocation made. | Achieved |
| | (c) Contract and Council day labour. | (c) projects completed by April 2008 | Not Achieved |

The Transport and Communication Services (Urban Roads) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$104,511 (2006/2007 - \$164,082) recurrent expenditure and \$30,000 (2006/2007 - \$28,445) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications
Service: 10.2 Sealed Rural Roads
Strategic Objective: To manage, maintain and develop the system of sealed rural roads effectively and efficiently.
Principal Responsibility: Manager Works
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| A. Local Roads - [241.8km] | | | |
| 1. To reseal all sealed pavements on average once every 12 years. | a) Program works to budget allocation. | 1. (a) Budget allocation made up to 8.33% (20,150 metres) of sealed road length. | Achieved |
| | b) Work carried out by combination of Council day labour, contract and Strategic Alliance | (b) 20,150 metres of road resealed this year (at 12 years reseal). | Not Achieved |

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications
Service: 10.2 Sealed Rural Roads (Continued)

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| A. Local Roads - [241.8km] | | | |
| 2. Mow road shoulders on average twice/year. | 2. Combination of Council day labour and contract. | 2. 320 kms of shoulder mowed twice per year. | Achieved |
| 3. Grade ungrassed road shoulders on average once every two years. | 3. Council's grading crews. | 3. 100 kms of shoulder of un-sealed, ungrassed shoulder graded. | Achieved |
| B Regional Roads [127.4 km] | | | |
| 1. Maintain a reseal program based on a once every 12-year average resealing target. | 1. a) RTA Block Grant. b) Work carried out by combination of Council day labour, contract and Strategic Alliance. | 1. a) Block Grant received and Budget allocation made up to 7.5% (10,100 metres) of sealed road length. b) 10,100 metres of road resealed this year. | Achieved Achieved |
| 2. Mow road shoulders on average twice/year. | 2. Combination of Council day labour and contract. | 2. 200 kms of shoulder mowed twice per year. | Achieved |
| 3. Grade un-grassed road shoulders on average once every two years. | 3. Council's grading crews. | 3. 5 kms of shoulder of ungrassed shoulder graded. | Achieved |
| 4. Reconstruct 2.5 kilometres of the Thunderbolts Way - MR 73 | 4. Combination of Council day labour and contract with funding of \$197,500 from the RTA REPAIR program, matched funds from FAGs funding plus \$76,000 3 x 3 funding. | 4. Construction completed on time and within budget | Achieved |

The Transport and Communication Services (Rural Roads) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$1,635,400 (2006/2007 - \$1,722,885) recurrent expenditure and \$200,000 (2006/2007 - \$471,000) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity:

10. Transport and Communications

Service:

10.3 Unsealed Rural Roads

Strategic Objective:

To manage, maintain and develop the system of unsealed rural roads effectively and efficiently and only plan to seal them when economically justified

Principal Responsibility:

Manager Works

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| A. Local Roads [525km] | | | |
| 1. To grade all roads on average of once per year and the busier collector roads at least twice per year, thereby grading 325km once per year and 200km twice per year being a total grading length of 730 km p.a. | 1. | 1 | Achieved |
| | a) Council's three grading crews assisted by its one construction grader, plus local contractors and Strategic Alliance. | (a) 725 kms of road graded in the year. | |
| | (b) Crews to start and finish on the job whenever working at sites located greater than 30km from the depot. | (b) Report to Council twice per year on the roads that have not been graded for more than 12 months. | Not Achieved |
| 2. To seal only those gravel roads which have traffic volumes (AADT) in excess of 150 vehicles per day and to determine priorities for such work based on * AADT * accident history. | 2. Utilising Roads to Recovery Funding seal gravel roads by Council day labour and contract. | 2. | Achieved |
| | | (a) Program works for coming year satisfying criteria established by Council. | |
| (b) 3 kms of road sealed in the year. | | | |
| 3. To gravel resheet 5km of pavement every year. | 3. Work carried out by combination of Council day labour, contract and Strategic Alliance. | 3. 5 kms of road resheeted with gravel per year. | Achieved |
| B. Regional Roads [13.7 km] | | | |
| 1. To grade the roads on average of three times per year. | 1. Funded by the RTA Block Grant | 1 | Achieved |
| | (a) Council's three grading crews assisted by its one construction grader, plus local contractors and Strategic Alliance from time to time. | (a) 42 kms of road graded in the year. | |
| | (b) Crews to start and finish on the job whenever working at sites located greater than 30km from the depot. | (b) Report to Council twice per year on the roads that have not been graded for more than eight months. | Not Achieved |

The Transport and Communication Services (Unsealed Rural Roads) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$1,007,150 (2006/2007 - \$1,220,061) recurrent expenditure and \$510,000 (2006/2007 - \$1,096,000) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications
Service: 10.4 Bridges
Strategic Objective: To manage, maintain and develop the system of bridges effectively and efficiently for:
(A) Local Roads: 12 timber, two steel and 17 concrete and steel bridges and culverts.
(B) Regional Roads: 2 timber, one steel and 23 concrete and steel bridges and culverts.

Principal Responsibility: Manager Works
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| A. Local Roads | | | |
| 1. Continue program of test boring timber bridges and replacing unserviceable components as necessary. | 1. Council day labour. | 1. Report to council on the number of bridges assessed to be in poor condition. | Achieved |
| 2. Repaint all steel elements of bridges on average of once every ten years. | 2. Council day labour. | 2. Report to Council on the number of bridges not painted for more than 10 years. | Not Achieved |
| 3. Investigate means of funding the replacement of local wooden bridges | 3. Utilise the annual reduction of outstanding loans in the General Fund (now \$224,910) to offset borrowings | 3. Report to Council on options and procedure | Achieved |
| B. Regional Roads | | | |
| 1. Continue program of test boring timber bridges and replacing unserviceable components as necessary. | 1. Council day labour. | 1. Report to council on the number of bridges assessed to be in poor condition. | Achieved |
| 2. Repaint all steel elements of bridges on average of once every ten years. | 2. Council day labour. | 2. Report to Council on the number of bridges not painted for more than 10 years. | Achieved |
| 3. Prepare a timber replacement programme for bridges on regional roads. | 3. 50:50 funding from RTA deferred. | 3. Programme prepared ready for when funding resumes. | Achieved |

The Transport and Communication Services (Bridges) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$295,350 (2006/2007 - \$296,394) recurrent expenditure and \$222,500 (2006/2007 - \$46,607) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications
Service: 10.5 Footpaths
Strategic Objective: To manage, maintain and develop the system of footpaths in the urban centres in the Shire efficiently and effectively

Principal Responsibility: Manager Works
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. To maintain existing paved surfaces at their current levels. | 1. Council day labour. | 1. Number of complaints received on condition of paved surfaces. | Achieved |
| 2. To slash unpaved footpaths in Uralla, Bundarra, Kingstown and Kentucky regularly. | 2. Council day labour. | 2. Unpaved footpaths mowed three times per year. | Achieved |

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications
Service: 10.5 Footpaths (Continued)

The Transport and Communication Services (Footpaths) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$98,118 (2006/2007 - \$98,378) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$10,166) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications
Service: 10.6 Parking Areas
Strategic Objective: To maintain the off-street car park in Bridge Street, Uralla to the community's satisfaction and to encourage increased usage.

Principal Responsibility: Manager Works
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Have no complaints about the condition of the car park. | 1. Council day labour maintenance. | 1. Number of complaints received. | Achieved |
| 2. Increased patronage of the rear of CBD car park. | 2. Regular surveys | 2. Report to Council on usage of rear car park. | Not Achieved |

The Transport and Communication Services (Parking Areas) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$29,430 (2006/2007 - \$25,128) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$223,167 for loan repayments) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications
Service: 10.7 Miscellaneous
Strategic Objective: To protect the road system from damage, enhance and beautify it, to provide safe road conditions and to provide suitable signposting.

Principal Responsibility: Manager Works
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Develop and extend the current street lighting system as development occurs in urban areas. | 1. With funds provided by the Street lighting subsidy, developer contributions and Council provide additional streetlights when required. And work by Country Energy. | 1. Approved additional streetlights installed when requested. | Achieved |
| 2. To maintain road centreline markings where they are currently used and repaint other surface markings at least once per year. | 2. With Council and RTA Block Grant funds maintain and provide by contract. | 2. Programmed works undertaken | Not Achieved |
| 3. To ensure all roads are adequately signposted with nameplates and that direction and warning signposting is adequate for the needs of road users. | 3. Supplied by contract and erected by day labour with funds from the RTA Block Grant and Council. | 3. a) Programmed works undertaken b) Report to Council on the number of complaints about inadequate signposting quarterly. | Achieved Achieved |

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 10. Transport and Communications
Service: 10.7 Miscellaneous (Continued)

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 4. To prevent unnecessary damage to road pavements caused by overloaded vehicles. | 4. Retain membership of Mid-North Weight of Loads Group. | 4. (a) Membership retained. (b) Report to management on the number of vehicles weighed and breaches issued | Achieved Achieved |
| 5. To maintain and replace damaged and dead street trees within the urban areas of the Shire. | 5. Council day labour. | 5. Number of replaced trees reported to management. | Achieved |
| 6. To support the Uralla Rivercare Group to improve Uralla Creek | 6. Council support and NHT funding. | 6. Works completed. | Achieved |

The Transport and Communication Services (Miscellaneous) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$145,181 (2006/2007 - \$135,774) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$4,000) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 11. Economic Affairs
Service: 11.1 Camping and Caravan Areas

Strategic Objective To extend Alma Park by ensuring the removal, or relocation, of the Caravan Park and not to be directly involved in the provision of camping and caravan areas.

Principal Responsibility: Director Corporate and Community Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 5, and 7

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. To work with the new lessees of the Caravan Park to develop a Tourist Park to at least two and a half star rating. | 1. Work by Caravan Park lessees, supported by Council. | 1. Report annually to Council in August on the operation of the lease. | Not Achieved |
| 2. To work with the managers of the Bundarra Caravan Park (Commercial Hotel licensees) to provide comfortable overnight facility. | 2. Council workforce during week days and Commercial Hotel on weekends. | 2. Report annually to Council in August on the operation of the park. | Not Achieved |

Economic Affairs Services (Camping and Caravan Areas) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$8,885 (2006/2007 - \$9,889) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity:

Service:

Strategic Objective:

11. Economic Affairs

11.2 Tourism and Social and Economic Development

To promote tourism and social and economic development services; which are efficient, cost effective and readily available so that the whole Shire community may benefit financially.

Principal Responsibility:

Director Corporate and Community Services

GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 5, 7, and 8

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| A. Tourism | | | |
| 1. To progressively increase the number of visitors to the Uralla Shire and number of internet hits to the Uralla Tourism website on tourism matters and to satisfy those enquiries. | 1. Continue to engage a contractor on the basis of a 5 Day opening of the V.I.C to provide tourism services and fund the Monday opening with a Council employee. | 1. (a) Monthly report to Council by Visitor Information Manager on visitor numbers. (b) Report to Council quarterly by the V.I.C. Manager. | Achieved Achieved |
| 2. Participate in Regional Tourism Organisations. | 2. Financial contribution to NENWRTO (Big Sky Country), ART and regional projects and campaigns. | 2. Numbers through the VIC stabilised and web site hits continue to grow. | Achieved |
| 3. To provide financial support to Thunderbolt Country Fair | 3. Financial Contribution to, Uralla Events Committee (Council's Section 355 Committee. | 3. Payment made. | Achieved |
| 4. To provide hosting and general promotion of the Shire area. | 4. Hosting visits and receptions for visitors | 4. Functions held with positive outcomes | Achieved |

Economic Affairs Services (Tourism) is funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$123,685 (2006/2007 -\$119,776) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| B. Economic Development | | | |
| 1. To achieve new developments or expand existing developments in the Shire and the region. | 1. The Council's Economic Development Officer supported by funding from the DSRD. | 1. (a) Funding received. (b) Monthly reports by EDO to Council. | Achieved Achieved |
| 2. Uralla Shire Development Advisory Committee to advise Council on Development priorities | 2. Section 355 Committee Raising of loan to purchase industrial land, as a 1 st priority, when the opportunity arises. | 2. (a) Meetings held. (b) Industrial land purchase opportunity taken. | Achieved Not Achieved |
| 3. Auspice a Rural Transaction Centre in Bundarra within the Top Store. | 3. A Section 355 Committee funded by the Federal Government and operated by NECU with the view to incorporation. | 3. (a) RTC operating at no net cost to the community. (b) RTC Committee has incorporated. | Achieved Not Achieved |

**URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
MANAGEMENT PLAN – VOLUME 4 PART A – 2007/2008**

Principal Activity: 11. Economic Affairs
Service: 11.2 Tourism and Social and Economic Development (Continued)

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------|
| B. Economic Development 4. Operate TV retransmission facility in Uralla. | 4. TV Blackspots Program and Special Rate. | 4. Facility operating | Achieved |

Economic Affairs Services (Economic Development) is funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$139,898 (2006/2007 - \$154,915) recurrent expenditure and \$4,796 (2006/2007 - \$4,796) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 11. Economic Affairs
Service: 11.3 Private Works
Strategic Objective: To carry out private works to assist local residents but without adversely affecting local private contractors.

Principal Responsibility: Manager Works
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 3, 5, 7

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Actively seek and carry out works in accordance with Competition Policy at a small profit. | 1. Council day labour as and when requested. 2. Advertise availability of the service through the Council Newsletter | 1. a) Income exceeds the cost of operation. b) Number of customers. | Achieved Achieved |

Economic Affairs Services (Private Works) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$242,400 (2006/2007 - \$46,844) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

Principal Activity: 11. Economic Affairs
Service: 11.4 Other Business
Strategic Objective: To ensure a profit is returned on commercial ventures of an entrepreneurial nature.
Principal Responsibility: Director Corporate and Community Services
GOAL NUMBERS THIS ACTIVITY AIMS TO ASSIST IN ACHIEVING: 1, 5, and 7

| Objectives and Performance Targets | Statement of Means | Performance Assessment | Outcome. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Old Court House Building 1. To continue to rent the office and Court Room sections of the Courthouse building at prevailing commercial rates. | 1. Leased to appropriate organisations servicing the community. | 1. a) Rental at commercial rates. b) Income exceeds expenditure including depreciation. | Achieved Achieved |
| Visitor Information Building 2. To continue to rent the café portion of the VIC at prevailing commercial rates. | 2. Leased at commercial rates adjusted for CSO activities, cleaning toilets. | 2. a) Rental charged and up to date. | Achieved |

Economic Affairs Services (Other Business) are funded in the 2007/2008 Budget Estimates of the Uralla Shire Council (Management Plan Vol 4 Part B) with an allocation of \$2,515 (2006/2007 - \$7,129) recurrent expenditure and \$Nil (2006/2007 - \$Nil) capital expenditure.

NEW ENGLAND STRATEGIC ALLIANCE OF COUNCILS

STATE OF ENVIRONMENT REPORT
2007-2008



| | |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Executive Summary | 5 |
| 1. INTRODUCTION | 8 |
| 1.1 State of the Environment Reporting – Overview | |
| 1.2 Ecologically Sustainable Development | |
| 1.3 Reporting Framework | |
| 1.3.1 Pressure – State – Response Model | |
| 1.3.2 Environmental themes | |
| 1.3.3 Environmental Indicators | |
| 1.4 Aims and Objectives | |
| 1.5 Methodology | |
| 1.6 Community Consultation | |
| 2. NESAC REGION PROFILE | 12 |
| 2.1 NESAC Region | |
| 2.2 Population | |
| 2.3 Climate | |
| 3. LAND USE AND MANAGEMENT | 16 |
| 3.1 Introduction | |
| 3.2 Pressure | |
| 3.3 State | |
| 3.3.1 Land Use and Management – Rural | |
| 3.3.2 Land Use and Management – Urban | |
| 3.3.3 Bush Fire | |
| 3.3.4 Extractive Industries | |
| 3.3.5 Contaminated Land | |
| 3.3.6 Salinity | |
| 3.4 Response | |
| 3.4.1 Council Actions | |
| 3.4.2 Community and Government Agency Actions | |
| 3.5 Recommendations for 2008-2009 | |
| 4. AIR | 28 |
| 4.1 Introduction | |
| 4.2 Pressure | |
| 4.3 State | |
| 4.3.1 Environmental Protection Licences | |
| 4.3.2 Complaints Register | |
| 4.3.3 Transport | |
| 4.3.4 Road Sealing Program | |
| 4.3.5 Air Quality Monitoring | |
| 4.3.6 Energy Consumption | |
| 4.4 Response | |
| 4.4.1 Council Actions | |
| 4.4.2 Other Actions | |

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 4.5 | Recommendations for 2008-2009 | |
| 5. | WATER | 39 |
| 5.1 | Introduction | |
| 5.2 | Pressure | |
| 5.3 | State | |
| | 5.3.1 Water Quality Monitoring | |
| | 5.3.2 Water Consumption | |
| | 5.3.3 Environment Protection Licences | |
| 5.4 | Response | |
| | 5.4.1 Council Actions | |
| | 5.4.2 Community Actions | |
| 5.5 | Recommendations for 2008-2009 | |
| 6. | BIODIVERSITY | 53 |
| 6.1 | Introduction | |
| 6.2 | Pressure | |
| 6.3 | State | |
| | 6.3.1 National Parks | |
| | 6.3.2 Wetlands | |
| | 6.3.3 Flora and Fauna | |
| | 6.3.4 Fisheries | |
| | 6.3.5 Forestry | |
| | 6.3.6 Feral Animals / Companion Animals | |
| | 6.3.7 Weeds | |
| 6.4 | Response | |
| | 6.4.1 Council Actions | |
| | 6.4.2 Actions of Agencies / Organisations | |
| 6.5 | Public Submissions | |
| 6.6 | Recommendations for 2008-2009 | |
| 7. | WASTE | 67 |
| 7.1 | Introduction | |
| 7.2 | Pressure | |
| 7.3 | State | |
| | 7.3.1 Solid Waste | |
| | 7.3.2 Recycling | |
| 7.4 | Response | |
| 7.5 | Recommendations for 2008-2009 | |
| 8. | NOISE | 76 |
| 8.1 | Introduction | |
| 8.2 | Pressure | |
| 8.3 | State | |
| | 8.3.1 Noise Monitoring | |
| | 8.3.2 Council Noise Complaint Register | |
| | 8.3.3 Environment Protection Licenses | |
| 8.4 | Response | |
| 8.5 | Recommendations for 2008-2009 | |

| | | |
|------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 9. | ABORIGINAL HERITAGE..... | 83 |
| 9.1 | Introduction | |
| 9.2 | Pressure | |
| 9.3 | State | |
| | 9.3.1 Population | |
| | 9.3.2 Number of Identified Aboriginal Sites | |
| | 9.3.3 Number of Heritage Studies | |
| | 9.3.4 Licences Issued under National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 | |
| | 9.3.5 Funding for Aboriginal Heritage Projects | |
| 9.4 | Response | |
| | 9.4.1 Council Actions | |
| | 9.4.2 Community Actions | |
| 9.5 | Recommendations for 2008-2009 | |
| 10. | NON-ABORIGINAL HERITAGE..... | 87 |
| 10.1 | Introduction | |
| 10.2 | Pressure | |
| 10.3 | State | |
| | 10.3.1 Heritage Studies | |
| | 10.3.2 Heritage / Archaeological Sites | |
| | 10.3.3 Funding | |
| | 10.3.4 Interim Heritage Orders | |
| | 10.3.5 Council Heritage Advisors | |
| | 10.3.6 Museum Visitation | |
| 10.4 | Response | |
| | 10.4.1 Council Actions | |
| | 10.4.2 Community Action | |
| | 10.4.3 Action – Other | |
| 10.5 | Recommendations for 2008-2009 | |
| 11. | COUNCIL MANAGEMENT PLANS..... | 95 |
| 11.1 | Armidale Dumaresq Council | |
| 11.2 | Guyra Shire Council | |
| 11.3 | Uralla Shire Council | |
| 11.4 | Walcha Council | |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2007-2008 New England Strategic Alliance of Councils (NESAC) State of Environment Report is a supplementary report for the four local government areas of Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra, Uralla and Walcha.

The 2007-2008 State of Environment Report follows a similar format to the comprehensive State of Environment Report completed in 2003-2004 and subsequent supplementary reports, but is intended to only provide a review and update of changes and trends that have occurred during 2007-2008 in the environmental indicators identified for the eight key environmental sectors within the natural and built environment.

A brief summary of each of the eight environmental sectors is outlined below:

Land Use and Management

Work has continued during 2007-2008 on the Draft New England Regional Development Strategy which will guide future development in the area for the next 25 years and provide a planning context for the preparation of a single local environmental plan, or consistent local environmental plans, across the NESAC Region. Throughout 2007-2008, Councils have also been involved in reviewing or establishing policies for potentially contaminated land and carrying out on-ground works to maintain and enhance the natural environment. Southern New England Landcare and the respective Catchment Management Authorities have also been actively involved in environmental projects throughout the NESAC Region.

Air

Wood smoke in Armidale City continues to be the main air pollution issue in the NESAC Region. Armidale Dumaresq Council has implemented a number of measures to monitor and address wood smoke, including continued financial assistance for alternative heating and purchase of a Dustrak air monitoring device.

Uralla Shire Council has experienced a considerable decline in odour complaints over the last three reporting periods.

All Councils in the NESAC Region are participating in various climate change projects which have commenced during 2007-2008.

Water

While water quality has not changed significantly over 2007-2008 in the three waterbodies monitored / reported for the State of Environment Report, improvements have been recorded in Dumaresq Creek, particularly in relation to pH levels, while blue green algae continues to be an issue for Malpas Dam. Over the reporting period, water consumption per connection per day has increased in Guyra and Bundarra, although consumption in Bundarra still remains well below the average Australian daily household rate. Water consumption per connection per day has fallen in Armidale, Uralla and Walcha during 2007-2008.

All Councils in the Region continue to work collaboratively with Catchment Management Authorities and Landcare to implement on-ground works to improve the health of waterways.

Biodiversity

Throughout 2007-2008, the NESAC Councils were involved in biodiversity projects of varying scale, and actively continued to seek funding to carry out a regional biodiversity study (although being unsuccessful in a bid to the Department of Planning's Planning Reform Fund). The New England Weeds Authority was also active throughout the reporting period in the control of weeds across the Region.

The number of threatened flora species recorded across the NESAC Region increased during 2007-2008, while the management of roadside reserves and travelling stock routes was raised as an issue of concern, particularly in relation to the illegal collection of firewood.

Waste

After a number of years of generally declining domestic waste generation, Armidale Dumaresq Council has remained relatively stable during 2007-2008, while the remaining NESAC Councils have experienced an increase in the amount of domestic waste generated per capita from 2006-2007 to 2007-2008. Conversely, the amount of recycled material (kg) per capita also increased slightly across the region during the same period.

All Councils are actively involved in the Northern Inland Regional Waste Group and have undertaken programs to encourage greater recycling and improve waste management efficiencies.

Work has continued on the planning phase of a new regional landfill during 2007-2008.

Noise

Barking dogs continued to be the major source of noise complaints across the NESAC Region during 2007-2008, contributing to 71% of all noise complaints received by Councils. Armidale Dumaresq Council experienced a significant increase in the number of noise complaints received over the reporting period, with the main sources being barking dogs, amplified music and entertainment venues.

All Councils have maintained accurate records of noise complaints received and carried out monitoring of specific sites where necessary.

Aboriginal Heritage

The Aboriginal population comprises 6.1% of the total population of the NESAC Region, compared to 2.3% of the Australian population.

Significant events in relation to Aboriginal Heritage during 2007-2008 were the addition of 14 sites to the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System and Armidale Dumaresq Councils successful application for funding to carry out an Aboriginal Heritage Study.

Non-Aboriginal Heritage

All Councils continued to be involved in non-Aboriginal heritage during 2007-2008 with projects including completion of a draft Guyra Heritage Study, review of heritage items / precincts in Uralla and Bundarra, continuation of the Walcha Heritage Study,

review of potential heritage items in Armidale Dumaresq and adoption of a 2008-2011 Heritage Strategy by Armidale Dumaresq Council.

Armidale Dumaresq, Uralla and Guyra Councils continue to provide a Heritage Advisory service to the community and in March 2008 a successful Armidale Dumaresq and Uralla Heritage and Design Awards dinner was conducted.

1.1 STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORTING – OVERVIEW

The NSW *Local Government Act 1993* requires all Councils to produce a State of Environment Report as part of their annual reporting requirements. Comprehensive reports must be prepared for the year ending after election of councillors for the area. Local Government elections were held in September 2008, and as such, a comprehensive report will be required for 2008-2009. Other State of Environment Reports may be either a comprehensive or supplementary report, as the council chooses. NESAC have chosen to prepare a regionally based supplementary report for 2007-2008 to build on the regional State of Environment Reports that have been prepared annually since 2003-2004.

State of Environment reporting is intended to provide timely and accurate information on the condition of the local environment and an assessment of activities and their resulting impacts on the region. The information contained in the State of Environment Report should contribute to the management activities and decision making processes of Council across all sectors of activity, and enable planning to avoid or mitigate adverse impacts.

1.2 ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The role of NSW local government in the implementation of ecologically sustainable development (ESD) principles has been formally recognised by incorporating the principles of ESD in the NSW *Local Government Act 1993* and by requiring councils to manage their regulatory and service functions in an ecologically sustainable manner (Department of Local Government, *Environmental Guidelines – State of Environment Reporting by Local Government* – December 1999).

Ecologically sustainable development (ESD) means an approach to using, conserving and enhancing natural resources so that ecological processes, on which all life depends, are maintained, and the total quality of life, now and in the future, is improved (COAG, 1992).

Council's State of Environment Report is recognised as a key mechanism for identifying and evaluating sustainability issue for local government, assessing progress towards sustainability and informing the decision making process and management activities of Council.

The State of Environment Report provides data that addresses the effectiveness of adopted environmental management strategies and allows the performance of those strategies to be reviewed to determine gaps in the planning / management process.

1.3 REPORTING FRAMEWORK

1.3.1 Pressure – State – Response Model

The NESAC State of Environment Report adopts the pressure – state – response model consistent with Commonwealth, State and Territory reporting.

The pressure – state – response model is based on the concept of causality, i.e. human activities exert pressures on the environment which change its state, or condition. Society then responds to this change of state by developing and implementing policies and/or actions, which complete the cycle and influence the activities that exert pressure on the environment.

In the context of the NESAC State of Environment Report, the pressure – state – response model enables reporting on:

- the pressures that human activities place on the environment – positive or negative effects;
- the state or condition of the environment – identifying changes or trends in the environment, quantifying the impact of activities and the effectiveness of responses; and
- the response of councils, government agencies, business and the community to the pressures on, and state of, the environment.

It should be noted that the pressure – state – response model does have some shortcomings. The implied cycle of cause and effect is simplistic and often there is not clear evidence linking pressures with changes in environmental state. It is not always easy to categorise indicators, as they may reflect aspects of state, pressure or response, depending on the way the issue is approached. (Department of Local Government, *Environmental Guidelines – State of Environment Reporting by Local Government* – December 1999)

1.3.2 Environmental Themes

Section 428(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires a State of Environment Report to address the following environmental sectors:

- land
- air
- water
- biodiversity
- waste
- noise
- aboriginal heritage
- non-aboriginal heritage

with particular reference, with regard to each such environmental sector, to:

- management plans relating to the environment;
- special council projects relating to the environment; and
- the environmental impact of council activities.

1.3.3 Environmental Indicators

The Pressure-State-Response model involves the measurement of a number of environmental conditions (indicators) to provide a picture of the environment. These indicators need to comply with the following specific criteria:

- relevance - usefulness for users
- reliability - level of completeness, consistency, and accuracy of data
- timeliness - availability of data at a time suitable for reporting purposes
- sensitivity - able to show trends over time
- reproducible - well founded technically and able to take into account availability of resources
- policy linkage - linked to strategic goals
- utility - ability to be reproduced, over time, nationally and regionally.

The indicators identified in the Report are intended to be consistent with National, State and Regional indicators and be consistent over time. This will allow monitoring results from national and state-based authorities to be included within the report, ensure the report's relevance to national and state reporting processes and allow for environmental trends to be identified with greater reliability.

1.4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims and objectives of the NESAC 2007-2008 State of Environment Report are to:

- compile and present data on the current state of the environment for previously identified environmental indicators across the four local government areas of Armidale Dumaresq, Guyra, Uralla and Walcha;
- identify trends and report on changes in the environment from 2006-2007;
- satisfy the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993;
- identify new or emerging issues within the Region, and where necessary, provide direction for collecting relevant data on these matters in the future;
- link the Report to each Council's Management Plan:
 - identify actions and strategies within the respective Management Plans that relate to each of the environmental sectors in the State of Environment Report; and
 - recommend actions and/or strategies to address issues identified in the State of Environment Report that the Councils may consider for incorporation into future Management Plans.

1.5 METHODOLOGY

The 2007-2008 State of Environment Report examines several environmental indicators grouped into eight key environmental sectors, as outlined above.

Data for each of the environmental indicators has been obtained from the four NESAC Councils, relevant State Government agencies, local community based organisations, local environmental groups and members of the public. Searches of the Internet were also conducted to collect relevant information.

Information presented in this report is defined by the boundaries of the respective local government area and/or for the entire NESAC region. In some cases the local government boundaries do not correspond with Government agency boundaries (e.g. Catchment Management Authority boundaries, Rural Land Protection Board District),

or other significant environmental areas. References are provided, where appropriate, to outline the relevance of information to the respective Council areas.

Data gaps within the report are generally the result of an absence of any data, an inability of the relevant organisations to provide data within the period available, or the relevant environmental indicator being a new or emerging issue.

Where possible, data has been presented to illustrate:

- the current state of the environment within each local government area and across the whole NESAC Region during 2007-2008; and
- trends and changes that have occurred in relation to the respective environmental indicators within each local government area and across the whole NESAC Region over time.

1.6 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Community consultation was conducted by writing to key local community organisations and local environmental groups identified by the respective Councils. These community organisations and local environmental groups were invited to provide details of funding they had received during 2007-2008 for the implementation of activities that benefit the local environment, any environmental activities or projects (on-ground works, field days, education, etc.) that they had undertaken in 2007-2008 and details of any new or emerging issues affecting the local environment that they had identified.

Advertisements were also placed in locally circulating newspapers inviting members of the public to make submissions for inclusion in the SoE Report.

2.1 NESAC REGION

The New England Strategic Alliance of Councils (NESAC) comprises Armidale Dumaresq Council, Guyra Shire Council, Uralla Shire Council, Walcha Council and the New England Weeds Authority. For the purpose of this State of Environment Report, the NESAC Region is the combined area of the four (4) local government areas. The NESAC Region forms part of a larger land area better known as the Northern Tablelands of NSW or New England Tablelands of NSW.

Figure 2.1 Location of NESAC Region in NSW
 Source: NSW Department of Local Government



The NESAC Region covers approximately 18,127 km², spanning distances of over 150km east to west and over 200km north to south. The Region has four main urban centres of Armidale, Guyra, Uralla and Walcha, along with numerous villages and settlements, including Ben Lomond, Black Mountain, Bundarra, Ebor, Hillgrove, Kentucky, Kingstown, Llangothlin, Nowendoc, Tingha, Walcha Road, Wandsworth, Wollomombi, Wollun, Woolbrook and Yarrowitch. Armidale is the main retail, commercial and educational centre within the Region, and is home to the University of New England, the New England TAFE College and three private boarding schools.

The NESAC Region straddles the Great Diving Range and is part of the New England Tableland Bioregion comprising a stepped plateau of hills and plains with elevations between 600m and 1500m ASL. Rainfall, temperature and soils change with topography and vegetation is very diverse with a high degree of endemism (www.decc.nsw.gov.au). Eastern parts of the Region are home to areas of the Central Eastern Rainforest Reserves World Heritage Area.

The NESAC Region contains numerous rivers and tributaries, draining into the Clarence River, Macleay River, Namoi River and Gwydir River Catchments. These catchments are managed by the Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority, Namoi Catchment Management Authority, Border Rivers-Gwydir Catchment Management Authority and Hunter Catchment Management Authority.

Figure 2.2 Local Government and Catchment Management Authority Boundaries

Source: CMA NSW (Nov, 2004)



The NESAC Region is also known for its high quality wool production and as a major production area for both lamb and beef cattle. Other significant industries in the area include forestry, mining and tourism.

Non-indigenous settlers first arrived in the NESAC Region during the early 1800's, attracted by initial growth in agriculture and mining. Development onwards from this period has left many items of historical importance which exist alongside a rich Aboriginal culture in this unique natural environment.

2.2 POPULATION

The NESAC Region has a population of 38,386 (ABS estimate at 30 June 2007). The Region experienced a declining population during the 15 year period from 1991 to 2006 (-7.6%), however latest figures suggest this trend may have halted.

Armidale is the main urban centre within the Region, having the largest population and being the principle focus for retail, commercial, education and research facilities. Armidale also has a distinctly different demographic characteristic to other settlements (such as age structure and mobility) due to the presence of the student population associated with the University of New England and boarding schools (Draft New England Development Strategy, 2008).

Table 2.1 Population Summary for NESAC Region
 Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics

| LGA | 1991 | 1996 | 2001 | 2006 | 2007* | Pop. % | Area (km ²) |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|-------------------------|
| ADC | 26,071 | 25,198 | 24,807 | 24,533 | 24,684 | 64.3 | 4,235 |
| GSC | 4,927 | 4,474 | 4,475 | 4,402 | 4,411 | 11.5 | 4,395 |
| USC | 6,183 | 6,048 | 6,099 | 5,989 | 5,987 | 15.6 | 3,230 |
| WC | 3,711 | 3,363 | 3,307 | 3,327 | 3,304 | 8.6 | 6,267 |
| NESAC | 40,892 | 39,083 | 38,688 | 38,251 | 38,386 | 100 | 18,127 |

* estimated resident population at 30 June 2007

2.3 CLIMATE

The climate varies markedly between seasons and between locations throughout the Region. Topography is the most important factor that determines local rainfall, temperature and wind patterns. Altitude is closely related to maximum and minimum temperatures, with higher elevations experiencing longer periods between first and last frost and more extremes of cold during winter.

The NESAC Region is dominated by cool, dry, west to south-westerly air supplied from the continental interior or from the southern oceans during winter, whereas summer months are predominantly easterly flows originating from the Tasman Sea. These airflows are then primarily responsible for the temperature and rainfall that is experienced in the region.

Airflows influence temperatures across the NESAC Region. Cold fronts that sweep across the region from the continental interior and southern oceans are responsible for the low temperatures that occur during the winter months, and conversely, the easterly airflow during summer months brings warmer conditions to the region.

Average minimum and maximum temperatures experienced in the region during summer months range between 12°C and 27°C, whereas the average winter minimum and maximum temperatures are -1°C to 12°C (see Figure 2.3). Frosts are common during the colder months, occurring on an average 100 days per year, the first of which typically occur around Anzac Day (25th April). There is one to three months of the year with an average temperature greater than 18°C (Southern New England Tablelands Region State of Environment Report 2006-2007).

The NESAC Region also lies within a zone of transition from the dominantly summer maximum rainfall areas of northern Australia to the dominantly winter maximum rainfall areas of the south. As such, the area is classified as having a maximum summer rainfall with numerous convective thunderstorm events occurring as the cool maritime air flows from the east up onto the warmer escarpment causing atmospheric instability. Sixty to seventy percent of the total annual rainfall occurs during the summer months (see Figure 2.4).

Higher rainfall peaks occur around the higher elevations toward the eastern edge of the escarpment and decrease toward the western areas of the region. Average annual rainfalls on the eastern edge of the region are in the order of 2000mm, decreasing to 700mm in the western region. Snow may often be associated with

rainfall during the winter months, but is mainly confined to the higher regions along the eastern edge of the escarpment with an elevation generally in excess of 900m

Figure 2.3 Average Temperatures Across the NESAC Region

Source: Bureau of Meteorology - weather stations at Armidale (Airport), Guyra (Post Office) and Woolbrook (Danglemah Road).

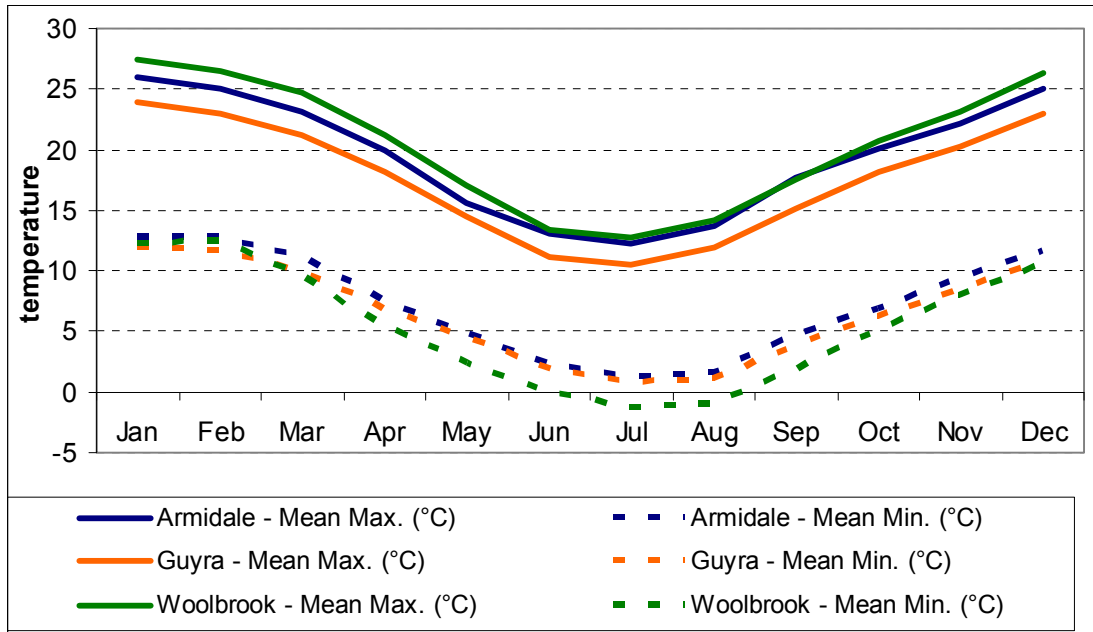
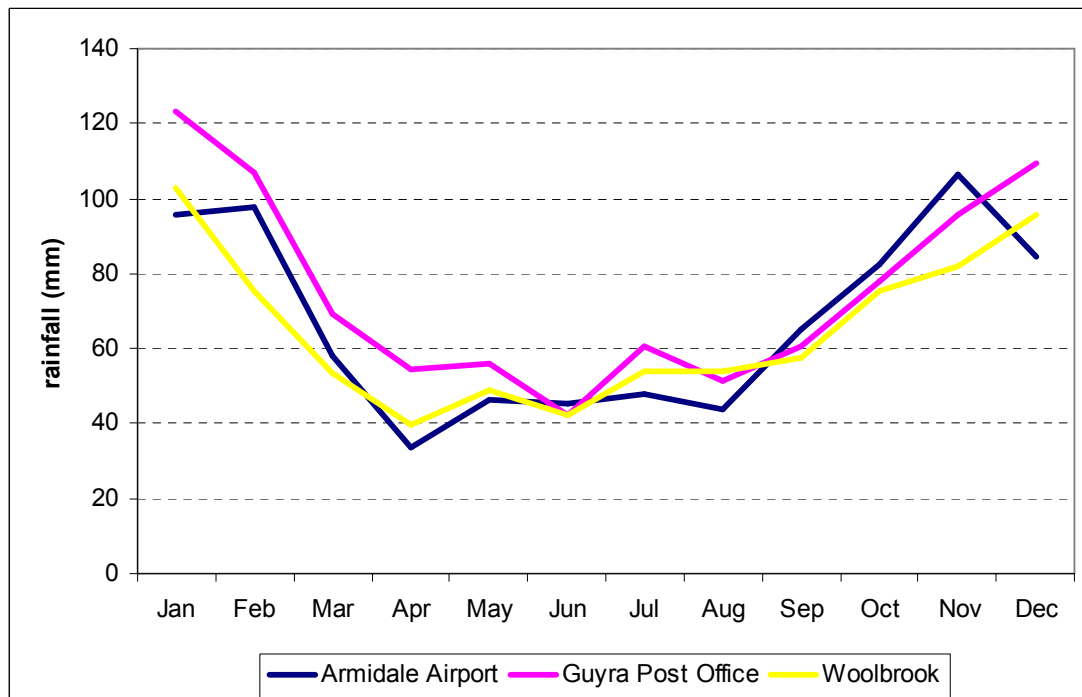


Figure 2.4 Average Rainfalls Across the NESAC Region

Source: Bureau of Meteorology - weather stations at Armidale (Airport), Guyra (Post Office) and Woolbrook (Danglemah Road).



3.1 INTRODUCTION

The NESAC region comprises predominantly privately owned land (80%) with the majority used for agricultural grazing purposes. The main agricultural activities are wool and beef cattle production, while forestry also occurs in the east. Less than five per cent of agricultural land is under crops, and irrigated agriculture is minimal. The remaining 20% of land is publicly owned, with uses such as forestry; conservation and travelling stock routes.

3.2 PRESSURE

Activities and issues that impact, or create pressure on, land resources in the NESAC Region have been identified in previous State of Environment Reports. These pressures are broadly identified as:

- land use and management – rural land
- drought
- weeds (see Part 6 – Biodiversity)
- bushfires
- extractive industries
- contaminated land

3.3 STATE

The environmental indicators outlined below have been used to assess and monitor the state, or condition of the environment with respect to land use and management. Further details relating to these environmental indicators are contained in the Southern New England Tablelands Region State of Environment Report 2006-2007.

This section provides up-dated data for the respective environmental indicators for 2007-2008 and outlines any significant trends.

3.3.1 Land Use and Management – Rural

Agricultural land use (stock carrying capacity)

The carrying capacity of rural properties is a function of many factors including farm management techniques, seasonal variations and land capability. Table 3.1 shows stocking rates and trends in carrying capacity for land within the Armidale Rural Lands Protection Board (RLPB), which covers a significant part of the NESAC Region. The carrying capacity figures are intended to give a general indication of rural land conditions within the Region.

Table 3.1 Stock Numbers in the Armidale RLPB District

| Stock | No. Head 02/03 | No. Head 04/05 | No. Head 05/06 | No. Head 06/07 | No. Head 07/08 |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Beef Cattle | 309,027 | 322,877 | 357,320 | <DATA GAP> No information provided by Rural Lands Protection Board | |
| Dairy Cattle | 1,140 | 4,253 | 1,719 | | |
| Sheep | 2,180,364 | 1,990,247 | 1,904,483 | | |
| Horses | 3,726 | 4,383 | 3,862 | | |
| Goats | 8,507 | 10,444 | 8,879 | | |
| Deer | 213 | 303 | 152 | | |
| Pig | 8,228 | 6,306 | 484 | | |
| Region Total DSE / ha | 3.9 | 3.9 | 4.0 | | |

Land Clearing

The Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority (CMA) did not approve or refuse any applications to clear native vegetation during 2007-2008 and have recorded 0 hectares of vegetation clearing.

No applications for clearing of native vegetation were reported by the Namoi CMA for land in the Walcha Council area during 2007-2008.

<DATA GAP> No information provided by Border Rivers – Gwydir CMA regarding land clearing.

Management of Travelling Stock Routes (TSR)

<DATA GAP> Information requested from Rural Lands Protection Board regarding travelling stock route use and management, total area (ha), frequency of use and number of stock using TSR was not provided for 2007-2008.

3.3.2 Land Use and Management - Urban

The use and management of land for urban / residential purposes has been identified as a form of pressure on land resources that has not been considered in previous State of Environment Reports.

The Department of Primary Industries (Agriculture) have expressed a desire to examine “urbanisation of the landscape” and fragmentation of rural land by assessing the number of dwellings in primary production zones in relation to the area zoned for primary production.

Armidale Dumaresq Council are developing a land monitor in 2008-2009 to track the release of new housing allotments for the purposes of monitoring demand and supply in connection with implementation of the Council’s recently gazetted LEP. <DATA GAP> Data from Council’s land monitor to be included in 2008-2009 State of Environment Report.

3.3.3 Bush Fire

Bush fires are recognised as a natural and recurring phenomenon that influence the environment and play a potentially significant role in the evolution and maintenance of both natural and cultural heritage values. Fires can also pose a significant threat to human life, property and the environment. Uncontrolled high intensity fires and a high frequency of fires have the greatest potential to harm the environment.

Bush fire management in rural areas of the NESAC Region is carried out by the NSW Rural Fire Service – New England Zone (RFS). The National Parks and Wildlife Service and NSW Forests also carry out bushfire management on land under their control. Following is a brief summary of bush fire activity and management by the RFS in the New England Zone during 2007-2008. Comparative data for 2006-2007 is outlined below in Table 3.2.

Incidents / Fires Attended

During 2007-2008 the RFS responded to 266 incidents, of which 149 were classified as fire/explosion, compared to a total of 414 incidents in 2006-2007 of which 279 were identified as fire/explosion. Some of the other incidents types contributing to the total number of incidents in 2007-2008 included false alarms (9), good intent calls (19), hazardous conditions (2) and motor vehicle accidents/rescue/emergency (64).

Area Burnt

The total area burnt by bushfires across the NESAC Region during 2007-2008 was 39,274ha, comprising 18,730ha in the Armidale Dumaresq local government area, 7,984ha in the Guyra Shire and 12,560ha in Walcha Council area.

Fire Permits

A total of 1,219 fire permits were issued across the NESAC Region during the 2007-2008 bush fire danger period.

Hazard Reduction

Information supplied by the NSW RFS indicates that 25ha of land was subject to hazard reduction activities in 2007-2008, comprising 22ha in Uralla Shire and 3ha in the Guyra Shire area.

Community Education

During 2007-2008 the RFS conducted 21 community education programs aimed at increasing community awareness and preparedness for bush fires. These programs were conducted across the NESAC Region with 8 being conducted in Armidale Dumaresq, 7 in Guyra Shire, 5 in Uralla Shire and 1 in the Walcha Council area.

