

# **TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL**

## **ANNEXURES for ORDINARY COUNCIL AGENDA**

**11 FEBRUARY 2025**

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Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Ms Gina Vereker  
Director Liveable Communities, Tamworth Council  
Email: g.vereker@tamworth.nsw.gov.au

25 September 2024

**Subject:** Minimum lot size for dual occupancies in Zone R2

Dear Ms Vereker,

Stage 1 of the Low and Mid-Rise (LMR) housing policy commenced on 1 July 2024 and made dual occupancies newly permitted with consent in the R2 Low Density Residential Zone in your local government area. To prevent unintended outcomes, complying development for dual occupancies in newly permitted R2 zones is not yet available, to enable Council to consider and, if necessary, implement a minimum lot size.

Since there are several councils in the same situation, the Department is proposing to bundle lot size changes together to amend the relevant LEPs without the need for individual planning proposals.

Should your Council wish to introduce a minimum lot size for dual occupancies, please complete the attached form where you can propose a lot size and provide supporting information to justify the proposal. It would be appreciated if you could consider the important background information contained in the form and consider the Departments suggestions in setting an appropriate lot size.

It would be appreciated if a draft response is provided by 13 December 2024 and a final response with council endorsement by 14 February 2025. Please send the form and any questions you may have to the team at [lowandmidrisehousing@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lowandmidrisehousing@planning.nsw.gov.au).

Thank you for your continued collaboration with the Department.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KC'.

Kristy Chan  
A/Executive Director  
Strategic Planning & Policy

## Dual Occupancy Minimum Lot Size Form

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Please complete this form and return to the Department if Council would like to introduce a minimum lot size for dual occupancies in the LEP

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Councils where dual occupancies have been newly permitted in the R2 Low Density Residential Zone under Stage 1 of the Low and Mid-Rise Housing (LMR) policy are invited to propose a minimum lot size for dual occupancies in the LEP.

Subject to consideration of proposed lot sizes, the Department intends on making a self-repealing SEPP that will amend the relevant LEPs without the need for individual planning proposals.

Before completing this form, please read the information on the following page including considerations to be had in setting a minimum lot size.

It would be appreciated if a draft response is provided by **13 December 2024** and a final response with council endorsement by **14 February 2025**. Please send the form and any questions you may have to the team at [lowandmidrisehousing@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:lowandmidrisehousing@planning.nsw.gov.au).

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**1. What is Council's proposed minimum lot size for dual occupancies in the R2 zone?**

**[Answer here]**

**2. Which LEP should this apply to?**

**[Answer here]**

**3. What is the justification for the lot size? Please attach any supporting information and evidence**

**[Answer here]**

## Background information

### Considerations when setting a minimum lot size

Stage 1 of the LMR policy aims to encourage housing supply by making dual occupancies permissible in the R2 Low Density Residential Zone across the state. Setting appropriate controls for dual occupancies is also important to create certainty and to ensure they are delivered at contextually appropriate densities and are well designed.

Based on a review of minimum lot sizes for dual occupancies across a range of NSW Council's, it is expected that the minimum lot size is set so that **at least 50% of R2 lots** will be compliant (i.e. the median R2 lot size, or lower). Within the Sydney metropolitan area, this equates to around 300m<sup>2</sup> within inner city small lot areas, up to 900m<sup>2</sup> in larger lot suburban fringe areas. In regional contexts, there is more variability and local considerations.

### Stage 1 Low and Mid-Rise Housing Policy

Stage 1 of the Low and Mid-Rise Housing (LMR) Policy commenced on 1 July 2024 through an amendment to the Housing SEPP 2021. It made dual occupancies and semi-detached dwellings permitted with consent in all R2 Low Density Residential zones (except for some lands affected by certain hazards such as a bushfire). This resulted in dual occupancies becoming newly permitted in the R2 zone in the following Local Government Areas:

- Albury
- Ballina
- Cowra
- Hornsby
- Inner West
- Ku-ring-gai
- Lismore
- Liverpool
- Mosman
- Murray River
- Northern Beaches (Warringah LEP)

**Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure**  
Form



- Strathfield
- Tamworth

### **Complying development temporarily paused**

Complying development for dual occupancies in the R2 zone has been temporarily paused in areas where they have been newly permitted to enable Councils to consider and, if necessary, implement a minimum lot size.

The State Environmental Planning Policy (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008 (Codes SEPP) allows dual occupancies as complying development if they are permitted with consent and meet the development standards. The minimum lot size standard is the greater of the LEP lot size or 400m<sup>2</sup>.

Councils where dual occupancies have been newly permitted may not have a minimum lot size, so unless one is implemented, the 400m<sup>2</sup> default will apply to complying development.

### **Stage 2 Low and Mid-Rise Housing Policy**

Stage 2 of the Low and Mid-Rise Housing (LMR) Policy is being finalised and is planned to commence in late 2024. It is for the bulk and remainder of the policy.

Stage 2 will encourage more housing in residential areas within 800m walking distance from nominated town centres and nominated stations (known as 'local housing areas'). It will expand permissibility and introduce non-discretionary development standards for dual occupancies, terraces, townhouses and apartment buildings in these areas.

Within local housing areas, the following non-discretionary development standards are proposed to apply for dual occupancies:

- Lot size: min 450m<sup>2</sup>
- Lot width: min 12m
- Car parking spaces: min 1 per dwelling
- FSR: 0.65:1

**Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure**  
Form



- Height: 9.5m

These standards will only apply within local housing areas within R1 to R4 zones (where dual occupancies are permitted). They will only apply to development applications. Council's minimum lot size for dual occupancies will apply outside these areas for development applications, and in all areas for complying development.

The nominated centres and stations are being finalised based on a detailed assessment of goods and services, frequent and convenient public transport and infrastructure capacity.



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Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure  
Online Submission

Dear Sir/Madam

**TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL SUBMISSION – DRAFT LOW AND MID-RISE HOUSING REFORM – CONSULTATION**

Ref: Ir/MG Document Set ID 2049247

Reference is made to your e-mail on 15 December 2023 requesting input into the NSW Government's draft low and mid-rise housing reforms.

**Commentary**

The primary concern for Tamworth Regional Council is the proposal to permit dual occupancies in the R2 - Low Density Residential zone. Dual occupancies are currently prohibited in the R2 - Low Density Residential zone pursuant to the *Tamworth Regional Local Environmental Plan 2010*.

The R2 - Low Density Residential zone within the Tamworth Regional LGA has been used to identify residential areas with limited sewer capacity. The limited capacity of this sewer infrastructure requires that only single dwelling-houses are constructed on lots located in R2 - Low Density Residential zone. As an additional consequence of the limited sewer capacity, the standard of other infrastructure (i.e., stormwater infrastructure, roads, etc.) have all been designed based on lower densities.

Furthermore, the minimum lot size for the R2 - Low Density Residential zone in the Tamworth LGA ranges from 800m<sup>2</sup> to 4000m<sup>2</sup>. By their nature they are low density area and therefore by permitting dual occupancies on these larger lots, it has the potential to cause angst within the community especially given a significant portion of residents would unlikely be aware of the proposed changes associated with the reform.

Should DPHI proceed with mandating dual occupancies as permitted with consent in the R2 - Low Density Residential zone, significant infrastructure upgrades (at considerable cost) would be required to facilitate the increased density. Council does not have the finance to upgrade this infrastructure, which means this cost will be passed onto potential developers and make dual occupancy development and residential subdivisions in the R2 Low Density Residential zone cost-prohibitive.

Tamworth Regional Council is actively working towards increased housing supply and diversity of housing. This includes:

- Working with community and state agencies to identify Council and Crown land which may be suitable for housing development;
- Updating the Development Control Plan to promote in-fill medium density development in appropriate areas;
- Council has developed a 'fast track' development assessment process to deliver faster housing approvals;
- Council has recently completed an Expression of Interest (EOI) process to inform a comprehensive review of the *Tamworth Regional Local Environmental Plan 2010*. As part of

this EOI process, a number of sites have been identified for re-zoning to residential as part of Planning Proposals later this year; and

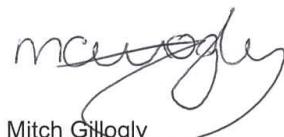
- Finalisation of a Local Housing Strategy which identifies areas for increased density based on proximity to services, transport infrastructures constraints, rather than an arbitrary one size fits all approach which does not consider local constraints.

Finally, following analysis of Council records between 2017 and 2024, approximately 265 dwellings consent are in place but have not commenced across the Tamworth Regional Local Government Area. This suggest that supply chain issues, workforce shortages and the cost of construction are influencing the delivery of dwellings and therefore, it is unlikely the reforms proposed by DPHI will increase the delivery of more housing in our region.

#### Conclusion

It is considered, the proposal to mandate dual occupancies in the R2 Low Density Residential zone across NSW is a blunt approach to a complex issue. The one-size-fits-all approach adopted by DPHI is not an appropriate response to the housing crisis and Tamworth Regional Council would welcome the opportunity to participate in Local Government NSWs round table discussions with the Minister for Planning and Public Space and the Minister for Housing and Homelessness to discuss options to address the issue.

Yours faithfully



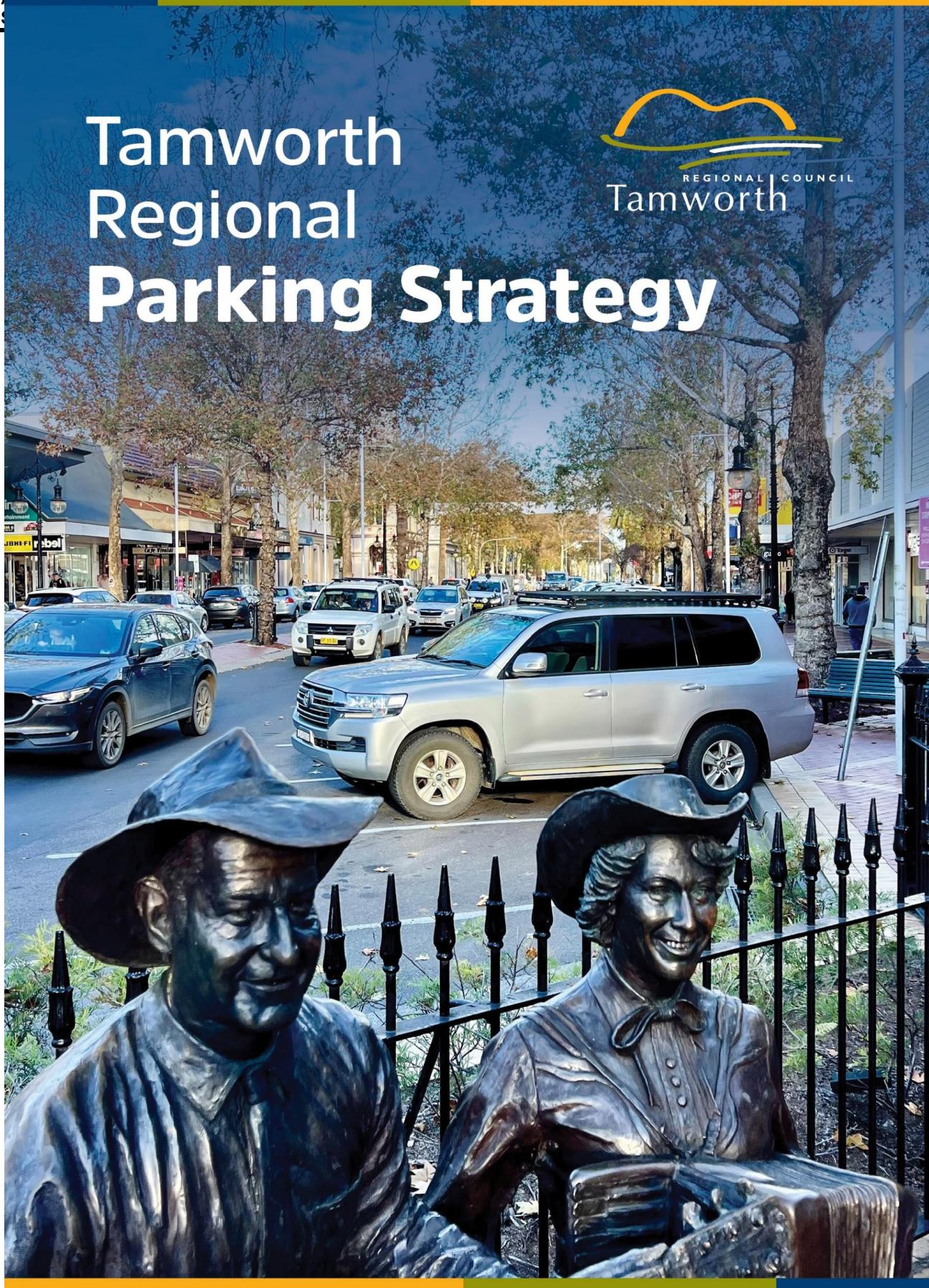
Mitch Gillogly

**Acting Manager – Future Communities**

Contact: Mitch Gillogly (02) 6767 5462 or Email: [m.gillogly@tamworth.nsw.gov.au](mailto:m.gillogly@tamworth.nsw.gov.au)

23 February 2024

# Tamworth Regional Parking Strategy



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## Executive Summary

Every car journey starts and ends at a parking facility of some description. Whether this is at home, at work, at a shopping centre, sporting facility or accessing other services. Having car parking which is convenient, safe, affordable and practical greatly enhances places across our region, and in particular the CBDs of our towns and villages.

Good parking management requires a balance between the needs of users and the cost of providing this infrastructure to the community. Recognising that different areas can have significantly different parking requirements/demands is critical in providing the most suitable parking arrangements for a given location. For example, this is particularly evident when comparing the Tamworth CBD to the Tamworth Sports and Entertainment Precinct. One is primarily used by workers, shoppers and those accessing services, resulting in a consistently high parking demand throughout the entire week. The other is used by those attending sporting facilities and entertainment venues, resulting in highly variable parking demand which can fluctuate daily, weekly and seasonally.

Poor parking management can exacerbate traffic congestion, lower economic activity, reduce amenity and detract users from an area. For locals, this can cause ongoing frustration, and may also reduce tourism opportunities.

Car parking is not cheap. Each car park costs the community in several ways: the cost of purchasing land to build a car park, the cost of constructing the car park, and the ongoing maintenance costs of ensuring the car park meets the needs of the community. It is important that our existing car park network is managed effectively so that when we do construct new car parks, it is only due to the existing parking network no longer coping for the unique demands of that area.

There are many ways in which Council manages parking to meet the needs of the community. Within the Tamworth CBD this includes parking time restrictions, pricing and parking enforcement. These assist Council to provide parking options which are suitable for different locations and various parking needs.

As the Tamworth region continues to grow towards a population of 100,000 (in line with Council's Blueprint 100 strategy), it becomes increasingly important to manage our parking network appropriately, including utilising what we have to the best capacity. Whilst private vehicle journeys will always be an important transport option for most, as we continue to grow it is unsustainable to have the same reliance on private vehicle use as what we currently do. Placing an increased focus on improving public transport services/infrastructure and active transport infrastructure will assist in reducing the demand on our parking network.

With regards to the Tamworth CBD, previous studies recommended increasing the number of all-day parking spaces by 40 spaces per year to meet future demand. Whilst it is acknowledged that new parking spaces will be required, setting a specific target to meet is not seen as an appropriate way of managing our parking network. Instead, continually monitoring our parking network, listening to community needs and being responsive to development/planning changes will ensure that we don't overuse or under-allocate parking resources.

The Tamworth Regional Parking Strategy recognises that being able to park a vehicle conveniently, safely and affordably is equally important in the towns and villages as it is within Tamworth. The Strategy provides a long-term plan for managing parking across the region, including recommending areas of investment.

