

# Profile



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**Cr Russell Ian Webb**  
Tamworth Regional Councillor

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## CURRENT TERM IN OFFICE: 2008/2012

### COMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIPS

13 September 2008

Elected to Office on Saturday 13 September 2008 in the New South Wales Local Government Elections.

### SEPTEMBER 2008 – 2009

**Chairperson** – Services and Infrastructure Committee (Principal Committee- full Council)

**Committee Member** – Strategy and Finance Committee (Principal Committee – full Council)

**Chairperson** - Tamworth Regional Livestock Marketing Centre- Strategic Development Working Group

#### Alternate

**Representative-** Namoi Local Government Group

- Member**
- Permanent Member of the Major Plant Selection Working Group
  - Reuse Farm – Community Liaison Committee
  - Tamworth Regional Rural Fire Service Liaison Committee
  - Australian Equine and Livestock Events Centre Interim Management Group
  - Sports Working Group
  - Taminda Revitalisation Working Group

### ACHIEVEMENTS OF TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL DURING SECOND TERM (2008-2011)

#### FROM SEPTEMBER 2008 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

##### 2008- 2009

- ♠ Manilla Branch Building Upgrade \$187,000
- ♠ Manilla Library Shelving \$26,000
- ♠ South Tamworth Library Shelving \$64,000
- ♠ Construction Australian Equine & Livestock Events Centre (Estimated Total Project Cost \$28.9 Million)
- ♠ Upgrade to Tamworth Regional Entertainment & Conference Centre \$24,000
- ♠ Tamworth Regional Airports Improvements \$508,000
- ♠ Large Plant Replacement \$2,397,000
- ♠ Botanic Gardens Feature Area Construction \$28,000
- ♠ Nursery Development – Advanced Trees \$27,000
- ♠ Manilla Showground BBQ/Function Area \$27,000
- ♠ Commence Riverside Redevelopment & Expansion \$203,000

- ♠ Replace Playground Equipment \$25,000
- ♠ Split Rock Dam – Recreational Fishing Project \$18,000
- ♠ Complete Taminda Levee Construction Project (Total Project Cost –\$8.3million)
- ♠ Railway Level Crossing Upgrade \$156,000
- ♠ Cycleway Construction \$165,000
- ♠ Hillvue Road Pedestrian Refuge \$52,000
- ♠ Appleby Lane Bridge Completion \$409,000
- ♠ Forrest Road/Browns Lane Roundabout \$460,000
- ♠ Nundle Bridge Replacement \$1,210,000
- ♠ Johnston’s Bridge Remedial Work \$779,155
- ♠ Roads to Recovery Program \$1,323,000
  - Kable Avenue, Tamworth
  - Bendemeer/Kingston Road
  - Rodney Street, Barraba
  - Barry Road Bridge, Nundle
  - Duri/Winton Road
  - Warral/Bithramere Road
  - Wallamore Road, Tamworth
  - Calala Lane, Tamworth
  - Piper Street, Tamworth
  - Queen Street, Barraba
  - Whitten Lane, Barraba
  - Lonergans Bridge
  - Crow Mountain Road, Barraba
  - Burgmanns Lane, Tamworth
- ♠ RTA Repair Program RR7711 \$308,000
- ♠ RTA Repair Program \$275, 000
- ♠ Arthur Street, Manilla – Kerb & Gutter \$46,000
- ♠ RTA Repair Program – MR105 – Balls Farm Rehabilitation \$129,000
- ♠ Bowler’s Lane – Roadworks \$123,000
- ♠ Old Hanging Rock Road/Oakenville Street \$985,000
- ♠ Construction SVTS Forest Road \$311,000
- ♠ Construction Green Waste/Compost Area \$189,000
- ♠ Construction SVTS Access Road Extension \$95,000
- ♠ New Landfill Cell – Forrest Road \$220,000
- ♠ Renew House Services \$52,000
- ♠ Tamworth – Nemingha Main Crawford Street to Railway \$54,000
- ♠ Nundle Bridge Water Main \$59,000
- ♠ Manilla – New 4ML/d Water Treatment Plant \$70,000
- ♠ Dungowan Pipeline Survey \$81,000
- ♠ Process Improvements Villages \$\$90,000
- ♠ Telemetry Upgrade \$97,000
- ♠ Bendemeer Water Augmentation \$106,000
- ♠ Water Main Renewal \$160,000