Table 3.2 Summary of NSW Rural Fire Service Activity

| Rural Fire Service Activity and Management RFS New England Zone | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| | ADC | | GSC | | USC | | WC | |
| | 06-07 | 07-08 | 06-07 | 07-08 | 06-07 | 07-08 | 06-07 | 07-08 |
| incidents attended | 96 | 80 | 189 | 94 | 100 | 75 | 29 | 17 |
| fires attended | 57 | 55 | 150 | 51 | 65 | 36 | 7 | 7 |
| area burnt* | n/a | 18,730 | n/a | 7,984 | n/a | 0 | n/a | 12,560 |
| fire permits issued | 243 | 325 | 187 | 292 | 172 | 282 | 224 | 320 |
| area hazard reduction* | n/a | 0 | n/a | 3.2 | n/a | 21.9 | n/a | 0 |
| community education** | 4 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 1 |

* area shown as hectares (ha)

** number of community education programs completed

n/a figures not available

Bush Fire Prone Land

Section 146 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* requires Councils to review their bush fire prone land maps at least every five years. During 2007-2008, a review of the four Council's bush fire prone land maps was commenced in consultation with the RFS New England Zone. It is anticipated that the up-dated maps will be sent to the RFS for Commissioner's certification during 2008-2009.

3.3.4 Extractive Industries

Straits (Hillgrove) Gold Mine

The major mining operation within the NESAC Region is Straits (Hillgrove) Gold Mine. The mine conducts an Annual Environmental Management Meeting with the most recent being held on 18 June 2008, with representative from NSW Department of Primary Industries, Armidale Dumaresq Council, NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change and Straits (Hillgrove) Gold Mine present.

Mineral Claims, Mining Leases and Exploration Licenses

Table 3.3 provides a summary of mining activity in the NESAC Region, as registered by the Department of Primary Industries – Mineral Resource Division.

During 2007-2008 there were a total of 66 mining leases or mineral claims in operation across the NESAC Region. Three (3) of the mining leases were issued during 2007-2008, and two (2) existing mining leases were renewed. The total area covered by current mining leases and mineral claims in the NESAC Region during 2007-2008 was 2465.83 hectares

A total of 41 exploration licences were current across the NESAC Region during 2007-2008, with 12 of those licences being issued during the reporting period.

Table 3.3 2007-2008 Mining Activity in the NESAC Region

Source: NSW Department of Primary Industries (Mineral Resources)

| | Armidale Dumaresq | Guyra | Uralla | Walcha |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Mining Leases and Mineral Claims | 46 | 8 | 9 | 3 |
| Exploration Licences* | 17 (4) | 20 (5) | 7 (5) | 8 (2) |

* A total of 41 exploration licences are current across the NESAC Region. Table 3.3 shows the total number located fully or partly in the respective local government areas, with the number of licences that cross LGA boundaries shown in brackets

Extractive Industries

Table 3.4 shows the number of extractive industries / quarries registered in each of the NESAC Council areas.

Table 3.4 Number of Quarries Registered with the Councils

| LGA | 2005/06 | 2006/07 | 2007/08 |
|----------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Armidale Dumaresq | 16 | 16 | 16 |
| Uralla | 21 | 21 | 21 |
| Walcha | 28 | 27 | 27 |
| Guyra | 14 | 52 | 46 |
| NESAC Region (total) | 79 | 116 | 110 |

3.3.5 Contaminated Land

Number of site subject to Notices or Orders

Table 3.5 lists sites within the NESAC Region that are currently subject to notices relating to land contamination. The notices are issued by the Department of Environment and Climate Change (formerly Environment Protection Authority). No new notices were issued during 2007-2008.

Table 3.5 Current Notices for Contaminated Lands

Source: Department of Environment and Climate Change

| LGA | Site | Occupier | Notice Type | Issue Date |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Uralla | Walcha Road, Uralla | Koppers Australia Pty Ltd | Remediation Order | September 1992 |
| Armidale Dumaresq | Armidale Gas Works | Armidale Dumaresq Council | Note of existence of Voluntary Remediation Proposal | December 2002 |

Remediation / investigation of Contaminated Sites

Remediation of the Armidale Gas Works site commenced in 2005-2006 and was completed towards the end of that period. During 2006-2007, validation of the remediation work was carried out by an accredited site auditor and a site validation report was completed. This report is with the site auditor for signing-off.

Potentially Contaminated Land

Armidale Dumaresq Council

During 2006-2007 Armidale Dumaresq Council reviewed its Contaminated Land Code (Armidale Dumaresq DCP 2007 – Chapter B9). Council have identified a strategic task for 2008-2009 to prepare a list of potentially contaminated sites for the former Dumaresq Shire area and incorporate this into Council's existing Information System for Potentially Contaminated Land.

Guyra Shire Council

Guyra Shire Council has commenced preparation of a development control plan and an Information System for potentially contaminated land in 2007-2008.

Uralla Shire Council

During 2007-2008 Uralla Shire Council prepared and adopted a Development Control Plan relating to contaminated land, and a potentially contaminated land Information

System detailing sites that may be subject to contamination due to past land use activities.

Walcha Council

Walcha Council have adopted a draft Contaminated Land Development Control Plan for public exhibition.

It should be noted that the Information Systems outlined above relate to potentially contaminated sites only and relate to land where information is available to identify the existence of current or former activities that may cause potential contamination. Most of this land has not been specifically assessed to determine the actual existence of contamination, but rather included to identify that further investigation is appropriate in connection with development proposals.

3.3.6 Salinity

Walcha Council, in conjunction with the Northern Rivers CMA, Department of Environmental & Climate Change and Southern New England Landcare, are to be involved in a Salinity Strategy Enhancement Program. No further details of this project were available for this report.

Uralla Shire Council has received funding from Border Rivers – Gwydir CMA for a Point Source Salinity Project in the Bundarra area (see Table 3.6 for details).

3.4 RESPONSE

3.4.1 Council Actions

Table 3.6 provides a summary of actions that were being implemented by each of the Councils during 2006-2007 and new actions implemented during 2007-2008 in response to pressures identified in Part 3.2. The Table also details the outcomes that were achieved and/or the on-going actions that were undertaken during 2007-2008 in relation to these matters.

Table 3.6 Land Use and Management Actions / Outcomes

| Land Use and Management – Rural Land | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: work activities incorporate best practice land management techniques (e.g. erosion control on road works) | on-going |
| All Councils: preparing Regional Development Strategy and consistent Regional local environmental plan | The Draft New England Development Strategy is being publicly exhibited during September – October 2008. Following adoption of the Regional Strategy, work will commence on preparing the LEP(s) for NESAC. |
| All Councils: liaise with CMAs to implement environmental projects | on-going |

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ADC: support Southern New England Landcare through provision of rent-free premise/office. | on-going |
| GSC: donate funds raised from the Ben Lomond Recycling Centre for tree planting and environmental projects | funds donated to Landcare for tree planting |
| USC: support Uralla Urban Rivercare Group. | Rivercare Group funding being used for remediation work in accordance with the Uralla Sub-Catchment Management Plan. Southern New England Landcare (SNELC) community support officer based in Uralla on average 1 day per week for various projects (e.g. Uralla Sub-catchment Management Plan, community consultation, education) |
| WC: supported application for SNELC Community Support Officer in Walcha 1 day/week. | SNELC officer based in Walcha for 1 day per week |
| WC: work with Northern Rivers CMA and SNELC to assist local landowners apply for grants to do works identified in approved Natural Resource Management Plan. | workshop conducted on-going assistance as required |
| Land Use and Management – Urban Land | |
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: preparing regional development strategy and Regional local environmental plan | as above |
| ADC: preparation of Armidale Dumaresq Local Environmental Plan. | completed - Armidale Dumaresq LEP 2008 was gazetted on 15 February 2008 |
| ADC: prepare Armidale Dumaresq DCP 2007 – Chapter D3 (Code for Development of Future Urban Areas) | completed - DCP 2007 – Chapter D3 was adopted by Council in December 2007 to guide future urban development of land in north Armidale. |
| ADC: Council sought expressions of interest from persons interested in undertaking an ecologically sustainable subdivision in Armidale. | 9 expressions of interest were received. A review against initial selection criteria resulted in 5 people being invited to present proposals to a Councillors Workshop (to be conducted in 2008-2009) |

| ADC: rehabilitation of Mana Gums Bushland Reserve that supports an endangered ecological community and riparian zone | on-going project conducted by ADC staff, Armidale Tree Group (\$10,000 funding from ADC) and work-for-the-dole team. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| GSC: review tree planting on streets and other public areas | on-going |
| Bush Fire | |
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: financial support for NSW Rural Fire Service | on-going |
| Extractive Industries | |
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: comply with development consent conditions with regards to quarry operations | on-going |
| Contaminated Land | |
| Action | Outcome |
| ADC: completion of Armidale Gasworks site remediation. | site validation report completed and with site auditor for signing-off. |
| ADC: review existing contaminated land DCP and amend Information System to include sites in former Dumaresq Shire | to be undertaken in 2008-2009 |
| GSC, USC & WC: prepare a development control plan and Information Systems for potentially contaminated land | <p>GSC: Draft DCP prepared and exhibited. Draft Information System compiled – land holder notification and finalisation of DCP to be carried out in 2008-2009.</p> <p>USC: completed - DCP adopted by Council in May 2008. Information System compiled in conjunction with DCP preparation</p> <p>WC: draft DCP adopted by Council for public exhibition</p> |
| Salinity | |
| Action | Outcome |
| USC: \$33,000 funding received in 2007-2008 from Border Rivers – Gwydir CMA for Point Source Salinity Project (Bundarra) | Provide a subsidy to residents to upgrade existing on-site waste treatment devices that are deemed to be faulty. |
| WC: Salinity Strategy Enhancement Program (see Section 3.3.6) | A budget has been allocated and an area has been identified for further study. No other details are available for this report. |

Uralla Shire Council - Environmental Projects

During 2007-2008 Uralla Shire Council has commenced or been involved in the following land management / environmental projects:

- commencement of Uralla Sub-catchment Management Plan – a collaborative plan developed by Border Rivers – Gwydir CMA, Southern New England Landcare and Uralla Shire Council to outline issues relating to storm water movement and environmental issues that need to be addressed. The plan has an anticipated implementation phase of 3 to 5 years, subject to funding.
- Racecourse Lagoon project involving weed removal, feral animal control (rabbit and fox), wildlife habitat promotion and construction of a picnic area - work commenced in 2007-2008 and is due for completion in early 2009.
- successful application for funding of \$3,000 from Border Rivers CMA to conduct a property management planning course. The course was conducted by Border Rivers CMA with in-kind support from Uralla Shire Council.

3.4.2 Community and Government Agency Actions

Southern New England Landcare

Southern New England Landcare (SNELC) continued to be active across the NESAC Region during 2007-2008 undertaking and co-ordinating various environmental projects, workshops, training sessions, etc. Following is a summary of some of the activities undertaken by SNELC during 2007-2008.

- on-ground outputs on private land (figures are in addition to amounts reported by Northern Rivers CMA)

Table 3.7 SNELC On-Ground Outputs in NESAC Region for 2007-2008

| CMA Area | Area of native remnant vegetation on grazing properties fenced and managed for conservation | Area of native revegetation work | Length of stream fenced and managed for improved riparian condition |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Border Rivers-Gwydir (BRG) | 250 ha | 11 ha | 10 km |
| Northern Rivers (NR) | 160 ha | 56 ha | 11.2 km |
| Namoi (Nam) | 596 ha | 22.9 ha | 5.7 km |
| Total across NESAC area | 1006 ha | 89.9 ha | 26.9 km |

- 20 awareness raising events (e.g. field days)
 - Oaky Soils field day (30 NR)
 - Greencorps Launch (30)
 - 3 native vegetation field days (31 BRG, 12 NR)
 - Walcha Office Launch (30)
 - Greencorps Graduation (20)
 - Winterbourne BBQ (37 NR, 3 Nam)
 - Enmore community BBQ (12 NR)
 - Yarrowitch pasture field day (14 NR, 2 Nam)
 - Landcare Adventure (2 BRG, 9NR)
 - Woolbrook Weeds field day (8 NR, 28 Nam)
 - Engineered Woodlands FD (37)

- 3 Land Water Wool field days (82)
- Soil Health Compost Group seminar (6)
- Soil Health Compost Group field day (28)
- Soil Health Planned Grazing Group, Armidale field day (22)
- Soil Health Planned Grazing Group, Wollomombi field day (22)
- preparation and distribution of written products (e.g. brochures, newsletters, posters, fact sheets, etc.)
- displays for shows, community events, etc.
- 14 skills and training events implemented
 - Uralla Soil Health Forum – two day forum with nationally high profile speakers (120)
 - Land Water Wool Workshops – workshops for farmers to plan environmental work x 10 (73)
 - Soil Health Forum 2 - one day landholder forum (55)
 - NTS Sustainable Agriculture Certificate course, 4 days (39)
 - Envirofund reporting workshop with representatives from Canberra (5)

Over the 2007-2008 reporting period, a total of \$1,377,457 funding was secured for environmental works and related activities in the NESAC Region. This is a significant increase on the previous two reporting periods where funding for environmental works was approximately \$515,834 (2006-2007) and \$655,485 (2005-2006).

Table 3.8 provides a summary of funding allocation for environmental and associated projects across the NESAC Region during 2007-2008.

Table 3.8 SNELC Environmental Projects Funding Summary for 2007-2008

| Project / Funding Summary | Amount |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Catchment Management Authority projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Border Rivers – Gwydir CMA (8 projects) - Northern Rivers CMA (10 projects) - Namoi CMA (3 projects) | \$180,967 \$68,984 \$148,648 |
| Government projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New England Forestry Investment Group, Land Water Wool - Envirofund - NLP – Land Water Wool (Northern Rivers) - NLP – Land Water Wool (Border Rivers - Gwydir) | \$1000 \$244,973 \$158,400 \$158,900 |
| Bush Recovery projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Southern Tablelands area (18 projects) | \$376,285 |
| Non-government projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Soil Health Forum sponsorship (Ausmin) - Armidale Tree Group, 200 trees for school planting - New England Credit Union, Frog Dreaming Youth Conference and Newsletter - Armidale Dumaresq Council, Malpas project - DECC & Armidale RLPB Coordinated Fox Control | \$600 \$4,500 \$24,000 \$10,000 |

Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority

During 2007-2008, the Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority conducted several projects involving soil health and environmental works.

Funding for soil health projects totalled \$214,000 (+ GST) and resulted in the negotiation of 6 voluntary conservation agreements covering 22ha and soil management / treatment over 6500ha.

Environmental Projects were funded by \$85,000 (+ GST) and resulted in the negotiation of 29 voluntary conservation agreements and the protection of 95ha.

In addition, Round 3 of the Bush Recovery Program provided investments of \$131,285 resulting in the secure conservation management of 138.1ha.

Three (3) incentive Property Vegetation Plans were also established in the Region during 2007-2008.

3.5 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2008-2009

| Recommendation | Relevance |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| continue to support NSW Rural Fire Service | All Councils |
| continue to support Southern New England Landcare | All Councils |
| develop a land monitor to track the release of new housing allotments | ADC |
| investigate application of land monitor to all NESAC Councils | All Councils |
| finalise preparation / adoption of consistent contaminated land policies | All Councils |
| finalise and adopt Regional Development Strategy | All Councils |
| commence preparation of regionally consistent local environmental plan(s) | All Councils |
| continue to work with catchment management authorities to identify and undertake environmental projects that will provide positive environmental outcomes, minimise land degradation and/or reduce habitat loss | All Councils |



4.1 INTRODUCTION

The NESAC Region generally experiences a high level of air quality and relatively low occurrences of atmospheric pollution, due mainly to limited urban development and the presence of few polluting industries. However despite this, isolated air quality issues do still exist, such as wood smoke pollution in Armidale.

4.2 PRESSURE

The main issues and activities creating pressure on air quality and the atmosphere within the NESAC Region have been outlined in previous State of Environment Reports and are broadly identified as:

- particulate matter (e.g. wood smoke, bushfires, dust)
- odour
- greenhouse emissions

No new issues or activities creating pressure on the atmospheric environment were identified during 2007-2008.

4.3 STATE

The following indicators have been established to monitor the state, or condition, of air within the NESAC Region. This section provides an up-date on the indicators for 2007-2008 and outlines any significant trends.

4.3.1 Environment Protection Licences

There are thirteen (13) premises in the NESAC Region that have environment protection licences issued under Section 55 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* with conditions relating to air discharge or air quality.

The following Table identifies the premises with licence conditions relating to air and any incidents of non-compliance with licence conditions for annual licence returns submitted during 2007-2008.

Table 4.1 Environment Protection Licences - Air

| Licence No. | Activity / Licensee | Annual return date | Compliance |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Armidale Dumaresq LGA | | | |
| 5860 | Waste Management Facility (Armidale Dumaresq Council) | 16/10/07 | complied |
| 1722 | Sewage Treatment Plant (Armidale Dumaresq Council) | 30/04/08 | not available |
| 11319 | Armidale Hospital (Hunter New England Health Service) | 14/04/08 | complied |
| 921 | Hillgrove Mine (Straits (Hillgrove) Gold Pty Ltd) | 27/01/08 | complied |
| 12481 | Metz Quarry (Boral Resources) | 05/09/07 | complied |
| 3556 | Wardlaw Piggery (Ross Wardlaw) | 13/03/08 | not available |
| Guyra LGA | | | |
| 11792 | Guyra Quarry (Inverell Aggregate Supplies) | 15/01/08 | complied |
| 1671 | Guyra Waste Water Treatment Plant (Guyra Shire Council) | 30/04/08 | not available |
| Uralla LGA | | | |
| 5899 | Landfill (Uralla Shire Council) | 16/10/07 | complied |
| 1626 | Uralla Sewage Treatment Plant (Uralla Shire Council) | 31/03/08 | Complied |
| Walcha LGA | | | |
| 6120 | Waste Depot (Walcha Council) | 12/10/07 | complied |
| 5572 | Boral Timber Mill (Allen Taylor & Company Pty Ltd) | 10/07/08 | not available |
| 2613 | Walcha Sewage Treatment Plant (Walcha Council) | 12/07/08 | not available |

4.3.2 Complaints Register

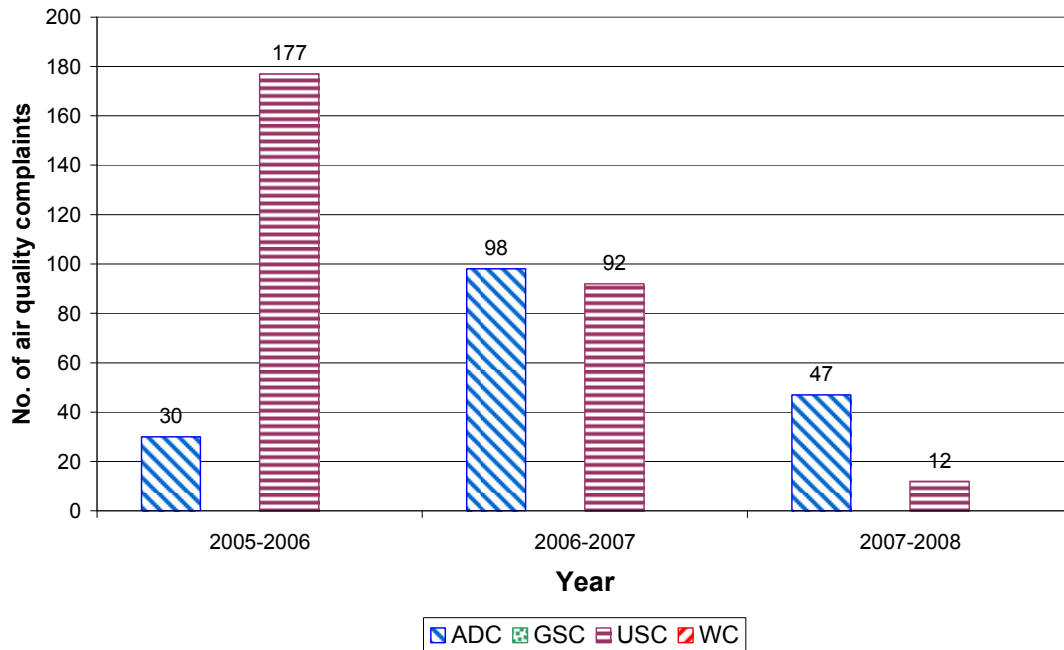
Armidale Dumaresq Council received 30 complaints relating to air quality in 2005-2006, 98 complaints in 2006-2007 (95 relating to particulate matter and 3 relating to odour) and 47 complaints in 2007-2008 (9 odour, 31 wood smoke, 6 dust and 1 asbestos).

The level of wood smoke pollution in Armidale is greater than many other similarly sized communities due to a combination of topography and cold temperatures which effectively traps smoke in the Armidale valley.

Guyra Shire Council and Walcha Council did not receive any complaints relating to air pollution during 2005-2006, 2006-2007 or 2007-2008.

Uralla Shire Council received 177 air quality complaints in 2005-2006, 92 complaints in 2006-2007 (89 relating to odour emissions and 3 relating to particulate matter) and 12 odour complaints in 2007-2008. The significant reduction in odour complaints is partly attributed to improvements in production processes at the Phoenix Foundry in Uralla.

Figure 4.1 Air Quality Complaints across NESAC



4.3.3 Transport

People within the NESAC Region remain reliant on motor vehicles as the primary mode of transport due to factors such as distance between urban centres and limited public transport.

The number of registered vehicles in the NESAC Region continues to increase annually, as shown below in Figure 4.2. For the 12 month period to 30 June 2008, there were 905 more registered vehicles across the NESAC area than the previous period. Although no figures on pollutants associated with / emitted by motor vehicles are available, the trend of increasing vehicle numbers suggests that resulting air pollution would also be increasing.

Figure 4.2 Number of Registered Vehicles by LGA

Source: RTA

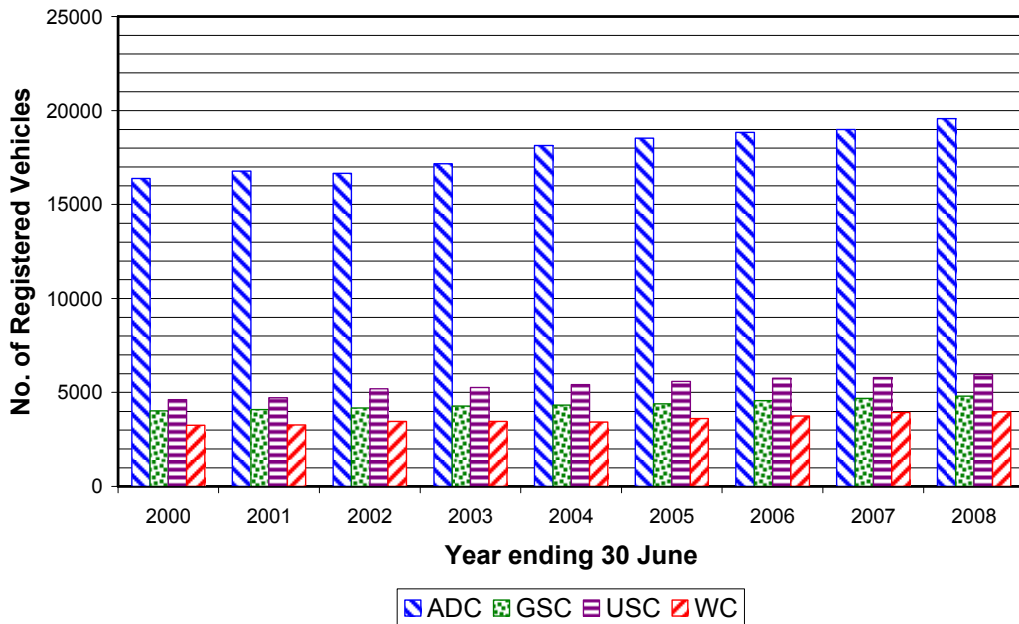
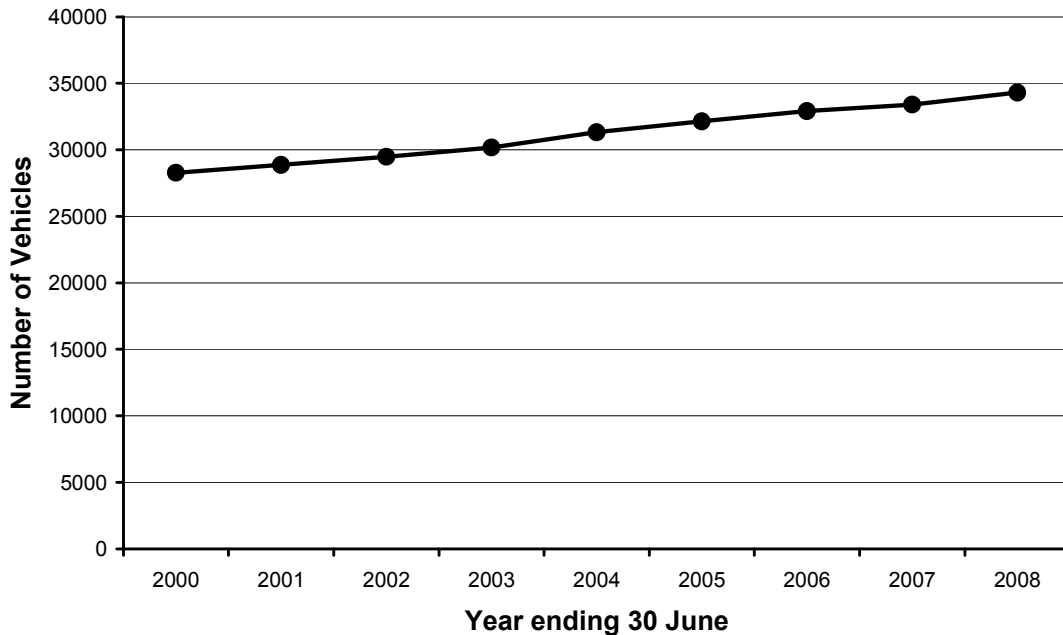


Figure 4.3 Number of Registered Vehicles Across NESAC Region

Source: RTA



4.3.4 Road Sealing Program

Unsealed roads have the potential to contribute to air pollution through dust generated by vehicles using the roads. Council road sealing programs help to reduce dust generation.

The following Table 4.2 outlines the number of kilometres of gravel roads that have been sealed across the NESAC Region.

Table 4.2 Road Sealing (km) per LGA by Year

| | ADC | GSC | USC | WC | NESAC (total km) |
|-----------|-------|------|------|------|---------------------|
| 2005-2006 | | | 3.1 | | 10.91 |
| 2006-2007 | 0.31 | - | 3.85 | 3.24 | 7.4 |
| 2007-2008 | 2.395 | 1.58 | 4.1 | - | 8.075 |

Sealing of existing gravel roads or new roads in the Armidale Dumaresq Council area during 2007-2008 consisted of 110m on Tom Watson Drive, 870m at Puddledock Valley Estate, 375m at Rusden Court, 150m on Arundel Drive, 265m on Aldred Drive, 425m in Netherton Park Estate (stage 3), 100m on Oak Knob Road and 100m on Bellewood Road.

In addition to sealing 1.58km of New Valley Road, Guyra Shire Council undertook 6km of road widening from 3.6 to 6m and rehabilitation and sealing a 2km section of Thunderbolts Way.

Uralla Shire Council undertook 4.1km of widening and pavement rehabilitation between Walcha and Uralla.

4.3.5 Air Quality Monitoring

Guyra Shire Council and Walcha Council did not undertake any air quality monitoring during 2006-2007 or 2007-2008.

In 2006-2007, Uralla Shire Council commissioned OTEK Australia to undertake an environmental audit of the Phoenix Foundry. No further monitoring was undertaken in 2007-2008.

During 2007-2008, Armidale Dumaresq Council purchased a Dustrak monitor (an air quality monitoring device) which enables particulate matter in the atmosphere to be measured and compared with national standards for fine particle pollution. Results for winter months have shown that the daily average readings regularly exceed the advisory limit of 25 micrograms per cubic metre in the National Environment Protection Measure for Air Quality in relation to fine particles 2.5 micrometres or less in size (known as PM_{2.5})

Table 4.3 Dustrak Monitoring for PM2.5 Particles by ADC (May – July 2008)

| Month | No. of days monitored | Days average concentration over 25 µg/m ³ | |
|-------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| | | Total | Proportion |
| May | 6 | 5 | 83% |
| June | 18 | 17 | 94% |
| July | 24 | 13 | 54% |

4.3.6 Energy Consumption

Armidale Dumaresq Council have engaged the services of Planet Footprint Pty Ltd to provide reports on the performance of Council's operations in terms of energy and water usage. Water consumption is addressed separately in Part 5 of this Report.

Energy reports provide details of electricity usage for overall Council operations (excluding street lighting) and street lighting separately. The following Tables are taken from the Planet Footprint reports for 2007-2008 and provide a summary of energy use for Armidale Dumaresq Council.

Figure 4.4 Armidale Dumaresq Electricity Details (excluding street lighting)

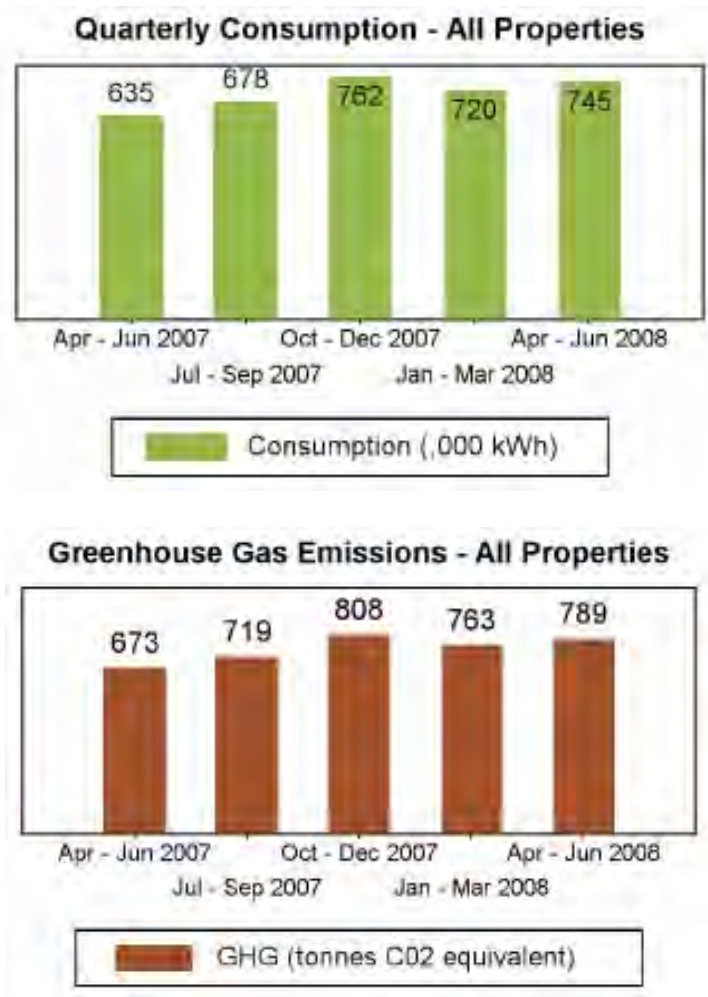
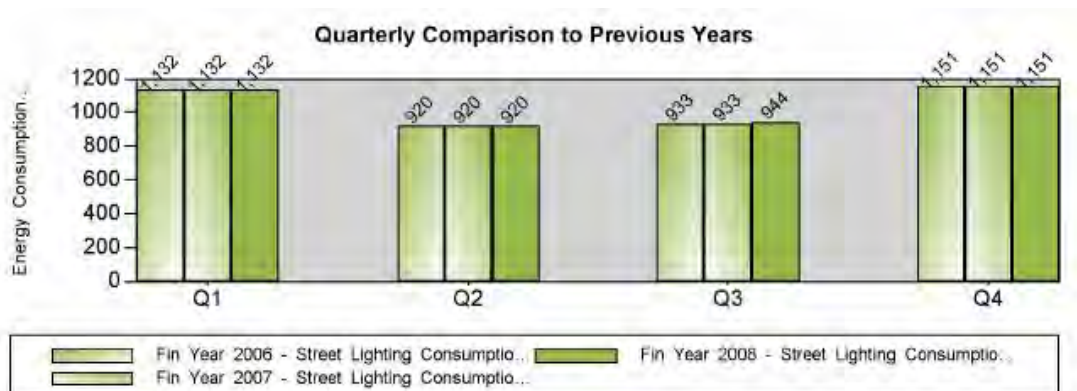


Figure 4.5 Armidale Dumaresq Street Lighting Details

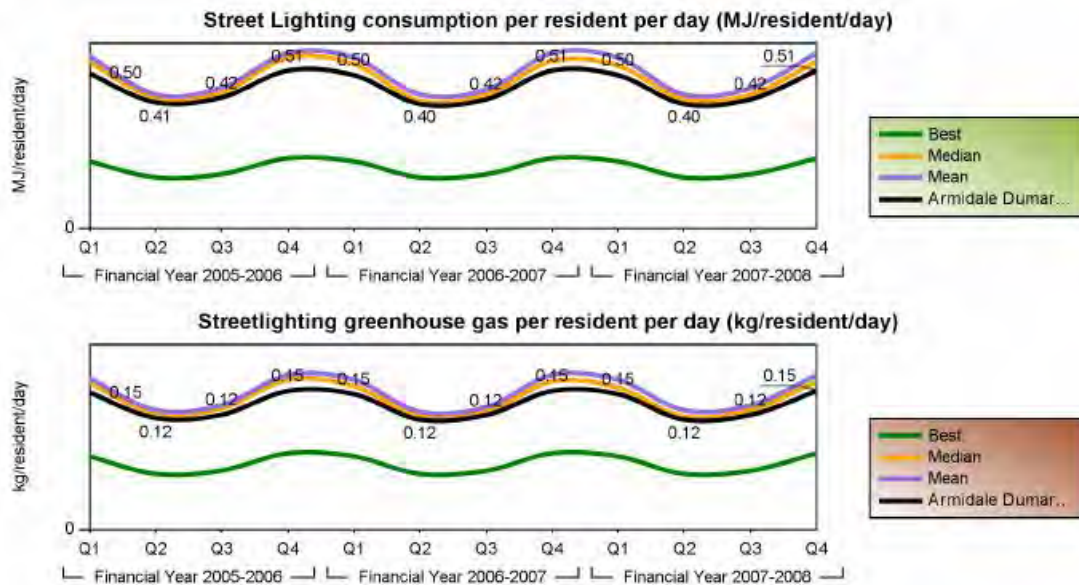


Note: Identical quarterly values from year to year indicate that Council’s street lighting inventory has not changed or that an up-dated inventory should be supplied.

Street Lighting total annual consumption for 2007-2008:

| | |
|------------------|-------|
| Consumption (GJ) | 4,146 |
| Consumption MWh | 1,152 |
| GHG t CO2 | 1,221 |

Figure 4.6 Street Lighting Consumption – Comparative Data



Note: Comparisons made against 100 Australian Councils that also subscribe to services of Planet Footprint Pty Ltd.

4.4 RESPONSE

4.4.1 Council Actions

The following Table provides a summary of actions that were being implemented by each of the Councils in 2006-2007 and new actions implemented in 2007-2008 in response to pressures identified in Part 4.2. The Table also details the outcomes that were achieved and/or the on-going actions that were undertaken during 2007-2008 in relation to these matters.

Table 4.4 Actions implemented by Councils and outcomes achieved

| Particulate Matter | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Action | Outcome |
| ADC: 2007-2008 – provide support (\$5000 and \$26080 in-kind) for ARC Linkage Program headed by University of New England | This is field based research project combining community based social marketing and technological innovation to combat wood-smoke pollution in regional Australia using Armidale as a case study and trialling Smart Burn™ as a technological solution. |

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>ADC: actions in relation to wood smoke:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • commenced a database to record information about houses with smoky chimneys • education campaigns • purchase DustTrak™ Monitor • trial of Smart Burn Units - units provided to houses with wood heaters. Surveys issued and analysed. • provided fire wood suppliers with an educational leaflet • continuation of Wood Fire Replacement Program (\$500 rebate for Armidale house owners wishing to replace wood fired heaters with approved alternative forms e.g. gas) • letters sent to properties which have received complaints for excessively smoky chimney. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • database continues to build for future use and analysis • education campaign continued through local media. DVD's circulated to target households on cleaner burning. Personal visits to target households by Council Officers to audit and demonstrate. • wood heater demonstration, firewood education and Smart Burn promotion at Autumn Festival and 2008 Wool Expo • purchased and currently operational producing weekly data for ADC Council web site, Council's Mayoral page in the press and input in to ARC Linkage research project with University of New England • immediate impact of reduced particulate emissions from wood heaters. Data generated on wood supply, usage and wood burning habits generated • distributed to 5 suppliers in the Armidale region • 16 wood heater replacements subsidised during 2007-2008 • funding also provided for subsidised provision of "SmartBurn"™ devices (small metal tubes with a chemical insert, which fit into the wood heater reducing particulate emissions) • some success in reduction of levels of smoke in some properties. Some difficulties associated with excessive smoking occurring after office hours, therefore full compliance has been difficult to achieve • legislation allows for a Smoke Abatement Notice to be served after which regular monitoring needs to identify excessively smoking chimney before a Penalty is issued. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

| Odour | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: Council operations with environment protection licences being conducted to comply with licence conditions | refer to Section 4.3.1 |
| All Councils: complaints register kept by Councils | on-going – refer to Section 4.3.2 |
| USC: commissioned OTEK Australia to undertake an environmental audit of Phoenix Foundry (Dec, 2006). | In summary, the report identified that substantial improvements had been made to the odour reduction system since pouring commenced in 2005. It also concluded that Foundry operations, at the time of the audit, were considered to comply with relevant legislation, regulations and guidelines relating to odour generation, and that “best practice” was being implemented for activities of its scale and nature. No further monitoring in 2007-2008. |
| USC: responded to odour complaints | 2007-2008 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strong odour in Uralla township – staff unable to verify source of odour at time of complaint • septic type odour in Bundarra – failed trench on anaerobic septic system. Order served to repair trenches to effectively dispose of effluent underground. |
| Greenhouse Emissions | |
| Action | Outcome |
| ADC: 2007-2008 – commenced subscription to Planet Footprint for quarterly reports on water consumption and electricity usage. | See Section 4.3.6 |
| Transport | |
| Action | Outcome |
| ADC: apply for funding through the Country Public Transport Infrastructure Grants Scheme | 2006-2007 – two new bus shelter funded and constructed (\$15,000) 2007-2008 – two new bus shelters funded and constructed (\$18,000) |

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ADC: continue to implement Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP) and Bicycle Strategy | 2006-2007 – over \$42,000 spent on implementation of plans, in particular the (re)construction of kerb crossing ramps 2007-2008 – extension of Creeklands cycle way (\$39,000), construction of shared path adjacent to Rockvale Rd, north from Merinda Place (\$51,000) and various pedestrian facilities under PAMP (\$40,380) |
| ADC: Council vehicle fleet replacement program | 2006-2007 - 3 x 6 cylinder sedans replaced with 4 cylinder diesel sedans - 2 x 6 cylinder station wagons converted to LPG - 2 x 6 cylinder 4WD vehicles replaced by 4 cylinder 4WD |
| GSC: Council vehicle fleet replacement | on-going review of fleet to purchase more fuel efficient models when replacing vehicles |

4.4.2 Other Actions

Armidale Dumaresq Council

In conjunction with Council's wood heater replacement rebate, the following new strategies / initiatives are proposed during 2008-2009. Council has allocated a \$30,000 budget to these 3 projects

- Home ceiling insulation rebate - Council will match NSW Government rebates awarded to the value of \$300 per household in Armidale
- Smart Burn™ cash rebate - Council will provide a \$25 cash rebate at point of sale in Armidale for city households

Climate Change

In early 2008, Armidale Dumaresq Council was successful with an application for a grant through the Commonwealth Department of Climate Change in its "Local Adaptation Pathways Program" (LAPP). The grant, for \$55,000 including GST, is to be supplemented by Council and in-kind funds to bring the total project value to almost \$100,000.

This grant will enable all NESAC Councils to jointly undertake a Climate Change Risk Awareness and Adaptation Planning process in relation to all Council operations. The project is expected to be completed in the 2008-2009 financial year.

In the same period, NESAC also expects to complete a Community Consultative Program on Climate Change under the auspices of the NSW Nature Conservation Council. This will in turn provide feedback from people living in our region into the LAPP project and also the NSW Climate Summit which is scheduled for early 2009.

Armidale Sustainable Living Expo

The Armidale Sustainable Living Expo was conducted in March 2007 and included tours showcasing a range of innovative and inspired buildings and gardens with a sustainable focus, the Sustainable Living Expo and community workshops.

The Armidale Sustainable Living Expo will be conducted again in September 2008.

Department of Environment & Climate Change - Climate Action Grants 2007

The following project was funded under the Climate Action Grants program in 2007.

University of New England - Australian Centre for Agriculture and Law

Funding: \$440,000

Project: Developing technologies and policy framework for the next generation biofuels production systems in Australia

This project will investigate and deliver tools for the implementation of a regional biofuels industry. Biofuels production is an emerging opportunity for significant greenhouse gas reductions in both general transport and in agriculture. Crops such as maize, wheat, sugar cane and canola are currently widely utilised for the production of biofuels. However there are severe limitations to these crops, highlighted by the current drought. A significant role of this project will be to draw on the latest research to develop the bioconversion viability of materials like crop residues, forestry wastes and woody weeds.

4.5 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2008-2009

| Recommendation | Relevance |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| continue to keep accurate records and descriptions of all complaints and respond to complaints as required | All Councils |
| continue wood smoke reduction programs (education, monitoring, data capture and incentives) as funding allows. | Armidale Dumaresq Council |
| develop and implement strategies / plans that aim to reduce private motor vehicle usage (e.g. PAMP, Bicycle Strategy, footpath and cycleway construction) | All Councils |
| continue to monitor energy use in Council operations and examine / implement strategies to reduce or off-set overall energy consumption | Armidale Dumaresq Council |
| commence monitoring of energy consumption in Council operations to determine how and where reductions can be achieved | Guyra Shire Council Uralla Shire Council Walcha Council |
| support initiatives that promote energy efficiency in the home and workplace | All Councils |
| monitor air quality as required or necessary | All Councils |



5.1 INTRODUCTION

The Southern New England Tablelands (NESAC) Region straddles the watershed of the Great Dividing Range and includes five major river catchments. The Clarence River, Macleay River and Manning River catchments drain to the east and the Gwydir River and Namoi River catchments drain to the west.

The main issues for surface water relate to influences on water quality and river health in the waterways that pass through urban centres or provide drinking water. These waterways include Dumaresq Creek, Uralla Creek, Gara River and the Apsley River.

5.2 PRESSURE

The issues and activities that impact on water and water quality within the NESAC Region have been identified in previous State of Environment Reports. These pressures are identified as:

- urban storm water pollution
- land and waterway management (e.g. riparian areas, point source pollution)
- industry, infrastructure and development
- management of potable water supplies (e.g. blue-green algae blooms, water treatment methods)
- water quantity
- availability of information and resources (lack of community education, specialist technical staff and funding)

5.3 STATE

The environmental indicators outlined below have been used to assess and monitor the state, or condition of the environment with respect to water. Further details relating to these environmental indicators are contained in the Southern New England Tablelands Region State of Environment Report 2006-2007.

This section provides up-dated data for the respective environmental indicators for 2007-2008 and outlines any significant trends.

5.3.1 Water Quality Monitoring

Periodic monitoring of water quality within the NESAC Region is undertaken by various organisations including Landcare Groups, School Groups, Council and businesses. Following is a summary of key water quality monitoring results from testing undertaken by Councils for Dumaresq Creek, Malpas Dam and the Apsley River.

Dumaresq Creek

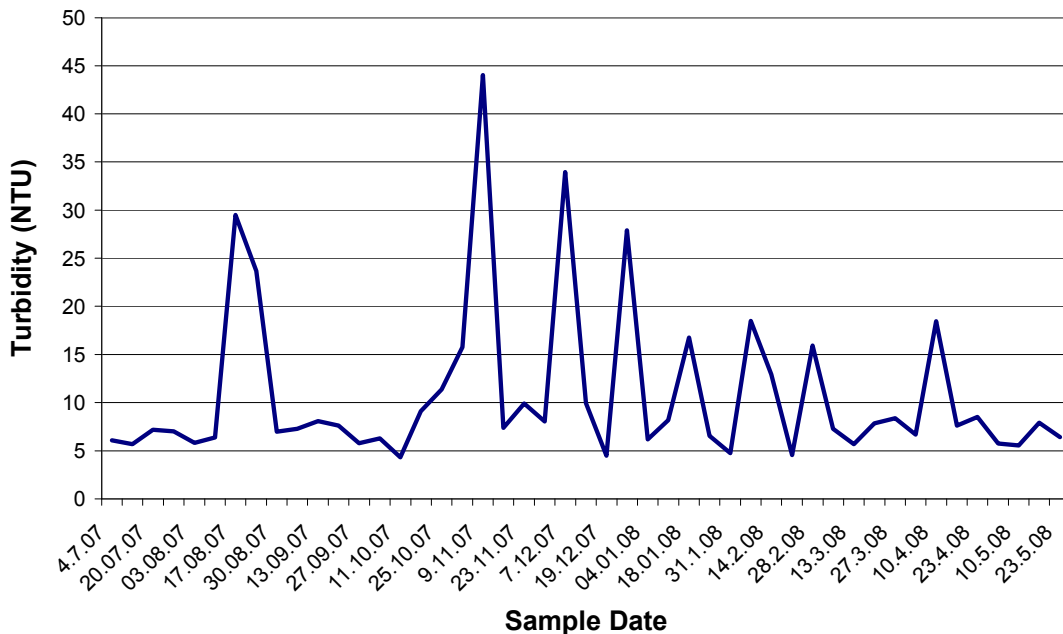
Armidale Dumaresq Council undertakes a water quality monitoring program with weekly water testing at eight locations along Dumaresq Creek. The monitoring program reports on a number of measures, as outlined below:

Turbidity

The average turbidity level across the eight testing locations has remained relatively constant over the last 3 reporting periods, being 8.5NTU in 2005-2006, 12.8NTU in 2006-2007 and 10.8NTU in 2007-2008.

The former Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources recommend that turbidity levels greater than 30NTU give reason for concern (2006-2007 SoE Report). Such levels were recorded in 7% of samples taken from Dumaresq Creek, which is consistent with the number of high turbidity levels recorded in 2006-2007.