The Strategy builds upon Council's Blueprint 100 and Our Community Plan (2023-2033) focus area of "connecting our region and its citizens", along with the key priority of providing "a safe and efficient transport network". The Strategy includes the following objectives:

- Making the parking areas we have more safe, efficient and functional;
- Catering for a wider range of vehicle types and user considerations;
- Making changes to our parking network in line with current best practices;
- Better aligning the technology used in managing our parking network;
- Enabling economic growth and investment through providing a parking network that is easy to use; and
- Encourage use of active and public transport.

The Strategy also identifies that the current way we manage the local parking network is financially unsustainable, with inadequate funding available to properly maintain our existing car parks, let alone improve them to a higher level of service and/or construct new car parks. This means a large shift is now needed in how we manage the parking network through a combination of metering changes and enforcement changes to ensure it becomes self-funded.

Whilst the full action plan is listed later in the report, the key recommendations are:

- In line with Austroads Guide to Traffic Management Part 11, implement best parking practice throughout the region and particularly within the Tamworth CBD. This includes changing the mix of paid and free parking zones, time restrictions and enforcement methods;
- Implement parking meters in Peel Street to assist increased turnover of parking;
- Implement further time restricted parking on weekends in Peel Street;
- Remove all off-street parking meters;
- Replace all coin or card operated ticketed parking meters with card-only ticketless parking meters; and
- Continue the utilisation of license plate recognition camera technology for carrying out parking enforcement.

Implementing these changes will ensure that the Tamworth region parking network meets the demand of a growing community while being able to fund the necessary infrastructure to facilitate this change.

## Tamworth CBD Snapshot



## Community Feedback

### Public Survey

For a four-week period in August – September 2023, Council ran a community survey to better understand parking issues around the Tamworth region. In particular, this survey asked about how drivers currently park in the Tamworth CBD and what changes would make it easier to park. A total of 333 responses were received and the feedback given has been critical in shaping the Tamworth Regional Parking Strategy.

## What you told us about CBD parking\*

**333** responses

**10%** either have a disability permit or their regular passenger does

**68%** respondents aged 25 – 59

**91%** visit the Tamworth CBD at least a few times a week

**98%** visit the CBD in a motor vehicle

**78%** aware of Gipps Street Car Park but majority (more than 95%) don't use it due to perceived safety, lighting and distance issues

**61%** visit CBD primarily for leisure/appointments

**57%** stay less than 2hrs

**15%** feel unsafe visiting the CBD

**5.5** minutes is the average acceptable walking time from parking space to destination

**50%** would either 'support' or are 'unsure' of expanding metered parking areas if it means it's easier to get a park

**36%** would consider walking, cycling or using public transport if infrastructure/services were improved

\* Data source: Council online survey from 22 August 2023 to 19 September 2023



General comments from parking survey respondents about parking in the Tamworth CBD include:



**Your thoughts on Tamworth CBD parking**

<b>Parking meters</b>	» Too many metered parking zones Machines are continually faulty
<b>Disabled parking</b>	» Not enough spaces available Existing parks are not fit for purpose Existing parks are not located in the appropriate areas
<b>All-day parking</b>	» Not enough conveniently located within the CBD Some drivers are choosing to park in short stay areas and moving their car to avoid fines
<b>Long vehicles</b>	» Not enough dedicated long vehicle spaces - Issues with larger vehicles using standard parking spaces (difficulty seeing, opening doors)
<b>Enforcement</b>	» Perception is that enforcement is not working well as vehicles are overstaying

Based on the feedback received as part of the community survey, the following observations of the data have been made:

- Motorists are unwilling/unable to walk to fringe all-day parking spaces and would prefer that they be located closer to the centre of the CBD;
- Parking meters are not working effectively and are often out of order which causes a high level of frustration;
- Disabled parking in the CBD is very poor;
- Enforcement needs to be improved as vehicles are often overstaying time restrictions, or parking in illegal locations;
- Many users feel unsafe using off-street car parks (lack of lighting, CCTV, passive surveillance); and
- Motorists are wanting a conveniently located multi-storey long-stay car park in the CBD.

This data is highly important in shaping how we improve parking across the region and particularly within the Tamworth CBD.

### Public Exhibition Period

The public exhibition period for the Strategy occurred from the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 to 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024. A total of 915 visitors to the "Have Your Say" webpage, with 90 persons leaving feedback on the Strategy.

The key themes of the feedback were:

- Strong opposition to proposed paid parking in Peel Street

- Congestion is really bad in the CBD and particularly Peel Street
- The existing parking meters are difficult to use and are continually out of order
- A multi-story car park is required in the CBD
- There are not enough disabled parking spaces
- The proposal of paid parking in Peel Street will cause businesses to suffer
- Concerns that less tech-savvy drivers will not be able to use ticketless parking meters
- Concerns that the License Plate Recognition Cameras will give fines to those with disabled parking permits

As part of the public exhibition period, the Tamworth Business Chamber were informed as to the intent of the Strategy. Overall, the Chamber are supportive of the Strategy and the adoption of best parking practices, including measures to minimise long-stay parking in premium retail areas – noting that higher turnover supports local businesses. The Chamber did express concerns about the number of individuals who feel unsafe utilising many off-street car parks in the CBD and on the fringes of the CBD. This impacts both employees and patrons of businesses in the CBD. Some reservations were also held in regards to the use of License Plate Recognition Cameras and the potential limitations of the application of this technology.

## Purpose and Vision

The Regional Parking Strategy assists Council in suitably managing our car parking network as the region continues to grow. It puts emphasis on ensuring that we are proactive in identifying the changes or upgrades needed before problems emerge, rather than being reactive after problems arise. This benefits local residents and visitors through improving the ease in which motorists find an available parking space convenient to their journey.

Key policy changes, recognising the current financial model of our parking network is unsustainable, greater knowledge of key traffic generating developments, changes in the way people move and population growth are all contributors to why an update is required to the previously endorsed Tamworth CBD Parking Strategy 2020-2030.

The Strategy recognises that each parking area is unique in terms of the type of trip attractor it services. Managing each of these individual parking areas appropriately will ensure that we continue to facilitate economic development and enable our region to reach its full potential.

Our vision is that parking will be easy, safe, smart and efficient for all users as we continue to grow towards a population of 100,000 residents. Similarly, infrastructure and services will be provided which facilitate use of alternate transport modes such as public and active transport. This will reduce the demand on our parking network, reduce congestion and minimise the financial investment required.



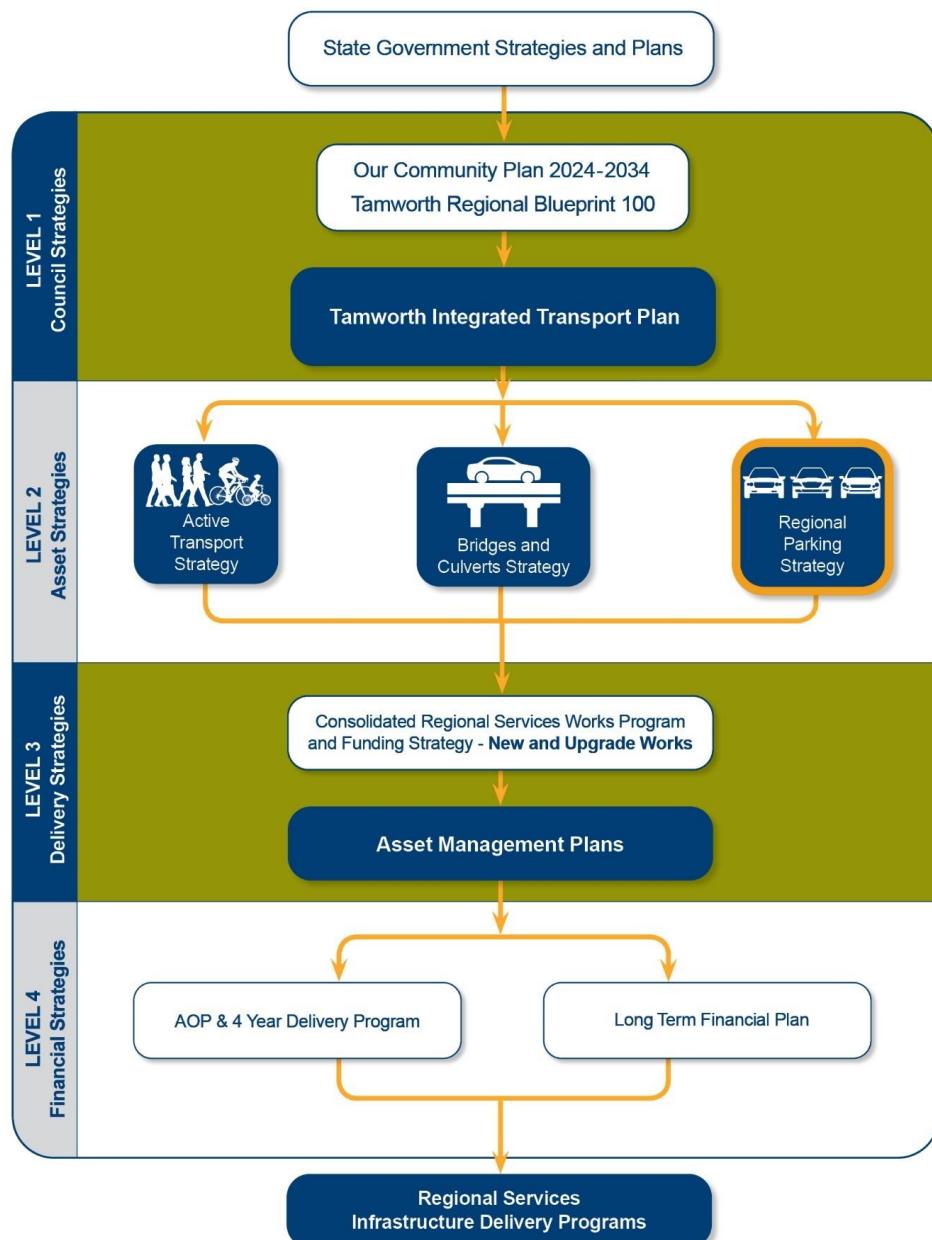
## Strategic Alignment

The Tamworth Regional Parking Strategy closely aligns with key objectives across many strategic documents. In particular, the Parking Strategy aligns with:

### Blueprint 100 (Tamworth Regional Council)

Council's guiding document for providing suitable infrastructure and opportunities for jobs, growth and developing attractive places to live as we continue towards a population of 100,000 persons in the region. "Connecting our region and its citizens" is one of the nine focus areas within the Blueprint 100 strategy. This includes the focus areas of providing a vibrant city and town centres; a safe and efficient transport network; and enabling technology within the community.

## Regional Services Strategic Framework for delivery of Transport Infrastructure



### Our Community Plan 2023 – 2033 (Tamworth Regional Council)

Council's plan developed by the community which outlines what we want our future to look like and what we need to do to achieve the vision. It has a focus on aligning with sustainable development goals and describes a number of interest areas (as identified in Blueprint 100).

### Future Transport Strategy 2056 (Transport for NSW)

NSW's guiding document for managing a growing transport network and ensuring that the productivity, liveability and sustainability of our communities is maintained. This will be achieved through aligning future land uses to our transport network and better incorporating technology.

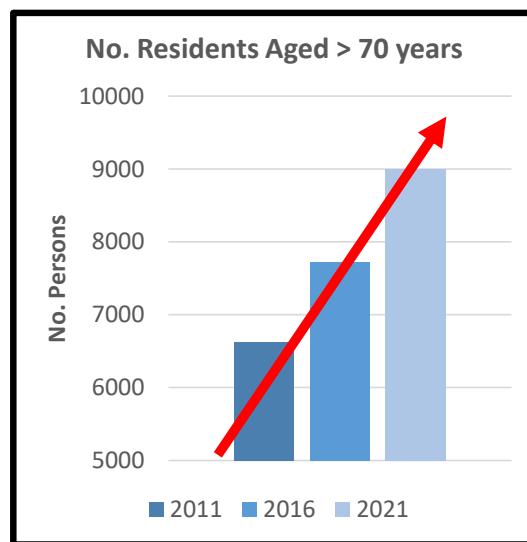
### Movement and Place Framework (Transport for NSW)

Describes how each individual "place" has its own unique "movement" characteristics which when understood and managed appropriately, enhances an area to reach its' full potential. It recognises that key movement corridors are equally as important as key places, but each is better suited for a given set of circumstances.

## Challenges and Key Drivers

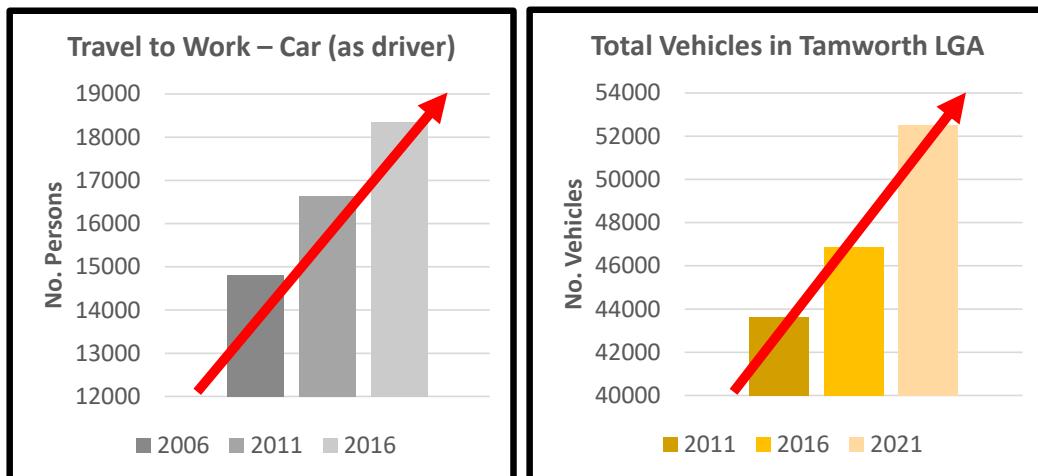
### Growing and Ageing Population

As our population continues to grow, there is an increased demand for car parks – particularly within the Tamworth CBD. Not only is our population growing, but it is also ageing, with the number of persons aged over 70 years living within the Tamworth LGA increasing by around 250 people annually (via Census data). This places more demand on accessible disabled parking spots and ensuring that when we do provide them, that they are in a suitable location and are safe/easy to utilise.



### Increasing Reliance on Private Vehicles

With a growing population and limited public and active transport services/infrastructure, there is an increasing reliance on private vehicles for journeys within the Tamworth LGA. This is being reflected in journey to work data (via Census data), and the rising number of registered motor vehicles within the LGA. Both of these have been increasing over time, with this trend expected to continue as the region's population grows. Reducing our dependency on private vehicles will assist in managing the demand on the parking network. This can be achieved through mode shift by providing feasible transport alternatives such as public transport and active transport, and also encouraging carpooling.