- ♠ Calala Treatment Plant – PLC/SCADA UG \$216,000
- ♠ Browns/Moore Creek/Bournes 375mm Construction \$220,000
- ♠ Tamworth – Upgrade Control & Telemetry System \$300,000
- ♠ WTP Chemical Upgrade \$471,000
- ♠ Emergency Supply Tamworth Drift Wells \$1,614,000
- ♠ New Main – Victoria Park to Hills Plains \$2,025,000
- ♠ Barraba WWTP Trunk Main \$52,000
- ♠ Barraba Reuse Augmentation \$64,000
- ♠ Sewer Mains Reconstruction \$151,000
- ♠ Sewer Mains Rehabilitation \$871,000
- ♠ Tamworth Wastewater Augmentation (Estimated Total Project Cost \$77 million)

## PREVIOUS TERM IN OFFICE: 2004/2008

### *SEPTEMBER 2007– 2008*

**Committee Member** – Strategy and Finance Committee (Principal Committee – full Council)

**Committee Member** – Services and Infrastructure Committee (Principal Committee- full Council)

- Delegate**
- Northern Inland Regional Waste Group
  - Tamworth Regional State Emergency Service Administration Committee
  - Tamworth Regional Development Corporation Board

**Chairperson** - Tamworth Regional Livestock Marketing Centre-Strategic Development Working Group

**Representative-** Tamworth Regional Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC)

- Member**
- Permanent Member of the Major Plant Selection Working Group
  - Regional Development Strategy, Regional Biodiversity Study and new Local Environmental Plan Working Group
  - Reuse Farm – Community Liaison Committee
  - Tamworth Regional Council/BAE Systems Steering Committee
  - Taminda Revitalisation Working Group  
(MIN No 0213/08 – COUNCIL MEETING 26/08/2008)

### *SEPTEMBER 2006– 2007*

**Deputy Chairperson** – Strategy and Finance Committee (Principal Committee – full Council)

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**Committee Member** – Services and Infrastructure Committee  
(Principal Committee- full Council)

- Delegate**
- Northern Inland Regional Waste Group
  - Tamworth Regional State Emergency Service Administration Committee
  - Tamworth Regional Development Corporation Board  
(MIN No 370/06 – COUNCIL 24/10/2006)

- Chairperson**
- Tamworth Regional Livestock Marketing Centre-Strategic Development Working Group
  - Tamworth Regional Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC)

- Member**
- Permanent Member of the Major Plant Selection Working Group
  - Regional Development Strategy, Regional Biodiversity Study and new Local Environmental Plan Working Group
  - Reuse Farm – Community Liaison Committee
  - Tamworth Regional Aviation Strategic Development Steering Committee  
(MIN No 116/07 – COUNCIL MEETING 27/03/2007)
  - Tamworth Regional Council/BAE Systems Steering Committee  
(MIN No 116/07 – COUNCIL MEETING 27/03/2007)

*SEPTEMBER 2005 – 2006*

**Committee Member** – Strategy and Finance Committee (Principal Committee – full Council)

**Committee Member** – Services and Infrastructure Committee  
(Principal Committee- full Council)

- Delegate**
- Northern Inland Regional Waste Group
  - Tamworth Regional State Emergency Service Administration Committee

- Chairperson**
- Tamworth Regional Livestock Marketing Centre-Strategic Development Working Group
  - Tamworth Regional Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC)

- Member**
- Reuse Farm – Community Liaison Committee
  - Regional Development Strategy, Regional Biodiversity Study and new Local Environmental Plan Working Group
  - Permanent Member of the Major Plant Selection Working Group  
(MIN No S1123/06 – S&I C'TTEE 14/03/2006)

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*SEPTEMBER 2004 – 2005*

**Committee Member** – Services and Infrastructure Committee  
(Principal Committee- full Council)

**Deputy Chairperson** – Strategy and Finance Committee (Principal  
Committee – full Council)

**Delegate**

- Northern Inland Regional Waste Group
- Tamworth Regional State Emergency Service  
Administration Committee
- Tidy Towns Committee

**Chairperson**

- Tamworth Regional Livestock Marketing Centre-  
Strategic Development Working Group
- Tamworth Regional Local Emergency  
Management Committee (LEMC)

**Member** - Reuse Farm - Community Liaison Committee

*25 SEPTEMBER 2004*

Elected to Office on Saturday 25 September 2004 in the New South  
Wales Local Government Elections.