Figure 5.1 Dumaresq Creek Turbidity levels 2007-2008 average across 8 testing locations



Faecal Coliform

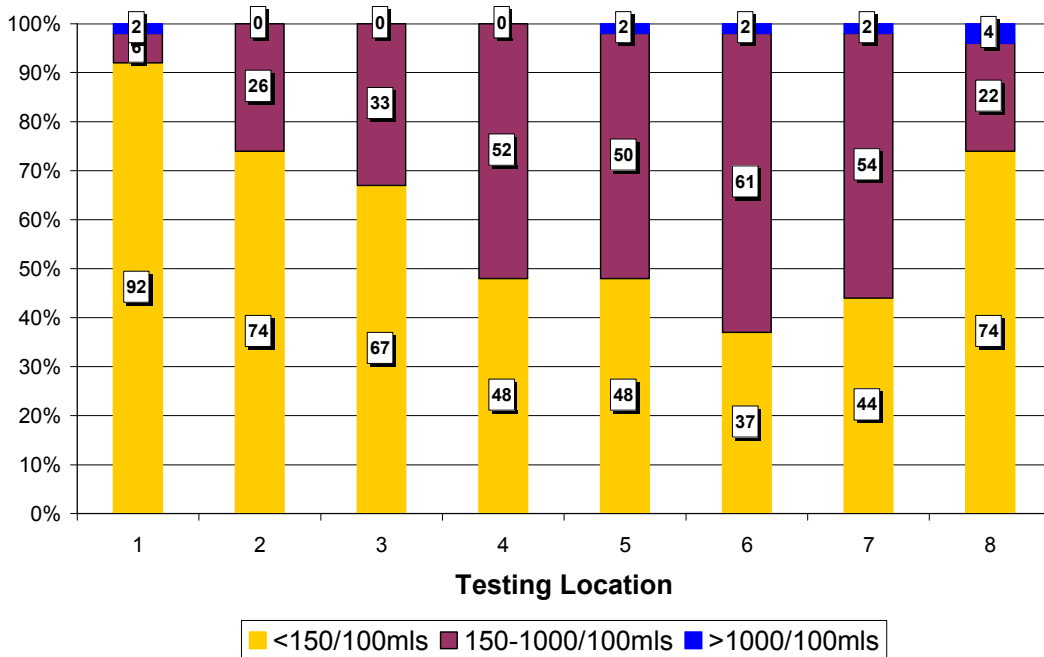
The Australian and New Zealand Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality (2000) outline water quality guidelines for recreational waters. The following definitions are provided under the guidelines:

Primary contact (such as swimming, bathing and other direct water contact sports) - the median bacterial content in fresh and marine waters taken over the bathing season should not exceed 150 faecal coliform organisms/100 mL or 35 enterococci organisms/100 mL.

Secondary contact (such as boating and fishing) - the median value in fresh and marine waters should not exceed 1000 faecal coliform organisms/100 mL or 230 enterococci organisms/100 mL.**

Over the 2007-2008 reporting period, 6 samples from Dumaresq Creek were at levels unsuitable for secondary contact, compared to 5 samples in 2006-2007 and 4 samples in 2005-2006.

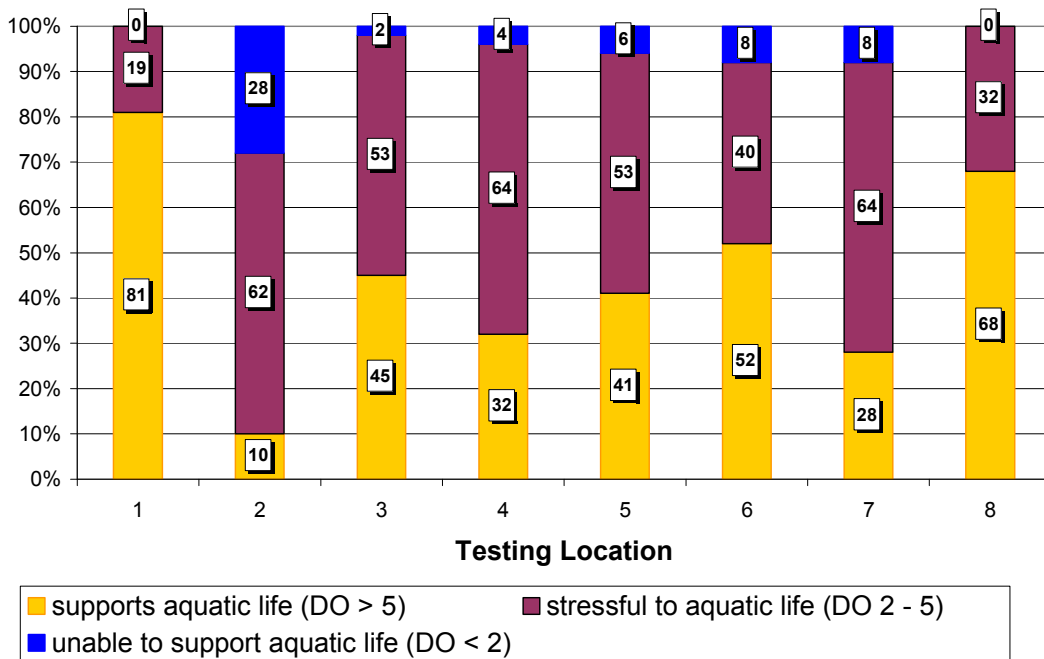
Figure 5.2 Dumaresq Creek Faecal Coliform levels 2007-2008 average across 8 testing locations



Dissolved Oxygen

Dissolved oxygen levels provide a measure of the quality of water and its suitability for supporting aquatic life. During 2007-2008, 55% of samples taken from the 8 testing locations were at levels being stressful to, or unable to support, aquatic life. This is an improvement of 2006-2007 when 65% of samples were in the same category and similar to 2005-2006 when 53% of samples were at levels that are stressful to, or unable to support, aquatic life.

Figure 5.3 Dumaresq Creek Dissolved Oxygen levels 2007-2008 average across 8 testing locations



pH Levels

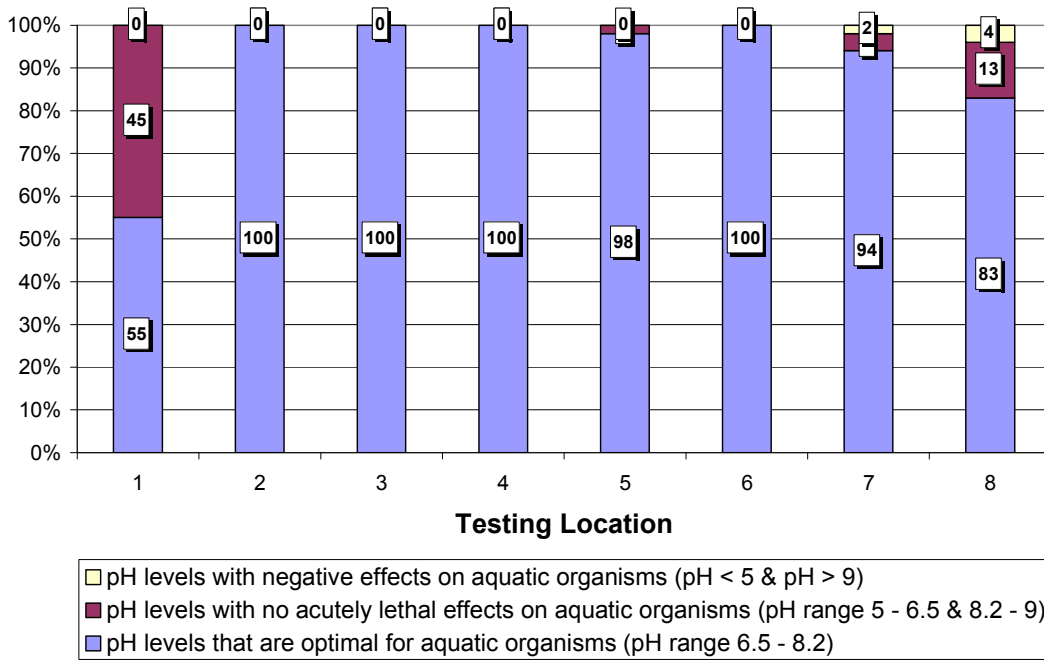
pH levels across all testing locations were generally satisfactory with less than 1% of samples being within the range identified as having negative effects on aquatic organisms.

Comparative results for samples indicating a pH level that was optimal or had no acutely lethal effect on aquatic organisms over the last 3 reporting periods are summarised below:

| | |
|-----------|----------------|
| 2005-2006 | 99% of samples |
| 2006-2007 | 91% of samples |
| 2007-2008 | 99% of samples |

In 2006-2007 it was reported that 63% of samples taken at Site 8 had a pH level that would have negative effects on aquatic organisms. This rate has fallen to 4% of samples at Site 8 in 2007-2008.

Figure 5.4 Dumaresq Creek pH levels 2007-2008 average across 8 testing locations



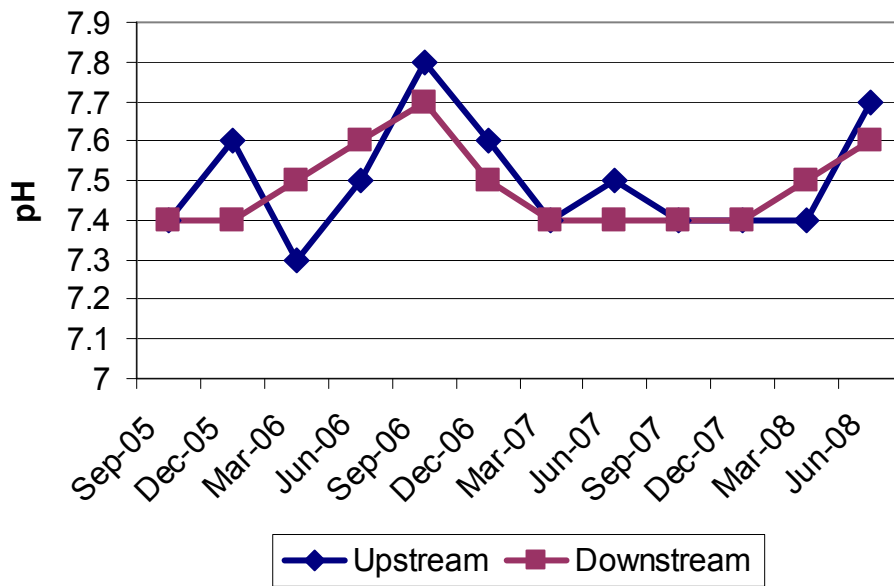
Apsley River

Walcha Council undertakes quarterly water quality monitoring at two sites along the Apsley River. One site is located upstream and the other downstream of Walcha township in order to determine the type and level of pollution, if any, that may be generated from the Walcha urban area.

pH

pH levels for 2007-2008 remain in the range that is optimal for aquatic organisms, both upstream and downstream of Walcha. There has been no significant change in pH levels for the last three reporting periods.

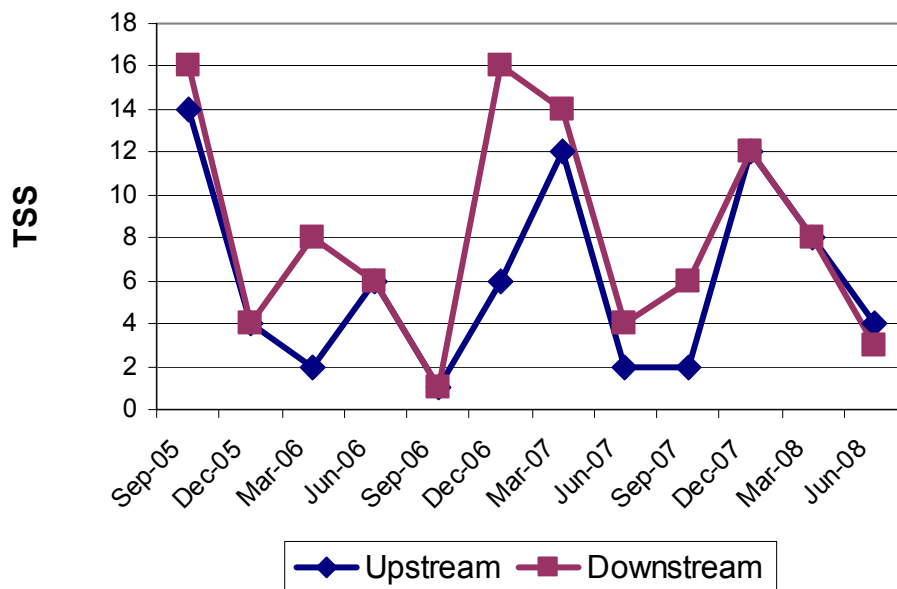
Figure 5.5 Apsley River pH levels for 2007-2008



Total Suspended Solids

Total suspended solids (TSS) have remained at low levels (below 20mg/l) from 2005-2006 to 2007-2008. Samples upstream and downstream tend to follow a similar trend, however downstream measurements are generally slightly elevated. This may indicate that the Walcha urban area contributes to increased TSS levels in the Apsley River.

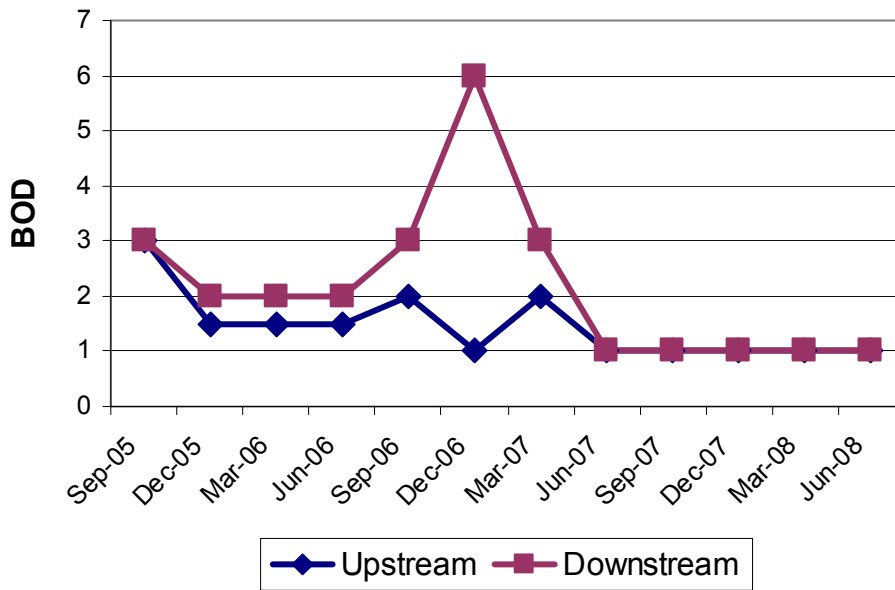
Figure 5.6 Apsley River Total Suspended Solid levels for 2007-2008



Biological Oxygen Demand

Biological Oxygen Demand levels (mg/l) have remained constant at low levels during all of 2007-2008, indicating that the water is clean with very little biodegradable waste. Elevated downstream levels that have been recorded in previous years were not present during 2007-2008.

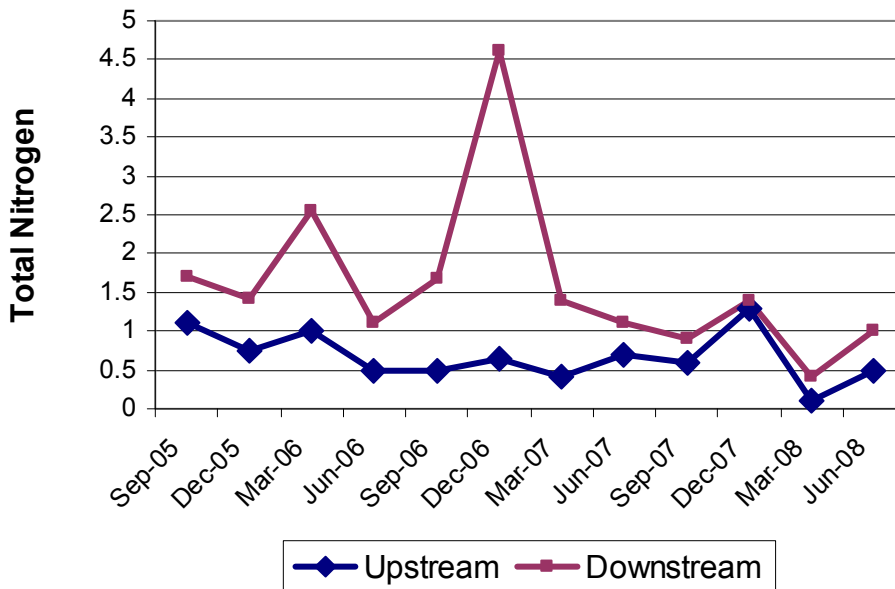
Figure 5.7 Apsley River Biological Oxygen Demand for 2007-2008



Total Nitrogen

Other than a peak in December 2007, total Nitrogen levels recorded during 2007-2008 have been generally consistent with or lower than previous reporting periods, as shown in Figure 5.8. Similarly to previous years, downstream Total Nitrogen levels tend to be slightly higher than upstream levels, suggesting that Walcha township may be contributing to increased nitrogen levels in the Apsley River.

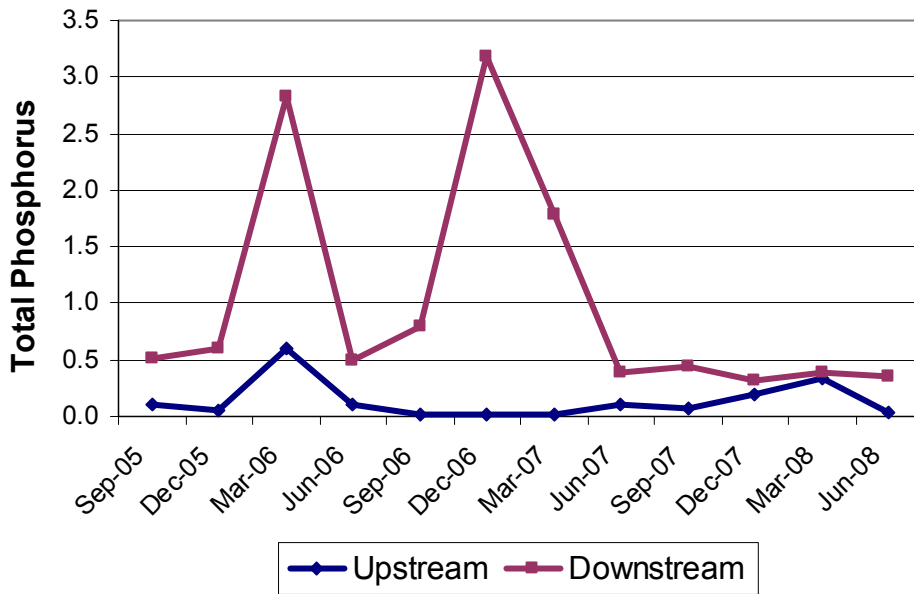
Figure 5.8 Apsley River Total Nitrogen levels for 2007-2008



Phosphorus

Total Phosphorus levels have remained at comparably low levels during the 2007-2008 reporting period, with a significant improvement in downstream levels compared to 2006-2007.

Figure 5.9 Apsley River Phosphorus levels for 2007-2008



Malpas Dam

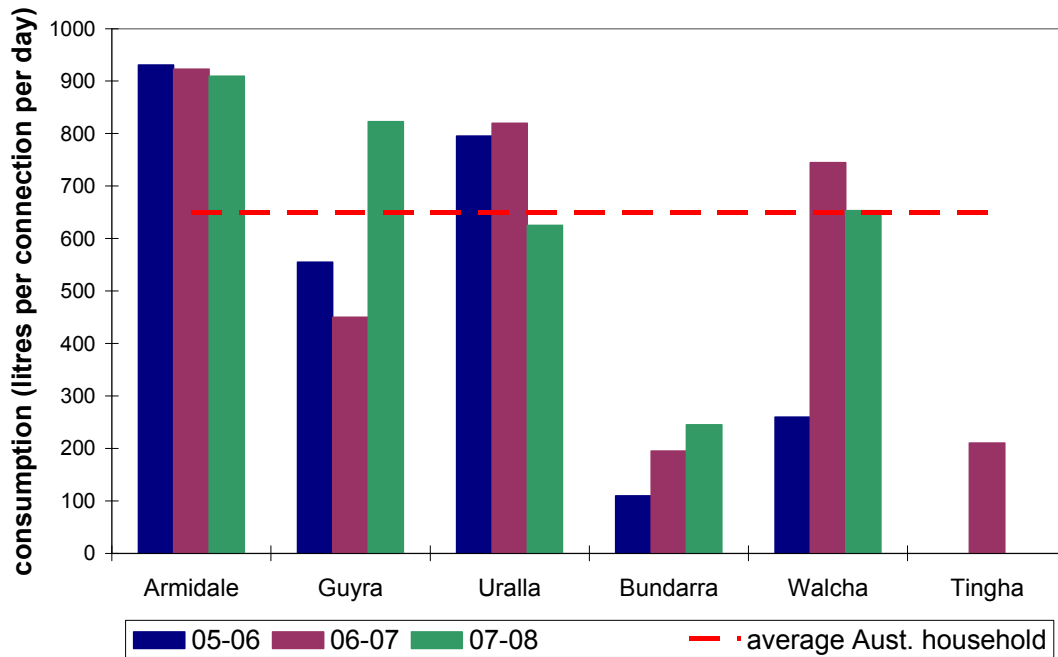
Armidale Dumaresq Council undertakes regular sampling of Malpas Dam which is the primary supply of potable water for Armidale. Malpas Dam experienced high levels of blue green algae during 2006-2007 which remained persistent in 2007-2008, particularly during summer months. Blue green algal blooms continue to be a major issue for water quality in Malpas Dam.

5.3.2 Water Consumption

The consumption of water within the urban environment is an indicator of water conservation and water management practices. It is estimated that the average Australian household uses 650 litres of water per day, with the main use being for watering the garden and other outside uses (35%), flushing toilets (20%, 5-10 litres per flush), showers/bathroom (20%, 200 litres per shower) and washing clothes (15%, 150 litres per load).

Figure 5.10 shows the average water consumption per connection per day for urban centres within the NESAC Region. Average water consumption per connection per day has increase in Guyra and Bundarra during 2007-2008. Guyra water consumption is above average Australian household levels, however, Bundarra consumption remains well below average household levels despite its increase during 2007-2008. The most significant water consumption increase has occurred in Guyra.

Figure 5.10 Average Water Consumption in NESAC Urban Areas



Note: Guyra figures exclude the Guyra Tomato Farm due to the large proportion of water used by this facility.

5.3.3 Environment Protection Licences

There are sixteen (16) premises in the NESAC Region that have environment protection licences issued under Section 55 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* with conditions relating to water.

The following Table identifies the premises with licence conditions relating to water and any incidents of non-compliance with licence conditions for annual licence returns submitted during 2007-2008.

Table 5.1 Environment Protection Licences - Water
 Source: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/licensing

| License Number | Activity / Licensee | Annual Return date | Compliance |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Armidale Dumaresq Council LGA | | | |
| 1722 | Sewage Treatment Plant (Armidale Dumaresq Council) | 30/04/08 | not available |
| 5860 | Waste Management Facility (Armidale Dumaresq Council) | 16/10/07 | leachate discharge to ground water not reported as required (1 incident) |
| 921 | Hillgrove Gold Mine (Straits (Hillgrove) Gold Pty Ltd) | 27/01/08 | exceedance of volume/mass limit between 20/06/07 to 14/11/07 and 10/01/08 |
| 2821 | Water Treatment Plant (Armidale Dumaresq Council) | 29/02/08 | not available |

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2251 | Ebor Trout Hatchery (NSW Department of Primary Industries) | 30/10/07 | due to reoccurring breakdowns of the site's flow meter, figures for discharge have been taken from averages over the previous two years |
| 10811 | Armidale Saleyards (Armidale Livestock Selling Agents) | 10/12/07 | complied |
| 5907 | Armidale Aquatic Centre (Armidale Dumaresq Council) | 28/06/08 | complied |
| 3556 | Wardlaw Piggery (Ross Wardlaw) | 13/03/08 | not available |
| Guyra Shire Council LGA | | | |
| 5231 | Malpas Dam (Armidale Dumaresq Council) | 04/01/08 | complied |
| 1671 | Guyra Waste Water Treatment Plant (Guyra Shire Council) | 30/04/08 | not available |
| Uralla Shire Council LGA | | | |
| 1629 | Uralla Water Treatment Plant (Uralla Shire Council) | 31/03/08 | one pH reading low 27/02/08 |
| 1626 | Uralla Sewage Treatment Plant (Uralla Shire Council) | 31/03/08 | complied |
| Walcha Council LGA | | | |
| 5572 | Boral Timber Mill (Allen Taylor & Company Pty Ltd) | 10/07/08 | not available |
| 2613 | Sewage Treatment Works (Walcha Council) | 12/07/08 | not available |
| 6120 | Walcha Waste Depot (Walcha Council) | 12/10/07 | requirement to monitor concentration of pollutants discharged - monitoring point 3 was not sampled on 08/11/06, 23/05/07, and monitoring point 4 was not sampled on 08/11/06, 23/05/07 as the sample points were dry. |
| 2508 | Water Treatment Plant (Walcha Council) | 30/09/07 | insufficient number of samples analysed for Aluminium. (1 incident) |

During 2007-2008 there were 4 premises (7 incidents) across NESAC with non-compliance issues relating to sampling, 1 incident on non-reporting discharge to ground water as required and 1 incident of exceeding discharge limits. These results are an improvement from 2006-2007 where 3 operations (10 incidents) did not comply with licence conditions relating to water.

5.4 RESPONSE

5.4.1 Council Actions

Each of the NESAC Councils are involved with the management of water, particularly within the urban environment. All Councils have developed Stormwater Management Plans for their respective areas.

The following Table provides a summary of the actions that were being implemented by each of the Councils in 2006-2007 and new actions implemented in 2007-2008 in response to pressures identified in Part 5.2. The Table also details the outcomes that were achieved and/or the on-going actions that were undertaken during 2007-2008 in relation to these matters.

Table 5.2 Actions implements by Councils and outcomes achieved

| Urban Stormwater | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Action | Outcome |
| ADC: gross pollutant trap installation at Centro development | completed |
| ADC: property protection - this project was required to overcome a significant deficiency in the capacity of the existing drainage system and to upgrade the protection from localised flooding of adjoining properties. Includes a special rate levy to increase rate of progress. | 2007-2008 – \$399,000 received from special rate levy Stages 1 and 2 were completed of the major drainage pipeline in Allingham St from north of Rusden Street to south of Barney Street (old Scout Hall) and eastwards to Jessie St through the centre of the section bounded by Barney St, Brown St, Allingham St and Jessie St. |
| USC: installation of gross pollutant traps | 2007-2008 – no new traps installed 2008-2009 – budget \$22,500 for installation of new traps |
| WC: maintenance program for stormwater drains and outlets, including removal of rubbish from GPT. | on-going |
| Land and Waterway Management | |
| Action | Outcome |
| ADC: support Malpas Catchment Group and SNELC who provide education to landholders in the catchment through projects such as tree planting | on-going |
| ADC: supported works undertaken by the Armidale Urban River Care Group and Work for the Dole participants | work along Dumaresq Creek to remove woody weeds in waterways and replant with indigenous plants |

| ADC: water monitoring undertaken at Malpas Dam and along Dumaresq Creek through Armidale. | on-going – refer to Section 5.3.1 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ADC: removing mid-stream willows to improve environmental flows and reduce anaerobic conditions from autumn leaf fall | Refer to Table 6.4 |
| ADC: inspection and registration of all new or altered on-site waste water treatment systems. | 2006-2007 – all known on-site systems registered and categorised according to potential risk (i.e. low / medium / high) |
| USC: works in Uralla creek area | minor works on-going in conjunction with Uralla sub-catchment Management Plan (see Section 3.4.1) |
| WC: worked with SNELC running information sessions to assist landowners lodge applications for funding for on-ground works that are included in approved NRM plans | workshop conducted – on-going assistance as required |
| WC: monitor Apsley River at two points (above and below Walcha township) | on-going – refer to Section 5.3.1 |
| Industry, Infrastructure and Development | |
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: consider any impact that a development may have on water quality at the time of processing a DA. | on-going |
| ADC: Council has completed a Sewer Overflow Investigation Report (PRP100) in accordance with its EPA licensing conditions. The report's objective is to identify overflows from the sewage reticulation system that pose a significant risk of harm to the environment or public health, and to identify management priorities and actions required to reduce this risk. | report submitted to Department of Environment and Climate Change (EPA) no notifiable sewer overflows during 2007-2008 |
| ADC: leaflets available for builders, motor mechanics, service station and painters regarding water quality. Development consent conditions are routinely included requiring erosion and sediment control to be addressed on development sites. | new Trade Waste leaflets are being prepared |
| ADC: regulation of development through Council's Trade Waste Policy and development consent conditions. | conducted annual trade waste facility inspections and ongoing registration of new facilities |

| ADC: enforcement / regulation - issuing Penalty Infringement Notice for contamination of waterways | 2007-2008 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16 water pollution complaints received • 1 fine issues for pollution of water |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| USC: monitor / regulate industry as required by the POEO Act. | undertaken in response to pollution incidents |
| WC: water treatment plant and wastewater treatment plant operating according to current best practice. | continues |
| Management of Potable Water Supplies | |
| Action | Outcome |
| ADC: monitor water quality in Gara, Puddledock and Malpas Dams | on-going Council has commenced sampling watercourses upstream of Malpas Dam for Phosphorus and Nitrogen. |
| ADC: work on \$4.7million ozonation plant at the Armidale Water Treatment Plant. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2006-2007 – Stage 1 to develop documents to call for tenders to design and construct the plant - 2007-2008 construction due to commence | Stage 1 completed construction work commenced in November 2007 and is scheduled for completion in November 2008 |
| ADC: Biological filters installed at water treatment plant to replace existing sand filters | completed – this project will permit more reliable and efficient removal of the chemicals that cause taste and odour and will destroy toxins that may result from blue-green algae blooms. |
| USC: Uralla Water Treatment Plant upgraded. Council spent \$130,000 on installing an upgraded system of dosing powdered activated carbon (PAC) and purchasing modern chemical testing equipment due to problems with taste and odour in the Uralla town water supply. | Algal blooms were identified as the cause of the problem. Algal growth was strong because of the drought and lack of storage flushing rains as well as nutrient build up in Kentucky Creek Dam. Treatment Plant up-grading was completed in 2007-2008 |
| WC: Algal and suspended solids management in the off creek storage area | program continues to operate |
| GSC, USC & WC: reticulated water is monitored as required by NSW Health. | on-going |

| Water Quantity | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Action | Outcome |
| ADC: user pays system for water to make customers more aware and conscious of their water consumption as charges increases in response to increased usage. | continuing |
| ADC: 'water wise' education program. | on-going |
| WC: introduced water restrictions and made available educational material to advise residents on how to reduce water consumption. | water restrictions were eased during 2007-2008 |
| Availability of Information and Resources | |
| Action | Outcome |
| ADC: supported Sustainable Living Expo | free workshops conducted on the use of water |

Armidale Dumaresq Council

Council has applied for funding of \$200,000 under the Urban Sustainability Program (NSW Environmental Trust) for the installation of gross pollutant traps on Dumaresq Creek. The outcome of the funding application is yet to be announced.

Uralla Shire Council

Council has been successful in obtaining \$33,000 funding from the Border Rivers – Gwydir CMA for a Bundarra Point Source Pollutants Incentive project. The project, which is being administered by Council, aims to upgrade existing septic systems to reduce their impact on the Gwydir River at Bundarra.

Uralla Sub-Catchment Management Plan - \$53,000 allocated for dam construction at Site 1 (private property - Mr W Poss). Construction commenced in March 2008 and is expected to be completed by October 2008.

Walcha Council

Infrastructure projects undertaken during 2007-2008 to improve efficiency of the Walcha water supply included:

- river pump replacement completed, resulting in increased reliability of pump station and greater pump efficiency
- off-creek storage pump overhaul improved pump efficiency
- main bypass valve refurbishment to repair leaking valves, resulting in a dramatic decrease in pumping frequency and costs.

5.4.2 Community Actions

Ebor Progress Association & Ebor Local Area Committee

Issues raised by the Ebor Progress Association and Ebor Local Area Committee include:

- degraded riparian zone along Guy Fawkes River
- Rural Lands Protection Board (RLPB) plans for a holding paddock on the southern side of the Guy Fawkes River and potential threat to riparian zone around Ebor village

- RLPB land remains unfenced along Guy Fawkes River around Ebor
- turbidity in Guy Fawkes River around Ebor village is significant and increasing.

The Ebor Progress Association and Local Area Committee are partners with the Ebor Rural Fire Brigade, Ebor Sport and Recreation Reserve Trust, Ebor and District Lions, Ebor Union Church Trust and Ebor Primary School in a community development project called "Villagelink – Villageview", which commenced in 2005 and includes as a major component the management, restoration and preservation of riparian areas around the village. The Project is awaiting funding from Wetland Care Australia and has made application for further funding through the NSW Environmental Trust to continue the project.

Landcare

Refer to Section 3 for an outline of environmental works and activities undertaken and co-ordinated by Southern New England Landcare.

5.5 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2008-2009

| Recommendation | Relevance |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| continue to work in partnerships with the Community, CMAs and Landcare to implement environmental activities to improve water quality, water management and health of waterways (e.g. riparian protection and revegetation) | All Councils |
| continue water monitoring programs on key waterways within the Region | All Councils |
| continue to ensure best management practice for Council operations that have the potential to pollution water (e.g. sewerage treatment plant) | All Councils |
| implement educational programs to encourage reduced water consumption. | All Councils |
| continue to investigate and implement engineering / technological solutions to combat poor water quality in waterways. | All Councils |
| continue implementation of Stormwater Management Plans. | All Councils |

6.1 INTRODUCTION

The NESAC Region supports a unique biodiversity as a result of the varied topography, climate, soil type and landuse. The Region contains two areas of international significance, being the Little Llangothlin Nature Reserve (Guyra LGA) which is a RAMSAR site, and the Oxley Wild Rivers National Park (Armidale Dumaresq and Walcha LGA) which is a World Heritage Site.



A decline in biodiversity may result from many threatening processes including invasion and competition with weeds and feral animals, removal of habitat, fire, alterations to water flow and climate change

6.2 PRESSURE

Activities and issues that impact, or create pressure on, biodiversity in the NESAC Region have been identified in previous State of Environment Reports. These pressures are broadly identified as:

- weeds
- feral animals
- removal and loss of habitat / vegetation
- bush fire
- low level of, and access to, knowledge and awareness
- disease and infection (e.g. mistletoe, Psittacine Circoviral (beak and feature disease that affects parrots), Amphibian chytrid fungus (kills frog populations) and Phytophthora cinnamomi (a fungus that causes dieback in trees))
- management of travelling stock routes (see Section 3 – Land Use and Management)
- degradation of aquatic habitats and riparian areas
- climate change

6.3 STATE

The environmental indicators outlined below have been used to assess and monitor the state, or condition of the environment with respect to biodiversity. This section provides up-dated data for the respective environmental indicators for 2007-2008 and outlines any significant trends.

Weeds and bush fires are identified as pressures on biodiversity within the Region. Further information regarding weeds and the actions of the New England Weeds

Authority, and information regarding bush fires and activities of the NSW Rural Fire Service, are outlined in Section 3 – Land Use and Management.

6.3.1 National Parks

In 2006-2007 it was reported that there were 318,823 hectares of land protected under National Park Estate within the NESAC Region. This includes 38 National Parks and Wildlife Service reserves that comprise 18% the entire Region.

<DATA GAP> No information was provided by National Parks and Wildlife Service for the 2007-2008 reporting period.

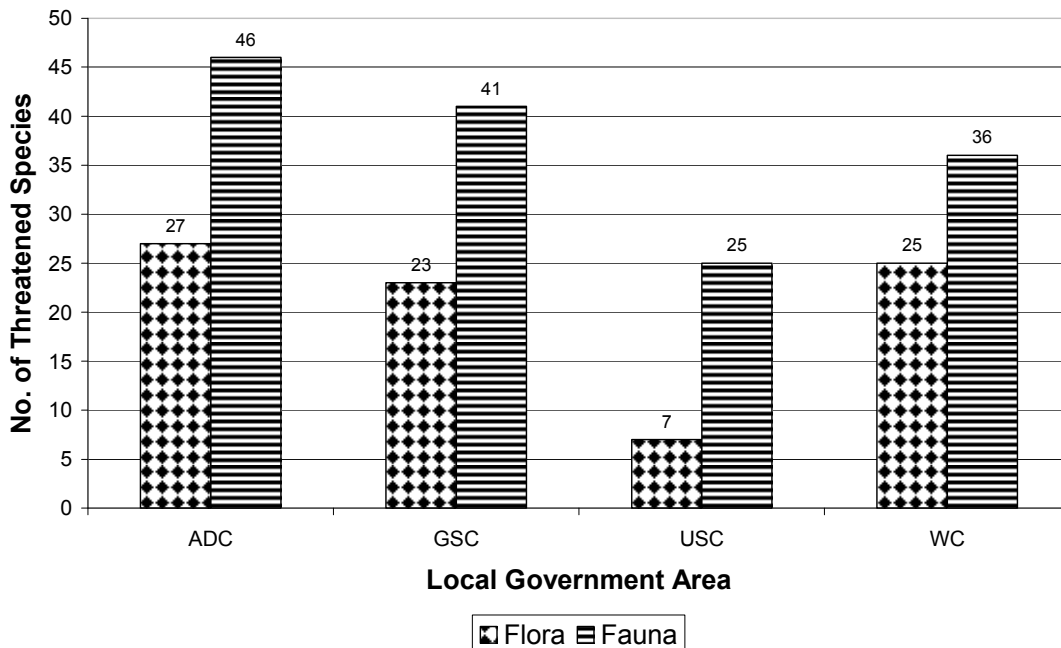
6.3.2 Wetlands

Upland wetlands of the New England Tablelands are listed under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* as an endangered ecological community. There are more than 30 natural lagoons and swamp depressions on the New England Tablelands between Uralla and Llangothlin with most being small features of 2-3 ha. They include one RAMSAR wetland and six nationally significant wetlands. There were no known changes in the number of upland wetlands in 2006-2007 or 2007-2008.

6.3.3 Flora and Fauna

The Atlas of NSW Wildlife (www.wildlifeatlas.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au) lists threatened plant, mammal, bird, reptile, amphibian and invertebrate species that have been recorded or are known to occur in the region. Figure 6.1 shows the number of threatened species recorded in each local government area (Sept. 2008).

Figure 6.1 Number of Threatened Species in the NESAC Region
 Source: Wildlife Atlas, National Parks and Wildlife Service, 2008.



In 2006-2007 it was reported that there were 32 flora and 61 fauna species listed under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* as being present in the NESAC Region. In 2007-2008 (Sept. 2008) the National Parks and Wildlife Service

Wildlife Atlas recorded a total of 46 flora and 61 fauna species for the NESAC Region.

Table 6.1 and Table 6.2 list the threatened flora and fauna species under the NSW TSC Act 1995 known to occur in the respective local government areas.

Table 6.1 Threatened Flora Species (TSC Act 1995) recorded across the NESAC Region

| Scientific Name | Common Name | ADC | GSC | USC | WC |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| <i>Cynanchum elegans</i> | White-flowered Wax Plant | • | | | • |
| <i>Marsdenia longiloba</i> | Slender Marsdenia | • | | | |
| <i>Tylophora woollsii</i> | Cryptic Forest Twiner | • | | | |
| <i>Picris evae</i> | Hawkweed | • | | | |
| <i>Rutidosis heterogama</i> | Heath Wrinklewort | | • | | |
| <i>Lepidium hyssopifolium</i> | Aromatic Peppergrass | • | | • | |
| <i>Callitris oblonga</i> | Pygmy Cypress Pine | • | | | • |
| <i>Callitris oblonga</i> subsp. <i>parva</i> | | • | • | | • |
| <i>Aldrovanda vesiculosa</i> | Waterwheel Plant | | • | | |
| <i>Gaultheria viridicarpa</i> | Green Waxberry | • | | | |
| <i>Styphelia perileuca</i> | Montane Green Five-corners | | • | | |
| <i>Bertya ingramii</i> | Narrow-leaved Bertya | • | | • | • |
| <i>Monotaxis macrophylla</i> | Large-leafed Monotaxis | | • | | |
| <i>Swainsona sericea</i> | Silky Swainson-pea | | • | | |
| <i>Senna acclinis</i> | Rainforest Cassia | • | | | • |
| <i>Gentiana wissmannii</i> | New England Gentian | • | • | | |
| <i>Haloragis exalata</i> | | • | | | • |
| <i>Haloragis exalata</i> subsp. <i>velutina</i> | Tall Velvet Sea-berry | • | | | • |
| <i>Prostanthera cineolifera</i> | Singleton Mint Bush | | | | • |
| <i>Eucalyptus approximans</i> | Barren Mountain Mallee | • | | | |
| <i>Eucalyptus camphora</i> subsp. <i>relicta</i> | Warra Broad-leaved Sally | | • | | • |
| <i>Eucalyptus magnificata</i> | Northern Blue Box | • | | • | • |
| <i>Eucalyptus mckieana</i> | McKie's Stringybark | | • | • | |
| <i>Eucalyptus nicholii</i> | Narrow-leaved Black Peppermint | • | • | • | • |
| <i>Eucalyptus rubida</i> subsp. <i>barbigerorum</i> | Blackbutt Candlebark | • | • | | • |
| <i>Homoranthus prolixus</i> | Granite Homoranthus | | • | | |
| <i>Chiloglottis anaticeps</i> | Bird Orchid | • | • | | • |
| <i>Chiloglottis platyptera</i> | Barrington Tops Ant Orchid | | • | | • |
| <i>Diuris pedunculata</i> | Small Snake Orchid | • | • | • | • |
| <i>Pterostylis elegans</i> | Elegant Greenhood | | | | • |
| <i>Pterostylis metcalfei</i> | Metcalfe's Greenhood | • | • | | |
| <i>Sarcochilus fitzgeraldii</i> | Ravine Orchid | | | | • |
| <i>Sarcochilus hartmannii</i> | Hartman's Sarcochilus | | | | • |
| <i>Dichanthium setosum</i> | Bluegrass | • | • | | |
| <i>Grevillea beadleana</i> | Beadle's Grevillea | • | • | | |

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---|---|---|---|
| <i>Grevillea scortechinii</i> subsp. <i>sarmentosa</i> | Backwater Grevillea | | • | | |
| <i>Grevillea guthrieana</i> | Guthrie's Grevillea | • | | | • |
| <i>Hakea fraseri</i> | Gorge Hakea | • | | • | • |
| <i>Tarenna cameronii</i> | Cameron's Tarenna | | | | • |
| <i>Boronia granitica</i> | Granite Boronia | | • | | |
| <i>Zieria floydii</i> | Floyd's Zieria | | • | | |
| <i>Thesium australe</i> | Austral Toadflax | • | • | | • |
| <i>Euphrasia arguta</i> | | • | | | • |
| <i>Euphrasia ciliolata</i> | Polblue Eyebright | | | | • |
| <i>Tasmannia glaucifolia</i> | Fragrant Pepperbush | • | • | | |
| <i>Zannichellia palustris</i> | | | | | • |

Table 6.2 Threatened Fauna Species (TSC Act 1995) recorded across the NESAC Region

| Scientific Name | Common Name | ADC | GSC | USC | WC |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| <i>Litoria aurea</i> | Green and Golden Bell Frog | | | • | |
| <i>Litoria booroolongensis</i> | Booroolong Frog | • | | | |
| <i>Litoria castanea</i> | Yellow-spotted Tree frog | • | • | | |
| <i>Litoria daviesae</i> | Davies' Tree Frog | | | | • |
| <i>Litoria piperata</i> | Peppered Frog | • | • | | |
| <i>Litoria subglandulosa</i> | Glandular Frog | • | • | | |
| <i>Adelotus brevis</i> | Tusked Frog | | | | • |
| <i>Mixophyes balbus</i> | Stuttering Frog | • | • | | • |
| <i>Philoria sphagnicolus</i> | Sphagnum Frog | • | | | • |
| <i>Pyrrholaemus saggitatus</i> | Speckled Warbler | • | • | • | • |
| <i>Lophoictinia isura</i> | Square-tailed Kite | • | • | • | |
| <i>Atrichornis rufescens</i> | Rufous Scrub-bird | • | | | • |
| <i>Oxyura australis</i> | Blue-billed Duck | | • | • | |
| <i>Stictonetta naevosa</i> | Freckled Duck | | | • | |
| <i>Anseranas semipalmata</i> | Magpie Goose | | • | • | |
| <i>Calyptorhynchus lathami</i> | Glossy Black-Cockatoo | • | • | | • |
| <i>Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus</i> | Black-necked Stork | • | | • | |
| <i>Climacteris picumnus</i> | Brown Treecreeper | • | • | • | • |
| <i>Ptilinopus magnificus</i> | Wompoo Fruit-Dove | • | • | | • |
| <i>Stagonopleura guttata</i> | Diamond Firetail | • | • | • | • |
| <i>Grus rubicunda</i> | Brolga | | • | | |
| <i>Irediparra gallinacea</i> | Comb-crested Jacana | | • | | |
| <i>Grantiella picta</i> | Painted Honeyeater | • | • | • | |
| <i>Melithreptus gularis</i> | Black-chinned Honeyeater | • | • | • | |
| <i>gularis</i> | (eastern subspecies) | | | | |
| <i>Xanthomyza phrygia</i> | Regent Honeyeater | • | • | • | • |
| <i>Pachycephala olivacea</i> | Olive Whistler | • | | | • |
| <i>Melanodryas cucullata</i> | Hooded Robin | • | • | • | • |
| <i>Pomatostomus</i> | Grey-crowned Babbler | | • | • | |

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| temporalis temporalis | (eastern subspecies) | | | | |
| Lathamus discolor | Swift Parrot | • | • | • | |
| Neophema pulchella | Turquoise Parrot | • | • | • | • |
| Rostratula benghalensis australis | Painted Snipe (Australian subspecies) | | • | • | |
| Ninox connivens | Barking Owl | • | • | • | |
| Ninox strenua | Powerful Owl | • | • | • | • |
| Turnix melanogaster | Black-breasted Button-quail | | | | • |
| Tyto novaehollandiae | Masked Owl | • | • | | • |
| Tyto tenebricosa | Sooty Owl | • | | | • |
| Cercartetus nanus | Eastern Pygmy-possum | • | • | | |
| Dasyurus maculatus | Spotted-tailed Quoll | • | • | • | • |
| Phascogale tapoatafa | Brush-tailed Phascogale | • | | | • |
| Saccolaimus flaviventris | Yellow-bellied Sheath-tail-bat | • | • | | |
| Macropus parma | Parma Wallaby | • | | | • |
| Petrogale penicillata | Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby | • | • | • | • |
| Thylogale stigmatica | Red-legged Pademelon | • | | | |
| Pseudomys oralis | Hastings River Mouse | • | | | • |
| Petaurus australis | Yellow-bellied Glider | • | • | | • |
| Petaurus norfolcensis | Squirrel Glider | • | • | • | • |
| Phascolarctos cinereus | Koala | • | • | • | • |
| Aepyprymnus rufescens | Rufous Bettong | • | • | | • |
| Potorous tridactylus | Long-nosed Potoroo | • | | | • |
| Pteropus poliocephalus | Grey-headed Flying-fox | • | • | • | • |
| Chalinolobus nigrogriseus | Hoary Wattled Bat | • | | | |
| Chalinolobus picatus | Little Pied Bat | • | • | | |
| Falsistrellus tasmaniensis | Eastern False Pipistrelle | • | • | | • |
| Kerivoula papuensis | Golden-tipped Bat | | | | • |
| Miniopterus australis | Little Bentwing-bat | • | • | | • |
| Miniopterus schreibersii oceanensis | Eastern Bentwing-bat | • | • | | • |
| Myotis adversus | Large-footed Myotis | • | | | • |
| Scoteanax rueppellii | Greater Broad-nosed Bat | • | • | | • |
| Eseya belli | Bell's Turtle | | | • | |
| Hoplocephalus stephensii | Stephens' Banded Snake | | • | | • |
| Underwoodisaurus sphyrurus | Border Thick-tailed Gecko | | • | | |

6.3.4 Fisheries

The NSW Department of Primary Industries (Fisheries) is the agency with primary responsibility for conserving fishery resources. Information supplied by the Department for the NESAC Region in 2007-2008 is summarised below:

Endangered Fish Populations:

- Purple Spotted Gudgeon (*Mogurnda adspersa*)
- Olive Perchlet (*Ambassis agassizii*)

Vulnerable Fish Species:

- Silver Perch (*Bidyanus bidyanus*)

Introduced species known to occur in waterways of the NESAC Region:

- European Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*)
- Mosquito Fish (*Gambusia holbrooki*)
- Goldfish (*Carassius auratus*)
- Redfin (*Perca fluviatilis*)
- Rainbow Trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)
- Brown Trout (*Salmo trutta*)

NSW Department of Primary Industries (Fisheries) also advise that there are 10 existing aquaculture developments in the NESAC Region, with 8 located in the Guyra Shire area, and 1 each in Armidale Dumaresq and Walcha Council areas.