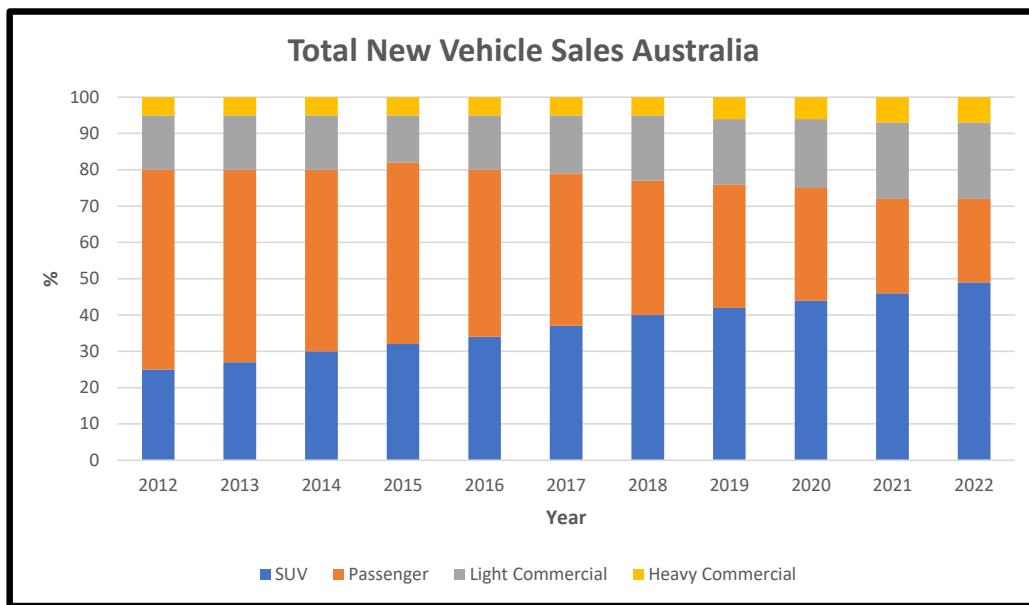


### Increasing Average Vehicle Size

The size of the average car on the road in Australia (particularly regional Australia) is larger than ever, with the most popular vehicle, the Toyota Hilux dual cab ute, being around 30cm longer than the previous design vehicle used for determining the minimum dimensions of a parking space.

Having larger vehicles on the road means our car parks must be designed bigger. This includes manoeuvring space, car park aisle widths and parking space dimensions. Increased parking space sizes means a reduction in the number of parking spaces that can be accommodated in a given area.

Feedback from the local community indicates that there is some frustration around large vehicles parking in certain areas, and/or the accuracy in which some motorists currently park.



*Total new vehicle sales in Australia (2012 – 2022).*

### Managing Congestion and Urban Amenity

In the Tamworth CBD, a reasonable amount of congestion is directly attributed to motorists searching for a vacant parking space. Quite often the behaviour of motorists is to repeatedly circle around the block until a vacant space appears – rather than park one block further away. In some instances, parking further away may not be a feasible option due to mobility issues or other reasons, but reducing these often-unnecessary vehicle trips in the CBD can help reduce congestion and improve urban amenity.

Navigating motorists to vacant parking spaces, ensuring that the correct mix of parking spaces (disabled, short-stay, long-stay, paid/free) are provided, and enforcing time restricted spaces are all tools which can help reduce congestion and improve the user experience for motorists.

Similarly, providing infrastructure and services which facilitate increased use of public and active transport can also aid in easing congestion.

### Technology Improvements

As technology continues to evolve, it is important to incorporate it into how we manage our car parks. This includes how we currently carry out enforcement, how we meter some of our parking spaces, how we navigate motorists to available parking spaces, how people pay for parking and how we collect data on our parking network.

Technology ultimately makes it easier for motorists to park, improves the user experience and makes it easier for Council to manage the parking network.

### Major Traffic Generating Developments and Events

It is possible some new developments may place strain on the surrounding parking network if they do not provide an adequate number of parking spaces. This is why minimum parking requirements are specified for individual developments which vary depending on what the development type is. The overall aim of these requirements is to ensure that the development functions appropriately without adversely impacting the surrounding network. It is important that each development is assessed carefully to minimise undesirable impacts. However, on the flip side, it is important that Council works closely with private developers to produce outcomes which enable development in a sustainable manner that benefits the wider community. This may include having the peak parking demand of the development "off peak" from the surrounding network, or collaborating with Council to determine a unique solution.

Parking for major events such as the Tamworth Country Music Festival or those at the Tamworth Sports and Entertainment Precinct can exceed the surrounding network capacity. Having event traffic management plans and providing alternate transport modes for attendees can help alleviate the impact on the parking network.

### Electric Vehicles

With electric vehicles becoming increasingly popular, there is an increased need to have publicly available charging facilities. These charging facilities (including associated infrastructure) often require additional room when compared to "standard" parking bays. Council plays an important role in helping facilitate the provision of necessary infrastructure for electric vehicles such as dedicated charging bays.

### Recent Achievements

Since 2019, Council has constructed a number of new car park areas, along with expansion of some existing ones. A concerted effort has been made to add additional disabled parking spaces in areas which are highly frequented by those with disabled parking permits. A summary of these achievements is shown below:

Project	Description of Works	Year
Expansion of No.1 Oval Car Park	Removal of redundant No.1 Oval toilet block which was replaced with an underground water tank and an additional 25 long stay parking spaces on the surface.	2019
Commissioning of the "Easy Park" app	The smart phone app gives users the choice of remote, ticketless, cashless system for paying parking fees, as well as only paying for the amount of time you stay.	2019
Gipps Street Car Park Upgrade	Pruned vegetation, planted trees, improved line marking and CCTV.	2019
New Car Park at North Companions Oval	New 88 space car park which services the sporting fields and BMX track.	2019

Project	Description of Works	Year
Construction of netball car park at Tamworth Sports Dome	New 112 space car park (including two disabled spaces) which service Tamworth Netball	2019
Construction of Tamworth Regional Cycling Centre car park	New 96 space car park (including three disabled spaces)	2019
Construction of AELEC car park	New 157 space car park (including six disabled spaces)	2019
Sale of Dowe Street Car Park	Sold Dowe Street Car Park (27 spaces). Funds to be used for improving car parks elsewhere in CBD	2020
Peel Picnic Area Car Park	Upgrade of the previous car park and formalised to include eight long vehicle parking spaces	2020
Expansion of Tamworth Hockey Complex car park	Expansion of existing car park by 97 parking spaces (total of 430 spaces including seven disabled spaces)	2020
Expansion of White Street Car Park	Expanded existing car park by a further 42 parking spaces (total of 125 spaces including four disabled parking bays)	2021
Changes to metered and free parking zones (Tamworth CBD)	Various changes to parking areas including Town Hall Car Park, Bourke Street and Fitzroy Street	2021
Victoria Park Car Park	Expansion of existing car park by a further 30 spaces and four disabled parking spaces	2022
Tamworth Accessible Transport Hub	Completion of the Tamworth Accessible Transport Hub which includes five undercover disabled parking spaces suitable for small buses and private vehicles. Enables a safe space for members of the community with higher needs to enter/exit their vehicles	2022
Parking occupancy survey (Tamworth CBD)	Completion of a parking occupancy survey that provides information around the times which our parking spaces are occupied/vacant	2022
Provision of additional accessible parking spaces in Tamworth CBD	Continually reviewing and adding disabled parking spaces in the Tamworth CBD	Ongoing

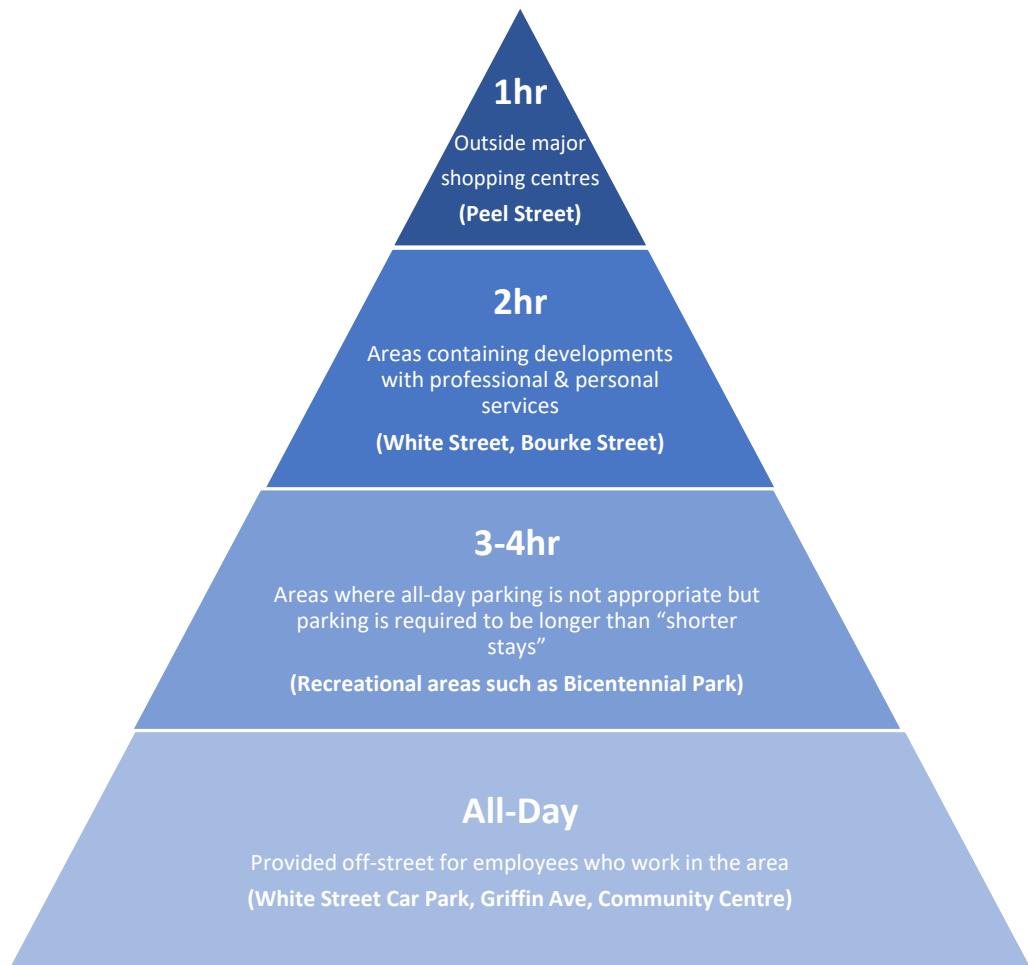
## Best Parking Practices

The Austroads Guide to Traffic Management Part 11 outlines a broad overview of the parking management process. It describes the process of determining the demand for, and supply of parking, and provides a framework around parking policy. This includes best practices for on-street and off-street parking for all road users, including parking controls that are recommended to be used in urban centres.





The Parking Hierarchy recognises that different development types facilitate unique parking demands. For example, high parking turnover areas are recommended to be provided on-street outside of major shopping centres, whilst low parking turnover areas (long stay) are recommended off-street for workers. Applying this hierarchy to a real example (Tamworth CBD) is shown below:



## Parking Enforcement

### What is it, why is it important and what do we currently do?

Parking enforcement is the monitoring of the parking network to ensure that the community is abiding by regulatory signage and line marking, and also not obstructing driveways, clearways, footpaths and loading zones (amongst others). Where compliance has not been followed, a fine can be issued which is reflective of the penalty units (PU) the offence carries as set out in the relevant legislation.

The primary reason for carrying out enforcement is to ensure the safety of the community. Non-compliance with road rules and parking rules can result in particularly unsafe circumstances for pedestrians, emergency vehicles, businesses and other motorists. Other reasons include:

- Maintaining access to key facilities, businesses, services and emergency services
- Improving the liveability of the community and visitors, including providing a good user experience
- Ensuring productivity for businesses through enabling appropriate parking turnover

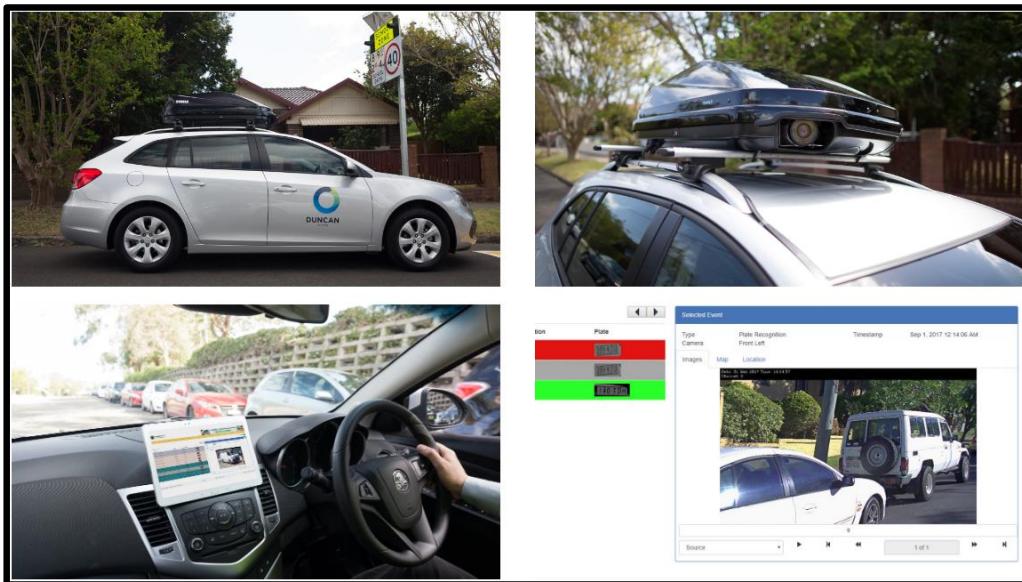
Currently, Council covers a large enforcement area with minimal resources. This area includes the Tamworth CBD, Tamworth Regional Airport, Bridge Street Precinct, other timed parking areas (such as schools), ad-hoc illegal parking incidents requests and our towns/villages. The current labour-intensive manual approach means that an appropriate level of enforcement is not being carried out which results in more frequent poor parking behaviour and hence a more unsafe and less efficient parking network. Additionally, staff currently walk large distances to manually issue infringement notices. This is inefficient, is often impacted by the weather (heat/rain) and leads to safety concerns for staff working near road traffic to mark tyres. Staff are also at risk of confrontations by members of the public when being issued an infringement notice.

### What are we trying to achieve and how will we do it?

Expanding the areas Council is able to cover with enforcement, and covering them more frequently to ensure compliance. This includes areas within the Tamworth CBD and outside the CBD. The primary objectives are:

- Improving the safety of staff (minimising confrontations and protecting from the weather);
- Improving the efficiency in which we carry out enforcement;
- Expanding the areas which we can cover with enforcement; and
- Improve the safety, liveability, access and productivity of the community and visitors to the region.

The way to achieve this is through License Plate Recognition Cameras (LPRCs) which are mounted onto a vehicle. These allow parking rangers to cover substantially more ground, at a higher frequency and much more safely. The safety benefits of this then extend to the community, along with ensuring compliance with time restrictions (meaning more chance of finding an available parking space).



Council completed a trial of a LPRC in early 2024 with the purpose of determining the feasibility and suitability of adopting LPRC(s) as the primary form of parking enforcement – replacing the

existing tyre chalking method. This trial was highly successful and well-received amongst staff, including seeing immediate behavioural changes from many motorists.

Current chalking methods are highly inefficient and present a safety risk to Council staff. It is estimated that about 1,000 vehicles per day are able to be monitored using the chalking method, however it is estimated that upwards of 12,000 vehicles per day are able to be monitored with the use of LPRCs, including covering areas much broader than just the Tamworth CBD.

## Accessible Parking

For some members of the community and visitors to the region, finding a parking space closely located to their destination is extremely important because mobility impairments may restrict the distance in which they can comfortably walk. These parking spaces are wider than a standard parking bay, have a logo stencilled on the pavement, signage to indicate that only those with a disabled parking permit are able to use them, and have a buffer zone adjacent to the car park for easier manoeuvrability.

Austroads recommends that these parking bays be provided on-street and as angled parking (if possible) as these are often the closest to the desired destination.