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*ACHIEVEMENTS OF TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL DURING FIRST TERM (2004-2008)*

**MAYORAL MINUTE**

**PERIOD – SATURDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2004 TO FRIDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2008**



**TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCILLORS**

**LEFT TO RIGHT: CR KEVIN TONGUE, CR ROBERT SCHOFIELD, CR SHIRLEY CLOSE, CR COLIN MURRAY,  
CR JAMES TRELOAR (MAYOR), CR PHIL BETTS (DEPUTY MAYOR), CR DIANE CARTER,  
CR RUSSELL WEBB AND CR WARREN WOODLEY OAM**

As we approach the completion of the first four-year term of Tamworth Regional Council created by amalgamation of the former Shires of Barraba, Manilla, Nundle, Parry and Tamworth City Council on 17 March 2004, it is my great honour to provide a record of some of the achievements of the Council during this period of unification, growth and development.

I wish to place on record and acknowledge the significant contribution of the General Manager, Glenn Inglis, in driving significant change and unifying the culture and work ethic of the staff of five different organisations following the amalgamation. I congratulate Glenn, the Senior Staff and all of the Staff for the way they have embraced this major cultural change.

The following is but a brief summary of some of the highlights and achievements of Tamworth Regional Council over the past four years.

- In terms of infrastructure, the Australian Equine and Livestock Events Centre is without doubt the single most significant piece of infrastructure ever built within regional New South Wales and arguably Australia. It will provide significant economic benefits for the City of Tamworth, the Regional Council Area and North Western New South Wales. It will develop to be the single biggest contributor to the economy of the Tamworth Regional Council area.
- Council has shown a strong commitment to the Performing Arts. Tamworth will have a new performing arts centre to be known as the Capitol within the next few weeks and will be fully operational by the end

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of the year. The theatre is being fitted out and furnished at a cost of \$1.6million by TRC as part of a 15-year lease with the developer of the new Brisbane Street Shopping Complex. It has a 405-seat auditorium with two levels of tiered seating and includes professional theatre lighting, full sound system, dressing rooms, orchestra pit, a fly tower and is fully air conditioned. It is a multi-function space for live theatre and cinema productions and will significantly add to existing cultural facilities by providing an ideal forum for live theatre including dance, drama, music, educational activities, conferences and community events.

- Over the past financial year, the Tamworth Region has recorded another year of significant growth with Council figures showing over \$211 million in total development approvals. Statistics released put the value of new homes approved in 07/08 at \$61million with commercial development at nearly \$36million in the same year. This compares most favourably with \$192 million for 2006/2007 financial year and \$155 million for the 2005/2006 financial year in total development approvals.
- By the end of the current financial year, Tamworth Regional Council in its 4 years of existence will have replaced 18 timber bridges – 8 on Local Roads and 10 on Regional Roads – at total cost of \$10 million. This renewal of vital transport infrastructure will reduce travel time and distance across the Regional Council area and has restored vital heavy vehicle transport links to the rural community where bridge weight limits once applied.
- Long-term planning of the Hills Plain Rural Residential area has been completed which will provide for up to 4,000 rural residential lots and a population of over 10,000 when fully developed. The Hills Plain Project will provide significant opportunities for residential growth of the City of Tamworth and provide a myriad of residential choices.
- Successful tendering of the Effluent Reuse Scheme will cater for the industrial and residential growth of the City of Tamworth for many years into the future and will provide significant environmental improvement of the health of our rivers and waterways.
- The completion of the Draft Tamworth Regional Local Environmental Plan has seen the combining of five former local government environmental plans into one integrated comprehensive local environmental plan which will provide a blue print for land use across the Region and has the potential to be the Council's greatest achievement in terms of regional urban and rural land use planning.
- Council has coordinated an enormous investment in water supply infrastructure for the Regional Council Area through combining and applying the financial resources of a single water utility to address the water supply infrastructure needs of the City of Tamworth and surrounding urban communities. There has been significant upgrade of the Bendemeer Water Supply Scheme and identification of the need for quality and quantity upgrade of the Barraba Water Supply. A commitment has been given by the Council to upgrading Chaffey Dam not only for the City of Tamworth but also for irrigators within the Peel Valley.
- Councillors and staff have made a concerted effort to maintain the identity of small communities within the Regional Council area, particularly the towns of Manilla, Nundle and Barraba. The identity of other urban communities such as Kootingal, Bendemeer and Moonbi has also been enhanced. A significant contributing factor in maintaining this identity has been through the establishment of Community Development Committees. Presently community development committees are established in Nundle, Manilla, Barraba, Bendemeer, Kootingal and Moonbi. CDCs provide a great opportunity for community feedback on Council's performance and direct input of the community's expectations of the Council. Tamworth Regional Council is on record as having the highest number of operating Section 355 Committees of any local government authority in the State.
- Another prominent feature of the 4 years of the Council is the dedication and commitment to Sport and Recreation planning and the provision of new infrastructure for junior rugby league, soccer and basketball.