An outline of actions undertaken by DPI (Fisheries) is included in Section 6.4.2.

6.3.5 Forestry

In 2006-2007 it was reported that the total area of forests owned and managed by Forests NSW in the NESAC Region was 75,081 hectares, the majority of which comprise of native forests. It was also reported that there are approximately 10,000 hectares of softwood plantation across the NESAC Region, consisting primarily of exotic *Pinus* species and six hardwood plantations covering approximately 3000 hectares.

<DATA GAP> No information was provided by the Department of Primary Industries (Forests NSW) for the 2007-2008 reporting period.

6.3.6 Feral Animals / Companion Animals

Feral Animals

Feral animal control within the NESAC Region is largely undertaken by the Rural Lands Protection Board, National Parks and Wildlife Service and private land holders.

<DATA GAP> No information was provided by the Armidale Rural Lands Protection Board for feral animal control activities undertaken during 2007-2008.

During 2007-2008, sightings of Indian Myna birds were reported in Armidale. In eastern Australia feral mynas have become a major urban nuisance, pose potential health risks to humans and livestock and have serious, negative impacts on biodiversity. Mynas are listed by the World Conservation Union as one of the World's 100 Worst Invasive Species (sres-associated.anu.edu.au/myna). The National Parks and Wildlife Service are aware of Indian Myna sightings in the Kunderang area and

are investigating the development of a pest management strategy to address the spread of this species.

Companion Animals

Councils are responsible for the control of companion animals (e.g. cats and dogs) under the *Companion Animals Act 1998*. Table 6.3 outlines the number of stray animals impounded, surrendered, housed and/or destroyed for each LGA during 2007-2008.

Table 6.3 Companion Animal Control across NESAC during 2007-2008

| LGA | animal type | impounded or surrendered | released, sold or returned | housed for RSPCA | destroyed |
|-----|-------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| ADC | dogs & cats | 552 | 398 | - | 139 |
| | stock | 5 sheep 1 cow | cow sold | - | 5 sheep |
| GSC | dogs & cats | 45 | 6 | 1 | 38 |
| | stock | - | - | - | - |
| USC | dogs & cats | 25 | 22 | - | 3 |
| | stock | - | - | - | - |
| WC | dogs & cats | 49 | 15 | - | 34 |
| | stock | - | - | - | - |

6.3.7 Weeds

Invasive weeds are a serious threat to Australia's natural environment and can have a significant economic, environmental and social impact. Weeds can cause damage to natural landscapes, agricultural lands, waterways and coastal areas. They displace native species, contribute significantly to land degradation, and can reduce farm and forest productivity. Weed control activities across the NESAC Region are primarily undertaken by the New England Weeds Authority (NEWA).

During 2007-2008, NEWA has been targeting Mexican Water Lily on Gara Dam as an emerging / new environmental issue. The dam has been drained over the winter period in an effort to reduce infestation and UNE students have been investigating plant characteristics and control methods with the assistance of CMA funding. The Mexican Water Lily has been observed spreading down the Gara River.

Noxious Weeds

There are currently 85 weed species on the noxious weeds list for NSW, most of which are Class 1 and 2 weeds that are rarely found. 28 of the noxious weed species are known to occur in the NESAC Region. There have been no new noxious weed declarations in the NESAC Region during 2007-2008.

The Noxious Weeds Act 1993 outlines 5 "control classes" of noxious weeds. The New England Weeds Authority has approved Management Plans for 15 Control Class 4 (CC4) noxious weeds, being:

| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| African Lovegrass | Blackberry |
| Broom | Burr species |
| Chilean Needle Grass | Nodding Thistle |
| Pampas Grass | Paterson's Curse |
| Privet | Rhus Tree |
| Saffron Thistle | Sweet Briar |

Cylindropuntia species (e.g. rope pear) Harrisa cactus species
Opuntia species (prickly pear)

Control of CC4 noxious weeds under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993 requires that:

“the growth and spread of the plant must be controlled according to the measures specified in a management plan published by the local [council] control authority. Some CC4 plants cannot be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed.”

Weed Control Activities

Weed control activities conducted by NEWA during 2007-2008 are outlined below in Section 6.4.

6.4 RESPONSE

6.4.1 Council Actions

The following Table 6.4 provides a summary of actions that were being implemented by each of the Councils in 2006-2007 and new actions implemented in 2007-2008 in response to some of the pressures identified in Part 6.2. Table 6.4 also details the outcomes that were achieved and/or the on-going actions that were undertaken during 2007-2008 in relation to these matters.

A number of the pressures identified for biodiversity are being acted upon by other agencies and organisations. Details of these activities are outlined in Section 6.4.2.

Table 6.4 **Actions implemented by Councils and outcomes achieved**

| Weeds | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: Financial contribution and support for NEWA. | on-going |
| ADC, GSC & WC: education program conducted in 2006-2007 for employees to identify weeds and minimise potential for transfer of weeds between work sites, including washing machinery between work sites | ADC, GSC & USC: measures implemented WC: documented procedure for wash down being developed |
| ADC: waived tipping fees for Privet in conjunction with NEWA Privet reduction Project and issued vouchers for replacement native trees | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tipping fee waiver extended from 01/02/08 to 30/05/08 • 1500 native tree vouchers issued |

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>NEWA: conducted weed control activities in 2007-2008</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4000km of NESAC roadsides treated for Blackberry, Sweet Briar, Serrated Tussock and St Johns Wort • WC and ADC parks treated for broadleaf weeds and Bindi eye • roadside furniture (guide posts/guard rails) treated for NESAC councils • water storage areas, waste transfer stations and treatment plants treated for noxious weeds • Pesticides Notification plans on all council websites. |
| <p>NEWA: education programs conducted during 2007-2008</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 weed identification workshops held in conjunction with Landcare • weed identification displays at Guyra, Armidale and Walcha Shows • weed identification day held for NPWS staff from throughout region. |
| <p>NEWA: Native Solutions Program to raise awareness of common and emerging environmental weeds and promote good management strategies</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Privet infestation removed from Holloway's Lane (Uralla) and will be revegetated by Arding Landcare and Uralla Shire Council • heavy Hawthorn infestations treated with assistance from Walcha Council • heavy Privet infestations targeted in the Kelly's Plains area. 80 truck loads / 100 tonnes removed. ADC assisted by waiving tip fees. |
| <p>NEWA: Privet control activities</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • various media releases and property inspections commenced. |
| <p>ADC: in conjunction with CMA, ADC removed Willows and other woody weeds over a 500m section of Dumaresq Creek at Council's Sewerage Treatment Plant.</p> | <p>The area will be revegetated with native species during 2008-2009.</p> |
| <p>ADC: in partnership with Armidale Urban Rivercare Group and work for the Dole teams, riparian improvement works were carried out along Dumaresq Creek at Girraween and east of Taylor Street, and in Black Gully between Taylor Street and the railway line.</p> | <p>2007-2008: work has continued at Black Gully and new work was undertaken along Dumaresq Creek around Elizabeth Park and between Taylor St and Centennial Close, involving weed control, woody weed removal and replanting with over 350 native trees and shrubs.</p> |
| <p>ADC: initiated habitat rehabilitation project at Mana Gum Reserve (Aug. 2006) including herbaceous and grass weed mapping and woody weed control.</p> | <p>2007-2008: revegetation of riparian zone, enhancement planting in woodland area and photo print monitoring. Interpretive signage to be completed in 2008-2009</p> |

| WC: work with Landcare, GreenCorps, etc. | Requested a study on environmental weeds for a rural residential subdivision |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Feral / Stray Animals | |
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: Nil actions implemented to control feral animals | feral animal control primarily undertaken by Rural Lands Protection Board, National Parks and Wildlife Service and private landholders |
| All Councils: carry out control of animals under the <i>Companion Animals Act 1998</i> | refer to Part 6.3.6 |
| Removal / Loss of Habitat and Vegetation | |
| Action | Outcome |
| ADC: Habitat areas and vegetation of scenic value protected through Council's local environmental plan. | Environment Protection (Scenic) Zones included in new Armidale Dumaresq LEP 2008, gazetted on 15 February 2008. |
| ADC: DCP 2007 - Chapter D3 (Code for Development of Future Urban Areas) identified a 3ha area of remnant White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Woodland (endangered ecological community under the <i>Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995</i>) for protection as future public open space. | DCP 2007 – Chapter D3 adopted by Council in December 2007. Provisions to be taken into account in any future application for development of the area. |
| ADC: DCP 2007 – Chapter D2 (Development in Environment Protection Zones) includes provisions to facilitate restoration of indigenous plant communities on the periphery of Armidale. | DCP 2007 – Chapter D2 came into effect with gazettal of Armidale Dumaresq LEP 2008, on 15 February 2008. |
| USC: Updated and undertook mapping of significant roadside vegetation. | on-going |
| WC: supported application to have a SNELC officer located in Walcha 1 day per week | SNELC officer based in Walcha 1 day per week |
| WC: working with Namoi CMA to produce Significant Roadside Vegetation Management Plans | on-going |

| Information and Awareness | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: Funding opportunities were explored during 2006-2007 to undertake a biodiversity study. | In 2007-2008 and again in 2008-2009, an application was submitted for funding under the Department of Planning's Planning Reform Funding Program to carry out a biodiversity study for NESAC. The 4 Councils supported the application and allocated funding in their respective budgets towards the project. Unfortunately, on both occasions the funding applications were unsuccessful. |
| ADC: adopted Policy POL167 – Policy on Enforcement and Prosecution for Unlawful Environmental Activity (Dec, 2006) | on-going implementation and enforcement as required |
| Bushfire | |
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: support the NSW Rural Fire Service | Refer to Section 3 – Land Use and Land Management |
| Management of Travelling Stock Routes | |
| Action | Outcome |
| USC: mapping of high quality roadside vegetation within the Northern Rivers CMA and Uralla Shire Council area to identifying significant vegetation and any threatening processes that may affect the integrity of these roadside corridors | mapping completed |

6.4.2 Action of Agencies / Organisations

NSW Department of Primary Industries (Fisheries)

The NSW Department of Primary Industries (Fisheries) is the agency with primary responsibility for conserving fishery resources. During 2007-2008 DPI (Fisheries) conducted various fish restocking programs within the NESAC Region. Table 6.5 outlines the fish type / numbers introduced into waterways of the NESAC Region under the DPI's fish restocking program.

Table 6.5 DPI (Fisheries) Fish Restocking Program

| Catchment / LGA | Fish Species (number released) | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|-------------|
| | Bass | Rainbow Trout | Brown Trout |
| Clarence | | | |
| Armidale Dumaresq | | 44,000 | |
| Guyra | | | 2,000 |
| Macleay | | | |
| Armidale Dumaresq | 11,000 | 142,000 | 54,000 |
| Guyra | 24,000 | 28,000 | |
| Walcha | | 34,000 | 76,000 |
| Gwydir | | | |
| Armidale Dumaresq | | 76,000 | |
| Guyra | | 88,000 | |
| Uralla | | 10,000 | |
| Namoi | | | |
| Walcha | | 151,000 | |
| Manning | | | |
| Walcha | | 18,000 | |

DPI Fisheries also conducted various habitat management projects in the NESAC Region during 2007-2008, including those outlined below:

- DPI Fisheries worked collaboratively with Uralla Shire Council and the Border Rivers / Gwydir CMA to remove an obsolete road crossing (61m long x 5m wide x 1.2m high) on Boorolong Creek, just upstream of its junction with the Gwydir River. The structure acted as a weir and a major barrier to fish passage. The CMA provided the funding to assist Council to remove the structure, opening up approximately 20km of the creek to fish passage.
- DPI was involved in a collaborative project across the Murray-Darling Basin, 'The Sustainable Rivers Audit' targeting fish numbers in the Namoi and Border Rivers / Gwydir catchments.
- DPI has recently developed a GIS database of Key Fish Habitats within the NESAC Region to assist with the current LEP planning process.

Australian Plants Society (Armidale)

The Australian Plants Society (Armidale) conduct monthly working bees at the Armidale Arboretum involving planting, weeding, watering, etc. During 2007, 9 volunteers of the Society planted 292 plants at an approximate wholesale cost of \$1270.

Citizens Wildlife Corridors Armidale Inc.

Outcomes to date that have been achieved by Citizens Wildlife Corridors Inc. under a 3 year NSW Environment Grant (ending in March 2009), include:

- provision of subsidies totalling just under \$20,000 which have been used, along with in-kind support, to assist 13 landholders to erect 3.9km of fencing (33ha fenced and 17.5ha of remnant vegetation protected), plant 8620 native seedlings along 17.24km and establish 6km of wildlife corridors.
- project examples include:
 - restricting vehicular access (particularly motorbikes) to an 800m section of the Armidale Walking Track between Trelawney Rd and Blue Wren Lane. Proposed follow-up project to protect other sections of the walking track.

- protecting a 1.5km long x 100m wide section of riparian land east of Armidale, which will be revegetated by the land owner.
- planting within St Mary's Primary School to foster environmental education.

Lyndhurst Local Area Committee

The Lyndhurst Local Area Committee reported that land holder funded fox baiting has continued in the area over the 2007-2008 reporting period.

Herbert Park Local Area Committee

The Herbert Park Local Area Committee reported that they have been involved in maintaining Hillard Memorial and tree planting at Charleston Willows Recreation Ground. Further work is proposed to fence the area of tree planting.

6.5 PUBLIC SUBMISSION

National Parks Association of NSW – Armidale Branch

The Armidale Branch of the National Parks Association of NSW has raised the following issues in their submission for the 2007-2008 State of Environment Report:

1. declining condition of native vegetation on roadsides / travelling stock routes
 - road verges degrading because of increase in Coolatai Grass, which is encouraged by routine slashing (especially in Uralla and Armidale Dumaresq LGAs)
 - suggested actions include discontinue slashing certain areas, replace slashing with spraying, treat equipment (e.g. wash, clean) before entering uninfested areas, develop integrated program with NEWA, renew commitment to roadside management plans by NESAC.
2. firewood collection and illegal felling of trees for fence posts
 - impacting on remnant native vegetation value of roadsides and travelling stock routes, particularly Mugga Ironbark (core habitat for endangered Regent Honeyeater)
 - suggested actions include renewing NESAC commitment to roadside management and education for staff on importance of roadside environments.

The potential spread of weeds by roadside slashing is an issue previously raised in the State of Environment Report, which is being address by all the NESAC Councils through the introduction of new work practices (see Part 6.4.1). NEWA activities also extend to the control of weeds on roadsides.

<DATA GAP> No information was provided by the Armidale Rural Lands Protection Board relating to their activities on, or management of, travelling stock routes for the 2007-2008 reporting period.

Bushland Regenerators (P & J Mumford)

Concern regarding the natural heritage of land surrounding Armidale and continued impact of building development. It is suggested that a survey be conducted to identify land containing the area's two dominate woodlands ecosystems (critically endangered Box-Gum Woodland and endangered Ribbon Gum Woodland)

Lyndhurst Local Area Committee

The Lyndhurst Local Area Committee have noted as an emerging issue, an increase in the collection of wood from roadside reserves and the removal of habitat trees with hollows.

6.6 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2008-2009

| Recommendation | Relevance |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| support local organisations that promote or educate the community on biodiversity / environment | All Councils |
| continue to support the New England Weeds Authority to control weeds on public and private lands across the NESAC Region | All Councils |
| work collaboratively with State government agencies, CMAs, Landcare and community based groups to protect and enhance the local natural environment | All Councils |
| investigate and enforce appropriate action in relation to illegal removal of timber from roadside reserves and travelling stock routes | All Councils |
| consider preparing / updating roadside vegetation management plans to include protection and management of dead trees | All Councils |
| <p>carry out an assessment of land owned and/or managed by Council to develop a prioritised environmental works program to be implemented over a number of years through successive Management Plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - investigate opportunities for joint projects with local Landcare groups - determine which Council works are consistent with CMA CAP Targets for possible funding - align proposed environmental works with Recovery Plans for Threatened Species - possible review of Plans of Management for Community and Operational Land | All Councils |
| continue to seek funding to undertake a Regional biodiversity study | All Councils |

7.1 INTRODUCTION

Councils across the NESAC Region continue to operate licensed solid waste landfill facilities, along with various rural transfer stations to service smaller settlements and the rural community. All of the NESAC Councils are actively involved in recycling, working to reduce overall waste generation and improving waste management.



NESAC is working to develop a regional landfill facility that will have capacity to handle waste from across the NESAC Region. The planning and approval stage of this development has been on-going during 2007-2008, and will continue into 2008-2009.

Walcha Council currently operates a landfill facility on Aerodrome Road with a predicted life of approximately 15 years.

7.2 PRESSURE

Activities and issues that impact, or create pressure with respect to waste and waste management in the NESAC Region have been identified in previous State of Environment Reports. These pressures are broadly identified as:

- domestic waste production
- low levels of recycling
- landfill operation
- impact of waste on the environment
- sewage

Low levels of recycling are not considered a continuing pressure for Armidale Dumaresq Council as only 37% (by weight) of the waste stream goes to landfill, and 63% is recovered for reuse.

A significant waste management issue arising toward the end of the 2007-2008 reporting period was heightened community opposition to the proposed Regional Landfill east of Armidale, with concerns centred around the potential impact of the proposed facility on World Heritage listed sites further downstream. These concerns are being addressed in the Environmental Assessment and planning approval processes to include mitigation measures for incorporation into the Landfill Environmental Management Plan (the Operational Plan).

7.3 STATE

The environmental indicators outlined below have been used to assess and monitor the state, or condition of the environment with respect to waste and waste management. This section provides up-dated data for the respective environmental indicators for 2007-2008 and outlines any significant trends.

Data for domestic waste production and recycling is sourced from Comparative Information published by the Department of Local Government. No data has been released for 2006-2007 or 2007-2008, and as such, the figures used for these reporting periods is based on information supplied by the respective Councils.

7.3.1 Solid Waste

In previous reports, domestic waste generation across the NESAC Region has been measured to allow comparisons over time for the total amount of domestic waste deposited to landfill and the amount of domestic waste generated per capita. Solid waste and recyclable material from all sources are included in this report as referenced below.

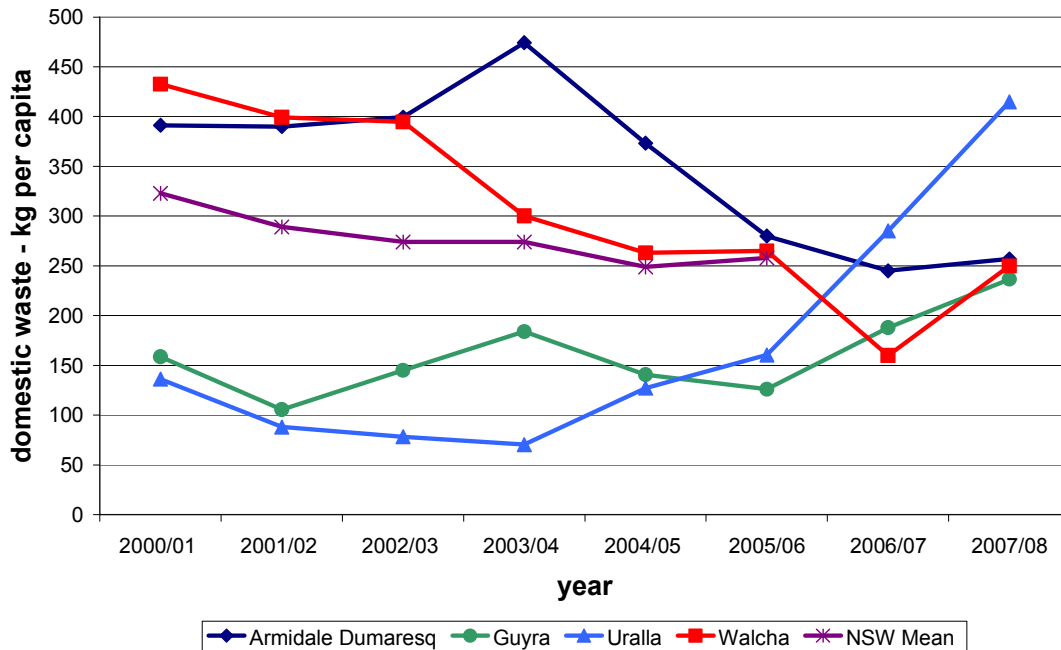
During 2007-2008 domestic waste collection services were operated in each of the NESAC Council areas. Armidale Dumaresq Council operated 9695 domestic waste collection services and 666 commercial/industrial services, Guyra Shire Council 1221 waste collection services, Uralla Shire Council 1577 and Walcha Council 979 collection services.

The total amount of domestic waste deposited to landfill for each LGA during 2007-2008 was as follows:

| | |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| ADC | 6300 tonnes (total waste to landfill was approx. 15500 tonnes) |
| GSC | 1044 tonnes |
| USC | 2486 tonnes |
| WC | 1080 tonnes |

Considering domestic waste only, Figure 7.1 shows comparative data for domestic waste generated per capita for the 4 NESAC Councils compared to the NSW Mean. After a number of years of generally declining domestic waste generation, Armidale Dumaresq Council has remained relatively stable during 2007-2008, while the remaining NESAC Councils have experienced an increase in the amount of domestic waste generated per capita from the 2006-2007 period to 2007-2008.

Figure 7.1 NESAC Domestic Waste per Capita (2000/01 – 2007/08)



Source: Department of Local Government Comparative Data
Local Council data for 2006-2007 and 2007-2008

7.3.2 Recycling

Recyclable materials are measured in a similar way to domestic waste to allow comparisons between Councils over a number of years.

Table 7.1 shows the total amount of recyclables diverted from landfill by each Council during 2007-2008 and Table 7.2 shows an approximate breakdown of the types of recyclable materials collected.

Table 7.1 Amount of Recyclables (2007-2008)

| LGA | Recyclables (tonnes) | Green Waste |
|-----|----------------------|---------------------|
| ADC | 26205 | 5256 tonnes |
| GSC | 554 | n/a |
| USC | 1742 | 3200 m ³ |
| WC | 702 | 2000m ³ |

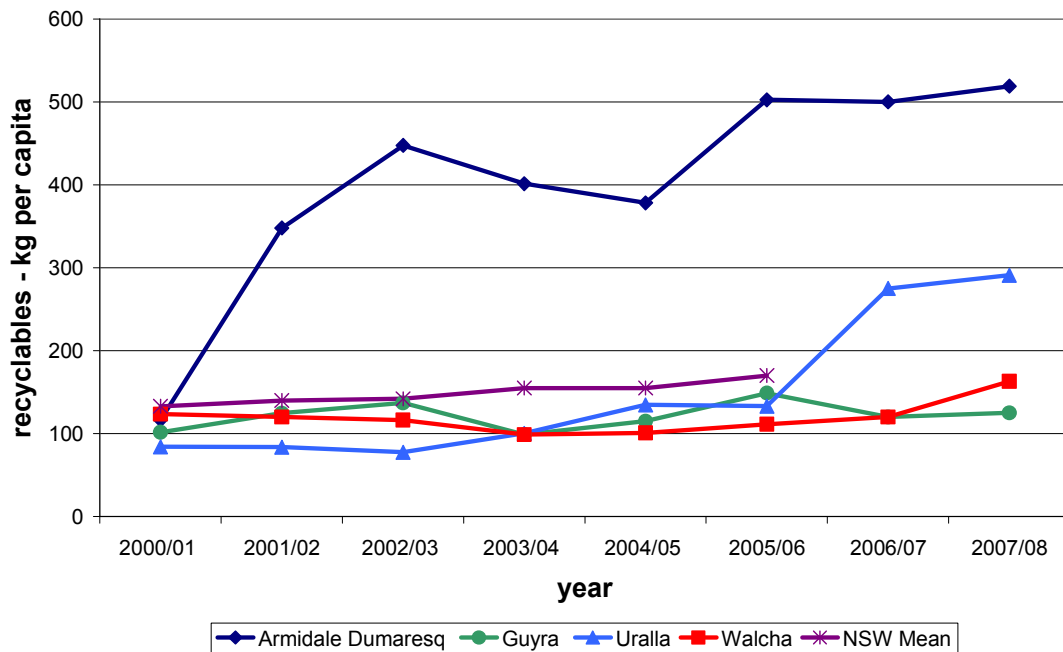
Table 7.2 Recyclables by Type in 2007-2008 (approximate % values)

| Recyclables | Approximate % of Material per LGA | | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----------|
| | ADC | GSC | USC | WC |
| Metals | 3.0 | 59 | 22 | remainder |
| Paper/Cardboard | 8.3 | 21 | 55 | 50-60 |
| Glass | 2.7 | 15 | 13 | 20-30 |
| Plastics | 0.6 | 3 | 7 | 10-15 |
| Aluminium | 0.1 | 1 | 2 | remainder |
| Batteries | 0.3 | 1 | 1 | |
| Green Waste | 20 | | | |
| Crushed Concrete | 51.5 | | | |
| Timber (chipped) | 13.3 | | | |



Figure 7.2 shows comparative data of recyclables per capita for the 4 NESAC Councils compared to the NSW Mean. These figures show a general trend of increases in recyclables per capita for 2007-2008 compared to the previous reporting period for all Councils.

Figure 7.2 NESAC Recyclables per Capita (2000-2001 – 2007-2008)



Source: Department of Local Government Comparative Data
Local Council data for 2006-2007 and 2007-2008

Note: ADC figure does not include recycled building waste

7.4 RESPONSE

The following Table provides a summary of actions that were being implemented by each of the Councils in 2006-2007 and new actions implemented in 2007-2008 in response to pressures identified in Part 7.2. The Table also details the outcomes that were achieved and/or the on-going actions that were undertaken during 2007-2008 in relation to these matters.

Table 7.3 Actions implemented by Councils and outcomes achieved

| Domestic Waste Production | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: Continue to implement Waste Minimisation Strategies through education programs and changes in operations/management | on-going |
| Education Programs: | |
| ADC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • brochure distributed to encourage more recycling. • information display at Administration Building on waste / recycling services • conduct visits to Waste Management Facility for schools / interested parties • include information on waste services and recycling in weekly newsletter and on Council's website | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • new brochure produced • display up-dated and maintained • visits conducted by appointment during 2007-2008 • ongoing |
| GSC: liaison with local schools regarding Clean Up Australia Day and Waste to Art programs, brochures and weekly newsletter | on-going |
| USC: educational newsletters regarding what products are recyclable. | continual information provided in Council's monthly newsletter |
| WC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • re-usable shopping bag program • on-going recycling information and education | gradual improvement in recycling and waste management in the community |
| Operations / Management: | |
| ADC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increased focus on separation of recyclables from waste at the WTS • new recycling contractor appointed • recycling encouraged via pricing structure (e.g. disposal of a load of recyclable material is free, where a mixed load will incur a fee) • establishment of Resource Recovery Centre for sale of recycled material (due to new contractor) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • overall reuse and recycling of waste has reached 63% of all waste handled at the transfer station with the new recycling sorting table recording contamination levels as low as 3% of waste recycled • Resource Recovery Centre operating and business expanding • ADC has expanded its collection service to the rural fringe areas to include another 560 services |

| GSC: plan to close Llangothlin landfill | closure plan in progress – repair, cap and drainage at site plus on-going ground water monitoring |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| USC: operational changes to provide efficient and affordable waste disposal | plan to undertake monitoring of rubbish collection towards end of 2008 to help establish trends |
| WC: up-graded facilities (drop-off and processing area) and increased staffing levels at the recycling centre | more efficient recycling process |
| Low Level of Recycling | |
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: participated in recycling programs such as DrumMuster and Chemical Muster | 2007-2008 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADC – 2406 drums collected • GSC – 1096 drums collected • USC – 285 drums collected • WC – 4076 drums collected |
| ADC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sale of recyclable material through Resource Recovery Centre • sale of mulch • conduct survey of commercial and industrial recycling needs (2007-2008) to improve services to these sectors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Recovery Centre business has expanded during 2007-2008 • survey conducted - further analysis and action in 2008-2009 |
| GSC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sale of mulch • free kerbside pickup for recyclables • lower charge for domestic waste bins 140lt bin (\$198) and 240lt bin (\$325) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mulch sales on-going • variable charge for different bins sizes maintained to encourage reduced waste generation (2007-2008 – 140 lt bin \$218 and 240 lt bin \$358) |
| USC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • moving towards larger recycling bins and smaller waste bins (i.e. 120lt bin) • free recycling tub and no charge for recyclables taken to landfill / recycling centre | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to be reviewed in 2008-2009 |
| WC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recycling centre expansion • extended recycle collection pick-up to all business operations • mulch and compost products • investigating automated collection of recycling bins | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2007-2008 – new shed built for recycle processing / conveyor installation, resulting in improved efficiency of recycling process |

| Landfill Operation | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: actively involved with Northern Inland Regional Waste Group | NIRW benefits include economy of scale (working with other member Councils) to achieve more effective and efficient waste services at a lower cost, advertising and educational resources |
| ADC: has been able to reduce contract prices due to increased volumes, e.g. - mulching costs have almost halved over last five years - increased volume of recyclable metals has resulted in increased prices being paid for materials | continuing |
| ADC: investigation and planning for new Regional landfill site | planning and approval process to continue in 2008-2009 |
| ADC: investigation of alternative waste technology to reduce the volume of waste going to landfill to be introduced with the new regional landfill facility | continuing |
| ADC: established e-waste (electronic waste) service for the collection, recycling and re-use of electronic components. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • facility completed and operational (\$200,000) • expression of interest circulated to surrounding Councils to participate in service (2007-2008) |
| ADC: established a long-term lease (Ridley Mini Skips Pty Ltd) at the Armidale Waste Transfer Station for construction of a storage shed and sorting area for recyclable materials collected from building and industrial sites | sorting area established and operating |
| GSC: improved operations at the Guyra Transfer Station and the Tingha and Ben Lomond Landfills to minimise environmental impacts by increasing the volume of materials being recycled or re used. | on-going |
| USC: mulch contract, steel contract and oil collection. | on-going |
| USC: control of Bundarra landfill | Council now employs staff to operate the landfill which is open 4 days per week. |

| Impact of Waste on the Environment | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: conduct education programs | outlined above |
| All Councils: promote Clean Up Australia Day (staff and resources) | continued in 2007-2008 |
| WC: commenced a new waste management strategy | review of waste management strategy completed in 2007-2008 |
| GSC: undertake quarterly ground water monitoring and gas detection at Llangothlin landfill | monitoring on-going. No adverse impacts detected to date. |
| <p>All Councils: enforce regulation / policy 2006-2007</p> <p>ADC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 Penalty Infringement Notices (PIN) issued for dumping waste • 14 Penalty Notices for littering • 1 Penalty Notice for pollute waters <p>GSC: no fines issued</p> <p>USC: 3 on the spot fines issued and clean up orders for illegal roadside dumping.</p> <p>WC: no fines issued</p> | <p>2007-2008</p> <p>ADC: 22 pollution complaints received, 3 incidents of illegal dumping (increased signage erected to discourage illegal dumping), 1 PIN for transport waste and 6 littering from vehicle PINs</p> <p>GSC: 10 incidences of illegal dumping No evidence to prosecute offenders.</p> <p>USC: 5 pollution complaints received and 3 incidents of illegal dumping. 2 penalty infringement notices issued for illegal dumping.</p> <p>WC: nil</p> |
| Sewage | |
| Action | Outcome |
| ADC: undertaking an Infiltration Study to examine incidents of stormwater entering the sewer system | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • study completed - aim to reduce stormwater in-flows and therefore increasing efficiency of the sewage treatment plant • Stage 1 of the rehabilitation lining of the original Armidale Trunk sewer (Line 1) through the CBD area was completed during 2007-2008 • Stage 2 of the rehabilitation work on Line 1, continuing eastwards, is scheduled for 2008-2009. |
| ADC: currently achieves approx. 41% re-use of waste water through irrigation. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigating ways to increase reuse % (e.g. possible land purchase for increased irrigation) • Council's discharge fee for disposal via waterways is reduced while additional income is achieved through sales of hay and cattle from irrigated areas |

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| WC: plant upgrade project and investigation of alternative methods of disposal of effluent from sewerage treatment plant | on-going |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|

Northern Inland Regional Waste Group

In conjunction with the NIRW Group, NESAC Councils were involved in the following projects / strategies during 2007-2008:

- education campaigns – brochures, anti-littering campaigns, display at exhibitions
- commenced / up-graded contracts for green waste processing, oil recycling, e-waste processing, metal waste and DrumMuster processing
- chemical collection campaign
- Waste into Art competition across the Region
- investigation of commercial and industrial recycling service
- sustainable on-farm waste management program
- community sharps program

Armidale Dumaresq Council

New projects that have been proposed for 2008-2009 include planning and design of:

- expansion of the Resource Recovery Centre to include a new shop front for the existing building to achieve increased through-put of second hand goods.
- extension to recycle centre building to weatherproof the storage area for paper / cardboard with the aim of achieving increased prices for recyclable materials.

7.5 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2008-2009

| Recommendation | Relevance |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| continue active membership of the Northern Inland Regional Waste Group | All Councils |
| continue to implement strategies that encourage and promote recycling | All Councils |
| develop and implement strategies to reduce the amount of general domestic waste going to landfill | All Councils |

8.1 INTRODUCTION

Noise pollution and issues associated with noise generation are generally not significant environmental problems across the NESAC Region. A number of noise complaints are usually received by the Councils and the NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) each year, but historically these tend to be isolated incidents or noise related to an identifiable point source.



At present, there is no regular noise monitoring undertaken by the Councils or DECC. Any monitoring that is carried out is usually in response to complaints or specific issues. Land use zoning within the four urban areas of Armidale, Guyra, Uralla and Walcha and consideration of potential noise generation during the development assessment process also helps to confine potentially noisy activities to suitable areas and aims to ensure appropriate operation of such activities. In addition, Councils respond promptly to noise complaints to minimise potential impacts on residents and the environment.

The predominant issue in the NESAC Region with regard to noise pollution continues to be barking dogs.

8.2 PRESSURE

The issues and impacting activities that create pressure on the environment in relation to noise within the NESAC Region have been identified in previous State of Environment Reports and are broadly identified as:

- transport (including airport and aircraft noise)
- industry
- waste management activities and facilities
- noise from rural activities
- urban noise (including dogs, loud music, etc.)

No additional noise generating activities or noise related issues (pressures) were identified in 2007-2008.

8.3 STATE

The following indicators have been established to monitor the state, or condition, of noise within the NESAC Region. This section provides an up-date on the indicators for 2007-2008 and outlines any significant trends.

8.3.1 Noise Monitoring

In many cases noise monitoring is undertaken by Council staff as a response to noise complaints and to determine if the noise is offensive. If Council identifies the noise to be offensive then actions are put in place to minimise noise.

Guyra Shire Council did not undertake any noise monitoring during 2006-2007 or 2007-2008.

Uralla Shire Council undertook noise monitoring during 2007-2008 in relation to:

- motor bikes being ridden in the town area
- a loam extraction operation in a rural area
- barking dogs

In most minor cases a letter was issued to offending parties making them aware of the noise issue. Five (5) Nuisance Orders were issued in relation to barking dogs, which generally proved to be an effective noise abatement tool.

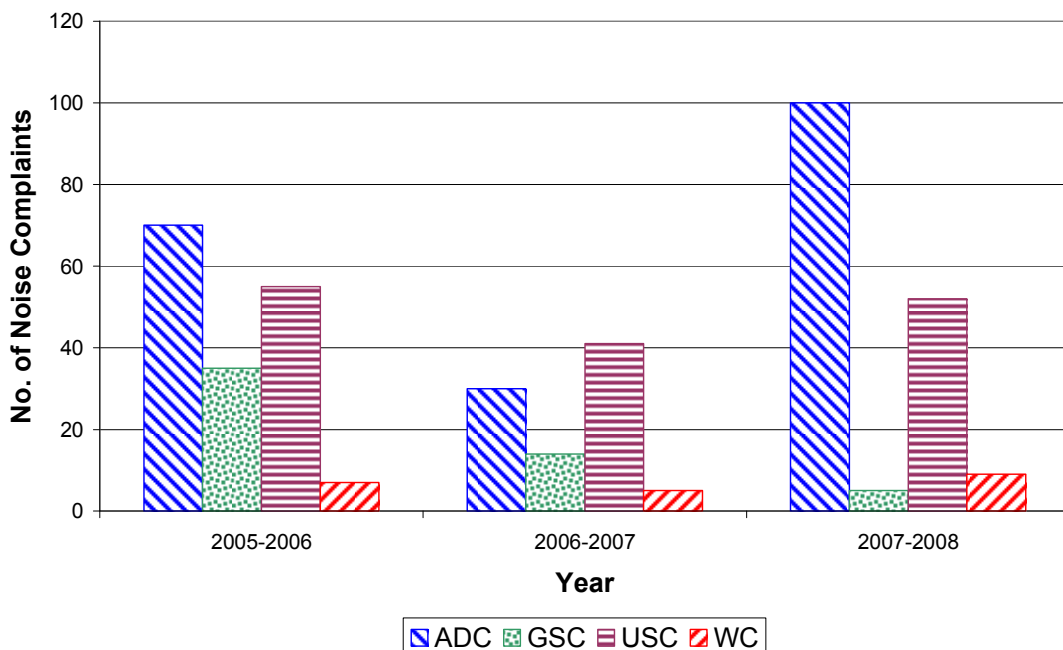
Walcha Council undertook noise monitoring during 2007-2008 in response to a complaint relating to noise from a refrigeration unit. This matter is still under investigation.

Noise monitoring was undertaken by Armidale Dumaresq Council in 2007-2008 in relation to a hotel premises on specific entertainment nights.

8.3.2 Council Noise Complaints Register

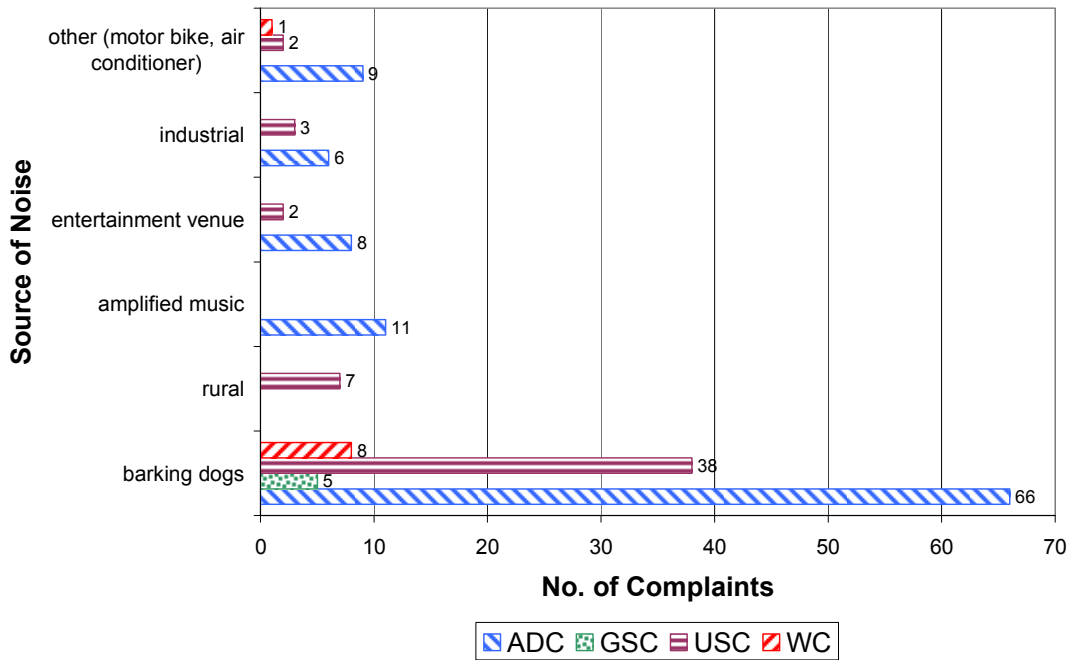
The total number of noise complaints received by Councils across the NESAC Region in 2007-2008 (166) was similar to 2005-2006 (167), but significantly higher than 2006-2007 (90), particularly for Armidale Dumaresq Council.

Figure 8.1 Noise Complaints Received by Councils across NESAC Region



Across the NESAC Region the majority of noise complaints related to barking dogs, as has been the case in previous reporting periods. Barking dogs accounted for 71% of all complaints received across the NESAC Region during 2007-2008, compared to 60% in 2006-2007. In Guyra Shire during 2007-2008 100% of complaints related to dogs, 89% in Walcha Council, 73% in Uralla Shire and 66% in Armidale Dumaresq. Other complaints were received in relation to rural noise, amplified music, entertainment venues, industrial activity or other sources including refrigeration units and motor bikes.

Figure 8.2 Source of Noise Complaints for 2007-2008



8.3.3 Environment Protection Licences

There are seven (7) premises in the NESAC Region that have environment protection licences issued under Section 55 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* with conditions relating to noise.

The following Table identifies the premises with noise licence conditions and any incidents of non-compliance with licence conditions for annual licence returns submitted during 2007-2008

Table 8.1 Environment Protection Licences - Noise

| Lic. No. | Activity / Licensee | Annual return date | Compliance |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Armidale Dumaresq LGA | | | |
| 5860 | Waste Management Facility (Armidale Dumaresq Council) | 16/10/07 | complied |
| 11319 | Armidale Hospital (Hunter New England Health Service) | 14/04/08 | complied |
| 921 | Hillgrove Mine (Straits (Hillgrove) Gold Pty Ltd) | 27/01/08 | complied |
| 12481 | Metz Quarry (Boral Resources) | 05/09/07 | complied |

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| 12123 | Armidale Airport Helicopter Activities (Armidale Dumaresq Council) | 12/05/08 | complied |
| Guyra LGA | | | |
| 11792 | Guyra Quarry (Inverell Aggregate Supplies) | 15/01/08 | complied |
| Uralla LGA | | | |
| 5899 | Landfill (Uralla Shire Council) | 16/10/07 | complied |
| Walcha LGA | | | |
| 6120 | Waste Depot (Walcha Council) | 12/10/07 | complied |

8.4 RESPONSE

Previous State of Environment Reports have identified the following responses to noise issues:

- strategic land use planning
- on-site noise reduction techniques
- policies and guidelines developed by state and local government organisations
- maintenance of noise complaints register and protocols to deal with all serious noise complaints expeditiously.

Each of the Councils continue to implement these responses to minimise existing and potential noise impacts.

The following Table provides a summary of actions that were being implemented by each of the Councils in 2006-2007 and new actions implemented in 2007-2008 in response to pressures identified in Part 8.2. The Table also details the outcomes that were achieved and/or the on-going actions that were undertaken during 2007-2008 in relation to these matters.

Table 8.2 Actions implemented by Councils and outcomes achieved

| Transport (including airports / aircraft) | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: Fleet and operational vehicles comply with noise emission requirements. | on-going |
| All Councils: Operational work carried out within specified hours to reduce noise impact on neighbours. | on-going |
| Industry | |
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: Comply with relevant licence conditions for noise | No breach of Environment Protection Licence conditions. |
| ADC: incorporate specific provisions for consideration of airport and highway noise and its potential impact on development into new LEP | Armidale Dumaresq LEP 2008 was gazetted on 15 February 2008 with relevant clauses included. |

| Waste Management Activities and Facilities | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: Comply with relevant licence conditions for noise | No breach of Environment Protection Licence conditions |
| Rural Activities | |
| Action | Outcome |
| as per Transport (above) | |
| Urban Noise | |
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: include conditions of development consent, where relevant, to limit hours of building construction and/or the hours of operation. | on-going |
| All Councils: operational work carried out within specified hours to reduce noise impact on neighbours. | on-going |
| ADC: monitoring of noise and responding to noise complaints | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • letters written to owners/residents of premises. • 1 Noise Abatement Order issued. • attendance by Council Officers to premises where complaint is targeted. • review of DA conditions in relation to place of public entertainment approval for future years. • meetings with event organisers in response to noise complaints and mitigation measures and/or alternative venues explored. • provision for scientific monitoring of noise pre-live-event staging for future occasions. |
| ADC: purchase of noise / vibration meter | noise meter received and operational – being used to respond to complaints and to carry out investigations (also being used by other Alliance Councils and NSW Police) |

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>ADC: issue nuisance orders for dog related noise, hire out anti-bark collars and/or sell husher muzzles.</p> <p>conduct Dog Education program at the Companion Animal Shelter, including school visits by Rangers, pre-natal classes (when baby is introduced into house where dog resides) and public presentations</p> | <p>2006-2007 – 18 nuisance orders for noise from barking dogs, 10 anti-bark collars hired out and 16 husher muzzles sold</p> <p>2007-2008 – 15 nuisance orders issued for barking dogs</p> <p>Dog education program continuing</p> |
| <p>GSC: Barking dogs - owners made aware of issue and advised of ways to reduce problem</p> | <p>on-going where necessary</p> |
| <p>USC: issued nuisance dog orders and recommended dog owners hire husher muzzle or anti bark collars from the Regional Companion Animal Shelter.</p> | <p>2006-2007 – 11 husher muzzles hired out and 3 noise abatement orders issued.</p> <p>2007-2008 – 5 nuisance dog orders issued for barking dogs</p> |
| <p>WC: hire out husher collar</p> | <p>2006-2007 – barking ceased from premises who hired husher collars.</p> <p>2007-2008 – 8 husher collars hired out</p> |

Armidale Dumaresq Council

Noise from Hotels

In response to noise from Hotels during 2007-2008, Armidale Dumaresq Council undertook meetings and correspondence with hoteliers with regard to conditions of development consent for the hotel premises, in conjunction with regulation for compliance with the Protection of the Environment Operations (Noise) Regulation.