Overall, based on community feedback, the current provision of accessible parking in our region is poor, with a number of issues raised including:

- There are not enough disabled parking spaces;
- Existing disabled parking spaces are difficult to enter/exit the vehicle and connect to the footpath (i.e. not constructed to a suitable standard);
- Existing disabled parking spaces are not located in a suitable location; and,
- Existing disabled parking spaces are not maintained to an appropriate condition (stencilling, line marking, signage)

This currently causes frustration and difficulty for members of the community who rely on using accessible parking spaces. Improving our disabled car parks in consultation with key stakeholders is an important objective of this Strategy.

Location	No. Spaces	No. Accessible Spaces	% Total	No. Total Spaces Required
Tamworth CBD	3578	68	1.9%	90
Sports and Entertainment Precinct	1381	44	3.2%	N/A
Bridge Street Precinct	1117	5	0.4%	28
Barraba CBD	395	5	1.3%	10
Manilla CBD	279	8	2.9%	N/A
Nundle CBD	145	2	1.4%	4
Kootingal CBD	87	1	1.2%	3
Target % (via AS2890.5 2020)			2.5%	

## How do we Currently Park?

Parking behaviour varies greatly depending on a number of factors including:

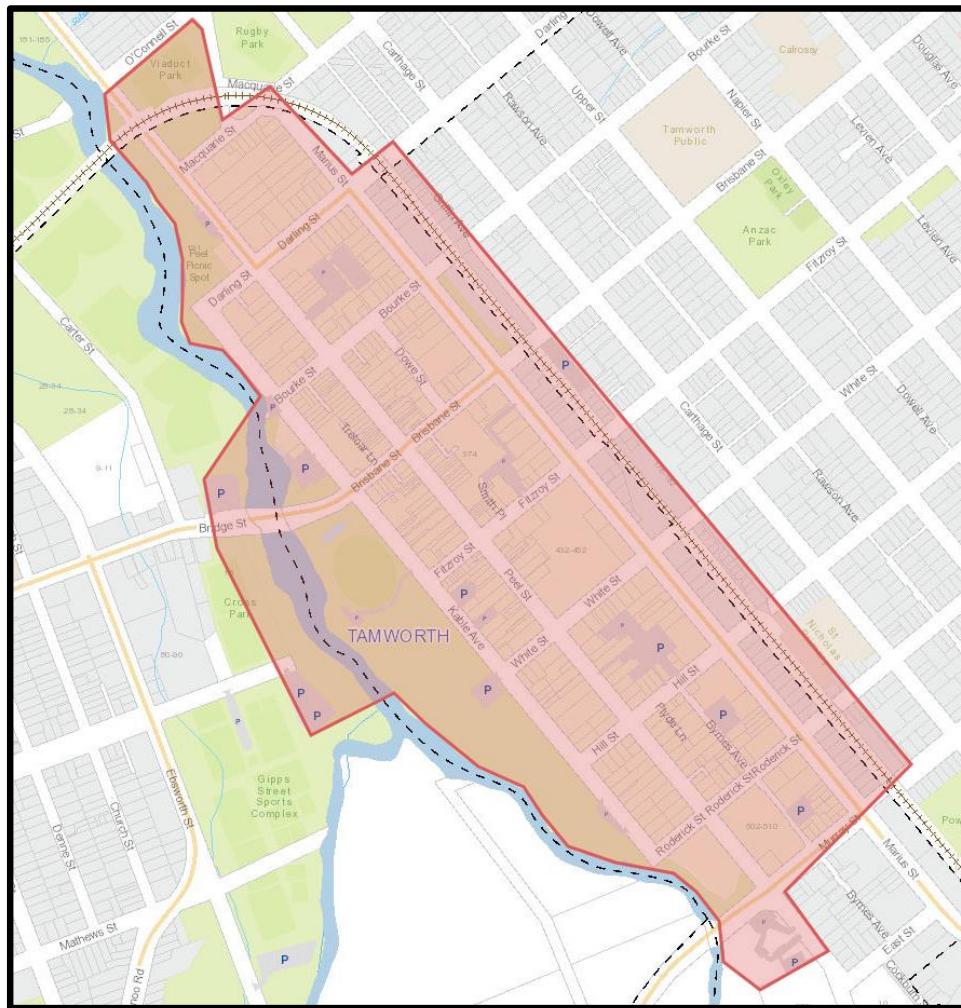
- The destination;
- The user's mobility level;
- Safety (perceived or otherwise);
- The length of stay required;
- Whether the user is happy to pay for parking or not;
- Available shade; and,
- Whether goods are being transported to or from the vehicle.

It is important to understand that each parking location has unique characteristics in terms of how to best manage the parking demand. It is for this reason that parking recommendations and management tools for the Tamworth CBD may differ significantly to that of the Tamworth Sports and Entertainment Precinct (for example). Each of the major parking areas in our region will be assessed in more detail below.

### Tamworth CBD

Located along the Peel River and bordered by the State rail network, State Road highway(s) and residential areas of East Tamworth, the Tamworth CBD is the retail, employment and recreation hub of the region.

Servicing a population of more than 60,000 persons across the region, the CBD is continually growing in terms of its patronage which represents unique challenges for Council to manage. One of these challenges is providing a parking network that meets the needs of those visiting the CBD. Done well, a good parking network will encourage visitation to the CBD, support local businesses and leave visitors with a happy user experience. Done poorly, it can act as a deterrent for visitors, reduce business income and leave visitors frustrated. It is important for Council to understand the challenges which the community face when parking in the CBD, and addressing these concerns as we move forward.



***Defined CBD area for the purpose of this Strategy.***

As the CBD is a blend of retail, recreation, place of employment, health services and car dealerships, providing a mixture of time restricted/unrestricted and metered/free parking is required to appropriately manage car parking demands. Providing the "correct mix" in line with Austroads best parking practices gives the following for the Tamworth CBD:

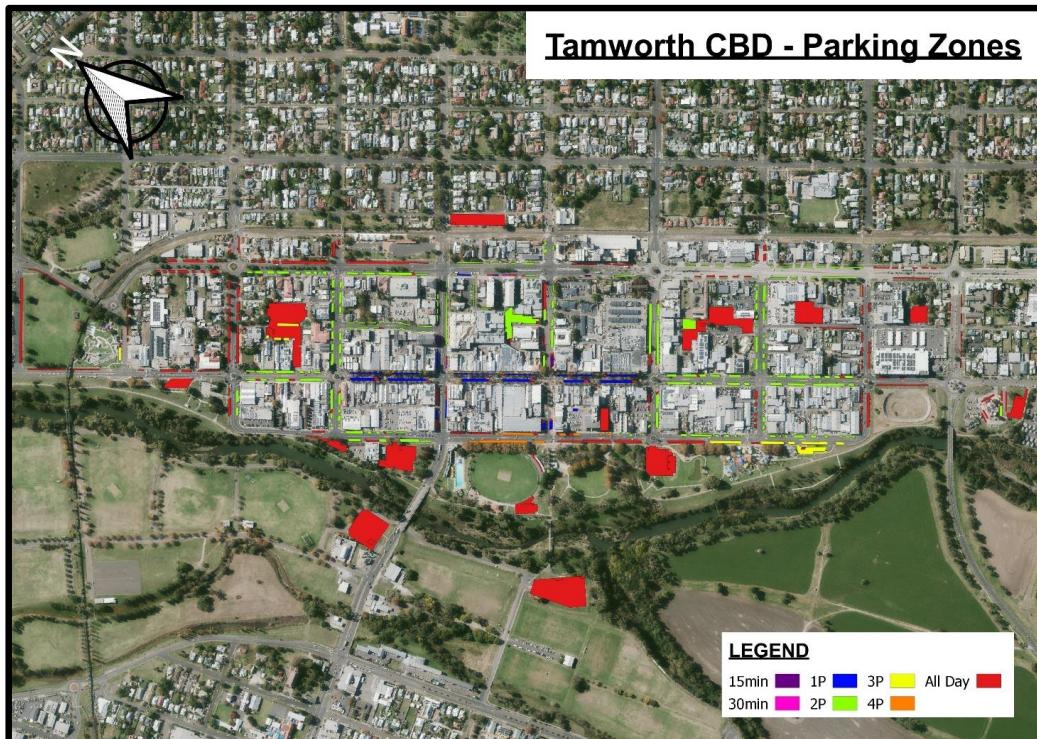
- **Premium** – Parking in this area is short stay and in very high demand. Important that best parking practices are applied here to ensure that turnover occurs, congestion is minimised where possible and the appropriate fee be charged.
- **Inner** – Parking in this area is a mixture of retail, services and employment. For on-street areas, this will typically be shorter stay parking such as two-hour time-restricted. For off-street areas, this will be a mixture of shorter stay and longer stay parking. This mixture of parking time restrictions is representative of the varied uses within this area, and highlights the importance of assessing each area on its' own merits.

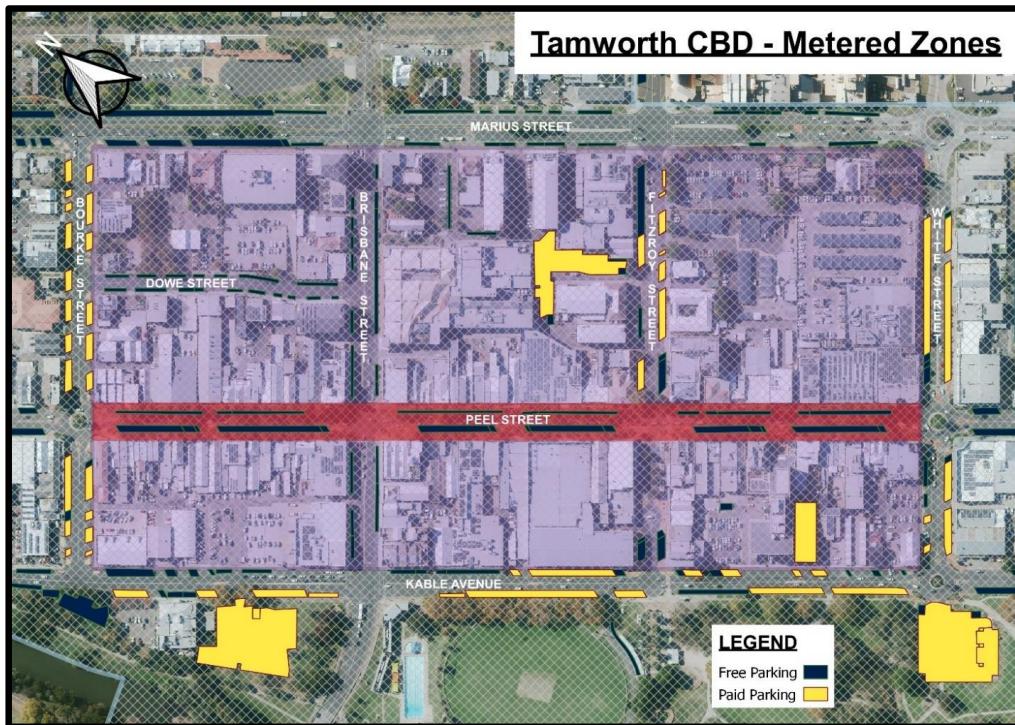
- **Outer** – Typically longer stay parking which is representative of workers in the CBD and recreational areas such as Bicentennial Park. This is the main area in which all-day off-street parking is to be provided.



The existing CBD parking network is a blend of:

- All-day parking
- Time restricted parking
- Metered parking
- Free parking
- Disabled parking
- Loading zones
- Bus zones
- Taxi zones





In 2022, a detailed public parking occupancy survey was conducted for the Tamworth CBD. It identified which parking spaces were typically occupied throughout the week. This data extends upon previous occupancy surveys completed in the CBD, giving Council an important insight into parking behaviour and changes in recent years.

Car Park	No. All-Day Spaces	No. Vacant Spaces	% Vacant (9am-4pm)
Community Centre	201	22	10.9%
No.1 Oval	31	2	6.5%
Solander Drive	139	137	98.6%
Griffin Avenue	112	13	11.6%
Ray Walsh House South	35	17	48.6%
Gipps Street	195	187	95.9%
Car Park	135	24	17.8%
White Street	115	80	69.6%
Byrnes Avenue #1	94	13	13.8%
Byrnes Avenue #2	42	13	31.0%
RSL Carpark	22	0	0.0%
Peel River (Long Vehicle)	7	4	57.1%
CWA Hands of Fame	112	54	48.2%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1240</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>45.6%</b>

Type	No. Spaces	No. Vacant Spaces	% Vacant (2022)
All-Day	608	196	32.2%
4P	87	46	52.9%
3P	81	40	49.4%
2P	971	365	37.6%
1P	221	25	11.3%
30min	4	0	0.0%
15min	13	5	38.5%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1985</b>	<b>677</b>	<b>34.1%</b>

The data from the survey tells us that motorists in the CBD:

- Want conveniently located all-day parking;
- Avoid paying for parking where possible;
- Prioritise parking as close to the destination as possible, even if it means increased travel times in finding an available parking space;
- Struggle to find vacant parking spaces on Peel Street (highly competitive); and
- Avoid parking on the fringes of the CBD (safety, walking distance, restricted mobility and/or time constraints are all potential reasons why)

This data along with community feedback and a technical assessment of our parking network has formed the basis of the Action Plan within this Strategy.

As we move forward, it is expected that a number of parking areas and certain types of parking (<2hr) will become saturated over the coming 10-20 years in response to natural population growth and major traffic generating developments such as the proposed Tamworth Adventure Pool, proposed University of New England Tamworth CBD Campus and the proposed Tamworth Performing Arts Centre. Putting appropriate planning measures in place now will ensure that parking does not become problematic and that the CBD remains an attractive place to visit.

One of these measures includes identifying suitable locations for multi-storey car parks which are located in areas that:

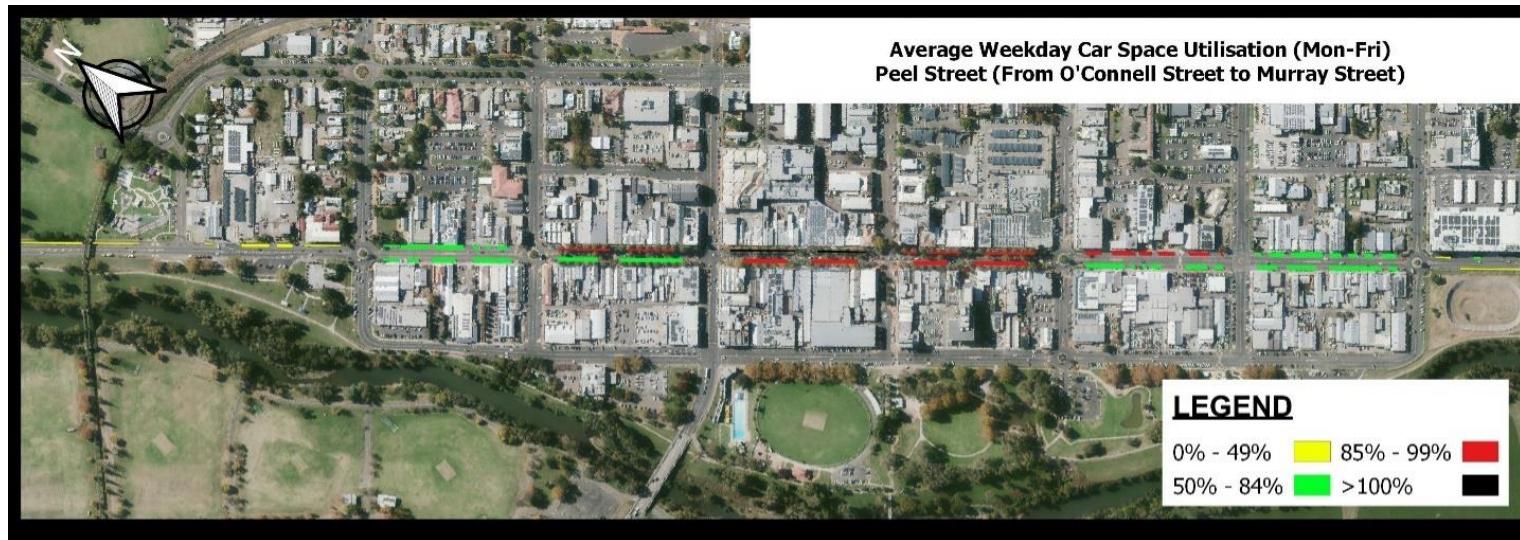
- Cater for major traffic generating developments;
- Cater for areas that are expected to exceed existing car parking capacity based on natural population growth;
- Are conveniently located to many services;
- Are inclusive of those with reduced mobility; and
- Are safe to use during all hours of the day.