- The Taminda Revitalisation Industrial Strategy is the culmination of a dream and a long-term vision for the Taminda area which will see the revitalisation of this area into a significant economic driver within the economy of Tamworth. The completion of the Taminda Flood Levy will secure protection of the area from flooding and provide significant opportunities for investment, growth and development of the overall area.
- Council has been successful in attracting a developer for construction of a new state of the art Regional Livestock Marketing Centre which will satisfy the latest requirements for animal welfare and environmental protection.
- Refurbishment of the Council's Manilla Branch Office to incorporate library services has seen the integration and one stop arrangement for a full range of customer services on offer for the residents of Manilla.
- Council's Barraba Branch Office has been designated as an Archive Centre for the storage and safekeeping of Council's records and documents. Land has been purchased adjacent to the Barraba Office and will provide an opportunity for Council to develop a commercial Records Storage and Archive Centre.
- The Council's finances and budgets have been astutely managed to place Council in a very solid and favourable financial position. Fortunately and unlike many councils in the State, Council has had no real exposure to the US sub prime mortgage crisis which has besieged and decimated global financial markets. Council's investment portfolio is a strong performer and the total investment cover has hovered around \$100m for many months. Council's financial and governance custodianship over the past four years, both at an elected and staff level will provide for a strong, vibrant, healthy and financially viable operation to be handed over to the incoming Council after the election to be held on 13 September 2008.
- Public confidence in the Council has been instilled by the way the Council has managed its operations. Senior staff time and resources have not been wasted with frivolous complaints which have allowed the staff to move forward with confidence as strong advocates for the Council, the community and the Region.
- Without doubt, the crowning achievement of the Council is the great unity and mutual respect elected members have forged with each other as the governing body of Tamworth Regional Council. Despite robust debate and differing opinion, mutual respect between councillors has been maintained at all times which has allowed the Council to move forward with a strong and unified determination. Coupled with this great unity and cohesion is the respect councillors have developed and hold for the independence and professionalism of the staff of Tamworth Regional Council.
- Last but not least, may I thank the community of the Regional Council area who have embraced and accepted many changes over the past 4 years. The community has provided a clear message to the Council of how they wish to see our natural and built environments conserved and sustainably managed and the opportunities to be pursued for development, growth and investment within the Region.