In the future, it is proposed to:

- carry out random testing of noise levels from selected hotels during entertainment events, at the closest neighbouring property;
- advise complainants to contact hotel in the first instance of a noise complaint; and
- require hotels to maintain a noise complaint log.

It is anticipated that this approach will provide feedback to hotel proprietors to help with practical indications of acceptable noise levels and allow for hotels to take immediate action to reduce noise to an acceptable level. Council will continue to audit the level and nature of complaints over time.

Noise from major public events

Future applications for major public events will include consent conditions relating to noise, as required by new provisions of the Environmental Planning Assessment Act pertinent to places of public entertainment. Such conditions will define performance standards relating to noise in terms of levels, distance to receivers and times of operation for event organisers.

8.5 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2008-2009

| Recommendation | Relevance |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Continue to keep accurate annual records and descriptions of all complaints. | All Councils |
| Continue to respond promptly and appropriately to noise related complaints | All Councils |
| Continue to ensure noise issues are taken into consideration in strategic planning and when approving development applications. If noise is a potential issue, ensure measures are put in place to minimise potential impacts | All Councils |
| Continue to ensure Best Management Practices are implemented to minimise noise impacts from Council Operations | All Councils |

9.1 INTRODUCTION

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures are complex and diverse. Indigenous communities have kept their cultural heritage alive by passing their knowledge, arts, rituals and performances from one generation to another, speaking and teaching languages, protecting cultural materials, sacred and significant sites, and objects.

Aboriginal heritage includes places and items that are important to the local Aboriginal community. These are places or objects that people have a connection to, both physically and spiritually. Aboriginal heritage can include natural features such as creeks or mountains, ceremonial or story places or areas of more contemporary cultural significance such as Aboriginal missions or post contact sites.

Aboriginal places and objects are an important part of the rich heritage of NSW and should be protected for future generations due to their significance to Aboriginal communities and because of the links they provide to culture, the environment and knowledge.

9.2 PRESSURE

There are many issues and activities (pressures) affecting the preservation and management of Aboriginal Heritage, such as a limited understanding and knowledge of Aboriginal culture and heritage and limited knowledge regarding the location of significant sites.

Activities and issues that impact, or create pressure on, Aboriginal Heritage in the NESAC Region have been identified in previous State of Environment Reports. These pressures are broadly identified as:

- limited knowledge of Aboriginal sites and areas of significance
- loss of cultural heritage
- preservation of identified Aboriginal sites and artefacts
- understanding between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people

9.3 STATE

The extent of Aboriginal heritage can sometimes be difficult to ascertain due to sensitivities associated with identifying sites of significance. Within this context, the environmental indicators outlined below have been identified in previous State of Environment Reports to assess and monitor the state, or condition of the environment with respect to Aboriginal Heritage.

This section provides up-dated data for the respective environmental indicators for 2007-2008 and outlines any significant trends.

9.3.1 Population

The Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2006 Census data, shows that the Aboriginal population in the NESAC Region is increasing with a population at that time of 2,222. In addition to the growth in population, the percentage of the Aboriginal population is

also increasing in the NESAC Region and currently makes up 6.1% of the total population. This proportion of aboriginal people is higher than the Australian average of 2.3%.

9.3.2 Number of Identified Aboriginal Sites

The Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) lists Aboriginal sites within NSW and records their location and any appropriate access restrictions to ensure their protection.

The NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change have advised that during 2007-2008, 14 additional sites were added to the AHIMS with 12 being in the Armidale Dumaresq LGA and 2 in Uralla Shire.

9.3.3 Number of Heritage Studies

Armidale Dumaresq Council has been successful in obtaining funding from the NSW Department of Planning (Heritage Branch) for an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study. Funding has been provided for two projects titled 'Armidale Dumaresq Aboriginal Potential Area Reports' and 'Armidale Dumaresq Aboriginal Sites Conservation Project'. Both projects are due for completion by 30 May 2009.

Guyra Shire Council has prepared a draft Guyra Heritage Study which includes the identification of some sites with Aboriginal Heritage Significance.

Walcha Council continues to complete its Community Based Heritage Study that incorporates Aboriginal Heritage. The Study is expected to be completed by December 2008.

9.3.4 Licences Issued under National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974

The Department of Environment and Climate Change is responsible for approving licenses under Sections 87 and 90 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974. Licenses are required for work that could impact on Aboriginal heritage either positively or negatively.

No data was available for 2006/07 for the issuing of licences under the *National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974*. During 2007-2008, one Section 90 licence was issued in the Armidale Dumaresq LGA.

9.3.5 Funding for Aboriginal Heritage Projects

Armidale Dumaresq Council has been successful in obtaining \$12,500 (on a \$ for \$ basis) from the NSW Department of Planning (Heritage Branch) for an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study (see Section 9.3.3).

9.4 RESPONSE

9.4.1 Council Actions

The following Table provides a summary of actions that were being implemented by each of the Councils in 2006-2007 and new actions implemented in 2007-2008 in response to pressures identified in Part 9.2. The Table also details the outcomes that were achieved and/or the on-going actions that were undertaken during 2007-2008 in relation to these matters.

Table 9.1 Actions implemented by Councils and outcomes achieved

| Limited Knowledge of Aboriginal Sites and Areas of Significance | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Action | Outcome |
| ADC: liaise with Aboriginal community through Council's Ngayinyaga Committee and Council's Aboriginal Liaison Officer. | Ngayinyaga Committee (an Aboriginal Advisory group) met on a monthly basis during 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 and is chaired by Council's Aboriginal Liaison Officer |
| GSC: Continued to liaise with Aboriginal community | on-going liaison with Guyra and Tingha Aboriginal communities |
| GSC: commenced preparation of a map identifying all locations where it is appropriate for an Aboriginal Heritage & Cultural Inspection to be carried out. | Local Aboriginal Land Councils requested to map general areas of concern |
| USC: Council's Aboriginal Liaison committee still exists although it hasn't met for some time. | No action during 2007-2008 |
| WC: undertaking a community based Heritage Study which will incorporate Aboriginal Heritage | On-going – Study expected to be completed by December 2008. |
| Loss of Cultural Heritage | |
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: continued their support and participation in the Tablelands Community Options Program | on-going |
| ADC: financially supports the Aboriginal Keeping Place in Armidale. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • on-going • Council celebrated NAIDOC Week and Reconciliation / Sorry Day in 2007 • the Mayor met with local Elders quarterly over morning tea • Reconciliation cricket match • implemented recommendations from the Aboriginal Action Plan |
| GSC: celebration of NAIDOC Week | Guyra celebrates NAIDOC Week with the Guyra Land Council |
| WC: employs an Aboriginal Torres Straight Islander HACC worker to assist with addressing cultural issues. | on-going |

| Preservation of Identified Aboriginal Sites and Artefacts | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: developing a regional LEP that will incorporate Aboriginal heritage considerations and a list of registered sites. | continuing – Draft New England Development Strategy exhibition in September and October 2008 |
| ADC: prepare draft Armidale Dumaresq LEP to include provisions requiring the assessment, consideration, and conservation of places of Aboriginal heritage significance. | Armidale Dumaresq LEP 2008 gazetted on 15 February 2008 and includes provisions consistent with Model Heritage Provisions provided by the Heritage Office |
| Understanding Between Aboriginal and Non-Aboriginal People | |
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: develop and implement Social Plans. | ADC: May 2007 - adopted the 2007-2011 Aboriginal Action Plan and committed a four-year projected budget totalling \$107,500. GSC: on-going |

9.4.2 Community Actions

A web-based search identified that in 2006-2007 the Mrangalli Aboriginal Corporation received a grant from the Environmental Trust to the value of \$23,661 for the 'Tingha Town Common Rehabilitation Project' (Guyra Shire LGA). This project aimed to rehabilitate two eroding sites, one wetland and one riparian area through minor earthworks, the re-establishment of local provenance native vegetation and fencing to exclude stock.

9.5 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2008-2009

| Recommendation | Relevance |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| continue to employ an Aboriginal Liaison Officer | All Councils |
| continue development and implementation of Aboriginal projects identified in Council Social Plans | All Councils |
| provide assistance in training of site officers / relevant council staff to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - identify sites and incorporate aboriginal heritage into Council operations; and - better improve their understanding of Aboriginal heritage | All Councils |
| continued liaison with the Aboriginal community | All Councils |
| continue to promote the Aboriginal heritage value of the local area to the public to increase awareness (subject to Aboriginal agreement) and ensure development considers issues of cultural heritage. | All Councils with support from the Aboriginal community and groups |



10.1 INTRODUCTION

The New England Strategic Alliance of Councils (NESAC) Region has an extensive and diverse non-aboriginal heritage. There is a strong awareness and appreciation of heritage in the region as reflected in the preparation of heritage studies, restoration of heritage buildings, design of new buildings in a manner sympathetic to surrounding heritage items, and public education and promotion of heritage.

10.2 PRESSURE

The issues and activities that create pressure on non-aboriginal heritage within the NESAC Region have been identified in previous State of Environment Reports and are broadly identified as:

- development (new development, urban consolidation, inappropriate redevelopment / restoration, impacts on streetscape)
- deterioration and damage
- community values and perception of heritage significance
- information management and loss of historical knowledge
- insufficient funding and difficulty in obtaining funding for heritage work

No new issues and/or activities were identified in 2007-2008 as creating pressure on non-aboriginal heritage in the NESAC Region.

10.3 STATE

The following indicators have been established to monitor the state, or condition, of non-aboriginal heritage in the NESAC Region. This section provides an up-date on the indicators for 2007-2008 and outlines any significant trends.

10.3.1 Heritage Studies

A draft Guyra Heritage Study was completed by Heritage Advisor, Mr Grahame Wilson in 2007-2008. The study has not yet been formally adopted by Council.

Uralla Shire Council has identified a project to review the heritage conservation areas in Bundarra and Uralla during 2008-2009.

Walcha Council is continuing to prepare a Community Based Heritage Study that commenced in 2005-2006 and is expected to be completed by December 2008. The study is being undertaken in conjunction with the NSW Heritage Office with total funding of \$20,000 (\$10,000 from Heritage Office and \$10,000 from Council).

10.3.2 Heritage / Archaeological Sites

Local Heritage Items

Items of heritage significance are identified in the respective local environmental plans of each NESAC local government area. None of the Council's local environmental plans were amended during 2007-2008 to include additional heritage items.

Armidale Dumaresq Council and Council's Heritage Advisor have carried out a review of 44 additional items identified in a former Dumaresq Shire Heritage Study, with recommendations being made regarding their suitability for inclusion in the Armidale Dumaresq LEP. This project will continue during 2008-2009.

Guyra Shire Council's draft Heritage Study includes a comprehensive inventory of heritage items which will be considered for inclusion in Council's local environmental plan in the future.

State Heritage Register

There are 27 items listed on the NSW State Heritage Register across the NESAC Region. No new items were added to the Register in 2007-2008.

Archaeological Sites

A Draft Archaeological Management Plan for Central Armidale has been prepared. When completed, this Plan is expected to augment LEP provisions to safeguard and manage archaeological resources during the development process.

10.3.3 Funding

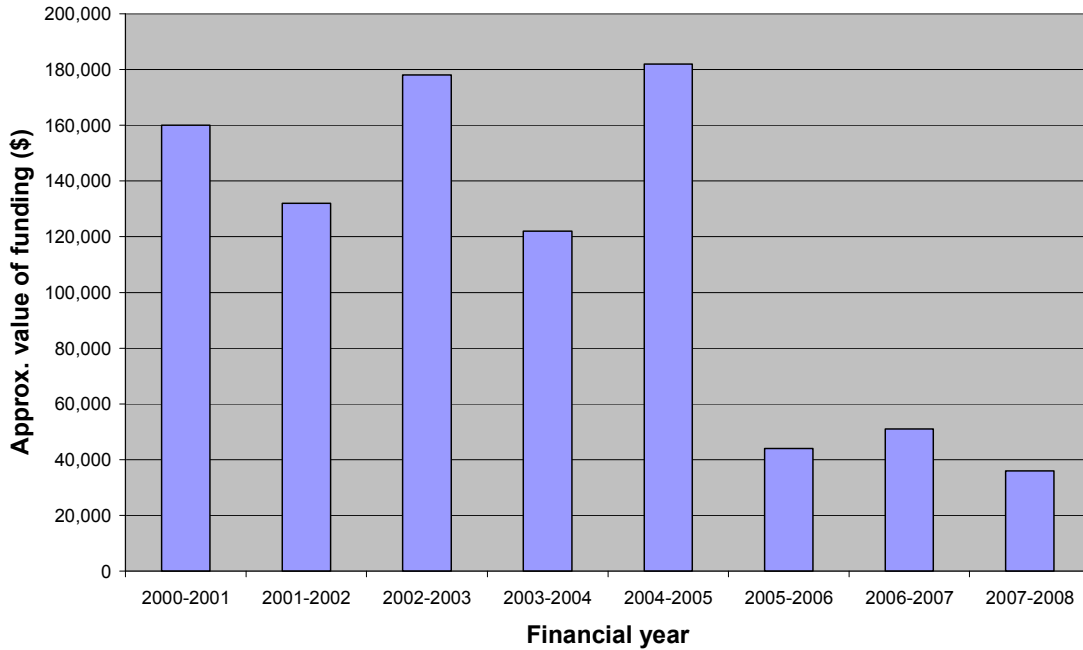
The level of funding provided for heritage projects across the NESAC Region gives an indication of the extent of government and community involvement in, and support for, the preservation of heritage items and values.

Table 10.1 outlines a summary of external funding received for non-aboriginal heritage projects over the 2007-2008 reporting period. Figure 10.1 shows the comparative value of known funding received for non-aboriginal heritage projects over the period from 2000-2001 to 2007-2008.

Table 10.1 Non-Aboriginal Heritage projects funded during 2007-2008

| Funding Body | Project Summary | Funding |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| NSW Heritage Grants (June 2008) | St Peter's Anglican Cathedral (1875), Armidale – install new interior lighting | \$28,850 |

Figure 10.1 Approximate value of known grants received for non-Aboriginal heritage projects in the NESAC Region



Note: The values include contributions made by local societies and Councils as part of the grant condition, but does not include volunteer contributions.

The declining value of heritage funding / grants obtained in the NESAC Region appears to be consistent with declining funding being offered by the NSW State Government where the Heritage Incentives Program fell from \$4.8m in 2004-2006 to \$2.73m in 2006-2008. The NSW Government has committed \$2.635m for heritage projects in 2008-2009 under the Heritage Grants Program.

10.3.4 Interim Heritage Orders

No Interim Heritage Orders were issued across the NESAC Region during 2007-2008. The issuing of Interim Heritage Orders is uncommon in the NESAC Region as no Orders have been made under s.25 of the *Heritage Act 1977* since August 2001 when delegation was granted to Councils by the then Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning.

10.3.5 Council Heritage Advisors

Table 10.2 outlines the number of site visits and incidences of advice provided by Heritage Advisors in each of the NESAC Council areas during 2007-2008.

Table 10.2 2007-2008 Council Heritage Advisor Activities

| LGA | Site Visits | Heritage / Urban Design Advice | Pre-DA Advice | Advice to Council |
|-----|-------------|--------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| ADC | 21 | 30 | 5 | 21 |
| GSC | | | 2 | 2 |
| USC | 30 | 11 | 7 | 5 |
| WC | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

10.3.6 Museum Visitation

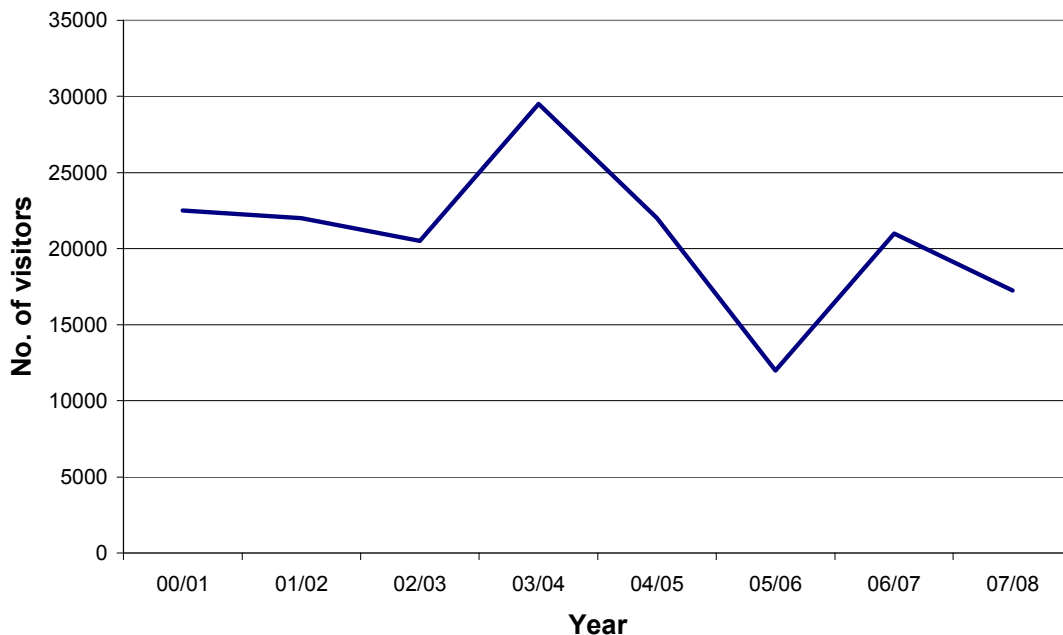
Visitor numbers to museums provide an indication of community interest in local history. The number of visitors to museums located in the NESAC Region are summarised below in Table 10.3.

Table 10.3 Visitor Numbers to Museums in NESAC Region during 2007-2008

| Museum | No. of visitors |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| ADC | |
| Armidale Folk Museum, Hillgrove Museum and Railway Museum | 11,163 |
| GSC | |
| Guyra Historical Museum | 220 |
| Wing Hing Long Emporium (Tingha) | 1,606 |
| Guyra Historical Machinery Group Museum | n/a |
| USC | |
| McCrossin's Mill | 4,250 |
| Total | 17,239 |

The total number of visitors to museums in the NESAC Region has declined from the 2006-2007 reporting period to 2007-2008. The total number of visitors to museums during 2007-2008 is also below the general average number of visitors recorded since 2000-2001 (approx. 20,800).

Figure 10.2 Total Number of Visitors to Museums in NESAC Region



10.4 RESPONSE

10.4.1 Council Actions

Councils and the community across the NESAC Region undertake a variety of actions in relation to non-aboriginal heritage issues. The following Table provides a summary of actions that were being implemented by each of the Councils in 2006-2007 and new actions implemented in 2007-2008 in response to pressures identified

in Part 10.2. The Table also details the outcomes that were achieved and/or the on-going actions that were undertaken during 2007-2008 in relation to these matters.

Table 10.3 Actions implemented by Councils and outcomes achieved

| Development | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Action | Outcome |
| <p>All Councils: ensure local planning instruments objectives and provisions reflect heritage values</p> | <p>NESAC Regional Development Strategy and Regional LEP being prepared.</p> <p>ADC: Armidale Dumaresq LEP 2008 gazetted on 15 February 2008 with inclusion of standard heritage provisions from the State government's LEP template</p> <p>ADC: review of 44 items identified in former Dumaresq Shire Heritage Study for possible inclusion in future LEP amendment.</p> |
| <p>All Councils: obtain input from Council Heritage Advisor where appropriate</p> | <p>see Part 10.3.5</p> |
| <p>ADC: Archaeological Management Plan for Armidale</p> | <p>Draft Archaeological Management Plan for Central Armidale received – further work required. When completed, the Plan is expected to augment LEP provisions to safeguard and manage archaeological resources.</p> |
| <p>ADC: Maclean's Corner archaeological project</p> | <p>Project completed in 2007-2008</p> |
| <p>ADC: preparation of Conservation Management Plans</p> | <p>Conservation Management Plan submitted for Old Bishopscourt in relation to a development application</p> <p>A number of Conservation Management Plans have been prepared for properties, including 4 UNE properties.</p> |
| <p>ADC: Heritage Strategy 2006-2008 based on the NSW Heritage Office template.</p> | <p>In April 2008, Council adopted an updated Heritage Strategy for the period 2008-2011. Initiatives included in the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • produce an updated heritage management DCP which also seeks to include Archaeological management provisions (Aboriginal and European) • consider outcomes of proposed Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study and work with community, relevant agencies and Heritage Branch on development of relevant planning controls. • develop a policy for public art which |

| | <p>reinforces the area's cultural heritage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • introduce a small projects grants fund (Council funded, starting at \$5,000 annually), for allocation in accordance with a policy and procedure to be developed by the Heritage Advisor. • ensure ADC heritage inventory on the Heritage Branch web site remains up to date and is also linked through Council's web site. • offer relevant training initiatives over the life of the strategy, including a regional heritage forum for New England Local Government Area aimed at Councillors Advisors, local government planners and local consultants, with Heritage Branch involvement/funding to be sought. • promote availability of Heritage Branch funded urban design advisory service and integrate with promotion of sustainable and accessible, energy and water efficient design. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| USC: McCrossin's Mill Museum DA required approval from Heritage Council NSW and an application under s.60 of the <i>Heritage Act 1977</i> | Work commenced in 2007 on additions to McCrossin's Mill at an estimated cost of \$72,800. Work is expected to be completed in September 2008. |
| USC: Main Street precinct (Park St to King St) classified as a heritage conservation area. | Area classification to be reviewed by Council's Heritage Advisor for incorporation into a Regional LEP |
| Deterioration and Damage | |
| Action | Outcome |
| All Councils: obtain input from Council Heritage Advisor where appropriate | see Part 10.3.5 |
| Community Values and Perception | |
| Action | Outcome |
| ADC: heritage promotion includes free daily bus tour, self drive heritage trail and self guided walking tour | on-going activity |
| ADC: operation of Armidale Folk, Hillgrove and Bicentennial Railway Museums | on-going activity |
| ADC & USC: conducted Armidale / Uralla Heritage Awards | 2008 Heritage and Urban Design Awards dinner and presentation conducted in March 2008 |
| GSC: operation of Guyra Historical Museum and Wing Hing Long Store | on-going |

| USC: promotion through Tourism Officer at Visitor Information Centre | on-going |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| WC: promotion through Tourist Information Centre and Local History Centre | on-going |
| Information Management | |
| Action | Outcome |
| GSC: undertaking a heritage study | draft Heritage Study completed in 2007-2008 |
| WC: undertaking a community based heritage study | Heritage Study to be completed by December 2008 |
| Funding | |
| Action | Outcome |
| ADC & USC: funding assistance from NSW Heritage Office for Heritage Advisor | both Councils continue to support Heritage Advisor position (see also Part 10.3.5) |
| ADC & USC: funding to conduct Heritage Awards | successful Heritage Awards presentation dinner conducted |

10.4.2 Community Action

Local Historical Societies continue to be active in the maintenance of heritage information and promotion of heritage values in each of the NESAC local government areas.

Private community groups and individuals also continue to show a keen interest in heritage matters as evidenced by the grant to St Peter's Anglican Cathedral, Armidale and the applications for local heritage assistance in Councils operating a Local Heritage Assistance Fund.

Wollomombi Local Area Committee

With a grant of \$2,500 from Armidale Dumaresq Council, the Wollomombi Local Area Committee has continued preservation work on the Sauer Memorial Hall.

10.4.3 Action - Other

The Migration Heritage Centre is a virtual heritage centre similar to an on-line museum. The Centre is a NSW Government initiative supported by the Community Relations Commission and is located at the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney

In May 2008, the Migration Heritage Centre launched an on-line exhibition for the Wing Hing Long Store and the Tingha township on its website. Further details are available at www.migrationheritage.nsw.gov.au/exhibitions/winghinglong

10.5 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2008-2009

| Recommendation | Relevance |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| continue work to complete heritage studies | Guyra Shire Council Walcha Council |
| implement activities identified in Heritage Strategy Report | Armidale Dumaresq Council |
| continue preparation of Regional LEP with appropriate recognition and protection of heritage values and heritage items | All Councils |
| provide heritage assistance and advice through local Heritage Advisory service | All Councils |
| seek funding for local heritage projects (including local heritage assistance program) | All Councils |
| recognise community contribution to heritage conservation | All Councils |

Section 428(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires State of Environment Reports to address the eight environmental sectors of land, air, water, biodiversity, waste, noise, aboriginal heritage and non-aboriginal heritage with particular reference to management plans relating to the environment. Each Council in the NESAC Region has prepared a forward Management Plan. The following Tables outline links between the respective Council's management plan and areas addressed in the 2007-2008 State of Environment Report.

11.1 Armidale Dumaresq Council

ARMIDALE DUMARESQ COUNCIL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2008-2011

(adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 23 June 2008)

| LAND |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Section 1 |
| Transport Infrastructure - roadwork maintenance program |
| Section 2 |
| Transport Infrastructure <i>Objectives</i> - provide a safe and serviceable road network, preserve the road network |
| Remediation <i>Capital Projects (08/09)</i> - monitoring former Armidale Gas Works site \$150,000 |
| Strategic Planning <i>Strategic Task</i> - establish a local land development monitoring system, if possible using Council's development control software database, to track the release of new housing allotments for the purposes of monitoring demand and supply in connection with the Council's LEP <i>Operational Task</i> - introduction of systems to reflect legislative change under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act |
| Administrative Services <i>Operational Issues</i> - Bushfire Risk Management Plan prepared every five years (under review 2008) - Bush Fire Operational Plan every two years, due September 2009. |
| AIR |
| Section 2 |
| Transport Infrastructure <i>Capital Projects (08/09)</i> - cycleway construction \$80,000 |
| Footpaths, Kerb and Gutter <i>Capital Projects (08/09)</i> - new footpath Wilson Avenue \$32,149 - new footpath Marsh St - Newton to Erskine east side \$32,466 - PAMP to match RTA (\$20,000) \$40,000 - new footpath Erskine St – Dawson to Marsh \$31,254 |
| Street Lighting <i>Capital Projects (08/09)</i> |

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| - street lighting improvements cycleway \$47,036 |
| <p>Planning and Environmental Services</p> <p><i>Strategic Task</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - working with NESAC Councils and Commonwealth funded consultancy, establish and develop a Risk Assessment and Action Plan for Climate Change. <p><i>Key Performance Indicators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - wood smoke subsidy scheme - number of subsidies |
| <p>Economic Development</p> <p><i>Strategic Tasks</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to develop the Sustainable Living Expo (SLEX) as an annual flagship event for Armidale - to seek matching sponsorship and funding for the development of SLEX - to develop the Sustainable Living Expo (SLEX) over the next three (3) years (2008 – 2011) as a self sustaining event |
| WATER |
| Section 1 - Overview |
| <p>Management of Utility Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Armidale Water Supply Strategic Business Plan is currently being reviewed and is expected to be ready for adoption by Council by the end of 2009. It includes a revised Financial Plan and new Drought and Demand Management Plans. - Demand Management Principles were implemented in 1993 (which comply with the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal's requirements) - these have led to a sustained 35% reduction in water usage in recent years. - due to periodic blue-green algal blooms the Armidale water supply has periodically been affected by taste and odour and the threat of algae toxins. Investigations into options to accommodate and treat these problems have been completed and an upgrade of the Armidale Water Treatment Plant involving the installation of an Ozonation and Biological Activated Carbon Filtration treatment processes is currently under construction and is scheduled to be operational by the end of 2008. - a preliminary Stormwater Drainage Business Plan is being developed and will be refined to include the principles of Integrated Water Cycle Management. It is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2009. It will incorporate previous specific Stormwater Drainage Plans/Studies such as the Armidale City Drainage Strategy Study, the Dumaresq Creek Urban Stormwater Management Plan and the Armidale City Floodplain Management Plan. - the stormwater drainage system is directed to Dumaresq Creek with over 50 drainage outlets into Dumaresq Creek and its tributaries. A program for the installation of stormwater quality improvement devices (SQIDS) to the stormwater drainage systems has been initiated. - key problems relating to urban stormwater quality identified in the Urban Stormwater Management Plan are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - bank erosion - poor natural habitat cover - woody weeds and invasive weeds affecting flows - possible sewer surcharges - leaf drop problems - faecal contamination - Central Business District litter |

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| Section 2 |
| Items as outlined above from Section 1 |
| Stormwater Quality Improvement Program <i>Capital Project (08/09)</i> - Gross Pollutant Trap in Marsh St, north of Dumaresq Creek \$156,000 |
| Water Supply <i>Capital Project (08/09)</i> - Malpas Dam and Gara Dam Environmental Water Release Facilities \$50,000 |
| Public Health Program <i>Strategic Task</i> - develop and deliver a training/educational package for the plumbing industry and property owners relating to On-Site Waste Water Management Systems, by 31 December 2008. |
| BIODIVERSITY |
| Section 2 |
| Ranger Services <i>Strategic Task</i> - with the assistance of Aboriginal Elders in the Narwan Village/Cookes Road (south) locality, remove as many stray dogs as possible from the area. This has the potential to reduce the number of dog attacks/ bites, as well as reducing illnesses that are passed on to humans by these animals. In conjunction with the National Desexing program carried out in August 2008, offer assistance with the desexing of female dogs from the locality. |
| WASTE |
| Section 1 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Waste management emphasis is to comply with the NSW Government's Waste Minimisation Initiatives, which aim to reduce the amount of waste being deposited at landfill by 60% of the 1993 waste volume. - The existing landfill site on Long Swamp Road also includes a number of waste recovery facilities including a recycling processing plant, a second-hand shop, greenwaste mulching, concrete and masonry crushing and scrap metal, e-waste (televisions, computers, etc.), used oil, paint and battery recovery facilities. - A program for effluent and biosolids re-use was commenced on land adjacent to the sewer treatment plant in the late 1990's, involving irrigation and fertilisation of farm land for crop growing and pasture improvement. This program continues to be developed with 100% re-use of biosolids already achieved and with the ultimate aim of 100% re-use of effluent. |
| Section 2 |
| Sewerage Services <i>Major Operational Task</i> - continue with program of rehabilitation of old deteriorated major sewers |
| Solid Waste Services <i>Major Operational Tasks</i> - continue with the process to establish a new Regional Landfill - currently scheduled to be operational by the end of 2010. - continue with investigation of alternative waste technologies for processing/stabilisation of mixed unsorted waste materials in conjunction with new landfill project. <i>Replace/Upgrade Facilities</i> |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - investigate further extension of Long Swamp Road landfill (in case new landfill approval and construction is delayed) \$100,000 - extend Resource Recovery Shop (design & approvals) \$10,000 - existing landfill closure and cap (design & approvals) \$150,000 <p><i>Upgrade Level of Service</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - new landfill planning and design \$500,000 - new alternative waste technology facilities at Long Swamp Road site \$500,000 |
| NOISE |
| Section 2 |
| <p>Ranger Services</p> <p><i>Major Operational Tasks</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - continue to provide active counselling and assistance to the owners of dogs subject of noise complaints, including publicity for services offered by Council including anti-bark collars. |
| ABORIGINAL HERITAGE |
| Section 1 |
| <p>The Aboriginal Action Plan was completed in 2007. Strategies for 2007-2008 in the Aboriginal Action Plan include :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - planning for the NSW Local Government Aboriginal Network Conference scheduled for September 2008. - commencement of Stage 1 of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Study – this is conditional on securing funding through the NSW Aboriginal Heritage Unit. |
| Section 2 |
| <p>Aboriginal Community Services</p> <p><i>Major Operational Tasks</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to co-ordinate and implement the recommendations from Council's Aboriginal Action Plan for 2008-2009. - to coordinate the recommendations from Council's Social & Community Aboriginal Chapter. - to coordinate monthly meetings of the Ngayinyaga Committee to ensure a direct link is established and maintained between the local Aboriginal community and Council. - to co-ordinate community events relevant to the Program including NAIDOC, Aboriginal Week and Reconciliation Weeks. - to work in partnership with the Ngayinyaga and the UNE Conference Company to deliver the Local Government & Shires Association Aboriginal Network Conference in November 2008. - to coordinate the School Based Traineeship Program in Community Services. - to liaise with the NSW Heritage Office regarding funding for a local Aboriginal Heritage Study. |
| NON-ABORIGINAL HERITAGE |
| Section 2 |
| <p>Museum Services</p> <p><i>Major Operational Tasks</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - provide opportunities for local community organisations to stage specific exhibits and celebrations - provide a venue for local photographic exhibitions - refurbishing and reprinting Victorian reproduction rooms by June 2009 |

11.2 Guyra Shire Council

GUYRA SHIRE COUNCIL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2008-2018 (adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 23 June 2008)

| LAND |
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| <p>Planning and Development Control</p> <p><i>Key Issues:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - increasing development has highlighted deficiencies in Council's planning policies and instruments <p><i>Strategic Tasks:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - determine deficiencies in current planning policies and instruments and seeks to fill these gaps - provide more information and education in relation to DA's to ensure a higher level of information is provided - determine the viability of providing on-line submission and tracking of DA's |
| <p>Emergency Services - Rural Fire Service</p> <p><i>Strategic Task</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - in conjunction with New England Zone, determine if there is the opportunity to rationalise the number of brigades in the shire. |
| <p>Village Plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council intends to work with the Ben Lomond Landcare Group and the wider Ben Lomond community to complete a strategic plan for the village during 2008 - Council intends to prepare a town plan for Tingha in 2008-2009 in consultation with the community - Council intends to prepare a town plan for Guyra in 2008-2009 |
| AIR |
| <p>Urban Roads</p> <p>Footpaths, Kerb and Gutter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council has no funded program to extend the current footpath network <p>Street Lighting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - street lighting is provided in accordance with Council's policy No.35 <p><i>Strategic Task:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - prepare a kerb and gutter and footpath maintenance and renewal program |
| WATER |
| <p>Drainage</p> <p><i>Strategic Tasks</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - complete a storm water management plan for Tingha - determine the viability of levying a \$25 charge on urban properties in Tingha - investigate the advantages of encouraging the take up of rainwater tanks and promoting the current government rebate available - ensure that development is coordinated to ensure that it will not place an adverse strain on storm water infrastructure - ensure that developers pay for the increased strain that their development places on Council's drainage infrastructure <p><i>Capital Works required:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 19 projects involving pit replacement, reshaping / constructing table drains and/or installing pipes have been identified with a combined cost of \$586,125. |
| <p>Water Supply</p> <p><i>Actions – actions and outcomes that Council will take over the next 10 years:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - increasing service reservoir capacity by installing additional pumps and pipelines from water treatment plant |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - dead-end removal program - reticulation mains replacement - fencing dam boundary - increasing Dam No.2 storage capacity by raising dam height <p><i>Objectives:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - develop plans for extension of water supply services to rezoned areas by 2009 - up-date drought management plan June 2008 |
| BIODIVERSITY |
| <p>Animal Control</p> <p><i>Goals:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to ensure all companion animals are registered - to minimise the occurrence of straying animals - to eliminate nuisance dogs - to promote responsible pet ownership <p><i>Strategic Tasks:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - undertake a community education program on responsible pet ownership - undertake a household survey to identify unregistered dogs - negotiate an agreed level of service with ADC for use of their rangers - investigate decommissioning the Guyra pound and using ADC's - complete and implement the Alliance's Companion Animal Management Plan |
| <p>Ebor VillageLink – VillageView Community Development Project</p> <p><i>Project 3:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - tree planting planned for Spring 2007 - riparian restoration – application to Northern Rivers CMA for funding through River Research Program <p><i>Project 8:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Project management Committee is working with NPWS on information and interpretive displays and wetlands development |
| WASTE |
| <p>Waste Services</p> <p><i>Key Issues:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - increasing amount of packaging used for goods is leading to more waste being generated - viability of having many small tips / landfills - community complacency in relation to illegal dumping and recycling - continual problems with Ebor un-manned facility - increasing request for green waste service <p><i>Strategic Tasks:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - undertake community education to enhance recycling efforts - seek to find a long term solution to the waste situation in Ebor - place stickers on all waste and recycling bins indicating the items that should be placed in each - investigate viability of providing a green waste pick up service - investigate viability of providing a bulk waste collection service (annual/bi-annual) <p><i>Capital Works required:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - replace bailer (\$60,000), new landfill cell at Tingha (\$10,000), acquire surrounding land at Tingha (\$10,000) to be carried out when funding is available. |
| <p>Sewerage Services</p> <p><i>Principal Issues, include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - meeting DEUS Best Practice Management Guidelines - ensuring the sewer infrastructure is capable of meeting growth aspirations for the town of Guyra |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reuse of sewage effluent - elimination of sewage overflows during wet weather and inflows / infiltration - lining and replacement of open jointed vitrified clay pipes and leaking manholes - bank stabilisation at Tingha evaporation ponds <p><i>Actions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - actions and outcomes Council will take over the next ten years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guyra sewer treatment plant bypass flow holding tank - new pumping station for Guyra - reticulation main replacement |
| NOISE |
| see Animal Control under Biodiversity |
| ABORIGINAL HERITAGE |
| NON-ABORIGINAL HERITAGE |
| <p>Museum Services</p> <p><i>Community Donation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council provides \$12,604 in financial assistance to the Guyra Historical Society (rates, insurance, electricity and rent waived) - Council provides \$9,005 in financial assistance to the Wing Hing Long Store (rates, insurance and rent waived) |

11.3 Uralla Shire Council

URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2008-2009

(adopted at Council's Meeting held on 23 June 2008)

| LAND |
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| Volume 4 – Objectives |
| <p>Fire Protection <i>Objectives:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To facilitate effective bushfire protection through a mutually agreed Service Level Agreement with the Rural Fire Service |
| <p>Noxious Plant Control <i>Objectives:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to support membership of the New England Tableland (Noxious Weeds) County Council (NEWA) <p><i>Budget Estimate:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - noxious weed control service is funded in 2008-2009 Budget Estimates with an allocation of \$65,592 (2007-2008 - \$58,000) |
| <p>Urban and Rural Planning and Development Assessment <i>Objectives:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to manage and control development and service provision within the Shire to ensure that it is balanced and environmentally sensitive, that the overall aesthetic value of the Shire is maintained and that services are provided to match the needs of the Shire residents - to ensure that Council consciously adopts a fully ecologically sustainable development focus - prepare a regional LEP through the Alliance |
| <p>Quarries and Pits <i>Objectives:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to manage, operate and control gravel pits and quarries in the Shire in an economical and environmentally appropriate manner |
| AIR |
| Volume 4 – Objectives and Budget Estimates |
| <p>Parks, Gardens and Reserves <i>Objectives:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - continue the four stage development of the Mt Mutton walking trail (development of stage 2 of the project) |
| <p>Transport and Communication <i>Objectives:</i></p> <p>Urban Roads</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to seal all the streets in the Uralla village area by the year 2010 - to seal streets in Bundarra by the year 2010 <p>Footpaths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - construction of 200m of new concrete footpath per annum <p>Street Lighting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - develop and extend the current street lighting system as development occurs in urban areas |
| WATER |
| Volume 2 – Revenue Policy |
| <p>Water Charges An analysis of usage over the past two years has indicated a drop in the average usage in Uralla from 245 kilolitres to 195 kilolitres and for Bundarra from 142 kilolitres to 126</p> |

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| kilolitres. |
| <p>Urban Stormwater Catchment Management Levy</p> <p>A stormwater service management charge was introduced in 2007-2008. The charge is to create a revenue stream to cover costs of providing new and additional stormwater management services within the Uralla catchment.</p> |
| <p>Environmental Levy</p> <p>The levy is used to maintain and improve services at waste depots and also to match funds for funding applications of environmental projects within the Gwydir-Border Rivers CMA. Council, in conjunction with Gwydir-Border Rivers CMA have prepared the Uralla Sub-catchment Management Plan for the headwaters of the Gwydir River.</p> |
| Volume 4 – Objectives and Budget Estimates |
| <p>Urban Stormwater Drainage</p> <p><i>Objectives:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to plan, design, construct and manage new and additional stormwater drainage systems and catchment areas, to collect, transport and discharge stormwater runoff effectively, efficiently and economically to reduce flooding, soil erosion, pollution and improve water quality - improve quality of water flow at Shanahan's Bridge (Uralla Creek) and clean up environmental weeds along the surrounding creek - monitor the effectiveness of gross pollutant traps - plan for future stormwater management (Stormwater and Flood Management Plan to be completed and presented to Council) |
| <p>Water Supply</p> <p><i>Objectives:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to provide safe, cost effective and affordable water supply facilities complying with statutory requirements - aim of an annual residential consumption rate of not more than 200 KI per connection |
| BIODIVERSITY |
| Volume 2 – Revenue Policy |
| <p>Environmental Levy</p> <p>Amounts of \$50,000 and \$10,000 have been provided from the General Fund – Operational to fund the Environmental Works Fund and Biodiversity Study respectively</p> |
| Volume 4 – Objectives and Budget Estimates |
| <p>Animal Control</p> <p><i>Objectives:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to protect residents from animal nuisance and reduce the number of associated complaints |
| <p>Environmental Control</p> <p><i>Objectives:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to implement programs aimed at protecting and enhancing the environment - review and up-date state of environment report and use it to identify specific environmental programs <p><i>Budget Estimates 2008-2009.:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - \$65,811 for environmental projects |
| WASTE |
| Volume 2 – Revenue Policy |
| <p>Domestic Waste</p> <p>Following a six month trial, from 2 July 2007, a controlled waste disposal site and recycling operation operates at the Bundarra landfill. It was decided during the trial that a kerb-side recycling service for Bundarra would not be introduced, however a recycling wall was provided at the Council Works Depot in the township.</p> |

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| Volume 4 – Objectives and Budget Estimates |
| <p>Garbage Collection and Disposal Services</p> <p><i>Objectives:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to provide an efficient, cost effective and environmentally responsible waste collection, recycling and/or disposal service <p><i>Budget Estimates 2008-2009.:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - \$22,230 for environmental monitoring within the Landfill Operation expenditure |
| <p>Sewerage Services</p> <p><i>Objectives:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to provide safe, cost effective and affordable sewerage facilities complying with statutory requirements - to comply with licensing requirements of the EPA in relation to quality of effluent discharged to Rocky Creek and noise levels on and near the site - to replace old mains on a planned progressive basis - Bundarra – the community and Council have recognised the need to replace the septic tank and absorption trench method of disposing of waste water, particularly south of the Gwydir River, and that a sewerage/common effluent scheme may not be affordable based on current Government subsidy rates of 50% of capital cost. Council continue to pursue the eligibility of such works for both Federal and State Government funding. - Rural – to ensure that the health of rural residents and the quality of groundwater and surface water is not threatened by wastewater disposal in areas where sewerage is not available. - carry out necessary registration and inspection of sewage treatment devices |
| NOISE |
| ABORIGINAL HERITAGE |
| NON-ABORIGINAL HERITAGE |
| Volume 4 – Objectives and Budget Estimates |
| <p>Environmental Control</p> <p><i>Objectives:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to access appropriate Heritage advice and guidance (2008-2009 - \$6,910 for heritage) |
| <p>Recreation and Culture</p> <p><i>Objectives:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - encourage the continued operation of the Uralla Historical Society (continue to make Thunderbolt paintings available to the Society for display in McCrossin’s Mill |

11.4 Walcha Council

WALCHA COUNCIL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2008/2009 – 2010/2011

(adopted at Council’s Meeting held on 25 June 2008)

| LAND |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Section 1 – Plan of Management – Principal Activities |
| <p>Fire Protection <i>Aim</i> – to develop an efficient and well equipped body of Bush Fire Brigades capable of adequately dealing with bush fire emergencies <i>To be achieved by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - monitoring RFS service level agreement - undertaking adequate fuel management operations - provision of adequate finance to comply with fuel management plan - develop a bush fire management plan |
| <p>Health – Administration and Inspection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - continue to support New England Weeds Authority |
| <p>Town Planning <i>Aim</i> – to promote and encourage the planned and orderly development of the Council area while protecting the environment for the overall well-being of the community <i>To be achieved by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - preparing a Sub Regional Strategy (that will result in a draft LEP) in conjunction with the Strategic Alliance Councils and the Department of Planning. (Dec 2008) - establish development/building controls for development located in a flood plain area. (Dec 2009) - assisting, where possible, those landholders who have significant native tree cover on their properties, to manage this resource so that commercial harvesting will be permitted. - develop a Development Control Plan and register of sites to reduce the potential impact of contaminated land especially relating to changes in land use. (June 2009) |
| <p>Natural Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - develop and maintain partnerships with Namoi, Northern Rivers and Hunter Catchment Management Authorities (CMA’s) - provide support to Landcare organisations seeking to improve Natural Resource Management. - work with Namoi, Northern Rivers and Hunter CMA’s, Landcare Groups and landowners to develop “on-ground” works that will assist management of our natural resources. - continue to work with Namoi, Northern Rivers and Hunter CMA’s in developing Catchment Action Plans. These plans are to developed taking into consideration routine farming practices of the area |
| <p>Quarries and Gravel Pits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - operating quarries in accordance with ecological sustainable principles and DECC guidelines. - incorporate weeds control into the management of all quarries to minimise the spread of weeds (30 Dec 2008) - undertake annual audits of all operating quarries |
| <p>Roads and Bridges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - carry out road works in accordance with ecologically sustainable principles - maintain plant hygiene when operating/leaving a weed area - plant operators able to identify various weeds |

| AIR |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Section 1 – Plan of Management – Principal Activities |
| <p>Natural Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - support the Government's rebate programme - consider joining the Sustainable Choice Program developed by the LG&SA (June 2009) - facilitate educational programs where possible that can be directed towards our schools that increase the awareness of the impact increasing greenhouse gas production will cause, and how, as individuals we can reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases. - work with government instrumentalities in developing programs that will lead to a reduction in energy use for council, businesses and the community. |
| <p>Parks, Gardens and Sporting Grounds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to develop tourism walking trails to points of interest |
| <p>Roads and Bridges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - pursuing special funding for the reconstruction and sealing of unsealed sections of Topdale Road |
| WATER |
| Section 1 – Plan of Management – Principal Activities |
| <p>Natural Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - work in partnership with government instrumentalities to promote/educate the community on water issues including quality and usage |
| <p>Water Supply – Business Operations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - developing an integrated water cycle management plan for Walcha (30 June 2009) - developing a contribution plan for the provision of water services to new allotments (30 Dec 2009) |
| <p>Water Supply – Sampling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - carry out regular water sampling |
| <p>Economic Activities – Commercial Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - investigate and pursue affordable options for effluent reuse and/or disposal |
| BIODIVERSITY |
| Section 1 – Plan of Management – Principal Activities |
| <p>Animal Control</p> <p><i>Aim</i> – to develop and promote responsible ownership of domestic animals by providing an efficient service at a reasonable cost to the community</p> <p><i>To be achieved by:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - promoting responsible pet ownership - reduction in number of complaints through education and surveillance - Council to maintain a record of all complaints lodged - continue to make available anti barking dog collars - continue a feral cat eradication program |
| <p>Natural Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - work with Namoi, Northern Rivers and Hunter CMA's to identify Significant Roadside Vegetation within our local government area and identify grants that will assist with the management of these vegetation communities. - continue to seek funding to undertake biodiversity studies (specifically in relation to the LEP) |
| WASTE |
| Section 1 – Plan of Management – Principal Activities |
| <p>Waste Management and Recycling Services</p> <p><i>Aim</i> – to provide an efficient waste management system and encourage the community to participate in maintaining a clean and hygienic environment.</p> <p><i>To be achieved by:</i></p> |

| |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - providing a recycling collection services and “drop off” facility. - completing an integrated business and management plan for waste disposal (June 2009) - conducting a promotional campaign to increase the awareness and importance of recycling (June 2009) - selling all recyclable material. - continuing Council’s membership and active involvement of the Northern Inland Regional Waste Group |
| <p>Sewerage Scheme – Business Operations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reviewing the business plan for the sewerage scheme (30 June 2009) - preparing a detailed concept plan for the upgrading of the sewerage treatment plant including options for effluent reuse (30 Sep 2008) - developing a contribution plan for the provision of sewerage services to new allotments (30 June 09) |
| <p>Sewerage Scheme – Operations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - carrying out monthly monitoring to ensure compliance with Department of Environment and Conservation licence conditions. - carrying out work to reduce the risk of algae blooms in the maturation pond (31 Dec 2008) |
| NOISE |
| ABORIGINAL HERITAGE |
| Section 1 – Plan of Management – Principal Activities |
| <p>Access and Equity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - continuing to foster the relationship that exists between Council and the Aboriginal community. |
| NON-ABORIGINAL HERITAGE |
| Section 1 – Plan of Management – Principal Activities |
| <p>Town Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - undertake a Cultural Heritage Study with the assistance of the NSW Heritage Office. (September 2008) |

SUPPORTING YOU TO STAY AT HOME

**TABLELANDS COMMUNITY SUPPORT
OPTIONS**

Annual report 2007 –08

Tablelands Community Options Mainstream
Tablelands Community Options ATSI
Community Aged Care Packages Mainstream
Community Aged Care Packages ATSI
Rural and Remote Respite service
Respite for Carers of people with Dementia
DVA Case Management Pilot
Epsodic Case Management Pilot

Funded by the Australian and State government
Auspiced by Uralla Shire Council

Supporting you
to stay at home

TCSO

CONTENTS

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Mission Statement, Philosophy & Aim | 3 |
| Chairman's Report | 4/5 |
| Strategic Plan and Targets Achieved | 6 |
| Tablelands Community Support Options | 7 |
| Financial report Community Options— Mainstream | 8 |
| Financial report Community Options— Aboriginal | 9 |
| Financial report Rural & Remote Respite | 10 |
| Financial report CACP Mainstream | 11 |
| Financial report CACP Aboriginal | 12 |
| Financial report Dementia Respite | 13 |
| Financial report Narwon Elders Group | 14 |
| Financial report DVA Case Management & Episodic Case Management | 15 |
| | |

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TCSO

TABLELANDS COMMUNITY SUPPORT OPTIONS specialises in Case Management, support planning, brokerage and advocacy. Unless funding requires otherwise, Tablelands Community Support Options will give priority to people whose case management and support MMMMMMMMMMM

MISSION

TABLELANDS COMMUNITY SUPPORT OPTIONS support the right of the Frail Aged, People with a Disability and their Carers to have the choice to remain in their own homes with quality support to maintain and enhance their individual lifestyle.