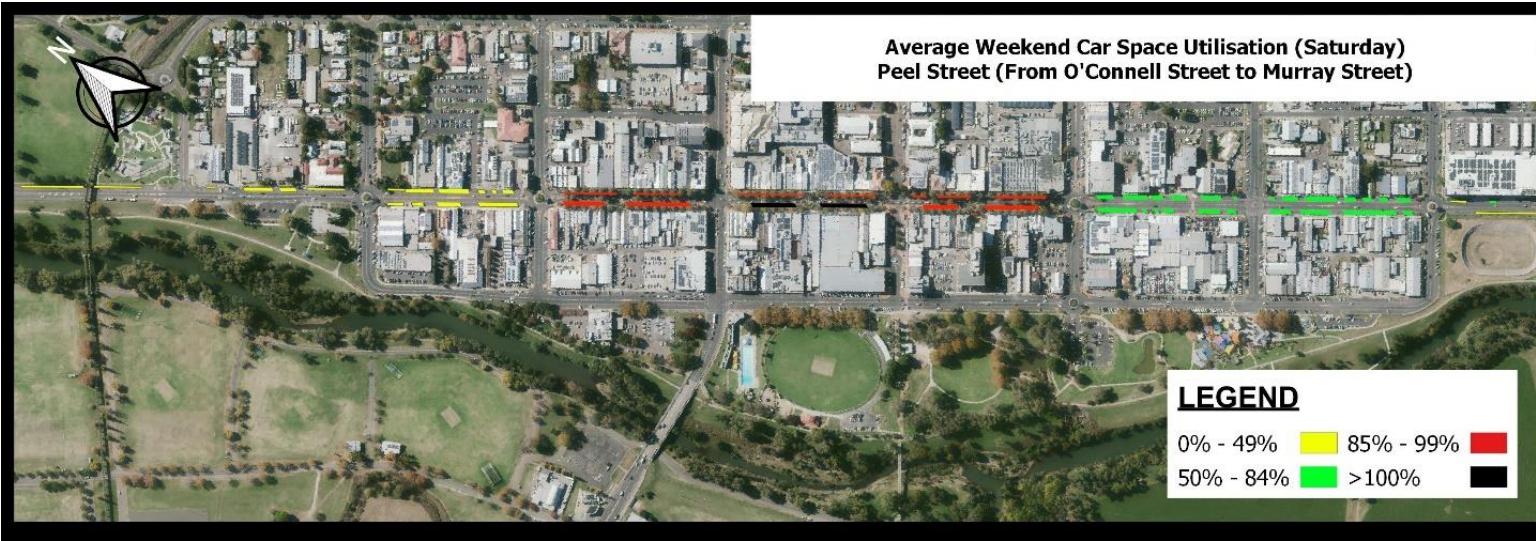
The key parking objectives for the Tamworth CBD are:

- Making our existing parking network more efficient, more safe and more user-friendly in line with industry best practice principles;
- Improve the way we undertake enforcement, including making it safer and more efficient for our parking rangers;

- Be “future-ready” for a changing transport landscape, including using technology to improve the parking experience and accommodating the increased use of electric vehicles;
- Ensure the safety and convenience of those visiting the CBD who have reduced mobility; and
- Encouraging use of alternate transport modes for accessing the CBD (e.g., walking, cycling, carpooling, public transport)

The below images highlight how the current structure of parking in the CBD is not working, with almost near or at capacity parking for many areas along Peel Street – particularly between White Street and Brisbane Street. This greatly exacerbates congestion, reduces the user experience and reduces urban amenity.





### Tamworth Sports and Entertainment Precinct

Situated at the southern edge of the Tamworth urban area, the Tamworth Sports & Entertainment Precinct is a 120Ha area which features a number of established international, national and regional standard sporting facilities and a regionally significant entertainment centre. Existing facilities include:

- Australia Equine and Livestock Events Centre (AELEC)
- Tamworth Sports Dome
- Tamworth Regional Entertainment and Conference Centre (TRECC)
- Tamworth Regional Athletics Centre
- Tamworth Regional Hockey Complex
- Tamworth Regional Cycling Centre

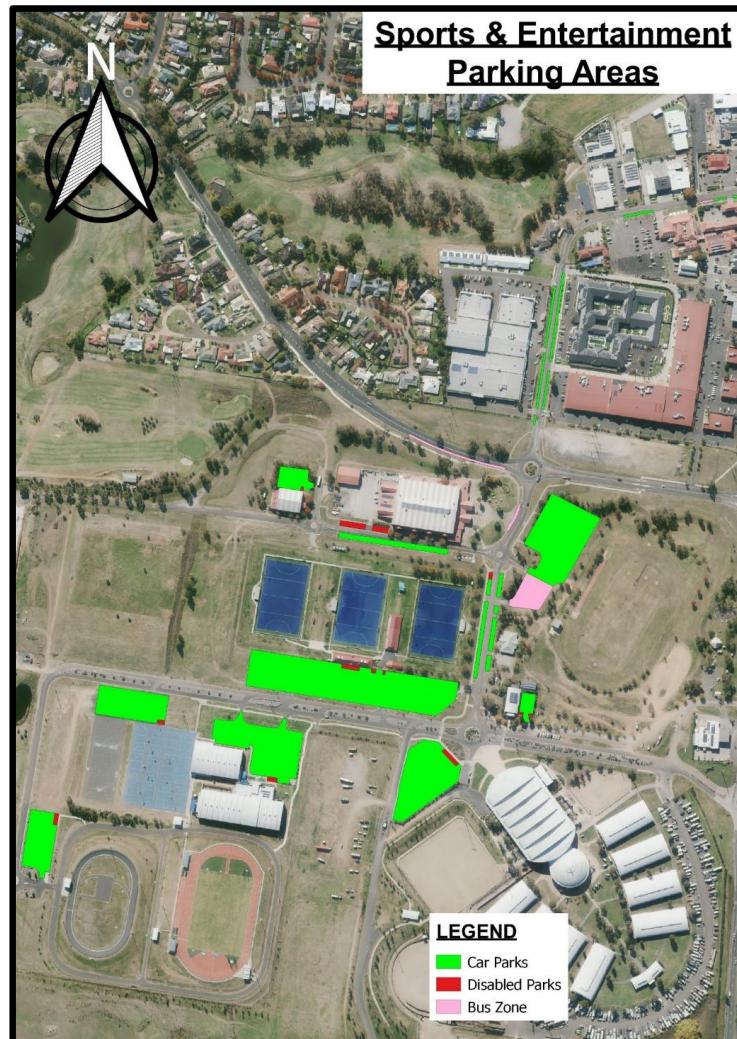
The proposed Tamworth Regional Aquatics Centre will also be constructed in the area.

Whilst each of the facilities has unique parking requirements, it is important that the Precinct is also assessed as a whole. This includes event management planning (minimising clashes) and sharing of parking resources. It is poor asset management practice to provide parking spaces which are rarely fully utilised. Conversely, it is good asset management practice to share parking resources, and encourage people to walk, ride or use public transport options, whilst providing an appropriate number of parking spaces.

Parking demand can vary significantly in the Sports and Entertainment Precinct:

- Some events are regular and have regular parking demand (e.g. weekend or afternoon sport)
- Some events are irregular and have irregular parking demand (e.g. entertainment events, some sporting events/carnivals)
- Some generate very large traffic and parking demand (e.g. large TRECC and AELEC events)

This blend of parking highlights the importance of knowing when large events are on to avoid clashes which helps minimise the number of permanent parking spaces, and instances of car parking capacity being exceeded.



Car Park	No. All-Day Spaces
Cycling car park	97
Netball car park	59
Sports Dome car park	179
AELEC car park	157
Quarter Horse car park	20
Hockey car park	430
Gymnastics car park	37
TRECC car park	187
On Street Carparking	215
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1381</b>

The key parking objectives for the Sports and Entertainment Precinct are:

- Better sharing of existing formalised parking areas through reducing clashes of major events (event planning schedule);
- Establishing safe and functional overflow parking areas for each of the facilities; and,
- Encouraging use of alternate transport modes in accessing the Precinct (e.g. walking, cycling, carpooling, public transport).

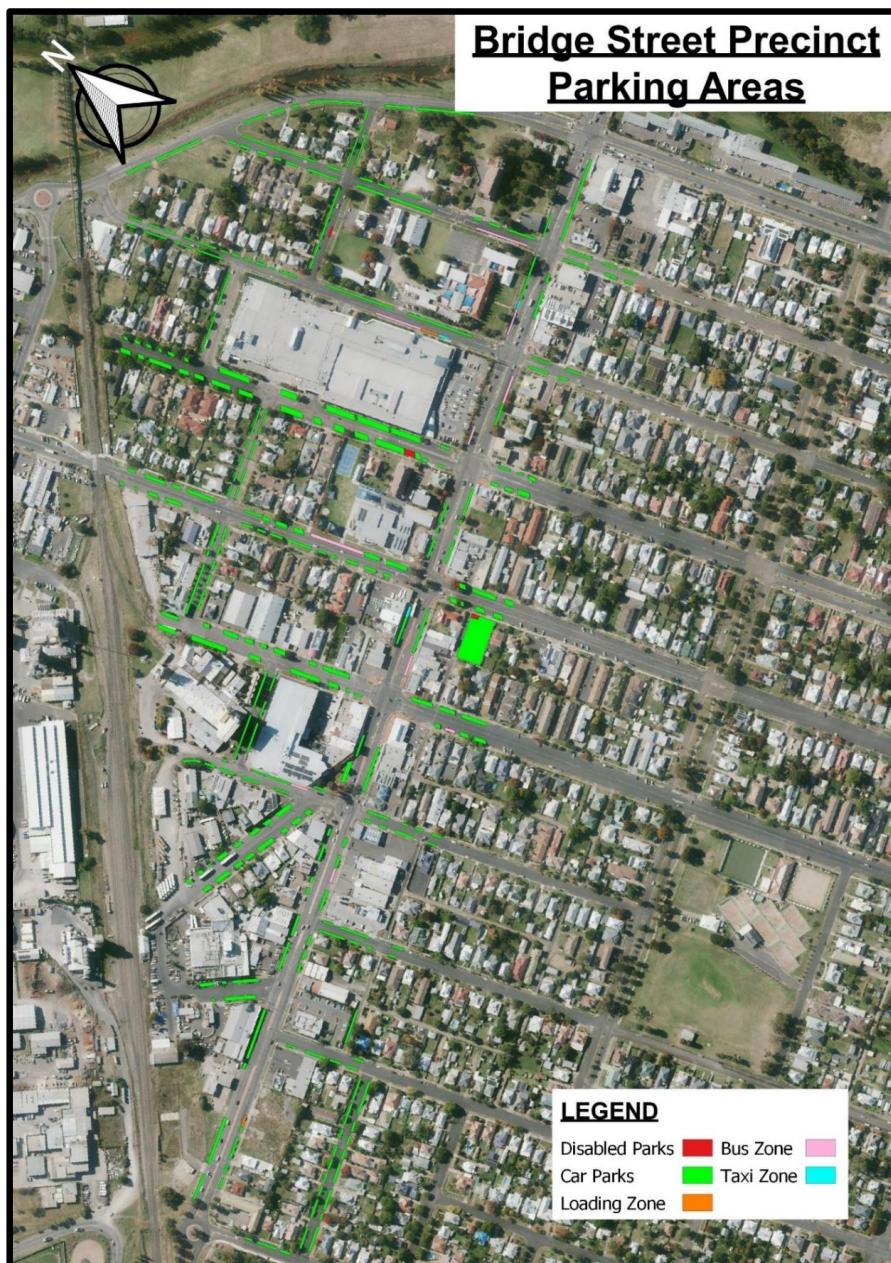
### **Tamworth Bridge Street Precinct**

The Bridge Street Precinct is located within Tamworth's inner west urban area and is bordered by the Main Northern Railway and Taminda industrial area to the north, the residential area of West Tamworth to the south, and the Tamworth CBD/Peel River to the east.

Within Blueprint 100 and the Tamworth Regional Local Strategic Planning Statement 2020, the Bridge Street Precinct is identified as a critical growth area for providing a mix of attractive housing options, employment opportunities and connectivity to other key areas of Tamworth. More specifically, some of the following objectives are outlined for the Precinct:

- Integration – Facilitate an increase in medium density residential development including shop top housing and affordable housing options (e.g. units);
- Investment – Encourage gentrification through identifying suitable sites for future developments which will support the Precinct as an inner-city residential and employment zone;
- Connectivity – The Oxley Highway (Bridge Street) is a major road corridor through the Precinct which creates a severance between the northern and southern side of the road. Reducing this severance for users of the Precinct whilst maintaining the efficiency of this road corridor is important to achieving the overall vision; and,
- Public Realm – Identifying suitable areas for shared spaces to enhance the liveability and play-ability within the Precinct.

Transport, and importantly car parking will play an important role in supporting Council's vision for the Bridge Street Precinct. Currently, there are very limited public off-street car parks within the Precinct, with only one off-street car park provided. This model encourages motorists to search for long-stay on-street car parks which is not in line with best practices.



Car Park	No. All-Day Spaces
Denison Street car park	54
On Street all day spaces	895
On Street 2P spaces	45
On Street 1P spaces	123
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1117</b>

The key parking objectives for the Bridge Street Precinct are:

- In line with the overall vision for the Precinct, identify suitable areas for future off-street car parks to encourage long-stay parking off-street;
- As the Precinct evolves, investigate implementing timed parking restrictions aligning with industry best practice; and
- Encouraging use of alternate transport modes in accessing the Precinct (e.g. walking, cycling, carpooling, public transport)

### Sporting Fields and Recreational Areas

There are many highly used sporting fields and recreational areas around our region, particularly on weekends. A large portion of those who use our sporting fields and recreational areas are younger, vulnerable pedestrians. We need to ensure that community members can access these facilities safely, and this includes where visitors are able to park their cars.



*Tamworth Skate Park including The Deck Café.*

Quite often, car parking associated with these facilities has very low utilisation, however what makes these areas unique is that car parking demand can significantly increase over a short period time – corresponding with sport start/finish times, and weekend recreation activities (playgrounds, parks etc.). In many areas, the car parking demand regularly exceeds the number of available formalised car parks. This then causes motorists to either park in informal parking areas, or have their occupants “dropped off”, or park a considerable distance away from their destination.

Each of these alternatives can create safety issues, in particular:

- Some overflow/informal parking areas are highly unsafe as they can result in:
  - Vehicles parking in dangerous manoeuvring areas;
  - Pedestrians walking across high trafficked roads;
  - Pedestrians “entering” the road environment from behind parked vehicles, resulting in poor sight distance for both motorists and pedestrians;
  - Vehicles causing damage to vegetated areas; and
  - Non-designated pickup/drop-off zones can result in vehicles parking temporarily in dangerous areas.