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  - Calala Lane, Tamworth
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- ♣ Manilla – New 4ML/d Water Treatment Plant \$70,000
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- ♣ Emergency Supply Tamworth Drift Wells \$1,614,000
- ♣ New Main – Victoria Park to Hills Plains \$2,025,000
- ♣ Barraba WWTP Trunk Main \$52,000
- ♣ Barraba Reuse Augmentation \$64,000
- ♣ Sewer Mains Reconstruction \$151,000
- ♣ Sewer Mains Rehabilitation \$871,000
- ♣ Tamworth Wastewater Augmentation (Estimated Total Project Cost \$77 million)
- 2006-2007
- ♣ Airport Capital Works \$334,000
- ♣ Commencement of the Australian Equine & Livestock Centre (Estimate Total Project Cost – \$28.9 million)
- ♣ Tamworth Saleyards Upgrades \$174,000
- ♣ Phoenix Street Culvert Construction \$176,000
- ♣ Monk Park (Calala) Improvements \$12,000
- ♣ Regional Botanic Gardens Dam/Spillway
- ♣ Tamworth Skate Park Modifications \$14,000
- ♣ Large Plant Replacement \$2.7 million
- ♣ Services Centre Upgrade \$145,000
- ♣ MR105 West of Martins Lane Reconstruction \$712,000
- ♣ MR357 West of Manilla Outer Wheel Path Reconstruction \$84,000
- ♣ Cycleways Construction – Duri Road (Kent to Robert Street) \$34,000
- ♣ Local Roads Bridge Replacement
  - Dungowan Bridge \$914,000
  - Peel River at Appleby Lane \$824,000
- ♣ Completion of Limestone Gully Bridge

- ♠ Roads to Recovery Program \$1.6m  
(Duncans Road (Nundle), Lower Somerton Road (Manilla) Rowan Street (Manilla) Burgmanns Lane (Tamworth), Duri Winton Road
- ♠ Construction of Small Vehicle Transfer Station – Forest Road \$363,000
- ♠ Forest Rd Landfill – Cell Construction \$220,000
- ♠ Commencement of Barraba Sewerage Augmentation
- ♠ Sewer Mains Reconstruction & Rehab \$307,000
- ♠ Tamworth Sewerage Augmentation Pre-construction \$152,000
- ♠ Main – Victoria Park Reservoir to Hills Plain Reservoir \$1.9 million
- ♠ Browns Lane/Moore Creek/Bournes Lane – Mains Construction \$1.2 million
- ♠ Completed Bendemeer Water Supply Augmentation \$760,000
- ♠ Calala Treatment Plant Chemical Upgrade \$185,000
- ♠ Development of Glen Artney Industrial Estate
- ♠ Development of Country Music Festival and other Festivals throughout the Region

**2005-2006.**

- ♠ Commencement \$6.3 million Tamworth Sewerage Augmentation & 100% Reuse Scheme Project
- ♠ Taminda Levee Works \$2.9 million
- ♠ \$560,000 Landfill Upgrades & Waste Services Improvements
- ♠ Large Plant Replacement \$2.0 million
- ♠ Commencement of Water Treatment Program at Bendemeer
- ♠ Roads to Recovery Program \$1.3 million
- ♠ Commencement of Water Improvements Works at Barraba
- ♠ Gravel Roads Re-Sheeting Program \$961,000
- ♠ Airport Improvements \$428,000
- ♠ Resealing Local Roads \$929,000
- ♠ Parks & Gardens and Sporting Fields Improvements \$442,000
- ♠ Saleyards Upgrades \$190,000
- ♠ TREC Improvements \$203,645
- ♠ Strategic Landuse planning for future growth
- ♠ Cycleway Program Tamworth \$101,000
- ♠ Sewer Mains Rehabilitation Program in the City
- ♠ Local Bridge Construction \$288,000

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- ♠ Blackspot Program – Sandy Creek Road \$113,131
  - ♠ Development of Glen Artney Industrial Estate
  - ♠ Development of Annual Country Music Festival and other smaller Festivals throughout the Region

*2004-2005:*

- ♠ Tamworth City Airport Improvements
- ♠ Caravan Park Improvements – Manilla and Tamworth
- ♠ Tamworth Regional Livestock Marketing Centre Improvements
- ♠ Tamworth Regional Entertainment Centre Improvements
- ♠ Parry Administrative Building – Major Renovations
- ♠ Land Purchase – Equine Centre
- ♠ New Library Art Gallery – Construction and Completion
- ♠ Flood Mitigation Works including Taminda Levy
- ♠ Tamworth Sewerage Augmentation and Reuse Scheme



REGIONAL COUNCIL  
Tamworth

Live it. Love it. Look out for it.