PHILOSOPHY

TABLELANDS COMMUNITY SUPPORT OPTIONS believes in:

- ◆ The right of people to make choices about their own lives;
- ◆ The right of people to be treated with dignity, respect, privacy and confidentiality;
- ◆ The right of people to be valued as individuals;
- ◆ The right of people to access service on a non-discriminatory basis;
- ◆ The right of the community to accountable and responsive services.

AIM

To assist people who wish to live in their own homes and who have needs resulting from their age, their disability or because they care for someone who is aged or has a disability.

It is my pleasure to present the Chairperson's report for Tablelands Community Support Options service for the 2007/2008 year. A wide range of support services has been provided to the communities across the Tablelands region, together with a diverse programme of training for staff and attendance by the Programme Manager and other staff members at an equally diverse range of meetings of partner and network service providers.

I extend sincere thanks to the members of the Advisory committee for their diligent attendance at the regular committee meetings throughout the year, and for their continued interest in, and commitment to, the welfare and support of the communities in the Tablelands, as well as for their support for the Uralla Shire Council in its auspice of this programme. Good representation from across the Tablelands region is maintained with delegates from the Strategic Alliance Councils, the communities, and other Service Providers with whom Tablelands Community Support Options partners in the provision of support programmes. During the year the committee accepted with regret the resignation of Mrs. Cynthia Williams who has given generously of her time and abilities in supporting the programmes and has been a very encouraging and helpful member of the Advisory Committee. We thank her sincerely and extend our warm good wishes to her. Earlier this year we had the pleasure of congratulating committee member Mrs. Shirley Davidson upon her being named Citizen of the Year in Walcha.

A matter of concern for some time has been the lack of appropriate accommodation for young people suffering from disabilities and conditions which render it impossible for them to stay in their own homes, and which necessitate their receiving residential nursing care. Until recently the only option was for them to be accommodated in aged care nursing homes – a quite unsuitable environment for people of a much younger age. It is good to note that it was able to be confirmed early in 2008 that the Accent group had been successful in obtaining funding for a group home in both Armidale and Moree.

A continuing concern which the committee has kept on a watching brief is the matter of transport for renal patients. This is a very real problem in the health area. The need for renal transport is increasing. It has been recognised in the committee's discussions that it is not appropriate to expect unqualified volunteer drivers to provide such transport, and it appears to be an area that the Health Service is unable, to date, to deal adequately with. The committee recommended that Uralla Shire Council address the matter by whatever means possible, and requested that the New England Local Government Association also follow up. Uralla's General Manager raised the issue at the Rural and Regional Taskforce meeting, and TCSO's Manager raised the matter at local Community Care meetings and at the HACC Planning meeting. The Regional Access Working Group acknowledges that there is a problem with renal transport, and this committee will keep its watching brief.

The Kamilaroi Aged and Disability Services programme continued under the management of Tablelands Community Support Options and the auspice of the Uralla Shire Council. Good progress has been made through ongoing monitoring and mentoring which has enabled staff in Tamworth and other outlying centres to progressively undertake a greater role in the management of the provision of the programme. A Departmental review of the KADS programme reported satisfaction with the management, processes, and provision of service. DADHC is now considering changing the auspice to an Aboriginal service or an Aboriginal community based committee. Grant funding has been provided to Uralla Shire Council to undertake the required consultation before any decision is made by the Department.

Through the year, the Manager has been diligent to recognise possible new areas of service provision and to put in submissions for available funding. Two pilot programmes were undertaken and very successfully completed during the year, these being a DVA Case Management Pilot and an Episodic Case Management Pilot.

Client numbers for all programmes have remained at available capacity through the year, and the Manager and staff are to be commended for their sincere concern for the communities, for their dedication to their

work, and for making the budgets stretch as far as possible to provide as much support as possible over as wide a range of needs as possible.

Major funding for Respite Care through the Commonwealth Carer Respite Centre has occurred through the year. Although this was good to see it was noted that respite services and CACP's were becoming very fragmented in the region. New CACP packages were allocated to TCSO for Barraba, Parry, and Walcha. These new centres combined with other catchment areas allowed all the new mainstream packages to be filled including five new Aboriginal packages.

A review by the Department of Health and Ageing of the audit of the TCSO management of the Commonwealth funded CACP and Dementia programmes resulted in the issue of a very favourable report. The contract for the Dementia Respite Programme has been renewed for another three years.

Recent developments with the move into regional areas of large services and the amalgamation of Accent with Hunter Integrated Care indicate that it may become necessary for TCSO to consider the formation of a consortium with North West Regional Community Options in Gunnedah and Northern Community Care in Glen Innes to enable all three to be competitive over a broader area when submitting EOI's for funding. TCSO Manager will undertake discussions with these and other relevant services and report back to the Advisory Committee.

During the year, two new staff members were welcomed; a set-up grant enabled the purchase of computers, files, and an extra car; and a move to obtain a HACC bus for Armidale was put onto the planning process with DADHC. The TCSO Manager, Mrs. Jan Roads was re-elected to the State Committee of COPS and subsequently was elected as Chair of that Committee for twelve months.

Committee members and staff enjoyed Christmas luncheon on 14 December 2007, and the recent very successful "Christmas in June" dinner was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

Progress has been made in the Alliance Shared Service Finance section during the year resulting in some improvement in financial management, review, and reporting although there is still some way to go before the system is functioning to the standard which is expected.

The COPS Manager and staff have regularly attended meetings and training throughout the year, including the areas of Mental Health, Aboriginal support services and planning meeting, HACC services, orientation and planning, Shire Council's Consultative Committee, Dementia support services and Leadership in Dementia training, Financial training, and Case Management Diploma being undertaken by staff. Particular meetings attended by the Manager included all Community Care meetings in the region, COP regional and State meetings, and the Aged Care Services National Conference

On behalf of the communities, the Uralla Shire Council, and the members of the Advisory Committee, I congratulate and thank, Mrs. Roads, Manager of Tablelands Community Support Options, together with all members of staff, for their diligence, cheerfulness, and professionalism in the provision of community support services. On behalf of the communities, the Manager and staff of TCSO and the Advisory Committee I thank the Uralla Shire Council for its support and assistance during the year, particularly acknowledging Mrs. Jane Michie, and Council's General Manager Mr. Tom O'Connor.

Please accept my sincere good wishes for a very happy Christmas, a safe and enjoyable holiday period, and a happy and fulfilling New Year.

Isabel Strutt.
Councillor – Chairperson.

A three year Strategic Plan which sets out our vision for the future, key objectives and highlights areas of priority and implementation strategies has been developed for the project and approved in 2007–08 by the Advisory Committee and Council.

TARGETS ACHIEVED

1. To improve efficiency & effectiveness of the organisation's Management & Administration Systems.

- Systems are continually modified to meet the Council's requirements
- The data base was updated to meet DADHC and DoH & A procedures and reporting requirements.
- A part time Senior Case Manager and Case Manager were employed to assist with the extra workload from increased funding
- Staff are active members on Council's Consultative Committee
- Staff have attended training on topics pertinent to their positions with two Case managers receiving their Diploma in Case Management.
- Staff and Team meetings are held fortnightly and Case Managers meetings weekly

2. To continually improve Access & Equity of the organisation's target group.

- Priority given to applicants for services in the small communities
- Information distributed at Expos, information days and presentations made at meetings
- Service statistics are collected, provided to the committee and used to ensure geographical equity in region
- A successful Expressions of Interest was submitted for extra Mainstream and Aboriginal CACP's
- A small one off grant was received to provide Episodic Case management to the HACC target group .

3. To actively participate and support changes in the community care sector to achieve positive outcomes for consumers whilst ensuring effective use of resources.

- Staff members are committed members of a wide range of cross sectoral initiatives and working groups. Meetings attended include all Community Care meetings in the catchment area, HACC Inc, Dementia Advisory Group, Regional CACP Meetings, HACC Regional Planning Committee,
- Case Managers attend many case conferences, networking with other providers to ensure a quality service is provided to each client.

4. To actively work towards enhancing networks with all other organisations to improve quality of services for consumers.

- Aboriginal staff promoted their services in all communities
- All staff regularly attend Community Care and Interagency meetings in region
- Case conferences have been initiated and facilitated for complex care clients
- Networking with other Community Care services including ACAT's, Carer Respite Centres, Disability services and the Home Care Service of NSW continue to be strengthened
- Staff have provided input and support to other services planning days.

5. Quality of project's performance is reviewed regularly.

- Dept. of Health and Ageing conducted a full audit of Tablelands Community Support Options
- The Policy and Procedure Manual is continually reviewed and policies updated to meet changing Departmental requirements and Government legislation
- Clients were surveyed to assess satisfaction with service provision
- Regular meetings are held with all Contractors to discuss ongoing services to clients.

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TCSO

About Tablelands Community Support Options.

Tablelands Community Support Options receives funding from both the State and Australian Governments to provide services to the aged, people with a disability and their Carers in many areas of the New England with services mainly focused of the Guyra, Armidale Dumaresq, Uralla and Walcha local government areas. TCSO is auspiced by Uralla Shire Council and supported by an Advisory Committee of Council. The TCSO office is located in the Uralla Community Centre.

Uralla Shire Council continues to auspice the Kamilaroi Aboriginal Respite Service in Tamworth with the Tablelands Community Support Options Manager providing support to this project. KADS has offices located in Tamworth, Inverell and Boggabilla.

Programs for which TCSO receives funding include Community Options, Community Aged Packages, respite services for carers of people with dementia, a social support service for younger people with a disability and a day centre program for the Aboriginal Elders.

The project specialises in case management and staff are highly skilled and have developed a great rapport with the elderly and people with a disability and are very empathetic to their needs. TCSO has been active in developing and supporting strategies that address the need for better care for our carers, the aged and people with a disability, networking with many services to achieve the best outcomes. Increased referrals continue to be received for very complex clients often having a dual diagnosis. This has seen the Case Managers taking part in Guardianship hearings, interacting with many other professionals and attending joint assessments.

2007/08 has seen increases in funding for TCSO. Funding from the Australian Government was received to provide an extra 10 mainstream and 5 Aboriginal CACP in the New England area. A small amount of one off funding was also received from DADHC to provide Episodic Case Management to assist the HACC target group. The remaining funding received in 2006/07 to provide a Case Management pilot to the DVA community was rolled over to the 2007/08 financial year and has been fully expended.

The extra funding has seen an increase in the staff of TCSO. Staff include a Manager, Senior Case Manager, five Case Managers, one Project Officer, one Accounts Officer and one Administration Officer. One Case Manager and the Project Officer are Aboriginal and assist the ATSI clients.

TCSO policies and procedures were reviewed by the Dept. of Health and Ageing and received a very pleasing report.

Clients input into service quality, service development needs and improvements to their services through surveys and meetings of groups of clients were held and positive results were achieved.

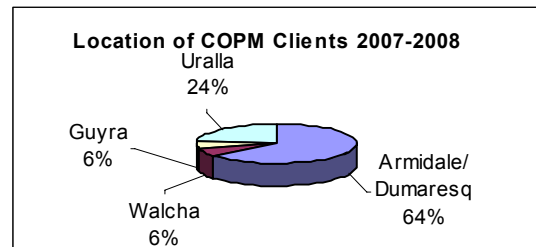
Fully audited records are kept of all financial transactions

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**Community Option Project —
Mainstream
1 July 2007—30 June 2008**

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Income | Actual Income |
| Grant Income | \$236 821.00 |
| Interest Income | \$1 974.71 |
| Client Income | \$16 713.42 |
| Total Income | \$255 509.13 |
| Expenditure | Actual Expenditure |
| Staff Expenses | \$92 278.08 |
| Client Services | \$121 550.23 |
| Administration Expenses | \$35 811.76 |
| COP.M ASSETS | \$1 403.10 |
| Total Expenditure | \$251 043.17 |
| | Reconciliation |
| Total Income | \$255 509.13 |
| Less Expenditure | \$251 043.17 |
| | \$4 465.96 |
| Less Enhancement Carried Forward | -\$4 419.00 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) | \$46.96 |

Please note: These figures are based on Uralla Shire Council's financial statements. These figures have not yet been finalised and may differ from the final figures upon completion of the audited financial statements.



Community Options is a HACC funded Case Management program targeting people with high and complex needs who are at risk of premature and inappropriate institutionalization.

TCSO currently services approximately 35 clients at any one time under this program across the local government areas of Guyra, Armidale Dumaresq, Uralla and Walcha. This year has seen a greater focus on evidence-based care planning which concentrates on achieving positive and measurable outcomes for clients. Shifting the focus to consumer led goals has posed considerable challenges for Case Managers, but ultimately will lead to increased empowerment of our clients. We look forward to refining this process in the new year.

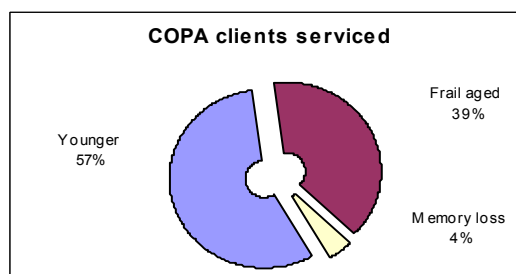
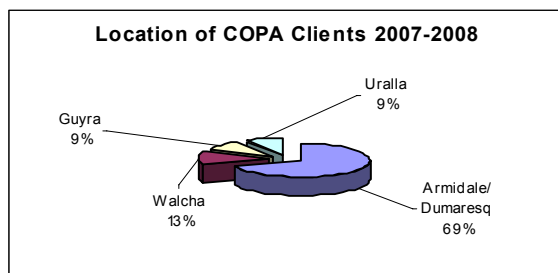
The success of TCSO is testament to the great skills of TCSO's Case Managers and their back up staff in the office and the ongoing commitment and collaboration of all service providers in the region.

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**Community Options Project—
Aboriginal
1 July 2007—30 June 2008**

| Income | Actual Income |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Grant Income | \$106 918.00 |
| Interest Income | \$1 197.50 |
| Client Income | \$1 485.11 |
| Total Income | \$109 600.61 |
| Expenditure | Actual Expenditure |
| Staff Expenses | \$53 046.99 |
| Client Services | \$38 128.83 |
| Administration Expenses | \$15 970.61 |
| COPA Assets | \$257.27 |
| Total Expenditure | \$107 403.70 |
| Reconciliation | |
| Total Income | \$109 600.61 |
| Less Expenditure | \$107 403.70 |
| | \$2 196.91 |
| Less Enhancement Carried Forward | -\$2 033.00 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) | \$163.91 |

Please note: These figures are based on Uralla Shire Council's financial statements. These figures have not yet been finalised and may differ from the final figures upon completion of the audited financial statements.



Aboriginal Community Options is a HACC funded Case Management program which targets the elderly, people with a disability and their carers who have high and complex needs and are at risk of premature and inappropriate institutionalisation. Ten Aboriginal specific packages in the local government areas of Guyra, Armidale Dumaresq, Uralla and Walcha are available.

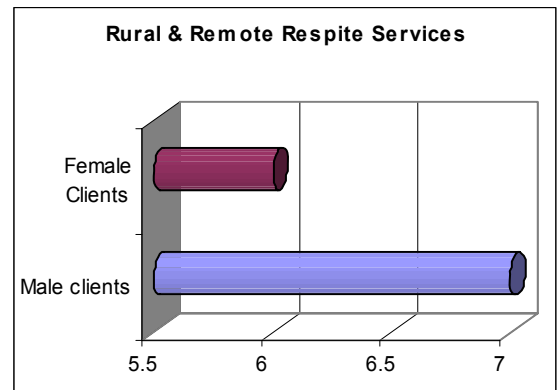
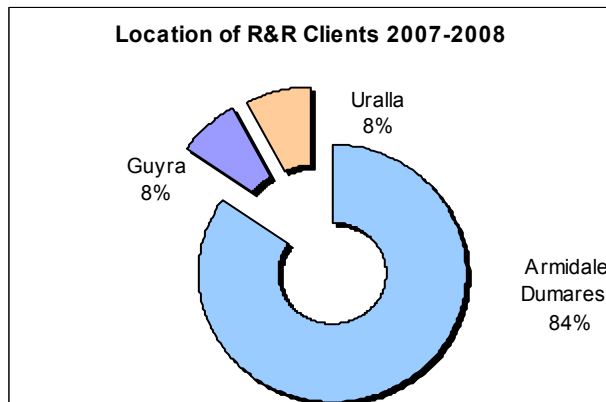
The Aboriginal Case Manager provides information to the client on services available in the community, assists them decide what services will best meet their individual needs, and negotiates with the other service providers on their behalf. If a service is not available, Community Options have a small amount of funding they may use to purchase services on behalf of the client if a service is not available. Ongoing monitoring of the service provision is an integral part of the service.

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Rural & Remote Respite Service
1 July 2007—30 June 2008

| Income | Actual Income |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Grant Income | \$59 249.00 |
| Client Income | \$845.00 |
| Interest Income | \$999.12 |
| Total Income | \$61 093.12 |
| | |
| Expenditure | Actual Expenditure |
| Staff Expenses | \$22 978.33 |
| Client Services | \$21 484.82 |
| Administration Expenses | \$7 772.41 |
| Assets | \$0.00 |
| Total Expenditure | \$52 235.56 |
| | |
| Reconciliation | |
| Total Income | \$61 093.12 |
| Less Expenditure | \$52 235.56 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) | \$8 857.56 |

Please note: These figures are based on Uralla Shire Council's financial statements. These figures have not yet been finalised and may differ from the final figures upon completion of the audited financial statements.



The Rural and Remote program receives funding to assist people with a disability aged 16 to 65 who live in the community. To be eligible for the program clients must be in receipt of a disability pension and live in the local government areas of Guyra, Armidale Dumaresq, Uralla and Walcha.

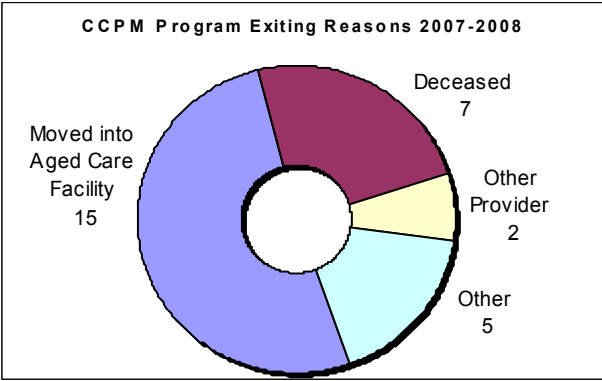
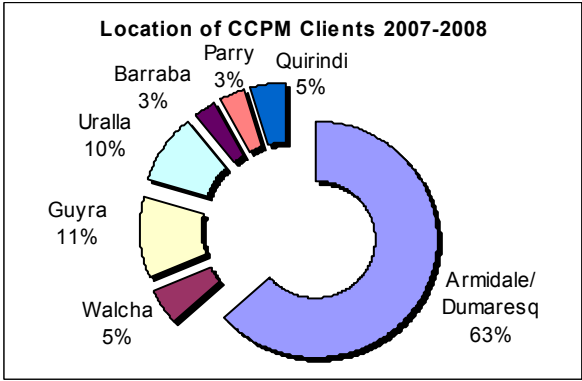
The program aims to assist people with a disability to access community and social activities with support. TCSO has assisted clients to go on short breaks, regular social outings with a carer or go on a supported group outing with others of similar needs. Outings have included a short break to the coast, weekly outings, support to access a special function and a monthly outing for a group of men with physical disabilities.

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**Community Aged Care Packages—
Mainstream
1 July 2007—30 June 2008**

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Income | Actual Income |
| Grant Income | \$618 905.00 |
| Client Income | \$60 822.00 |
| Interest Income | \$3 696.00 |
| Total Income | \$683 423.00 |
| Expenditure | Actual Expenditure |
| Staff Expenses | \$204 141.87 |
| Client Services | \$381 161.00 |
| Administration Expenses | \$87 057.95 |
| CACP M Assets | \$688.19 |
| Total Expenditure | \$673 050.00 |
| Reconciliation | |
| Total Income | \$683 423.00 |
| Less Expenditure | \$673 050.00 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) | \$10 373.00 |

Please note: These figures are based on Uralla Shire Council's financial statements. These figures have not yet been finalised and may differ from the final figures upon completion of the audited financial statements.



Community Aged Packages are funded by the Department of Health and Ageing and provide a complete package of care to aged people who wish to remain in their own home. A Community Aged Care Package can include services such as personal care, domestic assistance, respite, meals and transport within the resources available.

This year saw a growth in TCSO's CACP mainstream program, with 10 extra packages being funded to support clients in the Walcha, Barraba, Quirindi and Parry LGAs. TCSO currently receives funding for 57 mainstream packages. All packages have remained full throughout the year with the new packages being filled within two months of the funding being received. Extra staff have been employed to assist in the management of the new packages.

Demand for the CACP program continues to be greater than available packages with a waiting list being maintained throughout the year, with packages being allocated to those in greatest need.

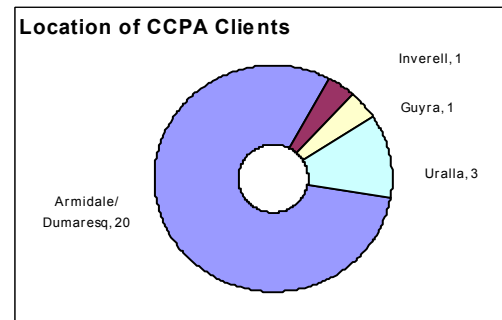


TCSO supporting
you to stay at home

**Community Aged Care Packages—
Aboriginal
1 July 2007—30 June 2008**

| Income | Actual Income |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Grant Income | \$249 305.83 |
| Client Income | \$1 614.00 |
| Interest Income | \$2 071.50 |
| Total Income | \$252 991.53 |
| Expenditure | Actual Expenditure |
| Staff Expenses | \$52 311.78 |
| Client Services | \$141 761.05 |
| Administration Services | \$33 759.93 |
| Assets | \$2 156.37 |
| Total Expenditure | \$229 989.13 |
| Reconciliation | |
| Total Income | \$252 991.53 |
| Less Expenditure | \$229 989.13 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) | \$23 002.00 |

Please note: These figures are based on Uralla Shire Council's financial statements. These figures have not yet been finalised and may differ from the final figures upon completion of the audited financial statements.



TCSO receives funding from the Australian Government to provide Community Aged Packages to the ATSI community in the New England area. Community Aged packages provide coordinated and flexible assistance to Aboriginal people aged 45 years plus to remain independent in their own homes.

TCSO was fortunate to receive an extra five packages this year bringing the total number of packages available to the Aboriginal community in New England to twenty five.

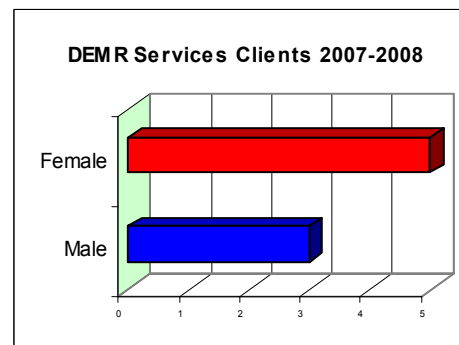
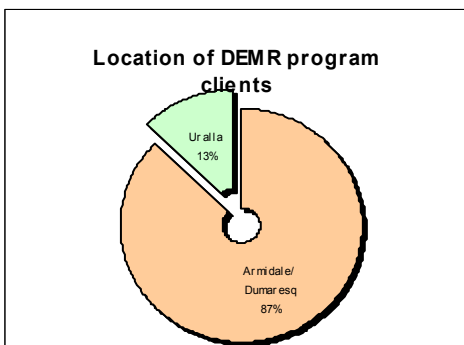
TCSO employs an Aboriginal Case Manager and she has been instrumental in developing the service by maintaining excellent networks with providers so the Aboriginal community are aware of the support available and assists in ensuring a culturally appropriate service is provided to clients.

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**Respite for Carers of People with Dementia
1 July 2007—30 June 2008**

| Income | Actual Income |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Grant Income | \$66 137.00 |
| Client Income | \$5 211.50 |
| Interest Income | \$560.51 |
| 06/07 Carried Forward | \$1 414.00 |
| Total Income | \$73 323.01 |
| Expenditure | Actual Expenditure |
| Staff Expenses | \$19 367.59 |
| Client Services | \$40 318.66 |
| Administration Expenses | \$9 181.28 |
| Assets Purchased | \$0.00 |
| Total Expenditure | \$68 867.53 |
| Reconciliation | |
| Total Income | \$73 323.01 |
| Less Expenditure | \$68 867.53 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) | \$4 455.48 |

Please note: These figures are based on Uralla Shire Council's financial statements. These figures have not yet been finalised and may differ from the final figures upon completion of the audited financial statements.



This service provides respite for carers of people with dementia. A person trained in assisting people with dementia can provide respite in the home allowing the carer to go out or can take the person with dementia on an outing in the community. It may be a short regular break or a longer break on an irregular basis. Funding is also available to assist with emergencies. The Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing provides funding for this program

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you to stay at home

Narwon Elders Group
1 July 2007—30 June 2008

| Income | Actual Income |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Grant Income | \$64 972.00 |
| Client Income | \$605.00 |
| Interest Income | \$599.01 |
| Elders Week Funds | \$500.00 |
| 06/07 Enhancement Carried Forward | \$493.00 |
| Total Income | \$67 169.01 |
| Expenditure | Actual Expenditure |
| Staff Expenses | \$30 801.66 |
| Client Services | \$21 401.36 |
| Elders Week Expenses | \$500.00 |
| Administration Expenses | \$7 070.52 |
| Total Expenditure | \$59 773.54 |
| Reconciliation | |
| Total Income | \$67 169.01 |
| Less Expenditure | \$59 773.54 |
| | \$7 355.47 |
| Less Enhancement Carried Forward | -\$6 140.00 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) | \$1 215.47 |

Please note: These figures are based on Uralla Shire Council's financial statements. These figures have not yet been finalised

The Elders have had another wonderful year, one of our many exciting trips was to the Elders Olympics held at Valla Beach Resort in July, we travelled with the Elders from Tamworth, Quirindi, Walhollow and all had a wonderful time. Tamworth ended up winning, but all Elders agreed that it was great fun and lovely to see family and friends they had not seen for a while. We also went to a Gathering at Tamworth and met with the Elders from Tamworth, Quirindi and Walhollow. We also went to the Blue Hole for a picnic. Places of cultural significance that we visited include Yarrowyck Woolbrook and Ingelba. There have also been visits to some of the local schools.

Seniors Week activities was a great time for the Elders to get together and have more fun, this included doing Tabloid games with visitors from Tamworth and pupils from local schools at the Aboriginal Cultural Centre & Keeping Place in Armidale.

We have been working in conjunction with the New England Division of General Practice, who organize healthy lifestyle programs for the Elders on a regular basis. This includes cooking and Tai Chi-gentle exercises which the Elders love doing. The group have also been doing painting with the assistance from a local artist and they have produced some lovely paintings and drawings.

We have speakers such as Fair Trading, Telstra, Centrelink, NEDGP, coming to share information.

The Elders are busy working on their calendar for 2009 and are looking forward to displaying the finished product.

TCSO supporting
you to stay at home

**DVA Case Management Pilot
1 July 2007—30 June 2008**

| Income | Actual Income |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Prior 06/07 Carried Forward | \$19 845.00 |
| Enhancement Carried Forward | \$4 450.00 |
| Total Income | \$24 295.00 |
| Expenditure | Actual Expenditure |
| Staff Expenses | \$11 462.00 |
| Client Services | \$12 153.06 |
| Total Expenditure | \$23 615.06 |
| Reconciliation | |
| Total Income | \$24 295.00 |
| Less Expenditure | \$23 615.06 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) to be Carried Forward | \$679.94 |

**Episodic Case Management
1 July 2007—30 June 2008**

| Income | Actual Income |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 06/07 Grant Carried Forward | \$24 515.00 |
| Total Income | \$24 515.00 |
| Expenditure | Actual Expenditure |
| Staff Expenses | \$11 916.95 |
| Client Services | \$1 015.84 |
| Total Expenditure | \$12 932.79 |
| Reconciliation | |
| Total Income | \$24 515.00 |
| Less Expenditure | \$12 932.79 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) to be Carried Forward | \$11 612.21 |

Please note: These figures are based on Uralla Shire Council's financial statements. These figures have not yet been finalised and may differ from the final figures upon completion of the audited financial statements.

TABLELANDS COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

2007-2008 ANNUAL REPORT



Tablelands Community Transport is auspiced by Uralla Shire Council and administered under the Ministry of Transport. Funding is received under the Home and Community Care Program; the Community Transport Programme and Health Related Transport (for individual trips).

TCT provides an Integrated Model of service delivery with demonstrated excellence in community partnerships with bus operators McRae's (Uralla) & Hubbard's (Armidale), Northern Marketing, Uralla and Armidale Taxi Services, & Crazy Clarks (Scooter).

A message from Cr Isabel Strutt, Chairperson of the Tablelands Community Transport Advisory Committee

It is my pleasure to present the Chairperson's 2007/2008 Annual Report for Tablelands Community Transport.

Service, by way of provision of accessible, flexible and appropriate transport options to those members of the communities of the Uralla, Walcha, Armidale/Dumaresq, and Guyra Shires who are transport disadvantaged, is the function of Tablelands Community Transport. This service could not happen without the commitment of volunteer drivers, the Manager of the programme Ms Margaret Anderson, Council support staff, and the members of the Advisory Committee. There is the continued challenge to recognise and meet the diverse transport needs in the Tablelands communities while adhering to the strict criteria of the Ministry of Transport, maintaining best practice standards, and working cost-effectively within budget limits, utilising a mix of volunteer drivers and cars, TCT-owned wheel-chair accessible vehicle, taxi services, and brokered bus services to deliver the most appropriate service to customers. On behalf of the communities which Tablelands Community Transport and the Uralla Shire Council serve, I extend sincere thanks to Ms Margaret Anderson, Ms Linda Maynard (Service Administrator), Ms Catherine Matheson (Driver), volunteers, members of the Advisory Committee, Mr Tom O'Connor, General Manager of the Uralla Shire Council, and Council support staff for their diligence and commitment to this community service.

A detailed report of services provided and statistics regarding passenger numbers, kilometres travelled etc. is included in separate sections of the TCT Comprehensive Annual Report presented today. Suffice for me to say that the expected high level of customer service through TCT has been maintained through 2007/2008, with the Manager identifying and meeting, to the best extent possible, new and changing transport needs for eligible customers.

New transport services provided through the year included a TCSO monthly outing for men with a disability, a Commonwealth Carer respite social outing for children with disabilities, a new monthly social outing for residents of McMaugh Gardens, and the establishment of a Transport to Safety service which provides transport to Women's Refuges across the New England region. The shopping bus run to Armidale was adjusted to a fortnightly rather than a weekly service in recognition of realistic passenger usage.

A successful and positive TCT Planning Day was held on 9 April 2008 in Uralla with representation from service providers with whom TCT networks, TCT volunteers, customers, staff, and advisory committee members. Although numbers were not large, discussions were healthy and good input and suggestions were received and incorporated into the Strategic Plan for the period July 2008 to June 2011. The Strategic Plan covers TCT's Ethical Framework, Organisational Values, Core Responsibilities, Code of Conduct, and incorporates the functional areas of Governance; Evaluation and Review; Policy Formulation, Review and Evaluation; Training, Education and Professional Development; Business Partnerships; and Safe Work Environment.

During the year the Advisory Committee has reviewed the Vehicle Management and Safety Policy, the Team Member Orientation Kit, and the TCTAC Terms of Reference to HACC National Standards. New Policies have been developed for Spare Capacity, Client Exit Interview, Booking and Referral, and a Bus Hire Check List. TCT volunteers, staff and Manager have participated in the Volunteer Week Expo in Armidale, and attended the International Women's Day Lunch in Uralla. A comprehensive programme of training has been undertaken during the year with the Manager, staff members, and volunteers attending as appropriate. The training has included Alzheimer Awareness and Training, Interfacing with the Person with Dementia, Accredited Mental Health First Aid, Vehicle Safety Management, usage of Mobile Phones, GPS, and Wheelchair Restraints, a Unit Costing Workshop, utilising DADHC Service Portal, and Accidental Chairman Workshop covering the convening of meetings, and attendance at the Regional HACC Forum in Tamworth. A TCT Training Tool has been developed for TCT drivers.

Keith and Gloria Kiehne were nominated in the NSW Volunteer of the Year Award, an inaugural award of NSW Volunteering. The TCT Manager was appointed as the rural service provider delegate on the State Ministerial Advisory Committee, which is tasked to undertake a review into community transport services across New South Wales, including all operational issues, planning and referral processes, day centre activities etc. The Manager is also an ongoing participant in the New England Transport Forum.

I express again my sincere thanks and recognition to everyone involved in serving the community through Tablelands Community Transport. 2007/2008 has been another year of hard work and good service. Please accept my sincere good wishes for Christmas and the New Year. It will be good to work together in 2009.

Isabel Strutt – Councillor
Chairperson

Table of Contents

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| A message from Cr Isabel Strutt, Chairperson of the Tablelands Community Transport Advisory Committee | i |
| Philosophy of Tablelands Community Transport..... | 1 |
| Service Aims | 1 |
| Contact Details | 1 |
| Tablelands Community Transport Advisory Committee | 2 |
| Employees | 2 |
| Vehicles..... | 2 |
| Community Partnerships | 2 |
| Acknowledgements | 3 |
| Tablelands Community Transport Volunteers | 3 |
| Volunteer of the Year Award | 3 |
| Summary of Services Offered | 4 |
| Achievements: July 2007 to June 2008 | 5 |
| Training Calendar 2007-2008 | 6 |
| Committee Involvement / Meeting Processes | 7 |
| Operating Data | 8 |
| Data Collection..... | 9 |
| Trips Charts | 10 |
| Financial Statements..... | 12 |

Philosophy of Tablelands Community Transport

Tablelands Community Transport is a rural non-profit volunteer based organization administered under NSW Transport and auspiced under Uralla Shire Council to provide various levels of transport services to the local government areas of Walcha, Uralla, Armidale Dumaresq and Guyra. The area covered is 18,000 square kilometres and services a population of some 65,000. Funding is received under Community Transport Program (Ministry of Transport), Home and Community Care (HACC) Program (Commonwealth and State governments). A brokerage arrangement operates under the Transport for Health Program, Hunter New England Area Health Service.

The Tablelands Community Transport Advisory Committee came into effect in July 2000 with volunteer, Aboriginal, community, university and local government representation from across the Tablelands. Volunteer/consumer representatives serve a two-year term so that many may have the opportunity to participate. The advisory committee assist in the development and review of policies and setting the strategic direction for the service. The manager is delegated authority for the day-to-day operation of the service. Being auspiced under Uralla Shire Council means that there are a number of requirements that then need to be met under the Local Government Act as opposed to the Associations Incorporation Act.

All community transport services within NSW operate under relevant statutes including the Community Transport Accreditation Standards, the National HACC Service Standards, the Public Passenger Act, Occupational Health and Safety Act and the Privacy Legislation. Tablelands Community Transport has numerous management policies and a team member orientation handbook that are reviewed annually. Transport services across New South Wales were monitored and reviewed under the VALIDATION process. This service was awarded 100% against the national Home and Community Care Standards in 2001. This monitoring process has now been developed into the Integrated Framework Monitoring process. TCT is to be reviewed in February 2009

Tablelands Community Transport is a member of the NSW Community Transport Organisation and Volunteering Australia. TCT has had long established business partnerships with McRae's (Uralla), Armidale Radio Taxis and Uralla Taxi Services. **Northern Marketing (Caltex)** provides a monthly petrol sponsorship that enables the service to provide services such as occasional outings for Ningana Dementia residential facility and training opportunities for volunteers.

TCT offers Bruno the electric scooter service for use of shoppers in the Armidale CBD. This service transferred from K-Mart to Bi-Lo and now resides with Crazy Clarks. We are grateful to the team at Crazy Clarks and also acknowledge Acacia Medical for prompt servicing of the scooter.

Service Aims

The service aims to provide within budget, accessible transport options for eligible passengers across the Tablelands, both individually and groups, in an effort to alleviate transport disadvantages and increase mobility.

Contact Details

LOCATION: The office is located in the Old Court House, 9 Hill Street, Uralla.
POSTAL ADDRESS: PO Box 20, URALLA NSW 2358
TELEPHONE: (02) 6778 4089
Manager's mobile: 0447 604 953 Driver's Mobile: 0417 473 628
FACSIMILE: (02) 6778 5089
TTY PHONE: (02) 6778 4118
EMAIL: tct07@bigpond.com

Tablelands Community Transport Advisory Committee

| NAME | ORGANISATION | MEMBERSHIP |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Cr Isabel Strutt | Uralla Shire Council (Chairperson) | 2004-2008 |
| Cr Bev Robol | Armidale Dumaresq Council | 2006-2008 |
| Dr Neil Argent | University of New England | 2002-2008(retired) |
| Mrs Cynthia Williams | Guyra Community representative | 1997-2008 |
| Mrs Gail Smith | Care for Children with Disabilities | 2004-2008 |
| Mrs Marjorie Robertson | Armidale TCT Volunteer (1990-2006) | 2001-2005 2006- 2008 |
| Mrs Tini Avenhuis | Armidale TCT Volunteer (2002-2006) | 2005-2008 |
| Ms Margaret Anderson | TCT Manager (no voting rights) | 1999-2008 Minute Secretary (1999-2005; 2007-2008) |
| Mrs Linda Maynard | TCT (Service Administrator) | Minute Secretary (2005-2007) |
| Mr Gerry Moran | Walcha Council | 1999-2008 |
| Mrs Bob Furze | Guyra Shire Council | 1999-2008 |

Employees

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Manager (full time 35 hrs/week) | Margaret Anderson, M.B.A.; B.A.; B. Ed. (Art); Dip Soc Sci (May 1999 to present) |
| Service Administrator (part time 15 hrs/week) | Linda Maynard, B.A. Secretarial Studies (February 2005 to present) Acting Manager (10 December 2007 to 23 January 2008) |
| Bus Driver (part time 15 hrs/week) | Ian Robertson (commenced January 2005 – August 2007) Cathy Matheson (November 2007 to present) |
| Relief Bus Driver (Volunteer) | Keith Kiehne (November 2007 to 2008 provided Tuesday drives) |
| Volunteer Office Assistant | Gary Kiehne (taxi vouchers) |

Vehicles

FLEET: 1 project vehicle (Activan – 2 wheelchair places)

NETWORK TYPE: Partial Bus Brokerage, Volunteer car driving scheme, taxi voucher subsidies

SOFTWARE PROGRAMS: TRIPS A5 linked with CIARR MS1; Microsoft Office 2007

DISABILITY ACCESS: People with disabilities are provided \$5 lifting vouchers and referred to Armidale Taxis. TCT acquired a two wheelchair seated vehicle in August 2007.

Community Partnerships

CRAZY CLARKS: Administers the electric scooter since October 2007. KMART had established the service in 1995, which has served passengers from across the Tablelands who experience permanent or temporary mobility difficulty in accessing services. Bi-Lo took over the scooter in July 2007 for a three month trial. We are grateful for this business assistance.

ARMIDALE RADIO TAXI: Working collaboratively with TCT in the taxi voucher subsidy scheme since 1990 and with the Maxi Taxi service for people with disabilities.

URALLA TAXI SERVICE: Working collaboratively with TCT in the taxi voucher subsidy scheme since 1990.

NORTHERN MARKETING: Provides a petrol sponsorship to TCT since 1993.

McRAE'S BUS PTY LTD: Weekly bus run - Uralla to Armidale. Also the bus for the Walcha run.

HUNTER NEW ENGLAND AREA HEALTH SERVICE: Brokerage arrangement for health transport.

Acknowledgements

Tablelands Community Transport recognises the wonderful contribution made by the Advisory Committee and our volunteers. We also pay tribute to our community partnership organisations: McRae's (Uralla), Hubbard's Hire (Armidale), Armidale Radio Taxis, Uralla Taxi Service, Northern Marketing, Crazy Clarks, Acacia Medical Service and the other community and health based organisations that we work with. We particularly acknowledge staff and services at Kent and Hughes House, Armidale.

Tablelands Community Transport Volunteers

Dr Neil Argent, Armidale
Cr Bev Robol, Armidale
Gary Kiehne, Armidale
Gloria Kiehne, Armidale
Keith Kiehne, Armidale
John Martin, Armidale
Leslie Lee, Armidale
Ahmad Rida, Armidale
Marjorie Robertson, Armidale
Gail Smith, Armidale
Tini Oude-Avenhuis, Saumarez
Gerhardus Oude-Avenhuis, Saumarez
Cr Isabel Strutt, Uralla
Dawn Bicknell, Uralla
Alan Bicknell, Uralla
Tony Egan, Uralla
Catherine Matheson, Uralla (to November 2007)
Ray Miller, Uralla (to November 2007)

Uralla HACC: Catherine Mead
Dawn Bicknell, Uralla

In Partnership with Walcha HACC and Guyra HACC for Health Related Transport (including volunteers participating in Public Passenger Authority Training):

Walcha HACC: Wendy Gribble Coordinator
Davina Young, Walcha HACC Driver
Pam Boyd, Walcha
Yvonne Schlenert, Walcha
Sue Reardon, Walcha
Valarie Davis, Walcha
Max Holstein, Walcha
Peter Sendall, Walcha
Graham Partridge, Walcha
Gerry Moran, Walcha Council

Guyra HACC: Wendy Warner/Sally Burey
Doug Lake, Guyra
Adrian Jackson, Guyra
Carolyn Palmer, Guyra
Jean Vickery, Guyra
Christopher Gentle, Guyra
Stuart Broad, Guyra
Ray Martin, Guyra
Cynthia Williams (TCTAC community rep)
Bob Furze, Guyra Council

Volunteer of the Year Award Keith Kiehne 2007/2008

Keith Kiehne has been volunteering with TCT for nine years, driving his own meticulously maintained car for numerous health related transport to Tamworth across six days.

From November 2007 Keith supported our new paid driver to June 2008 by driving the Tuesday bus runs (Aboriginal Elders, Walcha to Armidale and Older Blokes Bus).

Keith drives weekly Wednesday, Thursday and Friday Dementia runs; Thursday Social Seniors, ASCA (Armidale Senior Citizens Association) and the Saturday Splinter Group. Keith is always available for special activities such as NESRC Week and Senior Citizens Week.

Keith Kiehne has been **EXCEPTIONAL** in his commitment to serving our passengers. We are most grateful for his generosity of time.

CONGRATULATIONS!