Similarly, some of our existing formalised parking areas may not be the most suitable for the given facility that is being accessed and used.



*Example of damage caused by vehicles parking in informal areas (Gipps Street Sporting Fields).*

The key parking objectives for our Sporting Fields and Recreational Areas are:

- Providing off-street parking areas that are appropriately sized and located for the expected parking demand;
- Identifying safe informal overflow parking areas (if required for that area);
- Restrict vehicles from parking in locations which leads to potentially unsafe manoeuvres and/or endangers pedestrians;
- Prioritise the safety of vulnerable pedestrians who utilise our sporting fields and recreational areas;
- Identify suitable pickup/drop-off areas (if required for that area); and,
- Encouraging use of alternate transport modes in accessing our sporting fields and recreational areas (e.g., walking, cycling, carpooling, public transport).

## Our Towns and Villages

Based on community feedback, parking in our towns and villages is relatively easy for the most part. However, most requests for improvements in these areas is related to providing more disabled parking and long vehicle parking.

Our towns and villages rely heavily upon tourism to support local businesses. It is important that Council facilitates easy to find and fit-for-purpose car parking to ensure that visitors have a positive user experience.

Overall, the key parking objectives for our Towns and Villages are:

- Provide a suitable number of disabled parking spaces and in the correct areas – noting that our towns and villages have (on average) a higher proportion of elderly residents than Tamworth;
- Cater for tourism parking, and in particular long-vehicle parking close to the main street(s) and businesses; and
- Improve line marking and signage for existing on-street parking spaces

Further information on the layout of existing parking arrangements in our towns and villages is located in *Appendix A – Supporting Information*.

## An Evolving Network

Providing a “smart parking network” particularly within the Tamworth CBD can greatly enhance the user experience, whilst also strongly assisting in managing our car parks.

A smart parking network involves the use of technology to assist both the community and Council with parking. Examples of this include integrating enforcement software/tools such as LPRCs, parking meters, parking sensors and parking app(s). Other examples include being “future ready” such as identifying locations that may be suitable for electric vehicle charging bays.

Details of these initiatives are provided below:

### Electric Vehicle Parking

With the NSW State Government setting a target of 52% of all vehicle sales being Electric Vehicles (EVs) by 2030-31, there is an increased responsibility for Local Government to explore feasible locations for implementing public EV charging facilities in partnership with private enterprises. These locations must broadly fit the following criteria for them to be suitable:

- Be located close to other services such as retail, sporting, recreational and/or food, and
- Be easily accessible to the travelling public.

Council is currently not in the position to fund these charging facilities and the associated infrastructure. However, Council can work closely with private enterprise to facilitate identifying suitable locations for EV charging bays (on a case-by-case basis). As the fleet of electric vehicles continues to grow, providing EV chargers in the right locations will assist the State Government in reaching its EV targets.

### Rideshare Services

Ridesharing is a safe, reliable and affordable transport mode. With services “on-demand”, ridesharing services allow users greater flexibility in where they travel to and from. Unlike public transport, ridesharing services require little space to operate, only requiring use of either a standard car park space or a small pickup/dropoff zone.

Ridesharing can assist in reducing the number of required parking spaces, along with reducing congestion (as passengers often carpool). As Tamworth continues to grow, it is important that convenient locations for ridesharing vehicles to pickup/dropoff are identified and designated as such. This includes areas such as the Tamworth CBD and the Sports and Entertainment Precinct.

### Advanced Guidance Signage and Parking App

A major contributor to congestion in a CBD environment is motorists looking for a vacant parking space closest to their destination. Quite often, these parking spaces are highly sought after and are often occupied. This results in motorists then searching for another parking space, creating additional “unnecessary” traffic congestion.

Navigating motorists efficiently to available parking spaces can significantly reduce congestion and improve the user experience. This can be achieved through parking sensors, advanced guidance signage and smart parking app integration.

#### **Parking Meters/Enforcement**

Simplifying our parking meters and enforcement processes can improve the efficiency for motorists and safety for parking officers. Currently motorists need to park their vehicle and walk some distance to a parking meter and pay. Some parking meters accept coin and/or card. This can make things difficult when mobility may be a barrier, or the parking meter is located in the opposite direction to travel, or during times of poor weather.

There are many modern alternatives to the standard coin/card and ticket operated parking meter, including payment via smart phone apps and ticketless booths. These options can reduce the amount of time it takes someone to pay for their parking, and make it easier for those using paid parking.

Similarly with enforcement, there are many modern alternatives to walking around and chalking tyres – including license plate recognition cameras (LPRCs). These methods are safer, more time efficient and accurate than the currently used method.

#### **Planning for the Future**

Improving our parking network requires substantial financial input and a concerted effort between Council, private developers, existing businesses and the State Government. Achieving the overall vision will take some time, although it is important that the foundations of working towards this commence as soon as possible. This includes establishing an appropriate revenue stream which essentially makes the management and improvement of local car parking self-funded.

The primary sources of income for managing our car parks are metered car park fees and enforcement (fines). Ensuring we have adequate funds to manage car parks does not necessarily mean there is a need for more paid parking spaces or raising fees to unreasonable levels. It does mean, however, ensuring we implement paid parking in the right locations for the right fee (in alignment with best parking practice), so safe, efficient and functional network can be provided as it is needed.

Council currently runs at a net annual loss in providing enforcement services while there is a small profit from parking meter income. The parking meter income goes into a Parking Reserve which is used to cover the following for the entire region's network:

- Existing car park renewal/maintenance;
- New public car parks (on-grade, multi-storey etc.);
- Car park improvements (e.g. line marking, lighting, CCTV, landscaping, shading); and,
- Other car park related infrastructure improvements such as connecting footpaths, shared paths, etc.

If we are to maintain and improve our parking network as we continue to grow, then there must be a shift towards increasing the budget which is allocated to be invested in car parks and associated infrastructure. This is likely to be via parking meter changes in the Tamworth CBD, and noting that all income from car parking is used for the sole purpose of maintaining and improving our regional parking network.

The below table gives an indication of the expected financial trajectory of the parking reserve for a few different scenarios, noting that all of the below items include the ongoing maintenance, renewal, line marking, landscaping and lighting of existing car parks.

Without making any changes to our existing parking network structure will result in a two-fold deficit; financially and operationally. That is, we will not have enough funds to maintain (let alone improve) our current parking network. This includes no new car parks able to be constructed due to lack of funding. Operationally, we know that our existing parking network is not structured as efficiently as it can be, including not aligning with industry best practice. This means that we are not maximising the user experience for those visiting the Tamworth CBD and our wider region.

Parking Network Changes	Net Profit/Loss – 20 Year Projection
Remove all parking meters	- \$18 million
No change to current network	- \$7.5 million
Proposed changes within Strategy	+ \$1.5 million
Further changes to paid parking network	+ \$12 million

Note: As mentioned previously, our car parking reserve funds car parking infrastructure (existing and future) across our entire LGA. This means that the profit/loss projections must cover all car parking in our region, including ongoing maintenance.

## Our Action Plan

Action	Expected Year
<b>Short-term</b>	
Introduce parking meters in Peel Street (White Street to Bourke Street)	2025
Introduce further time-restricted parking on Peel Street (White Street to Bourke Street) of a weekend (1hr limit)	
Remove parking meters in all off-street car parks	
Purchase new ticketless parking machines for Tamworth CBD	
Expand areas which we carry out enforcement and the frequency these areas are patrolled, including weekend patrols	
Continue the use of License Plate Recognition Cameras (LPRCs) for parking enforcement vehicles	
Consolidate parking enforcement, parking sensors, smart parking app and parking meter providers/technology	
Investigate sale of Byrnes Avenue No.2 Car Park	
Carry out "operational" changes across our regional parking network such as minor adjustments to parking time restrictions/locations, loading zones, disabled car parks etc. in line with best parking practice(s). This will be achieved following consultation with key stakeholders.	
Remove all-day and 4P parking spaces on Kable Avenue and change to 3P	
Change 2P in Town Hall Car Park to 3P	
Change 3P in Community Centre Car Park to all-day parking & change 2P in NRMA Car Park to all-day parking	
Reseal CWA Hands of Fame Car Park	
Reseal Griffin Avenue Car Park	
Update the Tamworth Regional Parking Strategy	2029

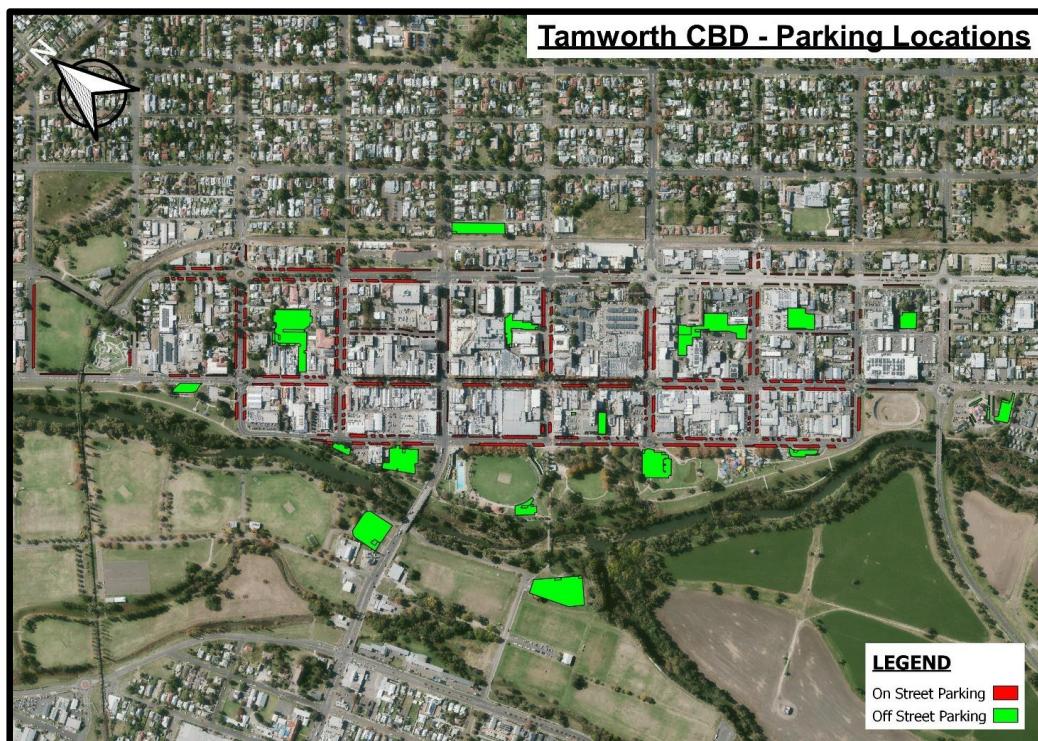
<b>Manage our paid parking network</b>	
Meter our parking spaces in line with current best practices	Ongoing
Charge appropriate hourly and all-day rates which best manage and reflect our parking network, regularly reviewing parking rates and adjusting as appropriate within Council's Fees and Charges	
Monitor effects of pricing on parking occupancy, income and community feedback	
<b>Encourage use of alternate transport modes to reduce impact on road network</b>	
Expand our walking and cycling network to/from key traffic generating and parking demand areas	Ongoing
Provide end of trip and mid trip facilities for pedestrians and cyclists which facilitate increased participation	
<b>Improve efficiency and safety of our parking enforcement</b>	
Ensure that the current method(s) of carrying out enforcement are the most efficient and safe methods for our rangers	Ongoing
<b>Provide accessible parking for the community</b>	
Provide new accessible parking spaces in line with best practices and consultation with key stakeholders including DAWG	Ongoing
Review existing accessible parking network and improve the safety and functionality of these spaces as required	
<b>Construct multi-storey car parks as required</b>	
Work with private developers to ensure that parking outcomes provide the greatest net community benefit – this includes potential partnerships between private developers and Council	Ongoing
Continued investigation of new sites for construction of additional off-street carparks, including options for a multistorey car park	
<b>Improving use of long-stay parking areas</b>	
Maintain our existing car parks at an appropriate condition	Ongoing
Undertake infrastructure improvements including lighting, CCTV, line marking and shading	
Improve ease in which motorists can navigate to long-stay parking areas	

<b>Manage our parking in the towns and villages</b>	
Be responsive to issues raised by the community in our towns and villages	Ongoing
Ensure our parking areas are attractive and practical for use by tourists, particularly for long-vehicles	
Provide a suitable number of disabled parking spaces in the correct areas	
Improve line marking and signage quality for existing on-street parking spaces	
<b>Improve safety of our parking areas</b>	
Particularly for those car parks which have low “passive surveillance”, install CCTV, lighting and improve sight lines	Ongoing
Ensure that our car parks are sufficient size and located in suitable locations so as to prevent poor parking and pedestrian behaviour, such as informal parking in undesirable/unsafe areas	
Formalise parking areas around our sporting and recreational facilities to reduce instances of informal unsafe parking and pedestrian behaviour	Ongoing
<b>Getting the most out of our existing parking resources</b>	
Using LPRC data, review the utilisation of our car parking network and identify any necessary changes to make the network more efficient and meet the needs of the community	Ongoing
Prioritise maximising the efficiency of our existing parking network, such as line marking, providing appropriate time restrictions, metered zones and disabled parking	Ongoing

## Appendix A – Supporting Information

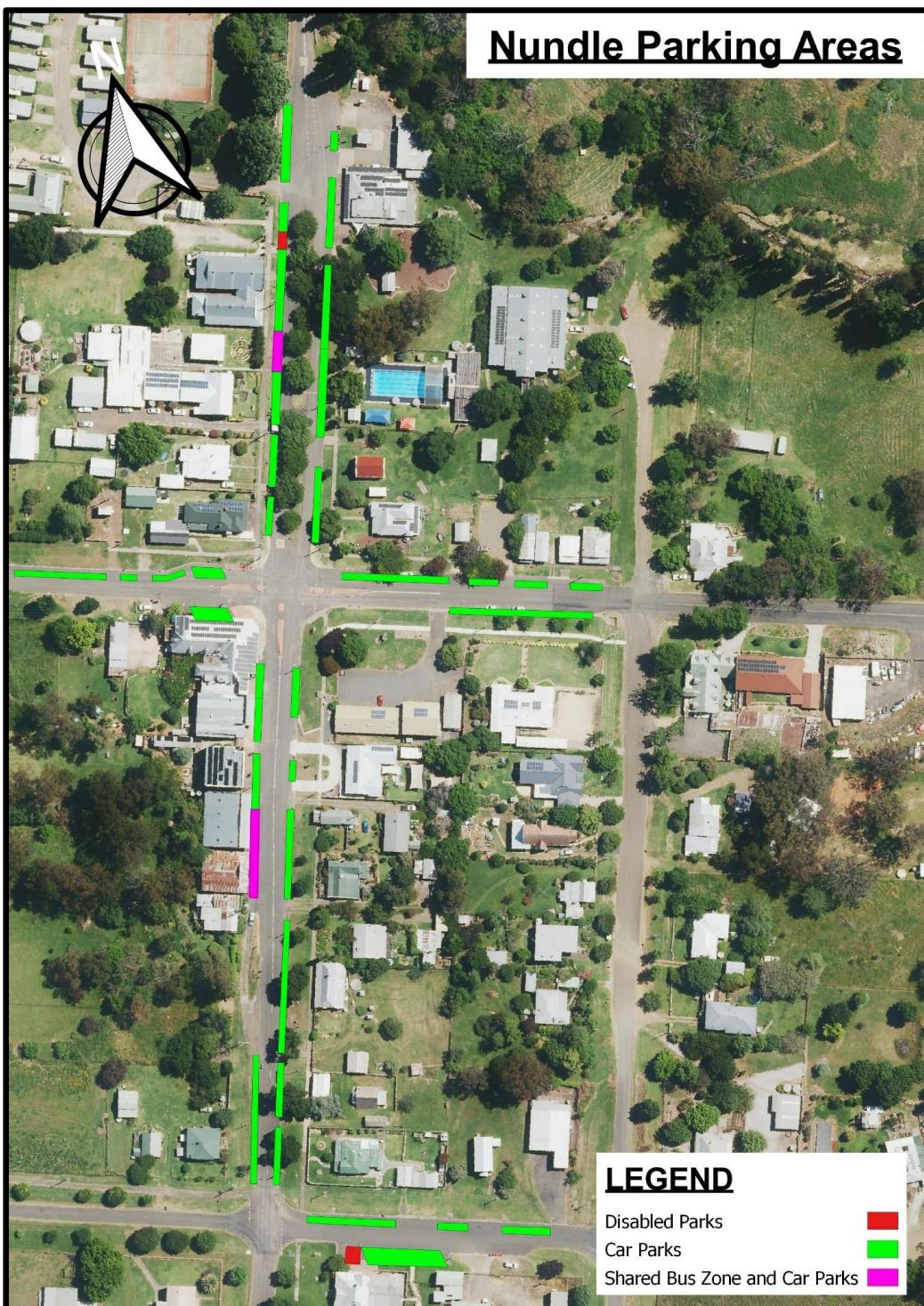
### *Breakdown of Tamworth CBD Parking*

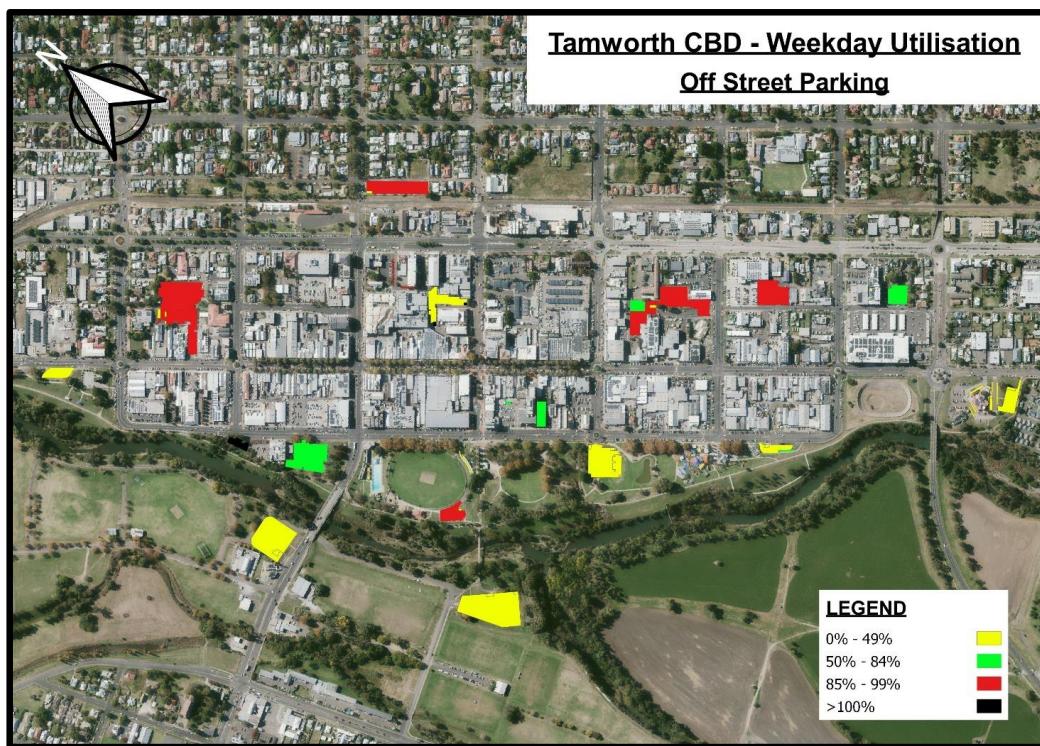
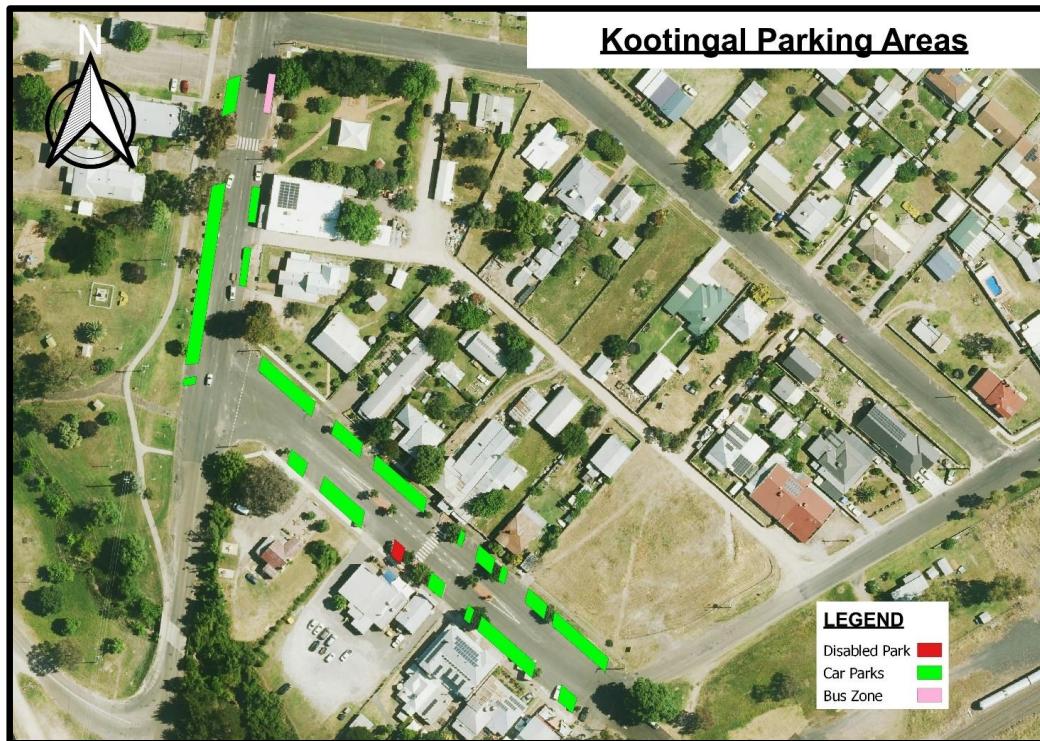
Type	On-Street	Off-Street	TOTAL	%
All-Day	608	1270	1878	55%
4P	87	0	87	3%
3P	81	29	110	3%
2P	971	108	1079	32%
1P	221	4	225	7%
30min	4	0	4	0%
15min	13	0	13	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1985</b>	<b>1411</b>	<b>3396</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>%</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>100%</b>	

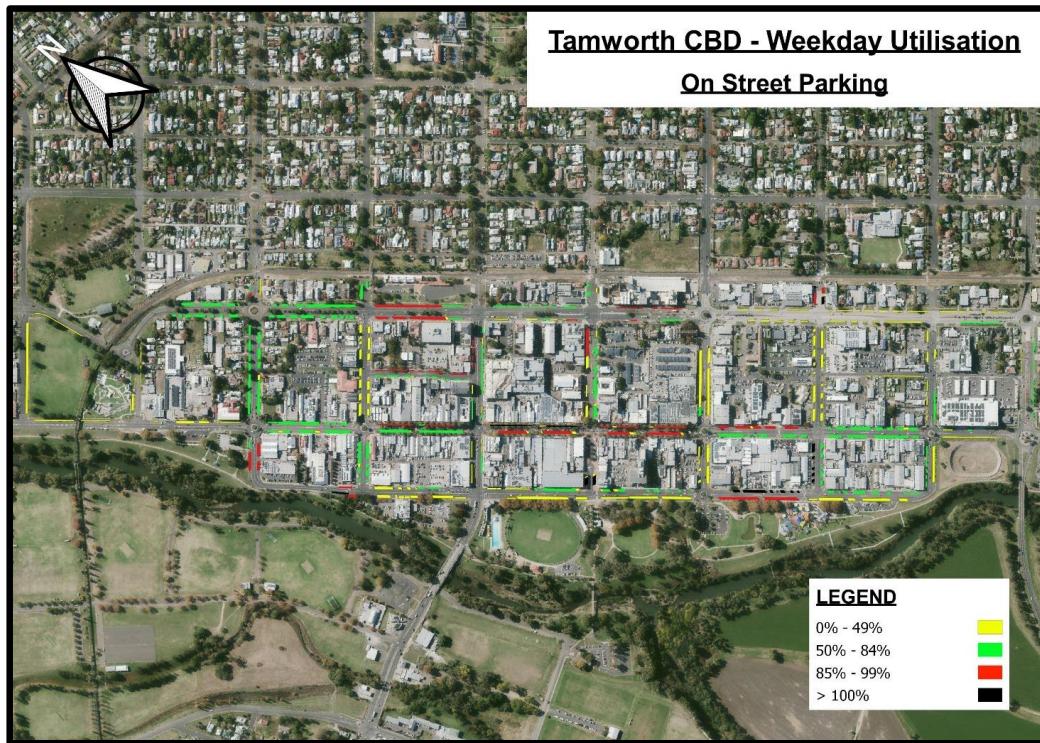












## REDUCTION IN WATER CONSUMPTION CHARGES

**OBJECTIVE:** To ensure Council applies a consistent approach when considering reductions in water charges due to internal leaks or unexplained increases.

### POLICY

From time to time a property owner will request Council reduce the total water charge levied for a period because the amount of water consumed, as indicated by the meter reading, is significantly greater than has been used at the property previously and the property owner indicates they are unaware of the reason for this increase, or the reason for this increase is due to an internal leak within the property downstream of the water meter. This Policy details the procedure to be followed when such a request is made. The Director Water and Waste is authorised to approve any refunds or crediting of accounts as required under this Policy.

#### 1. FOR INCREASES WHICH THE PROPERTY OWNER IS UNABLE TO EXPLAIN

##### 1.1 Meter Test

A property owner requesting a reduction in water charges due to an unexplained increase in water consumption must first pay for a meter test to ensure the water meter is reading accurately – See Council Policy Water – Stopped or Inaccurate Water Meters; except where the consumption is based on the last reading of the old manual meter servicing the property. In this circumstance Council will waive the necessity of having the old meter tested.

##### 1.2 Conditions where Council will consider reducing charges

If the water meter is found to be reading accurately and;

- The water meter reading has been checked and no obvious error in reading is apparent;
- there is at least three years of water consumption records for the same property regardless of property ownership;
- the property has used on average less than 4 Kilolitres of water per day for the previous 3 years regardless of property ownership;
- Council staff agree, based on daily water consumption at the same property over the previous three years, regardless of property ownership, during similar periods as the period in question, that the daily consumption figures indicated by the water meter reading, the subject of the complaint are significantly higher (for example greater than 100% higher) than previous readings taken during similar periods at the same property;
- The property owner has undertaken investigation in an effort to ascertain whether there is an internal leak in water plumbing downstream of the water meter servicing the property – and no leak is found;
- The property owner agrees to allow Council staff to undertake on site investigations, where necessary, to ascertain whether there is an internal leak - and no leak is found.

##### 1.3 Replace the water meter

Council will replace the water meter on the subject property, even if testing indicates that it is not faulty, at no cost to the property owner.

## 2. FOR INCREASES WHICH THE PROPERTY OWNER CLAIMS IS DUE TO AN INTERNAL LEAK

### 2.1 Council to investigate

A property owner requesting a reduction in water charges due to an internal leak must allow Council staff to undertake on site investigations to ascertain the nature of the leak and, if required, proof that the leak has been repaired.

### 2.2 Conditions where Council will consider reducing charges

If Council is satisfied an internal leak has occurred and:

- there is at least 3 years of water consumption records for the same property regardless of property ownership;
- the property has used on average less than 4 Kilolitres of water per day for the previous 3 years regardless of property ownership;
- Council staff agree, based on daily water consumption at the same property over the previous 3 years, regardless of property ownership, during similar periods as the period in question, that the daily consumption figures indicated by the water meter reading, the subject of the complaint are significantly higher (for example greater than 100% higher) than previous readings taken during similar periods at the same property;
- The property owner has identified and repaired the leak thought to have caused the increased consumption.

## 3. HOW WILL THE CHARGES/CONSUMPTION BE REDUCED

Regardless of the reason given for the increase in consumption, and assuming the criteria listed in 1.1 and 1.2 or 2.1 and 2.2 above are met, Council may reduce the water consumption charge and water consumption figures, for the disputed period, as follows;

### 3.1 Charges

The charge levied will be withdrawn and replaced with:

The average daily consumption for similar periods in the preceding three years (regardless of ownership of the property), multiplied by the number of days during the period in question, multiplied by the appropriate charge.

### 3.2 Year to date consumption figures

If the charge is withdrawn as per 3.1 above then the total consumption figures on the subject property for the subject financial year will be adjusted, as if the lesser quantity of water had been consumed in the disputed period. If necessary subsequent charges for the remainder of the financial year in which the disputed consumption occurred will also be amended.

## 4. LIMIT ON SIMILAR CLAIMS

To prevent property owners from repeatedly claiming discounts in water consumption under this Policy Council will not consider such requests from property owners if a similar request, whether due to an internal leak or an unexplained increase, has been made for the same property within the previous 5 years.

## 5. LIMIT ON WHEN CLAIMS CAN BE MADE

Property owners must make a claim for reduction in water consumption charges within 3 months (90 days) of the date of Council's invoice which details charges based on increased consumption. Except when the invoice under dispute is dated before 30 June 2023 and relates to the last reading of the old manual meter servicing the property. In this case the period for making a claim under this Policy will be 120 days.

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- **History:** Reviewed— Ordinary Council Meeting 22 October 2024 – Min No 281/24
- Reviewed August 2023 – Updated – Ordinary Council Meeting – Min No 189/23
- Reviewed July 2020– Updated – Ordinary Council Meeting – Min No
- Adopted as Tamworth Regional Council Policy at Ordinary Meeting 27 May 2014; Min No: 127/14

*Tamworth Regional Council Staff Policy*

**ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING ON PUBLIC LAND POLICY**

**1. PURPOSE**

1.1 The purpose of this Policy is to provide criteria for the provision, installation, management, maintenance, and removal of EV charging stations on public land in the Tamworth Regional Council Local Government Area (LGA). The Policy outlines the principles for planning EV charging infrastructure on public land and to support the selection of the correct type of infrastructure at the right location.

This policy does not apply to the provision of EV charging stations on private land. Council does not preference provision of EV charging stations on public land over private land.

**Context**

Council has adopted an Electric Vehicle Strategy. The purposes of this policy is to help implement relevant parts of this strategy.

**2. COMMENCEMENT OF THE POLICY**

2.1 This Policy will commence from May 2024.

**3. APPLICATION OF THE POLICY**

3.1 This Policy applies where it is considered that provision of EV charging infrastructure on public land is in the public interest.

**4. SITE SELECTION CRITERIA**

4.1 The site selection criteria are as follows:

- existing public carparking spaces only within established carparks;
- the electricity supply infrastructure capacity of the existing electrical supply network is suitable or can be reasonably upgraded at no cost to Council;
- the land is located within reasonable walking distance of public amenities and shops (CBD, as well as north, south, east, west Tamworth centres), village centres, tourism location; or suitable highway locations where ultra-fast charging is used;
- the land has a reasonable connection to the wider road network;
- the land is not constrained by flooding, relevant environmental factors or future development(s) identified in Council's various strategic plans;
- the facility will not adversely impact upon the amenity of the surrounding development or the public domain;
- the facility is open for vehicular and pedestrian access at all times day and night;
- the facility is compliant with relevant Australian standards and road design guidelines; and
- appropriate risk assessment of the site is completed by the service provider, with the outcome showing charging station software is located a safe distance away from hazards
- Council has limit of 12 EV charging points in public carparks in the Tamworth CBD

4.2 Permission granted by Council for the provision of a charging station on Council land will not preclude Council from allowing other providers, including Council, to offer charging facilities on nearby land or through the use of 'Smart Poles' or similar infrastructure, with or without charging fees to end users.