Summary of Services Offered

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MONDAY | McMaugh Gardens | Monthly |
| | New England Stroke Recovery Club (NESRC) hospital visit | Bi-monthly |
| | Dementia Monday Group | Monthly -stopped |
| | NESRC Pottery | First and Third-changed to Wednesdays |
| | Armidale / Uralla taxi voucher subsidy scheme | Daily |
| | Electric Scooter at Crazy Clarks | Daily |
| TUESDAY | Volunteer car driver scheme | As Required |
| | Armidale / Uralla taxi voucher subsidy scheme | Daily |
| | Aboriginal Elders – Social Activity | 1 st & 5 th Tues of month |
| | Social Seniors – Kent House | 2 nd & 4 th Tues of month |
| | Older Blokes Bus – travelling the New England region | 3 rd Tues of month |
| | Walcha to Armidale Shopping bus (brokered to Walcha HACC) | Fortnightly |
| | Electric Scooter at Crazy Clarks | Daily |
| WEDNESDAY | Volunteer car driver scheme | As Required |
| | Armidale / Uralla taxi voucher subsidy scheme | Daily |
| | Armidale Shopping bus | Weekly |
| | Dementia respite – Jacaranda room | Weekly |
| | Electric Scooter at Crazy Clarks | Daily |
| THURSDAY | Volunteer car driver scheme | As Required |
| | Armidale / Uralla taxi voucher subsidy scheme | Daily |
| | Invergowrie to Armidale) | Weekly - Fortnightly |
| | Social Seniors (plus concert afternoon 4 th Thursday) | 1 st /2 nd /3 rd Thurs of month |
| | Dementia respite – Jacaranda room | Weekly |
| | Uralla to Armidale Shopping bus (alternate brokered McRae's and TCT project car each fortnightly) | Weekly |
| | Electric Scooter at Crazy Clarks | Daily |
| FRIDAY | Volunteer car driver scheme | As Required |
| | Armidale / Uralla taxi voucher subsidy scheme | Daily |
| | ASCA House | Weekly |
| | New England Stroke Recovery Club | 1 st & 3 rd Friday of month |
| | Electric Scooter at Crazy Clarks | Daily |
| SATURDAY/ SUNDAY | Armidale / Uralla taxi voucher subsidy scheme | Daily |
| | Bruno Electric Scooter at Crazy Clarks | Daily |
| | Bus Hire (the TCT Bus is hired to community groups outside the established funded service areas) | |
| | Splinter Group – Men's Woodworking Group | Weekly |
| OTHER | Foot clinics at Kent House | 6 Weekly |
| SPECIAL PROGRAM | Dementia Pottery for one month | Tuesdays |
| | Senior Citizen's Week | Yearly |

Achievements: July 2007 to June 2008

Service Delivery and Office Achievements

- Two wheelchair Activan was ordered February and delivered August 2007.
- Your Local Transport Guide – A colour coded information folder in co-ordination with Community Transport Organisation, Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care, and Ministry of Transport
- Mobility Map – work in progress – A community partnership with Spinal Cord Injuries (Greg Gambetta) – Tablelands Transport and Uralla Shire Council
- Updated Tablelands Community Transport flyer as a two fold brochure
- Keith and Gloria Kiehne, Armidale Senior Citizens Award – Senior Citizens Week & New England Regional Volunteer Finalists
- Office improvements – curtains for the office and small room at front
- Interoffice phone system

Submissions

- Successful – Volunteer Small Equipment Grants (\$2,945)
- Successful – Community Passenger Transport Infrastructure Grant (CPTIG) – Grant to establish a disability parking space at Uralla Railway Station (\$1,800)

Professional Development

- Manager acting as Director of Corporate and Community Services, Uralla Shire Council, during his extended leave
- Service Administrator attended NSW HACC Conference in Sydney
- Manager, Service Administrator and Driver attended Cultural Awareness training in Tamworth
- Manager completed Community Planning and Development (UTS)
- Manager and Service Administrator attended MDS2 (TAFE), National HACC Standards 4 & 5 DADHC
- Manager was invited to review the Leadership Development Program for the St James Ethics Institute

Presentations

- Armidale Independent Retirees Association – 20 October – Manager

Visits

- Denis Wolff, Ministry of Transport – Visited office on 10 May

Training Calendar 2007-2008

| Date | Venue | Training | Attendees |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 18/7/2007 | Armidale | HACC Understanding Boundaries | Cathy Matheson |
| 2/8/2007 | Armidale | HACC Orientation Training | Cathy Matheson |
| 31/7 – 2/8 | Armidale | OH&S | Ian Robertson – postponed |
| 3/8/2007 | Tamworth | Dementia Forum | Margaret, Cathy Matheson |
| 8-9/8/2007 | Moree | Regional Transport Forum | Margaret – Did not attend |
| 9/8/2007 | Armidale | Frank Archibald Lecture – Aboriginal theme | Margaret Anderson |
| 21/8/2007 | Glen Innes | Regional Access | Margaret (also took Steve Austin in project car) |
| 29/8/2007 | Office | Wheelchair – removing car seats | Margaret and Ian |
| 19/9/2007 | NERAM, Armidale | Alzheimers Training | Margaret, Gloria Kiehne |
| 27/9/2007 | Kent House, Armidale | Vehicle Safety Management Policy | KK, MA, LM, GK, LL, TA, GA, CM |
| 3/10/2007 | Crazy Clarks | Electric Scooter Operation Orientation | Margaret Anderson with Crazy Clarks Staff |
| 23/10/2007 | The Spastic Centre, Armidale | Raising Resilient Children | Margaret Anderson, Cathy Matheson |
| 25/10/2007 | TCT Office | CIARR & TRIPS & computer training | Cathy Matheson |
| 8/11/2007 | Tamworth Quality Powerhouse | Falls Injury Prevention | Cathy Matheson |
| 8/11/2007 | Armidale Bowling Club | New England Regional HACC Forum | Margaret Anderson |
| 3/1/2008 | Kiehne's Home | Mobile phone and GPS | Facilitated by Gary for Cathy and Leslie |
| 8/1/2008 | Kiehne's Home | Wheelchair Straps in TCT vehicle | Facilitated by Gary and Keith Kiehne for Cathy Matheson |
| 10/1/2008 | Kiehne's Home | GPS | Facilitated by Gary for Cathy Matheson |
| 19/3/2008 | Frog & Toad Function Centre, Tamworth | The Accidental Chairperson – Convening Meetings | Linda Maynard |
| 6/2/2008 | Glen Innes Services Club | New England Transport Forum | Margaret Anderson |
| 8/5/2008 | Glen Innes | Interacting with a person with Dementia | Gloria and Keith Kiehne |
| 20/5/2008 | Tamworth | New England North West Access | Margaret Anderson |
| 29/5/2008 | Tamworth | HACC Regional Forum | Keith and Gloria Kiehne |
| 29-30/5/2008 | Armidale | Mental Health First Aid | Margaret Anderson and Cathy Matheson |
| 3/6/2008 | TCT Office | Office procedures | Cathy Matheson |
| 3/6/2008 | Tamworth | Tender Training | Margaret Anderson (rescheduled to 25/6) |
| 17/6/2008 | TCT Office | Office procedures | Cathy Matheson (cancelled) |
| 8/7/2008 | USC Chambers | Harassment Training | Margaret Anderson, Cathy Matheson, Linda Maynard |
| 22/7/2008 | TCT Office | TCT Information Session | Irene Geddes facilitated by Linda Maynard |

Committee Involvement / Meeting Processes

Ongoing Committees

1. ACROD Regional meeting, attended once a year. Bingara – Manager
2. Armidale Access Awards Organising Committee – Manager
3. Armidale Access Committee, monthly, Armidale – Manager
4. Armidale DADHC Consultation annual – Manager
5. Carers Meeting, once a year. Armidale – Manager
6. Community Care, monthly, Armidale – Manager
7. DADHC Planning Consultation, Armidale – Manager
8. Dementia Awareness Planning Day, annual, Armidale – Manager
9. Dementia Network Advisory Committee, quarterly, Armidale – Manager
10. Disability Interagency, monthly, Armidale – Manager
11. Enabling New England Aged and Disability EXPO, monthly Armidale – Manager
12. Hunter New England Health NGO Consultation, twice yearly – Manager
13. International Day for People with Disabilities – Manager
14. Kent House Annual Planning Day, annual, Armidale – Manager
15. Meals on Wheels Planning Day, annual, Armidale – Manager
16. New England HACC Development Inc Management Committee, bimonthly, Armidale – Manager
17. New England HACC Development Planning Day, annual, Armidale – Manager
18. New England Regional HACC Forum, twice yearly, Bingara/Tamworth – Manager
19. New England Transport Forum, quarterly, around the region – Manager
20. NSW CTO representative on the NSW Cancer Council Transport Research Project, Sydney and quarterly teleconferencing – Manager
21. Social Seniors Planning Day, annual – Manager
22. Staff Meetings – All Staff
23. Tablelands Community Transport Advisory Committee, bimonthly, Uralla/Armidale – Manager/Service Administrator
24. Tablelands Community Transport Planning Day – Manager/Service Administrator/Driver
25. TCT Volunteer team meetings bimonthly to quarterly, Armidale – Manager/Service Administrator/Driver
26. Team Meetings – All Staff and volunteers
27. Transport Working Troup – Armidale – Quarterly – Manager
28. Uralla Shire Council Consultative Committee bi monthly, Uralla – Manager
29. Volunteer Centre Planning Day, annual, Armidale – Manager

New Committees

30. Armidale Mental Health Forum – Bi-monthly – Manager
31. New England North West Regional Access Committee, Quarterly – Manager

Other Meetings

32. Armidale Senior Citizens Week Organising Committee – Gloria Kiehne
33. Kent House Users Meeting – Gloria Kiehne

Operating Data

| Service Statistics | July 2007 – June 2008 | July 2006 – June 2007 | July 2005 – June 2006 | July 2004 – June 2005 | July 2003 – June 2004 | July 2002 – June 2003 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Total Passengers | 732 | 642 | 693 | 713 | | |
| Commendations | G, H, I | B | F,A | E | A | A, C, D |
| Passenger No- Shows | 11 | | 27 | 21 | 24 | 23 |
| Unmet trip requests | 3 Fri Dem. 36 HRT (referred) 4 Renal 3 chemo. 55 TV waiting list 7 referred to other agency 4 DVA | 23 on list from July 2005 issued Feb 2006 22 on TV waiting list Feb 2006 and issued TV June 2006 | 12 referred 2 to TCSO and 9 tr HNEAHS 1 CF denied | 43 | 13 | 11 |
| Total Passenger Trips: HACC, CT, HRT | 12,861 | 12,077 | 12,498 | 14,803 | 21,596 | 21,558 |
| HACC Funding % of total trips | 77.5% | 74.45% | 67.0% | 77% | 61% | 70.07% |
| CTP Funding % of total trips | 22% | 22.82% | 28% | 13% | 19% | 19.06% |
| HRT Funding % of total trips | 0.5% | 2.73% | 2.75% | 11% | 20% | 10.03% |
| Medical Appointments | 334 (65 HNEAH) | 228 | 150 | 1,877 | 7,235 | 1,984 |
| Shopping | 7,161 | 6,525 | 6,210 | 7,283 | 7,700 | 9,124 |
| Social | 3,967 | 3,687 | 4,363 | 4,925 | 5,459 | 8,983 |
| Day Centre | 359 | 4 | 91 | 85 | 121 | 138 |
| Other | 1,040 | 1,095 | 988 | 633 | 911 | 1,329 |
| Number of Accidents | vi, vii | v | iii, iv | ii | 2i | 1i |
| Verbal Complaints | 6 | | 11 | 14 | 12 | 8 |
| Written Complaints | 3 | | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 |
| New Referrals | 207 | | 178 | 110 | | |
| Last CIARR Number as 30 June 2007 | 1454 | 1335 | 1187 | | | |
| Passengers with Disabilities | 74 (10.11%) | | 61 (9%) | | | |
| Aboriginal Passengers | 61 (8.33%) | | | | | |

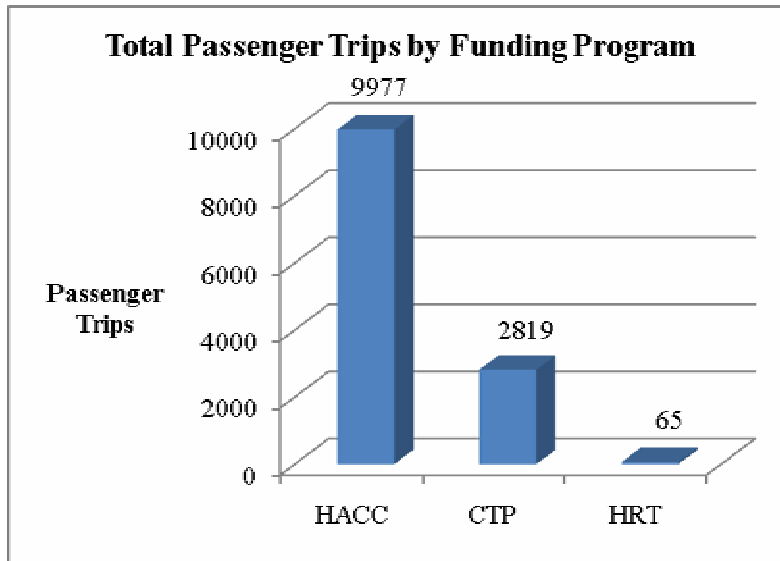
Key:

- A. Prime Ministers Award for Excellence in Community Partnerships Nomination
- B. Northern Inland Business Awards Nomination
- C. Churchill Fellowship
- D. National HACC (Home and Community Care) Standards Validation (100%)
- E. Manager graduates with an M.B.A. (partly sponsored by Uralla Shire Council)
- F. Nomination in the Community Services Category of the Uralla Rotary Club Awards
- G. Service Administrator nominated for Service Provider of the Year (Armidale)
- H. Community Relations Commission – Volunteer of the Year – Keith & Gloria Kiehne

- i. no injury, minor damage to bus only
- ii. manager sustains an electric shock from a faulty broadband panel
- iii. service administrators car window is damaged by UCS mower – window replaced at USC expense
- iv. volunteer reverses project car into gutter – minimal damage(NRMA)
- v. Walcha client fell off bus.
- vi. Hubbards Bus Hire damage made by unknown person during hiring
- vii. Project Car – parked at doctor’s surgery scraped by another car

Data Collection

Trips Charts

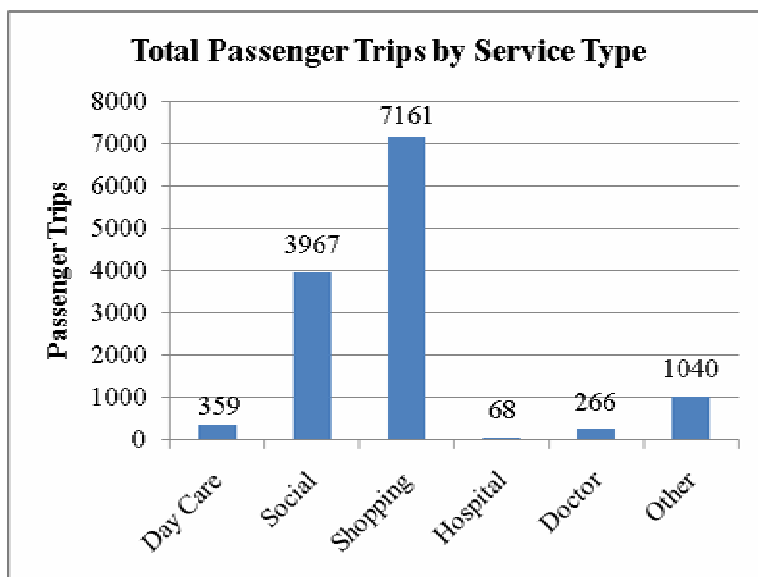
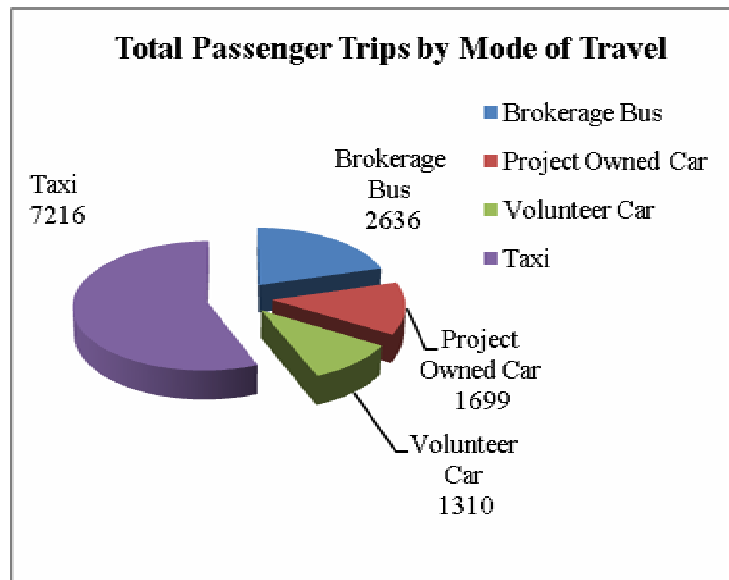


Percentage of Total Trips

| | |
|------|--------------|
| HACC | 77.58% |
| CTP | 21.91% |
| HRT | <u>0.51%</u> |
| | 100.00% |

Total Number of Trips 12,861

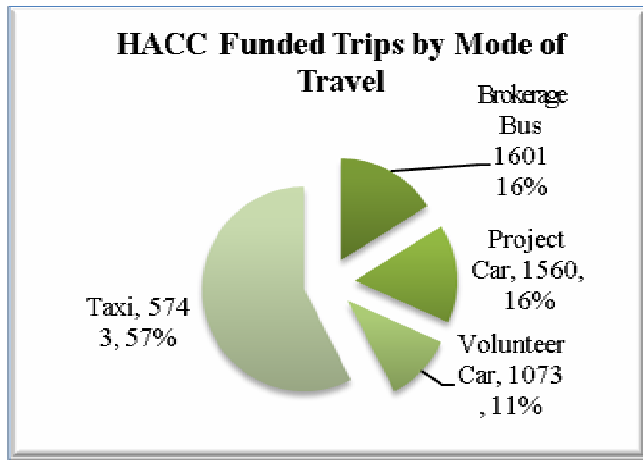
| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Brokerage Bus | 20.50% |
| Project Owned Car | 13.21% |
| Volunteer Car | 10.19% |
| Taxi | <u>56.10%</u> |
| | 100.00% |



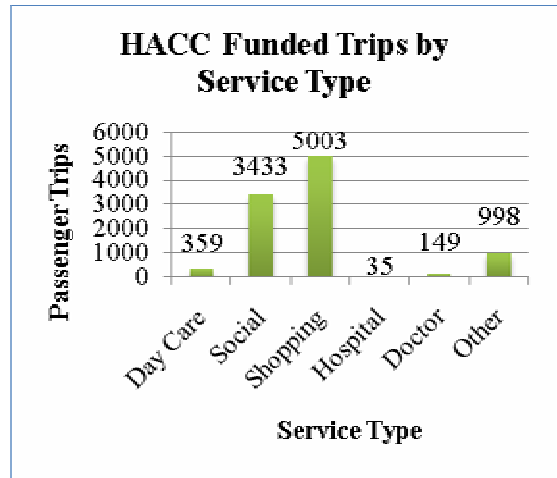
Service Type % Breakdown

| | |
|----------|--------------|
| Day Care | 2.78% |
| Social | 30.85% |
| Shopping | 55.68% |
| Hospital | 0.53% |
| Doctor | 2.07% |
| Other | <u>8.09%</u> |
| | 100.00% |

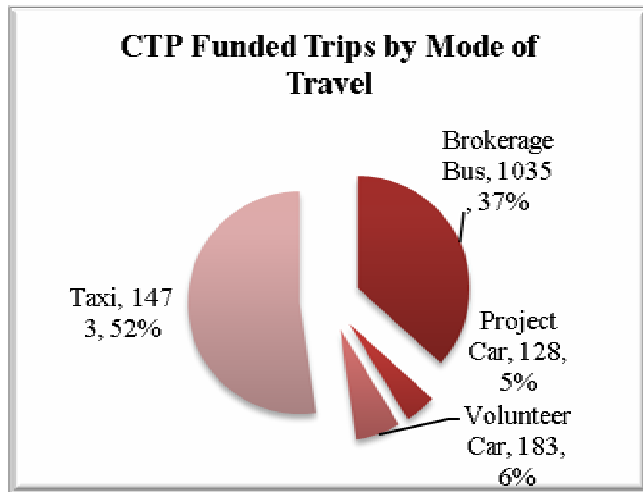
Break up of Mode of Travel for each Funding Type



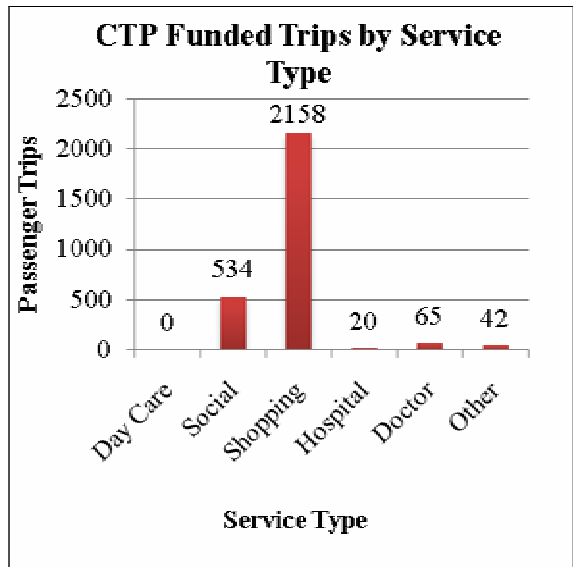
Break up of Service Type for each Funding Type



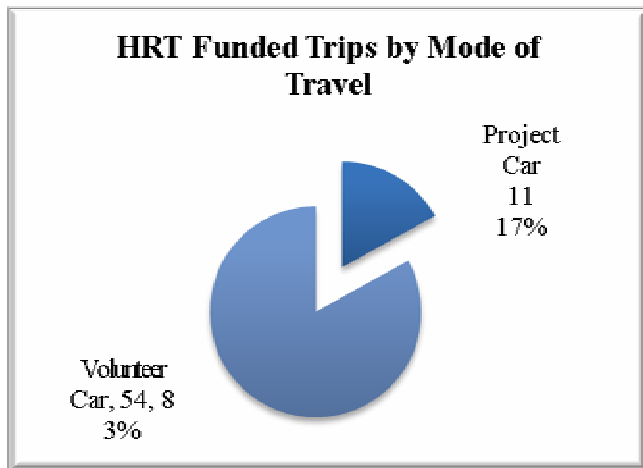
CTP Funded Trips by Mode of Travel



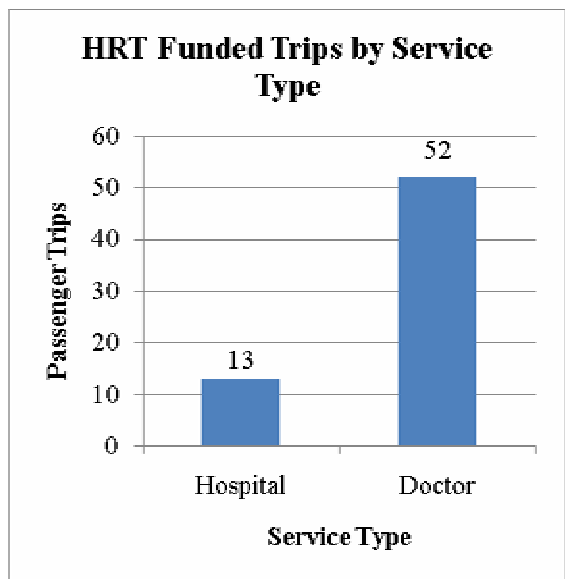
CTP Funded Trips by Service Type



HRT Funded Trips by Mode of Travel



HRT Funded Trips by Service Type



**Financial Statements
2007-2008**

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT PROJECT

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT COVER SHEET

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

30 JUNE 2008

FUNDED ORGANISATION'S NAME: URALLA SHIRE COUNCIL
TABLELANDS COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

CONTACT NAME: MARGARET ANDERSON

POSTAL ADDRESS: . PO BOX 20
URALLA NSW 2358

PHONE NUMBER: (02) 6778 4089 FAX NUMBER: (02) 6778 5089.....

E-MAIL ADDRESS: tct07@bigpond.com

**AUDIT CERTIFICATE FOR USE BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
HEALTH AGENCIES OR STATUTORY AUTHORITIES**

I have examined the attached Financial Statements, and supporting schedules, of:

(Name of Funded Organisation) .Uralla Shire Council
Tablelands Community Transport

for the Year Ended 30 June 2008

In my opinion the accompanying Financial Statements are properly drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs as at 30 June 2008 and the results of the operation of the project for the year then ended.

Funds provided by the Ministry of Transport have been expended in accordance with the conditions of the Funding Agreement.

Date 11 November 2008 Signature 
Name Thomas Patrick O'Rourke J.P.
Chartered Accountant
Position General Manager

NOTE: This certificate is not required if an independent auditor has been engaged and their Statement by Auditor is provided.

Uralla Shire Council - Tablelands Community Transport

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

for the Year ended 30 June 2008

| LAST YEAR | ITEM | THIS YEAR | BUDGET |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1.0 INCOME | | | |
| 1.1 Grant - Recurrent Funding: | | | |
| 170,691 | HACC | 175,919 | 169,450 |
| 25,973 | CTP | 26,831 | 25,973 |
| | AAS | | |
| 14,076 | 1.2 Income from Passengers and Groups | 13,598 | 15,200 |
| 2,442 | 1.3 Interest from Money on Deposit | 1,850 | 3,500 |
| | 1.4 Membership Subscriptions | | |
| | 1.5 Other (Itemise) | | |
| | Health | | |
| 286 | DVA | | |
| | Diesel Fuel Rebates | | |
| | SSSTS | | |
| | Bus Hire | | |
| | Donations | | |
| | Fund Raising | | |
| | Council Grant | | |
| 2,491 | Sundry Income | 551 | 3,040 |
| <u>215,959</u> | TOTAL INCOME | <u>218,749</u> | <u>217,163</u> |

2.0 EXPENDITURE

| | | | |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| 112,535 | 2.1 Salaries / Wages (from Schedule 1) | 119,022 | 117,818 |
| | 2.2 Payments to Associated Persons (Schedule 2) | | |
| | 2.3 Workers' Compensation Insurance Premiums | | |
| | 2.4 Employer Contribution to Superannuation | | |
| | 2.5 Service Costs | | |
| 7,037 | Vehicle Running Costs (incl Insurance) | 9,363 | 3,540 |
| 21,078 | Bus Hiring Expenses | 20,107 | 20,000 |
| 21,674 | Taxi Hiring Expenses | 24,079 | 23,042 |
| 9,005 | Volunteer Reimbursements | 13,774 | 5,700 |
| | Management Committee Expenses | | |
| | Subsidy for Low Income Clients/Groups | | |

| | | | |
|-------|-------------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| | Other (Itemise) | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| 2,222 | 2.6 Rent | 4,864 | 5,096 |
| | 2.7 Administration | | |
| 1,730 | Advertising | 980 | 750 |
| 1,200 | Audit | | |
| | Accounting | | |
| 357 | Bank Charges | 63 | 0 |
| | Cleaning (non-vehicle) | | |
| | Equipment Hire | | |
| 4,049 | Equipment Maintenance | 1,943 | 4,000 |
| 653 | Insurance Premiums (excl WC and vehicles) | 625 | 625 |
| | Lodgment / Legal Fees | | |
| | Printing / Photocopying | | |
| 2,960 | Stationary | 1,988 | 3,350 |
| 581 | Postage and Freight | 1,678 | 1,700 |
| 3,177 | Communication Services | 5,427 | 4,080 |
| 608 | Utilities | | |
| | Subscriptions - CTO Membership | | |
| 1,040 | Subscriptions - Other | 1,057 | 1,000 |
| | Other (Itemise) | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | 2.8 Employee Expenses | | |
| | Uniforms | | |
| 3,502 | Training | 7,152 | 4,000 |
| | Conferences / Seminars | | |
| 1,901 | Travel | 472 | 0 |
| 6,883 | Financial Management Fees | 18,745 | 19,272 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | 2.9 Miscellaneous | | |
| 177 | Small Items/Miscellaneous Expenses | 714 | 150 |
| | Consultancies | | |
| | Other (Itemise) | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

| | | | |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| 202,369 | TOTAL EXPENDITURE | 232,053 | 214,123 |
| 13,590 | 3.0 OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT) | -13,304 | 3,040 |
| | 4.0 OTHER INCOME | | |
| 97,422 | 4.1 Grant - HACC Non-Recurrent Funding | 4,692 | |
| | 4.2 Regional Transport Coordinator Funding | | |
| | 4.3 Profit on Sale of Assets | | |
| | 4.4 Insurance Recovery (specify) | | |
| | | | |
| | 4.5 Other (Itemise) | | |
| | Health Related Travel | 4,117 | |
| 97,422 | TOTAL OTHER INCOME | 8,809 | 0 |
| | 5.0 OTHER EXPENDITURE | | |
| 22,622 | 5.1 Depreciation of Non-Current Assets | 13,164 | 3,040 |
| | 5.2 Provision for Employee Entitlements | | |
| 5,173 | 5.3 Loss on Sale of Assets | | |
| 64,826 | 5.4 Vehicle/Major Equipment Purchase | 49,241 | |
| | 5.5 Other (Itemise) | | |
| | | | |
| 92,621 | TOTAL OTHER EXPENDITURE | 62,405 | 3,040 |
| 18,391 | 6.0 SURPLUS BEFORE APPROPRIATION | -66,900 | 0 |
| | less Transfers to Asset Replacement Reserve | | |
| | * Motor Vehicles | | |
| | * Other (Itemise) | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | plus Transfers from Asset Replacement Reserve | 49,241 | |
| | 7.0 RETAINED EARNINGS - ADDITION | | |
| 18,391 | (REDUCTION) TO ACCUMULATED FUNDS | -17,659 | 0 |

Uralla Shire Council - Tablelands Community Transport

BALANCE SHEET

as at 30 June 2008

| LAST YEAR | ITEM | THIS YEAR |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| | CURRENT ASSETS | |
| | Cash on Hand | |
| | Cash at Bank and Other Financial Institutions | |
| | Bank / Institution Account Type | |
| 10,000 | NAB | |
| 182,381 | Investment Funds | 65,958 |
| | | |
| 200 | Petty Cash Float | 200 |
| | Prepayments (Itemise) | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | Debtors (Accounts Receivable) | |
| | GST Receivable | |
| | Other (Itemise) | |
| | | |
| | | |
| <u>192,581</u> | TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS | <u>66,158</u> |
| | NON-CURRENT ASSETS | |
| 86,446 | Property, Plant and Equipment at Cost less | 108,746 |
| | Accumulated Depreciation | |
| | Other (Itemise) | |
| | | |
| | | |
| <u>86,446</u> | TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS | <u>108,746</u> |
| <u>279,027</u> | TOTAL ASSETS | <u>174,904</u> |

| LAST YEAR | ITEM | THIS YEAR |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| | CURRENT LIABILITIES | |
| | Creditors (Accounts Payable) | |
| | Grants in Advance | |
| | Accrued Liabilities | |
| | GST | |
| | Payee Tax | |
| | Other (Itemise) | |
| | | |
| | | |
| <u>0</u> | TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES | <u>0</u> |
| | NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES | |
| | Provision for Employee Entitlements | |
| 79,709 | Provision for Vehicle Replacement | 35,822 |
| 42,577 | Balance of Non-Recurrent Grant | |
| | | |
| <u>122,286</u> | TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES | <u>35,822</u> |
| <u>122,286</u> | TOTAL LIABILITIES | <u>35,822</u> |
| | NET ASSETS | <u>139,082</u> |
| | EQUITY | |
| | Members' Funds | |
| 138,350 | Balance of Accumulated Funds from Last Year | 156,741 |
| 18,391 | Retained Earnings from Income and Expenditure Statement | -17,659 |
| | Asset Replacement Reserve | |
| <u>156,741</u> | NEW BALANCE OF ACCUMULATED FUNDS | <u>139,082</u> |

ADEQUACY OF CASH RESERVES CHECK

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Cash Assets | 65,958 |
| Less Reserves Required for: | |
| Employee Entitlements (from Balance Sheet) | |
| Vehicle Replacement (from Budget Vehicle Replacement Provision Planner) | 35,812 |
| Other (Itemise) | |
| | |
| | |
| UNCOMMITTED CASH (1) | <u>30,146</u> |

Note: (1) If this figure is negative then the total cash reserves being held are not adequate and strategies will be required to be developed and implemented to redress the situation. If it is significantly larger than \$0 then an explanation will be required as to why grant income is not being fully committed to service delivery.

SCHEDULE 4 - PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT REGISTER

| Reg or Serial No. | Description | Date of Purchase | Original Cost | Date of Disposal | Depreciation Rate | Opening Written Down Value | Depreciation This Financial Year | Closing Written Down Value |
|-------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2362 | Holden Wagon ziv-180 | 19/05/2004 | 25985.23 | 19/7/07 | | | | |
| 2459 | Victory 4 wheel Scooter | 22/09/2004 | 3500.00 | | 20% | 1,561.00 | 700.00 | 861.00 |
| 2460 | Victory 4 wheel Scooter | 22/09/2004 | 3500.00 | | 20% | 1,561.00 | 700.00 | 861.00 |
| 2461 | Superprint 4425 TTY | 6/10/2004 | 1154.00 | | 20% | 523.57 | 230.80 | 292.77 |
| 2482 | Samsung 710V 17" Monitor | 9/03/2005 | 324.89 | | 23% | 74.38 | 74.38 | 0.00 |
| 2483 | HP DX6120 Computer | 9/03/2005 | 1440.03 | | 22% | 321.4 | 321.4 | - |
| 1663 | Desk with left return | 31/10/1998 | 650.00 | | 7% | 209.49 | 43.33 | 166.16 |
| 1664 | Desk with right return | 31/10/1998 | 650.00 | | 2% | 14.49 | 14.49 | - |
| 1665 | Steel Cabinet | 31/10/1998 | 400.00 | | 7% | 128.85 | 26.67 | 102.18 |
| 1666 | Shelves | 31/10/1998 | 300.00 | | 7% | 96.67 | 20 | 76.67 |
| 1667 | Backhealth Office Chair | 31/10/1998 | 300.00 | | 7% | 116.67 | 20 | 96.67 |
| 1668 | Client Chairs | 31/10/1998 | 300.00 | | 7% | 116.67 | 20 | 96.67 |
| 1674 | 4 Drawer Filing Cabinet | 31/10/1998 | 375.00 | | 7% | 145.83 | 25 | 120.83 |
| 2075 | Office Chair | 5/02/2002 | 295.45 | | 7% | 209.36 | 19.7 | 189.66 |
| 2076 | Standard Desk | 15/02/2002 | 479.70 | | 7% | 307.97 | 31.98 | 275.99 |
| 2077 | Hutch with 4 Cupboards | 15/02/2002 | 431.80 | | 7% | 305.99 | 28.79 | 277.20 |
| 2364 | Mobile Pedestal Cabinet | 14/04/2004 | 210.00 | | 7% | 179.05 | 14.00 | 165.05 |
| 2365 | Overhead Hutch | 14/04/2004 | 590.00 | | 7% | 503.04 | 39.33 | 463.71 |
| 2366 | Desk with left return | 14/04/2004 | 689.09 | | 7% | 587.82 | 45.94 | 541.88 |
| | SUBTOTAL | | 15589.96 | | | 6963.25 | 2375.81 | 4587.44 |

CERTIFICATION: This Schedule is certified by the Chairperson (or equivalent) and Treasurer of the Project's Board/Management Committee/Equivalent

POSITION

General Manager

Chairperson

NAME

Thomas J. O'Connell

CELIA ISAAEL STRUTT

SIGNATURE

[Signature]
Garrett C. Mc. ...

DATE

11/11/2008
12/11/2008

Central Northern Northern Regional Library



Annual Report 2007/08

Contents

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Vision Statement & List of Delegates | Overleaf |
| CNRL Annual Report 2007-08 | Pages A1-A5 |
| LGA/Branch Library Reports- (<i>mauve pages</i>) | Pages LGA1– LGA10 |
| CNRL Annual Statistics | Pages S1-S13 |
| Loans by LGA/Branch | S1 |
| Reservations | S2 |
| Membership | S3 |
| Loans by Collection/ Branch | S4-S6 |
| Stock by Collection/ Branch | S7-S9 |
| Acquisitions, Donations & Withdrawals | S10 |
| New Items | S11 |
| Stock Turnover | S12 |
| Public Access Computer Bookings | S13 |
| Staff List (<i>mauve page</i>) | Appendix 1 |

CNRL Vision Statement

Central Northern Regional Library assists member councils to develop branch libraries as lively hubs of activity that not only foster lifelong learning, literacy and intellectual recreation, but serve as gathering places in our increasingly diverse communities– (March 2006)

CNRL Mission Statement

By being tuned into the communities we serve and supportive of each others efforts, Central Northern Regional Library will foster highly responsive, relevant and cohesive library service (March 2006)

Participating Councils

Library Delegate

Gunnedah Shire Council

Cr Adam Marshall

Liverpool Plains Shire Council

Cr Colleen Wills

Narrabri Shire Council

Cr Ron Lowder

Tamworth Regional Council

Cr Robert Schofield
(Chairman)

Uralla Shire Council

Cr John Sullivan

Walcha Council

Cr Bill Heazlett (Mayor)

Central Northern Regional Library 2007-08

Library Buildings

Well maintained, attractive and welcoming buildings are essential if CNRL is to achieve its vision of branch libraries that are lively hubs of activity and gathering places in the community. 2007-08 has seen two refurbishments and the commencement of a new library building in the region .

Manilla Council Office/ Library



A combined Tamworth Regional Council Library / Council Office was established at Manilla in February 2008 . The Manilla Library was originally located across the road from the new facility . The old building did not have disabled access. Both the library building and the council office were looking dated and in need of renovation. Extensive renovations have taken place to the Council Office building and the library has been moved into the co-located facility. Both functions now take place in a modern, spacious, accessible, air conditioned facility.



The new library has 20% more floor space, is brightly coloured with display shelving, self booking public access PC software, flat screen PCs, good signage and room to host library events.

Manilla library continues to be staffed for 25 hours per week and residents are able to use the premises and book onto the Internet during any of the Council Office open hours. The co-location of the two Council functions has extended library service for Manilla residents.

South Tamworth Library (before and after the renovation)



South Tamworth Library was first opened in 1973 and the library remained much the same until the recent refurbishment . The building is an octagonal shape and has plenty of open space. The negative features of the existing building included dated fixtures , dark brick internal walls , a heavy "pull open " entrance door and worn carpet .



In May 2008 the library was closed for three weeks while the refurbishment took place . The walls were lined and painted bright colours , an auto door was installed, new carpet tiles were laid, and a purpose built circulation desk installed. To coincide with the renovation a PC booking system and a new self check unit were introduced . The change was dramatic and has received overwhelming borrower approval .

New Library Building for Werris Creek

By 30th June the concrete slab was in place and the frame of the new Werris Creek Library was erected .

Technology:

- A major upgrade for the library management system took place in August 2007 . The upgrade was from Spydus V 6 to Spydus V 8 and involved significant changes to workflow at branch libraries .
- Pharos PC booking software has been installed and is now operating at Manilla and SouthTamworth branch libraries
- Self Check units have been installed and are operating at South Tamworth and Narrabri Library .
- There has been a 4% increase in public access computer & Internet use for the region with 89,458 bookings recorded in 2007-08 compared to 86,251 in 2006-07

Information and Reader Services:

- **Database Searches** for 2007-08 totalled 17,712
- **Research Requests** received via the request module totalled 216 in 07/08 compared to 127 in 06/07
- **Interlibrary loans** = 2881 in 07-08 compared to 2920 in 06-07

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Interlibrary loans 2008 | |
| Gunnedah | 162 |
| Quirindi | 163 |
| Werris Creek | 11 |
| Total Liverpool Plains | 174 |
| Boggabri | 0 |
| Narrabri | 311 |
| Wee Waa | 193 |
| Total Narrabri Shire | 504 |
| Barraba | 23 |
| Kootingal | 70 |
| Manilla | 29 |
| Nundle | 106 |
| South Tamworth | 275 |
| Tamworth | 1330 |
| Total Tamworth | 1833 |
| Uralla | 193 |
| Walcha | 15 |
| Total | 2881 |

- **Book Groups**—Three new book groups commenced in 2007-08. One at Walcha and two at Narrabri.. CNRL staff travelled to the branches to speak to the new groups about options for running their book group and how the library can assist them with resources. During the year 14 new titles were added as book group kits.

Circulation:

| LGA | Stock per Capita | Loans per Capita |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Gunnedah | 1.5 | 3.9 |
| Liverpool Plains | 2.2 | 3.5 |
| Narrabri | 1.9 | 4.4 |
| Tamworth | 1.4 | 4.7 |
| Uralla | 1.7 | 3.1 |
| Walcha | 1.8 | 3.8 |

- Loans across the region have fallen by 6% in 2007-08. For 11 months of the year CNRL has been using Spydus version 8 software .
- Loan statistics for 2006-07 were skewed by the necessity to lend all unaccessioned items to a dummy borrower in order to carry the item record across in the conversion to Spydus 8 . Large numbers of loans for magazines at Narrabri Shire and Liverpool Plains were recorded in 06-07 . In particular Wee Waa and Werris Creek branches had inflated loans .e.g Werris Creek magazine loans 05-06 totalled 58 compared to 717 in 07-08 Wee Waa magazine loans in 05-06 were 654 compared to 1112 in 06-07.
- With the introduction of Spydus 8 came a completely new set of workflows. In Spydus 6 staff were able to process a number of transactions in succession and have all transactions recorded. In Spydus 8 , on the other hand , permanent links need to be established and each transaction must be completed before the next one is commenced . It is likely some loans have not been recorded properly as staff familiarised themselves with the new system. .
- Reservations have remained at a similar level to the previous year (less than 1% change). This year it is possible to separate out the number of reservations placed over the web . In 07-08 these totalled 13,134.
- CNRL website Hits:: 118, 936 home page hits for 2007-08 compared to 65,017 in the previous year (83% increase)

Staff Development:

- **Regional Training Days** : Five regional training days were held in 2007-08.
- **Web 2.0 online program**—all CNRL staff are participating in this program
- **PLC Conference at Merimbula**—Attended by Library Services Manager , CNRL Executive Officer , Information & Readers Services Librarian , CNRL Chairman , Jenny Campbell from Narrabri , Sharon Tolard from Gunnedah and Donna Garrad from Walcha
- **PLA Conference**—Attended by Library Services Manager
- **Recycling & Reinventing Library Spaces - State Library Building Forum 2007**—Attended by the Library Services Manager and Marilyn Deeks from Werris Creek Library
- **Rewarding Reading**— training by Libraries Alive -Attended by Readers Services Librarians Megan Pitt and Wendy Millar
- **Beyond the Hype** : ALIA symposium on Web 2.0 Attended by Library Services Manager , Regional

Resources Librarian and Jenny Campbell from Narrabri

Promotion :

- **Author talks** ; Author talks during the year have included Sam Everingham, Max Ellis, Renee Goossens Sam Bailey, Sharyn Munro, Peter Watt, Jeremy Gadd and David Gilbey .
- **Questacon— NRMA RoadZone Exhibition** is an interactive road safety exhibition aimed at 8 to 14year old exploring the importance of road safety through innovative, hands on exhibits. The exhibit was scattered throughout the Tamworth Cioty Ilbrray during October and Novemeber 2007 and attracted a great deal of interest. There were 23 exhibits demonstrating how to survive on the roads of the fictitious town of " Hazard Point" .Visitors to the exhibit could conduct their own crash dummy tests , check their talent for spotting risks , design their own bike helmet , guess the speed of cars, cross a busy road safely, play Street Quiz and Wheel of Misfortune and discover the impact of peer pressure
- **CWA Country of Study**—A web site with links to information about Mexico was constructed to assist the CWA members with their study. The Wanhella CWA group attended an information session and morning tea in Tamworth. CNRL staff also travelled to Quirindi branch to present a session .
- **Law Week** - CNRL arranged for two Law Week events to be hosted this year . Local solicitors Ed Leyden at Manilla and James Levingston at Walcha . Both talks were titled " Planning the Future—Wills and Power of Attorney" . Both sessions were well attended.

Children's Services :

- **Volunteer Storytime**—Wee Waa Library now offers regular storytime sessions presented by volunteers using CNRL themed storytime kits. CNRL staff travelled to Wee Waa to present a training session to a group of volunteers interested in presenting storytime at the branch. CNRL provides the storytime program and resources making it possible to have regular storytimes in branches that are staffed by one person.
- **Simultaneous Storytime** – IN 2007-08 two simultaneous storytimes occurred . One in September 07 and one in May 08 . In September it was held in conjunction with National Literacy and Numeracy Week. Approximately 70,000 children at over 880 locations across Australia took part in the simultaneous reading of *The Magic Hat* written by Mem Fox and Illustrated by Tricia Tusa . All CNRL branches were supplied with the book in advance so that they could participate in the event . In 2008 National Simultaneous Storytime was held on 21st May during Library & Information week . The book chosen by The Australian Library and Information Association was *Arthur* Written by Amanda Graham Illustrated by Donna Gynell. Once again books were supplied to all CNRL branches prior to the event
- **Harry Potter and the Deadly Hallows**— CNRL ensured that enthusiastic readers of the Harry Potter series were not disappointed. The regional library purchased 70 copies of 'Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows' and the copies were quickly accessioned on the morning of the release. Branch libraries throughout the region received their copies within a few days of the title's release.
- **Children's Book Week** – . In 2007 the Children's Bookweek theme was READiscover. Two titles from the shortlist were selected by the Youth & Branch Services Librarian for presenting to class visits or pre school storytimes around the region. The books chosen were 'Brian Banana Duck Sunshine Yellow' written by Chris McKimmie and 'Amy & Louis' by Libby Gleeson and illustrated by Freya Blackwood. Book Week posters were purchased and sent to all Branch Libraries along with balloons and bookmarks. Ideas for craft activities were offered and a Regional Book Week Competition was also distributed to Branch staff.

Library Funding—The Library Day of Action :

A State-wide Library Day of Action took place on 29th November 2008 to address the ongoing proportional reduction in State Government funding for public libraries over the past 25 years.

Central Northern Regional Library took part in the Library Day of Action by having petitions in all branches. Libraries in Tamworth Regional Council, Liverpool Plains Shire and Gunnedah Shire were closed on the Day of Action.

CNRL member Councils also had the opportunity to present library funding as an issue of importance to the Regional and Rural Taskforce this year.

What's Coming in 2008 /09

- Public Libraries NSW 2008 Country Conference to be hosted in Tamworth from July 29th to 1st August 2008
- New 5 year CNRL Management Plan
- Upgrade to Spydus 8 .4.3
- Introduction of Web 2.0 features to encourage user participation on the CNRL website
- More reading group resources
- More Talking CDs and DVDs
- Further roll out of Pharos PC booking software.
- More volunteer storytime programs
- More book groups at outlying branches.
- Summer reading program for children across the region
- Trial of Living Library Program
- Introduction of Grandparents and Books program

Concluding Remarks!

2007-08 has been a high profile year for NSW Public Libraries with considerable media coverage of the Day of Action and the funding crisis. For CNRL the year has been dominated by the upgrade to Spydus 8 and the shift into shelf ready purchasing. In addition considerable preparation has been required for a smooth transition when Gunnedah separates from the region. As well as implementing these major changes staff from Tamworth have been involved in the planning for the 2008 PLC NSW Conference to be hosted in Tamworth in July 2008.

For CNRL 2008-09 will bring a greater emphasis on library programs and collection development as staff respond to the results of the Library User Survey. In the coming year the CNRL Committee will need to look at the Regional Library Agreement which is due to expire in June 2010.

Kay Delahunt
Library Services Manager

Central Northern Regional Library Online Branch 2007-08



Website Snapshot

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Website Visits | 118,936 |
| Reservations from the web | 13,134 |
| Renewals over the web | 3528 |
| Database Searches | 17,712 |
| CNRL members with a PIN | 14,922 |

- There has been an 83% increase in website visits in 2007-08

Gunnedah Shire Library 2007-08

- **Gunnedah Shire Area:** 4992 sq km
- **Population :** 11968 estimated resident population
- **Service Points:** 1 Library & 2 public service outlets
- **Open Hours:**

| | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| Gunnedah | 38.5 hours per week |
| Curlewis | 4 hours |
| Tambar Springs | 4 hours |
- **Number of Public Access PCS:** 8

Gunnedah Shire Library Snapshot

| | |
|----------------------------------------|--------------|
| Library Visits | 90191 |
| Membership | 4907 |
| Computerised loans | 47206 |
| Stock | 18209 |
| New Stock | 1515 |
| Reservations | 1952 |
| Public Access Computer Bookings | 6742 |
| Loans per capita | 3.94 |
| Stock per capita | 1.5 |
| Stock turnover | 2.6 |

• On 30th September 2007 Gunnedah Shire Council indicated its intention to withdraw from Central Northern Regional Library after twelve months .

• 2007-08 has been a busy year as Gunnedah makes preparations to set up a stand alone library service .

• Programs and activities for this branch were not reported to Central Northern Regional Library in 2007-08

Staff:

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Gunnedah Shire Library | Ms. Sharon Tollard | <i>Librarian B.A. LIS</i> |
| | Mrs. Robyn Draper | <i>Library Assistant</i> |
| | Miss Jacqui Muller | <i>Library Trainee</i> |

Liverpool Plains Shire Branch Libraries 2007-08

- **Liverpool Plains Shire Area:** 5121 sq kms
- **Population :** 7849 estimated resident population
- **Service Points:** 2 Branch Libraries & 1 public service outlet
- **Open Hours:**

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Quirindi Branch Library | 39 hours per week |
| Werris Creek Branch Library | 20 hours per week |
| Premer | 4 hours |
- **Number of Public Access PCS:**

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|------------------------------|------------|
| Quirindi Library | 4 | LPSC loans per capita | 3.5 |
| Werris Creek Branch Library | 1 | LPSC stock per capita | 2.2 |
| Premer | 2 | LPSC stock turnover | 1.6 |

Quirindi Library Snapshot

| | |
|----------------------------------------|--------------|
| Library Visits | 30062 |
| Membership | 2072 |
| Computerised loans | 19786 |
| Stock | 10147 |
| New Stock | 613 |
| Reservations | 1225 |
| Public Access Computer Bookings | 5786 |

- Quirindi library hosts a regular pre school storytime program
- A contemporary literature book group meet at the Quirindi Library . In October 07 the group travelled to Tamworth's Serendipity Dinner to hear Susan Duncan speak .Susan's Book *Salvation Creek* had been read and discussed by the group this year.

- Quirindi Library contributes a weekly article to the *Quirindi Advocate* newspaper
- Quirindi Library had an Australia Day theme in January 2008
- A CWA Country of Study Information Day was held at the Quirindi Library in April 08 . CNRL staff attended and demonstrated the CNRL website
- Cartoon Dave (Dave Hackett) gave a cartooning workshop at Quirindi Library in April 2008 (31 children enjoyed this special event

Werris Creek Library Snapshot

- 2007-08 has been an exciting year for Werris Creek as the new library building in the main street takes shape .
- Children's Book Week storytimes took place at Werris Creek.. The children were given an introduction to the library and the Children's Book Council of Australia annual awards



| | |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Library Visits | No electronic visitor counter |
| Membership | 596 |
| Computerised loans | 8418 |
| Stock | 7047 |
| New Stock | 354 |
| Reservations | 717 |
| Public Access Computer Bookings | 266 |

- Staff from Werris Creek Library participated in the Werris Creek Expo held at the Golf Club in September 08
- Library staff from Werris Creek also participated in the Werris Creek Festival by creating a large window display in the main street

Staff

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Quirindi Branch Library | Ms. Ellen Mackie Mrs M Muirson |
| Werris Creek Branch Library | Ms Marilyn Deeks B Ed (UNE) |
| Premer Public Service Outlet- | Ms. Robyn Douglass |

Narrabri Shire Branch Libraries 2007-08

- **Narrabri Shire Area:** 13065 sq km (GIS map info 13.10.2005)
- **Population :** 13503 estimated resident population
- **Service Points:** 3 branch libraries
- **Open Hours:**

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Narrabri Library | 40 hours per week |
| Boggabri Branch Library | 10 hours per week |
| Wee Waa Branch Library | 20 hours per week |
- **Number of Public Access PCS:**

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-------------------------|------------|
| Narrabri Library | 8 | Loans per capita | 4.4 |
| Boggabri Branch library | 2 | Stock per capita | 1.9 |
| Wee Waa branch Library | 4 | Stock turnover | 2.3 |

Narrabri Library 2007-08 Snapshot

- Narrabri Library participated in Simultaneous Storytime in September 07
- Librarian reviews books on local community radio
- School holiday activities craft puppets and board games hosted in October 07
- Children's Day—Continuous storytimes
- Narrabri hosted a summer reading program for children (107registrations)
- Library Lovers competition was held at the library on Valentines Day (61 entries)
- Librarian contributes to a weekly column in local newspaper



| | |
|----------------------------------------|--------------|
| Library Visits | 51800 |
| Membership | 4383 |
| Computerised loans | 48457 |
| Stock | 16409 |
| New Stock | 1308 |
| Reservations | 8706 |
| Public Access Computer Bookings | 11864 |

- Librarian gave presentation to Inner Wheel Club
- Library partnered with Lioness Club to put together library bags, library registration forms and information on literacy for all kindergarten students in the Narrabri Shire
- Knitters club commenced meeting at the library in March 08
- Two adult contemporary fiction bookgroups commenced (one evening and one day time)
- Author talk from Edward Gordon
- Joeys visited the Library

Wee Waa Library Snapshot

- Library lovers competition held at Wee Waa Feb 08
- Regular short article in local newspaper
- Volunteer storytimes commenced



| | |
|----------------------------------------|--------------|
| Library Visits | 10165 |
| Membership | 661 |
| Computerised loans | 7252 |
| Stock | 6350 |
| New Stock | 335 |
| Reservations | 1193 |
| Public Access Computer Bookings | 3225 |

| | |
|----------------------------------------|-------------|
| Library Visits | 2809 |
| Membership | 308 |
| Computerised loans | 3706 |
| Stock | 2758 |
| New Stock | 189 |
| Reservations | 464 |
| Public Access Computer Bookings | 302 |

Boggabri Library Snapshot

Boggabri Book Group continue to meet monthly at the library

Children's Bookweek competition hosted

One off storytime for a special group in March

Regular housebound delivery to one client

As needed housebound deliveries to 3 clients

Narrabri Shire Library Staff:

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Narrabri Shire Library | Ms Jenny Campbell Ms Naomi Radford | <i>Librarian</i> <i>Part Time</i> |
| Boggabri Branch Library | Mrs Helen Gilham | |
| Wee Waa Branch Library | Mrs Margaret Trindall | |

Tamworth Regional Council Libraries 2007-08

Tamworth Regional Council Area: 9653.25 sq km

| | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| • | Population : | 56532 estimated resident population | |
| • | Service Points: | 6 Branch Libraries | |
| • | Open Hours: | Tamworth City Library | 49 Hours per week |
| | | Barraba Branch Library | 9 Hours per week |
| | | Kootingal Branch Library | 17 Hours per week |
| | | Manilla Branch Library | 25 Hours per week |
| | | Nundle Branch Library | 12.5 Hours per week |
| | | South Tamworth Branch Library | 38 Hours per week |
| • | No of Public Access PCS: | Tamworth City Library | 22 |
| | | Barraba Branch Library | 4 |
| | | Kootingal Branch Library | 4 |
| | | Manilla Branch Library | 4 |
| | | Nundle Branch Library | 3 |
| | | South Tamworth Branch Library | 6 |

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| TRC loans per capita | 4.7 |
| TRC stock per capita | 1.4 |
| TRC stock turnover | 3.3 |

Tamworth Library Snapshot

- Questacon NRMA Roadzone Exhibition was held in the Tamworth Library in October and November 2007
- Author talks were hosted with Renee Goossens, Sam Everingham, Max Ellis and poet David Gilbey
- Tamworth hosted a contemporary literature book group which met at the library each month
- Preschool storytimes have been held during term on Thursday, Friday and Saturday
- Several four week Lapsit and Toddler Time programs have been held this year
- During Country Music Week special storytimes were held with guest presenters Felicity Urquhart, Jonah's Road and Sharnee Fenwick



| | |
|----------------------------------------|---------------|
| Library Visits | 139802 |
| Membership | 16662 |
| Computerised loans | 160521 |
| Stock | 44658 |
| New Stock | 5656 |
| Reservations | 9050 |
| Public Access Computer Bookings | 45509 |

- During Refugee Week storytimes were presented by two local Sudanese presenters
- A regular delivery to 56 housebound clients has continued throughout the year

South Tamworth Library Snapshot

| | | |
|----------------------------------------|--------------|---|
| Library Visits | 40641 | • |
| Membership | 4033 | |
| Computerised loans | 49625 | |
| Stock | 12484 | |
| New Stock | 1600 | |
| Reservations | 2151 | • |
| Public Access Computer Bookings | 5389 | • |

South Tamworth Library was closed for 3 weeks in May 2008 for refurbishment. The walls were lined and painted bright colours, an auto door was installed, new carpet tiles were laid, and a purpose built circulation desk installed.

A self check facility was installed at South Tamworth Library in May.

Pharos PC booking system was installed at South Tamworth this year.

- Preschool storytimes have been held at South Tamworth during term on Wednesdays

Manilla Library Snapshot

- In February 2008 Manilla Library relocated into a refurbished combined Library / Council Office. The new library area has 20% more floor space, is brightly coloured with display shelving, self booking public access PC software, flat screen PCs, good signage and room to host library events.
- Manilla library continues to be staffed for 25 hours per week and residents are able to use the premises and book onto the Internet during any of the Council Office open hours.
- Pharos PC booking software was installed at Manilla in February 2008
- Manilla hosted a Law Week event with a local solicitor giving a presentation in the library
- Storytimes are presented at Manilla by trained volunteers from the Manilla Born to Read Group

| | |
|----------------------------------------|--------------|
| Library Visits | 14742 |
| Membership | 1229 |
| Computerised loans | 18008 |
| Stock | 4902 |
| New Stock | 803 |
| Reservations | 4153 |
| Public Access Computer Bookings | 2490 |

| | | |
|----------------------------------------|--------------|---|
| Library Visits | 11562 | |
| Membership | 1007 | • |
| Computerised loans | 17704 | |
| Stock | 7765 | |
| New Stock | 699 | • |
| Reservations | 1495 | |
| Public Access Computer Bookings | 841 | |

Kootingal Library Snapshot

2007-08 was a difficult year for Kootingal Library. The branch was staffed by casual library staff for most of the year.

Kootingal branch continued to remain open for two hours on Tuesday morning to allow Moonbi House residents to visit.

Barraba Library Snapshot

- To celebrate ANZAC Day 2008 Barraba Library partnered with The Barraba Returned and Services League to provide a display of past war memorabilia and a PowerPoint presentation via data projector of over 120 photos and details of ex-service personnel from Barraba .

| | |
|----------------------------------------|--------------|
| Library Visits | 12058 |
| Membership | 850 |
| Computerised loans | 11769 |
| Stock | 6428 |
| New Stock | 490 |
| Reservations | 1033 |
| Public Access Computer Bookings | 1182 |

| | |
|----------------------------------------|-------------|
| Library Visits | 9211 |
| Membership | 302 |
| Computerised loans | 6674 |
| Stock | 3990 |
| New Stock | 405 |
| Reservations | 1076 |
| Public Access Computer Bookings | 1067 |

Nundle Library Snapshot

Library staff presented simultaneous storytime in September 07 and in May 08 .

A contemporary literature book group has been resourced and co-ordinated by library staff in Nundle.

Staff

See appendix

Uralla Shire Council Library 2007-08



Uralla Shire Council Area:
3215 sq km

Population :
5987 estimated resident population

Service Points:
1 Branch Library
1 Public Service Outlet

Open Hours:
Uralla 30 Hours per week
(includes Sunday hours)

Bundarra 4 Hours per week

**Number of Public Access
PCS: 8**

Uralla Library Snapshot

Children's Activities:

- Regular storytimes have been held on Tuesdays during school term at Uralla Library in 2007-08.
- Uralla conducted a *Summer Reading Program* in January 2008
- Children's Book Week was also celebrated at Uralla with a colouring competition and Saturday Storytime

Events :

- Cartoon Dave (Dave Hackett) presented a cartooning workshop at Uralla Library in April 08 . 25 children and 7 adults attended .
- Uralla Library participated in the *Get off Your Arts* festival in March 08

| | |
|----------------------------------------|--------------|
| Library Visits | 21053 |
| Membership | 1733 |
| Computerised loans | 18647 |
| Stock | 9946 |
| New Stock | 1177 |
| Reservations | 2489 |
| Public Access Computer Bookings | 4306 |
| Loans per capita | 3.1 |
| Stock per capita | 1.7 |
| Stock turnover | 1.9 |

Housebound Service:

- Deliveries have been made to six housebound borrowers and a seniors assist service provided for about 20 more borrowers.

Staff

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Uralla Library | Ms Judy Cozens | Librarian |
| Bundarra (Public Service Outlet) | Mrs Joy Rutledge | |

Walcha Branch Library 2007-08

- **Walcha Council Area:** 4992 sq km
- **Population :** 3304 estimated resident population
- **Service Points:** 1 Library
- **Open Hours:** 15 hours per week
- **Number of Public Access PCS:** 3



Walcha Library Snapshot

| | |
|----------------------------------------|--------------|
| Library Visits | 5045 |
| Membership | 1025 |
| Computerised loans | 12673 |
| Stock | 6046 |
| New Stock | 365 |
| Reservations | 1090 |
| Public Access Computer Bookings | 484 |
| Loans per capita | 3.8 |
| Stock per capita | 1.8 |
| Stock turnover | 2.1 |

Walcha library staff has selected and processed books and audio items for the fortnightly Quota Home Book Service and Elizabeth Cross Wing at Walcha MPS

Library resources have also been supplied to the Riverview Aged Hostel

Law Week 2008 was celebrated in the library with talk from a local solicitor - 23 people attended

Walcha held a Summer Reading Program for Children in January

New flat screen monitors for the Public Access PCs have been supplied by Walcha Council

Preschool storytime is presented twice a year

A contemporary literature book group has been established at Walcha Library this year

Donna Garrad completed a Certificate IV in Library and Information Services

Staff

Walcha Library Ms Donna Garrad (Manager)
 Ms Julie Hoy (casual)
 Mrs Belinda Colwell (casual)
 Mrs Joy Finlayson (Casual)

Volunteers Mrs Judy Ireland
 Mrs Elva Cros

Central Northern Regional Library

Summary

Computerised Loans by Branch/ LGA 2007-08

| <u>Branch/LGA</u> | <u>2007-2008</u> | <u>2006/2007</u> |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Gunnedah Library (Shire Total) | 47206 | 53019 |
| Quirindi Library | 19786 | 20878 |
| Werris Creek Branch Library | 8418 | 10260 |
| Liverpool Plains Shire Total | 28204 | 31138 |
| Narrabri Library | 48457 | 51752 |
| Boggabri Branch Library | 3706 | 4193 |
| Wee Waa Branch Li- brary | 7252 | 9840 |
| Narrabri Shire Total | 59415 | 65785 |
| Tamworth City Library | 160521 | 163094 |
| South Tamworth Branch Library | 49625 | 55760 |
| Barraba Branch Library | 11769 | 13194 |
| Manilla Branch Library | 18008 | 19039 |
| Kootingal Branch Li- brary | 17704 | 19195 |
| Nundle Branch Library | 6674 | 7227 |
| Tamworth Regional Council Total | 264301 | 277509 |
| Uralla Library (Shire Total) | 18647 | 21717 |
| Walcha Library (Shire Total) | 12673 | 13164 |
| Webpage | 3528 | |
| CNRL Total | 433974 | 462332 |

Central Northern Regional Library

Reservations 2006/07 and 2007/08

| | 2006/7 | 2007/8 |
|----------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <i>Gunnedah Shire Council</i> | | |
| Gunnedah Library | 2927 | 1935 |
| Tambar Springs | 78 | 17 |
| Gunnedah Shire Total | 3005 | 1952 |
| <i>Liverpool Plains Shire Council</i> | | |
| Quirindi Library | 2026 | 1225 |
| Werris Breek Branch Library | 774 | 717 |
| Liverpool Plains Shire Total | 2800 | 1942 |
| <i>Narrabri Shire Council</i> | | |
| Narrabri Library | 10026 | 8706 |
| Boggabri Branch Library | 641 | 464 |
| Wee Waa Branch Library | 1575 | 1193 |
| Narrabri Shire Total | 12242 | 10363 |
| <i>Tamworth Regional Council</i> | | |
| Tamworth City Library | 14133 | 9050 |
| South Tamworth Branch Library | 4755 | 2151 |
| Barraba Branch Library | 1396 | 1033 |
| Manilla Branch Library | 3773 | 4153 |
| Kootingal Branch Library | 2855 | 1495 |
| Nundle Branch Library | 834 | 1076 |
| Tamworth Regional Council Total | 27746 | 18958 |
| <i>Uralla Shire Council</i> | | |
| Uralla Library (Total) | 2953 | 2489 |
| <i>Walcha Council</i> | | |
| Walcha Library (Total) | 1511 | 1090 |
| Web (Total) | 0 | 13134 |
| CNRL Total | 50257 | 49928 |

Central Northern Regional Library—Membership as at 30.06.2008

| Branch | Adult Member | House Bound | Institution | Child (0 - 15) | Totals as at 30.06.2008 | Previous Year Total |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Gunnedah Library Total | 3605 | 30 | 26 | 1665 | 5326 | 4907 |
| Quirindi Library | 1511 | 0 | 13 | 548 | 2072 | 1885 |
| Werris Creek Library | 377 | 0 | 1 | 218 | 596 | 563 |
| LPSC Total | 1888 | 0 | 14 | 766 | 2668 | 2448 |
| Narrabri Library | 2746 | 16 | 11 | 1610 | 4383 | 3925 |
| Boggabri Branch Library | 221 | 0 | 2 | 85 | 308 | 295 |
| Wee Waa Branch Library | 423 | 3 | 4 | 231 | 661 | 571 |
| Narrabri Shire Total | 3390 | 19 | 17 | 1926 | 5352 | 4791 |
| Tamworth City Library | 12701 | 104 | 285 | 3531 | 16621 | 14671 |
| South Tamworth Branch Library | 2674 | 14 | 3 | 1342 | 4033 | 3747 |
| Barraba Branch Library | 587 | 28 | 5 | 230 | 850 | 784 |
| Manilla Branch Library | 842 | 16 | 2 | 369 | 1229 | 1080 |
| Kootingal Branch Library | 653 | 14 | 4 | 336 | 1007 | 949 |
| Nundle Branch Library | 240 | 3 | 3 | 56 | 302 | 281 |
| TRC Total | 17697 | 179 | 302 | 5864 | 24042 | 21512 |
| Uralla Library (Total) | 1116 | 46 | 5 | 566 | 1733 | 1557 |
| Walcha Library (Total) | 720 | 6 | 3 | 296 | 1025 | 930 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 28416 | 280 | 367 | 11083 | 40146 | 36145 |

Central Northern Regional Library— Book Loan Statistics 2007-08

| BRANCH | Adult | | Young Adult | | Children's | | Picture | | BOOK TOTAL |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|--|-------------|--------------|--------------|------|---------------|
| | Non Fiction | Fiction | Fiction | | Non Fiction | Fiction | Book | Book | |
| Gunnedah Shire Total | 4900 | 17563 | 977 | | 1008 | 2594 | 4833 | | 31875 |
| <i>Liverpool Plains Shire Council</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| Quirindi Library | 2178 | 8871 | 450 | | 352 | 1354 | 2223 | | 15428 |
| Werris Breek Branch Library | 878 | 4063 | 205 | | 113 | 452 | 837 | | 6548 |
| LPSC Total | 3056 | 12934 | 655 | | 465 | 1806 | 3060 | | 21976 |
| <i>Narrabri Shire Council</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| Narrabri Library | 5369 | 21377 | 569 | | 1262 | 3497 | 5660 | | 37734 |
| Boggabri Library | 364 | 1850 | 72 | | 28 | 119 | 187 | | 2620 |
| Wee Waa Library | 616 | 2930 | 159 | | 165 | 723 | 739 | | 5332 |
| Narrabri Shire Total | 6349 | 26157 | 800 | | 1455 | 4339 | 6586 | | 45686 |
| <i>Tamworth City Library</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| Tamworth City Library | 35554 | 45315 | 4185 | | 3846 | 11905 | 16666 | | 117471 |
| South Tamworth Library | 4242 | 21390 | 540 | | 894 | 2310 | 4357 | | 33733 |
| Barraba Branch Library | 779 | 4982 | 81 | | 225 | 435 | 1085 | | 7587 |
| Manilla Branch Library | 2240 | 7284 | 231 | | 456 | 796 | 1500 | | 12507 |
| Kootingal Branch Library | 1775 | 6171 | 204 | | 425 | 792 | 1558 | | 10925 |
| Nundle Branch Library | 744 | 2554 | 47 | | 75 | 105 | 652 | | 4177 |
| TRC Total | 45334 | 87696 | 5288 | | 5921 | 16343 | 25818 | | 186400 |
| <i>Uralla Library</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| Uralla Library (Total) | 3043 | 6688 | 280 | | 480 | 1262 | 1693 | | 13446 |
| <i>Walcha Library</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| Walcha Library (Total) | 1287 | 5332 | 105 | | 181 | 591 | 1306 | | 8802 |
| Web | 1038 | 734 | 85 | | 176 | 473 | 419 | | 2925 |
| Grand Total | 65007 | 157104 | 8190 | | 9686 | 27408 | 43715 | | 311110 |

Central Northern Regional Library — Audio–Visual Loan Statistics 2007-08

| BRANCH | Junior | | Spoken | | Junior | | Children's | | Children | | Adult | | Spoken | | Adult | | GRAND | |
|----------------------------------------|------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------|-------|-------|------|--------|-------|
| | Music | Word | Music | Word | Tape/Text | VD/DVD | VD/DVD | TOTAL | Music | Word | Music | Word | VD/DVD | TOTAL | Music | Word | VD/DVD | TOTAL |
| Gunnedah Library | 19 | 93 | 15 | 99 | 15 | 99 | 226 | 449 | 2066 | 405 | 2920 | 3146 | | | | | | |
| Gunnedah Shire Total | 19 | 93 | 15 | 99 | 15 | 99 | 226 | 449 | 2066 | 405 | 2920 | 3146 | | | | | | |
| Quirindi Library | 7 | 32 | 3 | 184 | 3 | 184 | 226 | 204 | 601 | 199 | 1004 | 1230 | | | | | | |
| Werris Breek Branch Library | 9 | 15 | 0 | 96 | 0 | 96 | 120 | 231 | 257 | 268 | 756 | 876 | | | | | | |
| Liverpool Plains Shire Total | 16 | 47 | 3 | 280 | 3 | 280 | 346 | 435 | 858 | 467 | 1760 | 2106 | | | | | | |
| Narrabri Library | 29 | 95 | 2 | 318 | 2 | 318 | 444 | 691 | 1377 | 433 | 2501 | 2945 | | | | | | |
| Boggabri Branch Library | 0 | 4 | 0 | 45 | 0 | 45 | 49 | 90 | 32 | 34 | 156 | 205 | | | | | | |
| Wee Waa Branch Library | 2 | 19 | 3 | 109 | 3 | 109 | 133 | 47 | 107 | 34 | 188 | 321 | | | | | | |
| Narrabri Shire Total | 31 | 118 | 5 | 472 | 5 | 472 | 626 | 828 | 1516 | 501 | 2845 | 3471 | | | | | | |
| Tamworth City Library | 136 | 753 | 57 | 583 | 57 | 583 | 1529 | 4661 | 5216 | 364 | 10241 | 11770 | | | | | | |
| South Tamworth Branch Library | 26 | 56 | 1 | 308 | 1 | 308 | 391 | 951 | 717 | 615 | 2283 | 2674 | | | | | | |
| Barraba Branch Library | 7 | 28 | 9 | 131 | 9 | 131 | 175 | 209 | 88 | 151 | 448 | 623 | | | | | | |
| Manilla Branch Library | 0 | 39 | 2 | 138 | 2 | 138 | 179 | 329 | 313 | 447 | 1089 | 1268 | | | | | | |
| Kootingal Branch Library | 5 | 57 | 1 | 136 | 1 | 136 | 199 | 319 | 438 | 195 | 952 | 1151 | | | | | | |
| Nundle Branch Library | 0 | 26 | 5 | 36 | 5 | 36 | 67 | 92 | 304 | 110 | 506 | 573 | | | | | | |
| Tamworth Regional Council Total | 174 | 959 | 75 | 1332 | 75 | 1332 | 2540 | 6561 | 7076 | 1882 | 15519 | 18059 | | | | | | |
| Uralla Library (Total) | 7 | 81 | 0 | 145 | 0 | 145 | 233 | 593 | 514 | 172 | 1279 | 1512 | | | | | | |
| Walcha Library (Total) | 7 | 40 | 0 | 34 | 0 | 34 | 81 | 90 | 645 | 84 | 819 | 900 | | | | | | |
| Web | 3 | 25 | 1 | 44 | 1 | 44 | 73 | 85 | 86 | 47 | 218 | 291 | | | | | | |
| Grand Total | 257 | 1363 | 99 | 2406 | 99 | 2406 | 4125 | 9041 | 12761 | 3558 | 25360 | 29485 | | | | | | |

Central Northern Regional Library—Special Collections Loan Statistics 2007-08

| BRANCH | MAGS | REF | JLP | LP | LANGUAGE | OTHER | TOTAL | GRAND TOTAL |
|----------------------------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|---------------|
| | | | | | | | | ALL LOANS |
| <i>Gunnedah Shire Council</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Gunnedah Library | 2956 | 9 | 0 | 8602 | 4 | 614 | 12185 | 47206 |
| Gunnedah Shire Total | 2956 | 9 | 0 | 8602 | 4 | 614 | 12185 | 47206 |
| <i>Liverpool Plains Shire Council</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Quirindi Library | 470 | 0 | 0 | 2575 | 0 | 83 | 3128 | 19786 |
| Werris Breek Branch Library | 86 | 0 | 0 | 772 | 0 | 136 | 994 | 8418 |
| Liverpool Plains Shire Total | 556 | 0 | 0 | 3347 | 0 | 219 | 4122 | 28204 |
| <i>Narrabri Shire Council</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Narrabri Library | 1485 | 0 | 2 | 5920 | 7 | 364 | 7778 | 48457 |
| Boggabri Branch Library | 162 | 0 | 0 | 718 | 0 | 1 | 881 | 3706 |
| Wee Waa Branch Library | 480 | 0 | 0 | 996 | 0 | 123 | 1599 | 7252 |
| Narrabri Shire Total | 2127 | 0 | 2 | 7634 | 7 | 488 | 10258 | 59415 |
| <i>Tamworth Regional Council</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Tamworth City Library | 9231 | 4 | 14 | 20168 | 9 | 1854 | 31280 | 160521 |
| South Tamworth Branch Library | 3442 | 0 | 2 | 9544 | 1 | 229 | 13218 | 49625 |
| Barraba Branch Library | 1216 | 0 | 0 | 2326 | 0 | 17 | 3559 | 11769 |
| Manilla Branch Library | 203 | 0 | 0 | 3921 | 0 | 109 | 4233 | 18008 |
| Kootingal Branch Library | 1137 | 0 | 4 | 4249 | 0 | 238 | 5628 | 17704 |
| Nundle Branch Library | 409 | 0 | 0 | 1460 | 0 | 55 | 1924 | 6674 |
| Tamworth Regional Council Total | 15638 | 4 | 20 | 41668 | 10 | 2502 | 59842 | 264301 |
| <i>Uralla Shire Council</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Uralla Library (Total) | 485 | 0 | 1 | 3071 | 7 | 125 | 3689 | 18647 |
| <i>Walcha Council</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Walcha Library (Total) | 184 | 0 | 5 | 2772 | 0 | 10 | 2971 | 12673 |
| <i>Web</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Web | 175 | 0 | 1 | 136 | 0 | 0 | 312 | 3528 |
| Grand Total | 22121 | 13 | 29 | 67230 | 28 | 3958 | 93379 | 433974 |

*OTHER refers to non-acquisitioned items and ILLS

Central Northern Regional Library– Library Stock (Books) as 30.06.2008

| BOOKS | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|--|
| Branch | Adult Non Fiction | Adult Fiction | Young Adult Fiction | Children's Non-Fiction | Children's Fiction | Picture Books | Book Total 2008 | Book Total 2007 | | |
| <i>Gunnedah Shire Council</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gunnedah Library | 4309 | 4216 | 891 | 1251 | 1943 | 1574 | 14184 | 13319 | | |
| Gunnedah Shire Total | 4309 | 4216 | 891 | 1251 | 1943 | 1574 | 14184 | 13319 | | |
| <i>Liverpool Plains Shire Council</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Quirindi Library | 1872 | 3234 | 334 | 573 | 1013 | 801 | 7827 | 7343 | | |
| Werris Breek Branch Library | 941 | 2923 | 227 | 353 | 474 | 499 | 5417 | 5201 | | |
| Liverpool Plains Shire Total | 2813 | 6157 | 561 | 926 | 1487 | 1300 | 13244 | 12544 | | |
| <i>Narrabri Shire Council</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Narrabri Library | 3777 | 5308 | 599 | 849 | 1157 | 988 | 12678 | 11745 | | |
| Boggabri Branch Library | 527 | 902 | 105 | 153 | 212 | 184 | 2083 | 1965 | | |
| Wee Waa Branch Library | 861 | 2823 | 189 | 245 | 499 | 374 | 4991 | 5183 | | |
| Narrabri Shire Total | 5165 | 9033 | 893 | 1247 | 1868 | 1546 | 19752 | 18893 | | |
| <i>Tamworth Regional Council</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tamworth City Library | 19486 | 6883 | 849 | 2515 | 2438 | 2004 | 34175 | 32069 | | |
| South Tamworth Branch Library | 2152 | 3829 | 440 | 599 | 1100 | 800 | 8920 | 8037 | | |
| Barraba Branch Library | 904 | 2463 | 199 | 310 | 457 | 354 | 4687 | 3494 | | |
| Manilla Branch Library | 802 | 1835 | 144 | 270 | 369 | 338 | 3758 | 4915 | | |
| Kootingal Branch Library | 1595 | 2126 | 254 | 437 | 784 | 526 | 5722 | 5849 | | |
| Nundle Branch Library | 644 | 1113 | 86 | 167 | 293 | 222 | 2525 | 2483 | | |
| Tamworth Regional Council Total | 25583 | 18249 | 1972 | 4298 | 5441 | 4244 | 59787 | 56847 | | |
| <i>Uralla Shire Council</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Uralla Library (Total) | 2069 | 3166 | 384 | 679 | 873 | 739 | 7910 | 7835 | | |
| <i>Walcha Council</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Walcha Library (Total) | 1371 | 1693 | 209 | 308 | 559 | 356 | 4496 | 4342 | | |
| GRAND TOTAL | 41310 | 42514 | 4910 | 8709 | 12171 | 9759 | 119373 | 113780 | | |

Central Northern Regional Library—Library Stock—Audio Visual as at 30.06.2008

| Branch | Junior | | Junior | | Children's | | Children's | | Adult | | Adult | | Total | | Total | |
|----------------------------------------|------------|------|-----------|-----------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------|-------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------|-------------|
| | Spoken | Word | Music | Tape/Text | Video/DVD | Total | Non-Book | Video/DVD | Spoken | Word | Music | Video/DVD | Book | Non-Book | 2008 | 2007 |
| <i>Gunnedah Shire Council</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gunnedah Library | 39 | | 11 | 11 | 25 | 86 | 0 | 273 | 394 | | | | 1014 | 1100 | | 1105 |
| Gunnedah Shire Total | 39 | | 11 | 11 | 25 | 86 | 0 | 273 | 394 | | | | 1014 | 1100 | | 1105 |
| <i>Liverpool Plains Shire Council</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Quirindi Library | 37 | | 5 | 3 | 35 | 80 | 0 | 145 | 221 | | | | 564 | 644 | | 628 |
| Werris Breek Branch Library | 18 | | 8 | 4 | 25 | 55 | 0 | 149 | 186 | | | | 460 | 515 | | 517 |
| Liverpool Plains Shire Total | 55 | | 13 | 7 | 60 | 135 | 0 | 294 | 407 | | | | 1024 | 1159 | | 1145 |
| <i>Narrabri Shire Council</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Narrabri Library | 60 | | 8 | 3 | 49 | 120 | 0 | 270 | 427 | | | | 929 | 1049 | | 1005 |
| Boggabri Branch Library | 6 | | 0 | 7 | 6 | 19 | 0 | 28 | 70 | | | | 119 | 138 | | 145 |
| Wee Waa Branch Library | 6 | | 2 | 1 | 33 | 42 | 0 | 24 | 105 | | | | 187 | 229 | | 223 |
| Narrabri Shire Total | 72 | | 10 | 11 | 88 | 181 | 0 | 322 | 602 | | | | 1235 | 1416 | | 1373 |
| <i>Tamworth Regional Council</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Tamworth City Library | 82 | | 15 | 19 | 89 | 205 | 104 | 92 | 847 | | | | 1668 | 1873 | | 2038 |
| South Tamworth Branch Library | 34 | | 5 | 7 | 50 | 96 | 0 | 161 | 246 | | | | 680 | 776 | | 702 |
| Barraba Branch Library | 30 | | 6 | 16 | 34 | 86 | 0 | 100 | 120 | | | | 314 | 400 | | 398 |
| Manilla Branch Library | 13 | | 2 | 6 | 14 | 35 | 0 | 81 | 115 | | | | 235 | 270 | | 328 |
| Kootingal Branch Library | 38 | | 4 | 2 | 39 | 83 | 0 | 80 | 183 | | | | 450 | 533 | | 560 |
| Nundle Branch Library | 15 | | 1 | 9 | 22 | 47 | 0 | 70 | 105 | | | | 261 | 308 | | 331 |
| Tamworth Regional Council Total | 212 | | 33 | 59 | 248 | 552 | 104 | 584 | 1616 | | | | 3608 | 4160 | | 4357 |
| <i>Uralla Shire Council</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Uralla Library (Total) | 30 | | 5 | 3 | 37 | 75 | 0 | 103 | 216 | | | | 499 | 574 | | 562 |
| <i>Walcha Council</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Walcha Library (Total) | 44 | | 0 | 1 | 18 | 63 | 0 | 101 | 146 | | | | 405 | 468 | | 483 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 452 | | 72 | 92 | 476 | 1092 | 104 | 1677 | 3381 | | | | 7785 | 8877 | | 9025 |

Central Northern Regional Library- Library Stock (Special Collections) as at 30.06.2008

| Branch | *Barcoded Magazines | Reference | Junior Large Print | Adult Large Print | Language | Special Colln Total | TOTAL | |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------|------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| | | | | | | | STOCK 2008 | Previous Year Total |
| <i>Gunnedah Shire Council</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Gunnedah Library | 719 | 401 | 0 | 1801 | 4 | 2925 | 18209 | 17516 |
| Gunnedah Shire Total | 719 | 401 | 0 | 1801 | 4 | 2925 | 18209 | 17516 |
| <i>Liverpool Plains Shire Council</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Quirindi Library | 511 | 273 | 1 | 890 | 1 | 1676 | 10147 | 9480 |
| Werris Breek Branch Library | 441 | 145 | 0 | 529 | 0 | 1115 | 7047 | 6870 |
| Liverpool Plains Shire Total | 952 | 418 | 1 | 1419 | 1 | 2791 | 17194 | 16350 |
| <i>Narrabri Shire Council</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Narrabri Library | 871 | 432 | 4 | 1371 | 1 | 2679 | 16406 | 15197 |
| Boggabri Branch Library | 242 | 0 | 61 | 234 | 0 | 537 | 2758 | 2644 |
| Wee Waa Branch Library | 561 | 102 | 0 | 467 | 0 | 1130 | 6350 | 6240 |
| Narrabri Shire Total | 1674 | 534 | 65 | 2072 | 1 | 4346 | 25514 | 24081 |
| <i>Tamworth Regional Council</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Tamworth City Library | 4294 | 1461 | 7 | 2827 | 21 | 8610 | 44658 | 40591 |
| South Tamworth Branch Library | 1193 | 134 | 1 | 1459 | 1 | 2788 | 12484 | 11186 |
| Barraba Branch Library | 616 | 125 | 1 | 599 | 0 | 1341 | 6428 | 5736 |
| Manilla Branch Library | 233 | 112 | 0 | 529 | 0 | 874 | 4902 | 6269 |
| Kootingal Branch Library | 343 | 93 | 2 | 1072 | 0 | 1510 | 7765 | 7942 |
| Nundle Branch Library | 591 | 133 | 0 | 433 | 0 | 1157 | 3990 | 4016 |
| Tamworth Regional Council Total | 7270 | 2058 | 11 | 6919 | 22 | 16280 | 80227 | 75740 |
| <i>Uralla Shire Council</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Uralla Library (Total) | 103 | 171 | 1 | 1184 | 3 | 1462 | 9946 | 9956 |
| <i>Walcha Council</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Walcha Library (Total) | 216 | 248 | 0 | 618 | 0 | 1082 | 6046 | 5925 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 10934 | 3830 | 78 | 14013 | 31 | 28886 | 157136 | 149568 |

*Unaccessioned barcodes
All counted this year, not just those on loan

Central Northern Regional Library Acquisitions, Donations & Withdrawals 2007-08

| Books | Acquisitions | | Donations | | Withdrawals | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| | 2006/2007 | 2007/2008 | 2006/2007 | 2007/2008 | 2006/2007 | 2007/2008 |
| Adult Non-Fiction | 4558 | 3370 | 1363 | 1239 | 2798 | 1550 |
| Adult Fiction/PBK/Mags | 6879 | 6736 | 1579 | 1334 | 3784 | 4510 |
| Young Adult Fiction | 612 | 463 | 19 | 3 | 327 | 428 |
| Children's Non-Fiction | 452 | 701 | 26 | 8 | 548 | 237 |
| Children's Fiction | 1407 | 704 | 29 | 22 | 443 | 474 |
| Picture Books/Easies | 1043 | 1600 | 21 | 0 | 686 | 937 |
| Total Books | 14951 | 13574 | 3037 | 2606 | 8586 | 8136 |
| Other Material | | | | | | |
| CD's | 619 | 252 | 71 | 18 | 23 | 65 |
| Spoken Word | 626 | 336 | 22 | 0 | 204 | 332 |
| Videos/DVD's | 488 | 54 | 96 | 184 | 268 | 167 |
| Total Other Material | 1733 | 642 | 189 | 202 | 495 | 564 |
| Reference | 617 | 162 | 0 | 0 | 427 | 141 |
| Large Print | 898 | 1131 | 0 | 0 | 1047 | 616 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 18199 | 15509 | 3226 | 2808 | 10555 | 9457 |

New Items Acquired for CNRL Branches 2006-2007

| New Items Acquired for CNRL Branches | |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 2007-2008 | |
| Gunnedah Library | 1515 |
| Gunnedah Shire Total | 1515 |
| Quirindi Library | 613 |
| Werris Creek Branch Library | 354 |
| Liverpool Plains Shire Total | 967 |
| Narrabri Library | 1308 |
| Boggabri Branch Library | 189 |
| Wee Waa Branch Library | 335 |
| Narrabri Shire Total | 1832 |
| Tamworth City Library | 5656 |
| South Tamworth Branch Library | 1600 |
| Barraba Branch Library | 490 |
| Manilla Branch Library | 803 |
| Kootingal Branch Library | 699 |
| Nundle Branch Library | 405 |
| Tamworth Regional Council Total | 9653 |
| Uralla Library (Shire Total) | 1177 |
| Walcha Library (LGA Total) | 365 |
| CNRL Total | 15509 |

Central Northern Regional Library

Library Stock Turnover as at 30.6.2008

| Branch | Stock | Issues | Turnover |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| Gunnedah Shire Total | 18209 | 47206 | 2.59 |
| Quirindi Library | 10147 | 19786 | 1.95 |
| Werris Creek Library Branch- | 7047 | 8418 | 1.19 |
| LPSC Total | 17194 | 28204 | 1.64 |
| Narrabri Library | 16406 | 48457 | 2.95 |
| Boggabri Branch Library | 2758 | 3706 | 1.34 |
| Wee Waa Branch Library | 6350 | 7252 | 1.14 |
| Narrabri Shire Total | 25514 | 59415 | 2.33 |
| Tamworth City Library | 44658 | 160521 | 3.59 |
| South Tamworth Library | 12484 | 49625 | 3.98 |
| Barraba Library | 6428 | 11769 | 1.83 |
| Manilla Library | 4902 | 18008 | 3.67 |
| Kootingal Library | 7765 | 17704 | 2.28 |
| Nundle Branch Library | 3990 | 6674 | 1.67 |
| TRC Total | 80227 | 264301 | 3.29 |
| Uralla Library (Total) | 9946 | 18647 | 1.87 |
| Walcha Library (Total) | 6046 | 12673 | 2.10 |
| Web | 0 | 3528 | 0.00 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 157136 | 433974 | 2.76 |

Central Northern Regional Library

Public Access Computer Bookings

| Branch | No. of PC's | No. of PC's | Bookings | Bookings | Bookings |
|-------------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| | Previous Year | 2007/2008 | Previous Year | 2007/2008 | % Change |
| Gunnedah Library | 8 | 9 | 6421 | 6747 | 5.08% |
| Gunnedah Shire Total | 8 | 9 | 6421 | 6747 | 5.08% |
| Quirindi Library | 5 | 5 | 6252 | 5786 | -7.45% |
| Werris Creek Branch Library | 2 | 2 | 271 | 266 | -1.85% |
| LPSC Total | 7 | 7 | 6523 | 6052 | -7.22% |
| Narrabri Library | 6 | 9 | 11224 | 11864 | 5.70% |
| Boggabri Library | 2 | 2 | 298 | 302 | 1.34% |
| Wee Waa Library | 4 | 4 | 3437 | 3225 | -6.17% |
| Narrabri Total | 14 | 15 | 14959 | 15391 | 2.89% |
| Tamworth City Library | 22 | 22 | 44267 | 45509 | 2.81% |
| South Tamworth Library | 5 | 6 | 3837 | 5389 | 40.45% |
| Barraba Library | 4 | 4 | 769 | 1182 | 53.71% |
| Manilla Library | 3 | 4 | 2280 | 2490 | 9.21% |
| Kootingal Library | 4 | 4 | 916 | 841 | -8.19% |
| Nundle Library | 3 | 3 | 907 | 1067 | 17.64% |
| TRC Total | 41 | 43 | 52976 | 56478 | 6.61% |
| Uralla Library (Total) | 8 | 9 | 4890 | 4306 | -11.94% |
| Walcha Library (Total) | 3 | 3 | 482 | 484 | 0.41% |
| GRAND TOTAL | 81 | 86 | 86251 | 89458 | 3.72% |

The following staff provide services to CNRL and /or Tamworth Regional Council Libraries :

CNRL Executive Officer : Patrick O'Connor—Manager Cultural & Community Services - Tamworth Regional Council

Library Services Manager: Kay Delahunt- BA . Grad Dip Lib. AALIA

| Information & Readers Services Team | Regional Resources Team | Technology & Circulation Team | Youth & Branch Services Team |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Team Leader Kate Nalder— <i>Assoc Dip App Sc</i> | Team Leader Pamela Langridge - <i>B Gen Stud Grad Dip Lib & Inf</i> | Team Leader VACANT | Team Leader Narelle Lightfoot <i>Assoc Dip App Sc</i> |
| Wendy Millar BA (Lib Sc) | Ruth Fermor | Marian Bennett— <i>Dip IT Dip Library & Information Services</i> | Katie McPherson |
| Megan Pitt BA Grad Dip Lib Sc | Christine Maher <i>Assoc Dip App Sc</i> | Kim Collins (part time) | <i>Kerrie Shaw—Dip Library & information Services</i> Kootingal Branch |
| Leona Thomsen Dip T | | Sandra Collins (part time) | <i>Yvonne Archer & Renai Fletcher</i> Manilla Branch <i>job share</i> |
| | | Eric Elsley— <i>Dip IT</i> | |
| | | Stephanie Mills Dip. IT Ass. Degree of Arts Ass. Degree of Science- Library Technology | Shirley Davis & Gae Sipple Nundle Branch <i>job share</i> |
| | | Lorraine Watton | Kaye Sawyer Barraba Branch |

Casual Librarians :

Annabel Ashworth
Veronica Strudwick

Other:

Melissa Le Brocq
Noel Skewes (Regional Courier)

Casual Library Assistants:

Cathy Hanly
Jayne O'Hare
Sue Southwell
Beth Turner

Staff

Staff

Staff

Staff

Staff