**5. EV CHARGING DESIGN REQUIREMENTS**

**5.1 Visibility and Identification**

- the Facility and all ancillary infrastructure shall be visible and accessible for users to find;

*Tamworth Regional Council Staff Policy*

- all EV parking bays shall be labelled 'EV Charging Only' (or similar) painted on the sealed surface;
- integration of a mobile app accessible via apple and android smart devices;
- appropriate signage to mark that the charging bays are for EV charging only, if an EV car parked and not charging or a non-EV/Plug in Hybrid car is parked in a charging bay, the driver can incur a fine;
- adequate lighting available in the carpark to read associated signs, see all charging equipment and charging inlet on vehicles, as well as all instructions on the charging infrastructure; and
- promotion of tobacco, alcohol and gambling and related industries is not permitted on any advertising infrastructure related to the EV charging station. The use of such advertising by any provider is to be disclosed to Council in the initial application process. Any advertising that may be approved is to be undertaken in accordance with the Outdoor Media Association Code of Ethics. Separate Planning approvals may be required for advertising.

**5.2 Parking Configuration**

- all aspects of EV charging bays are to be designed in accordance with the relevant Australian standards and current industry best practice;
- all EV parking bay pavements shall be constructed to council specifications, including sealing, kerb and guttering, pram ramps, signage and line marking, as required by council;
- preference to be given to providers that include charging bays that are compliant with the Disability discrimination act 1992 which includes compliance with current standards for access (AS2890.5/2890.6); and
- preference will be given to the provision of EV charging infrastructure at a minimum, of two related (e.g., adjoining/ adjacent) carparking spaces in any given location

The loss of existing parking spaces shall be minimised where practicably possible

**5.3 Charging Technology**

Council's objective is to facilitate the provision of EV charging infrastructure in an efficient, inclusive and accessible manner. All EV charging stations on public land in the Council area are to provide fast charging capabilities.

The installation of EV charging on public land shall be consistent with the state government policy Future Transport 2056 - NSW ELECTRIC AND HYBRID VEHICLE PLAN and current industry practices and at a minimum include:

- consistent standards for charging connections based on European CCS2 and CHAdeMO for DC fast chargers, and Type 2 for AC charging;
- preference for connected and smart chargers, to allow the most efficient energy use for both consumers and network operators;
- preference for all EV charging infrastructure to have a minimum input power capacity of 50kw; and
- where possible the charging cable shall have the capacity to reach all points of the carparking space, to cater for EVs with front, rear or side charging points. Cables should not be a hazard for pedestrians or other vehicles at any given time.

**5.4 Energy Source**

Preference will be given to charging stations that use renewable energy to supply the charging station, through onsite solar and battery backup, green power or a renewable power purchase agreement.

*Tamworth Regional Council Staff Policy***6. LEASING ARRANGEMENTS****6.1 Terms of Lease/ License**

- any provision of EV charging stations on public land will be subject to licensing / leasing arrangements drafted by the provider, or similar, and agreed between the provider and Council;
- This lease agreement will be for a term of 5 years, with an option to extend by a further 5 years at Council's discretion, with an option to agree to the extension at the beginning of the contract where there is a large upfront cost to the provider for the upgrade of a transformer, substation or similar;
- creating EV charging locations on public land results in loss of existing parking infrastructure. Compensation in the form of a once off upfront fee per carpark will be required;
- the upfront fee for CBD public carparking spaces will be 50% of the rate detailed in *Council Fees and Charges – Tamworth Regional Council | Planning, Building and Development | Development Contributions | Tamworth Regional Section 94 (Direct) Contributions Plans 2013 | CBD Car Parking* as amended from time to time;
- The upfront fee only applies for the installation at a new location, additional parking bays including for disability access or at the commencement of the policy;
- For the purpose of this Policy the White Street and Griffin Avenue carparks are to be considered as CBD carparks
- For the purpose of this policy, the Hall of Fame carpark is to be considered outside the CBD
- in addition, a charge will be levied on an annual basis per carparking bay for all carpark spaces taken out of service for the purpose of EV charging provision or associated access. This charge will be as detailed in Council's Fee and Charges and updated from time to time. The amount of the annual fee is dependent on whether the chargers are located in the CBD or outside the CBD and will be included in Council's Annual Fees and Charges;
- Energy used by the EV charging station is at no cost to Council; and
- Provider must have current insurances in accordance with Council's insurance requirements.

**6.2 Installation, maintenance, and removal**

- the installation, maintenance and removal associated with the operation of any approved EV charging station is the responsibility and cost of the provider. This includes installation of ancillary infrastructure such as car parking spaces, signage, line marking, pavement marking, and the like, and the future reinstatement of the site;
- the provision of lighting is the responsibility of the provider, the lighting design must be agreed with Council prior to installation and removal;
- under the lease agreement the provider shall implement a maintenance schedule which includes regular inspections. All maintenance and works shall be carried out in a timely manner to avoid delays to service, with a requirement for providers offering 24/7 customer service based in Australia to be confirmed in the application submission;
- third party providers should produce and maintain relevant insurances and all other hazards relating to the facility should be considered by them and managed appropriately. Non-compliance with this provision may lead to the termination of any agreement between the provider and Council and may result in the forced removal of EV charging and ancillary infrastructure, at the cost and responsibility of the provider;

*Tamworth Regional Council Staff Policy*

- the specific terms are to be determined as part of any license/lease arrangement, or similar;
- any damage created by the providers during installation, maintenance and removal of their equipment at the charging site and the surrounding area will be rectified at the expense of the providers; and
- In some instances, the installation of an EV charging station will fall within the exempt development provisions of the NSW State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021. However, a Development Application (DA) may still be required depending on the proposed location. It is the provider's responsibility to obtain any required consents or approvals, including an environmental assessment under Part 5 of the EP & A Act where required before carrying out the activity.

**POLICY VERSION AND REVISION INFORMATION**

Policy Authorised by: Paul Bennett Title: General Manager	Original issue: 28-05-2024
Policy Maintained by: Bruce Logan Director Water and Waste	Current Version 1

*National Priorities  
Need Local Solutions*

24 - 27 June 2025 | National  
Convention Centre Canberra

**National  
General  
Assembly  
Discussion Paper**



## **KEY DATES**

**18 December 2024 | Opening of Call for Motions**

**31 March 2025 | Acceptance of Motions closes**

**24 June 2025 | Regional Cooperation & Development Forum**

**25 - 27 June 2025 | National General Assembly**

**TO SUBMIT YOUR MOTION**

**VISIT: [ALGA.COM.AU](http://ALGA.COM.AU)**

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) is pleased to convene the 31st National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA), to be held in Canberra from 24-27 June 2025.

As convenor of the NGA, the ALGA Board cordially invites all councils to send representatives to this important national event.

The NGA is the premier national gathering of local governments, and provides councils with the opportunity to come together, share ideas, debate motions, and most importantly unite and further build on the relationship between local government and the Australian Government.

This discussion paper contains essential information for Australian councils considering submitting motions for debate at the 2025 National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA).

It is recommended that all councils and delegates intending to attend the 2025 NGA familiarise themselves with the guidelines for motions contained in this paper on page 6.

## **BACKGROUND TO ALGA AND THE NGA**

ALGA was established 1947. In structure, ALGA is a federation of member state and territory associations. Its mission is to achieve outcomes for local government through advocacy with impact, and maximise the economic, environmental and social wellbeing of councils and our communities.

Since 1994, the NGA has built the profile of local government on the national stage, showcased the value of councils, and most importantly demonstrated – particularly to the Australian Government – the strength and value of working with local government to help deliver on national priorities.

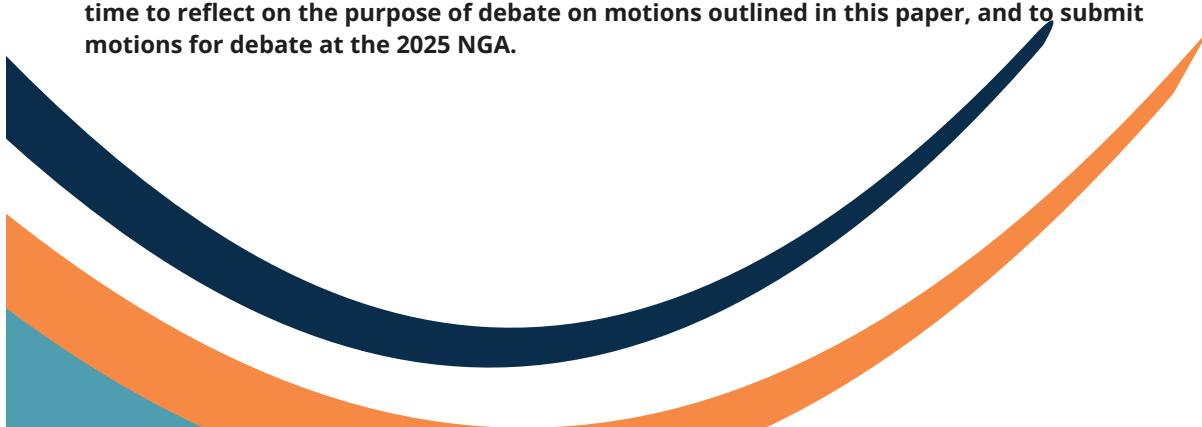
Debate on motions was introduced to the NGA as a vehicle for councils from across the nation to canvas ideas. Outcomes of debate on motions (NGA Resolutions) could be used by participating councils to inform their own policies and priorities, as well as their advocacy when dealing with federal politicians.

At the same time, they help ALGA and its member state and territory associations gain valuable insight into council priorities, emerging national issues, and the level of need and support for new policy and program initiatives.

Given the structure of ALGA, its Constitution, and level of resources, the NGA does not bind the ALGA Board. However, the Board carefully considers NGA resolutions as it determines ALGA's policies, priorities and strategies to advance local governments within the national agenda.

This is your NGA and ALGA is pleased to act as the convenor. ALGA's policies and priorities will continue to be determined by the ALGA Board in the interests of all councils.

**The ALGA Board thanks all councils for attending the NGA and those that will take the time to reflect on the purpose of debate on motions outlined in this paper, and to submit motions for debate at the 2025 NGA.**



## **SUBMITTING MOTIONS**

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The theme of the 2025 NGA is – *National Priorities Need Local Solutions*

In June 2025, Australia will either have a re-elected Labor Government, or a new Coalition or minority government.

The 31st National General Assembly of Local Government will focus on opportunities for councils to work with the next Federal Government to deliver local solutions that will help them deliver on their vision for the nation.

As the closest government to communities, councils understand local challenges and opportunities. They are a willing partner in government, and sustainably funded can provide place-based solutions to a range of national priorities including affordable housing, energy transition, road safety, increasing productivity, and improved health and wellbeing.

This discussion paper is a call for councils to submit motions for debate at the 2025 NGA to be held in Canberra from 24-27 June 2025.

Motions for this year's NGA should consider:

- Any new practical programs or policy changes that can strengthen the system of local government nationally to provide the services and infrastructure required to support and strengthen our communities; and/or
- New program ideas that would help the local government sector to deliver place-based solutions to national priorities.

Motions should be concise, practical and implementable and meet the guidelines for motions set out in the paper.

You are encouraged to read all the sections of the paper but are not expected to respond to every issue or question. Your council's motion/s must address one or more of the issues identified in the discussion paper.



Motions must be lodged electronically using the online form available on the NGA website at: [www.alga.asn.au](http://www.alga.asn.au) and received no later than 11:59pm AEST on Monday 31 March 2025.

All notices of motions will be reviewed by the ALGA Board's NGA Sub-committee prior to publishing the NGA Business Paper to ensure that they meet these guidelines. This sub-committee reserves the right to select, edit or amend notices of motions to facilitate the efficient and effective management of debate on motions at the NGA. For example, the sub-committee may recommend an overarching strategic motion to encompass several motions on the same topic.

All NGA resolutions will be published on [www.nationalgeneralassembly.com.au](http://www.nationalgeneralassembly.com.au).

As the host of the NGA, ALGA will communicate resolutions to the relevant Australian Government Minister and publish Ministerial responses as they are received on this website.

Please note that if your council does submit a motion, there is an expectation that a council representative will be present at the NGA to move and speak to that motion if required.

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at the 2025 NGA.

# CRITERIA FOR MOTIONS

To be eligible for inclusion in the NGA Business Papers, and subsequent debate on the floor of the NGA, motions must meet the following criteria:

1. Be relevant to the work of local government nationally.
2. Not be focused on a specific jurisdiction, location or region – unless the project or issue has national implications.
3. Be consistent with the themes of the NGA.
4. Complement or build on the policy objectives of ALGA and your state or territory local government association.
5. Be submitted by a council which is a financial member of their state or territory local government association.
6. Propose a clear action and outcome ie call on the Australian Government to act on something.
7. Not be advanced on behalf of external third parties that may seek to use the NGA to apply pressure to Board members, or to gain national political exposure for positions that are not directly relevant to the work of, or in the national interests of, local government.
8. Address issues that will directly improve the capacity of local government to deliver services and infrastructure for the benefit of all Australian communities.
9. Not seek to advance an outcome that would result in a benefit to one group of councils to the detriment of another.
10. Be supported by sufficient evidence and demonstrate the relevance and significance of the matter to local government nationally.

Motions must commence with the following wording:

*This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to*

...

**Please note:** that resolutions of the NGA do not automatically become ALGA's national policy positions.

The ALGA Board carefully considers NGA resolutions as it determines ALGA's policies, priorities and strategies to advance local governments within the national agenda, but the resolutions are not binding.

## OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER

It is important to complete the background section of the submission form. Submitters of motions should not assume that NGA delegates will have background knowledge of the proposal. The background section helps all delegates, including those with no previous knowledge of the issue, in their consideration of the motion. Please note, motions should NOT be prescriptive in directing how the matter should be pursued.

Try to keep motions practical, focussed and capable of implementation to ensure that relevant Australian Government Ministers provide considered, thoughtful and timely responses.

Try to avoid motions that are complex, contain multi-dot points and require complex cross-portfolio implementation.

All motions submitted will be reviewed by the ALGA Board's NGA Sub-committee, in consultation with state and territory local government associations, to determine their eligibility for inclusion in the NGA Business Papers.

When reviewing motions, the Sub-committee considers the criteria, clarity of the motion and the importance and relevance of the issue to local government.

If there are any questions about the substance or intent of a motion, ALGA will raise these with the nominated contact officer. With the agreement of the submitting council, these motions may be edited before inclusion in the NGA Business Papers.

To ensure an efficient and effective debate, where there are numerous motions on a similar issue, the NGA Sub-committee will group these motions together under an overarching strategic motion. The strategic motions will have either been drafted by ALGA or will be based on a motion submitted by a council which best summarises the subject matter.

Debate will occur in accordance with the rules for debate published in the Business Papers and will focus on the strategic motions. Associated sub-motions will be debated by exception only or in accordance with the debating rules.

Any motion deemed to be primarily concerned with local or state issues will be referred to the relevant state or territory local government association and will not be included in the NGA Business Papers.

All motions require:

- a contact officer;
- a clear national objective;
- a summary of the key arguments in support of the motion; and
- endorsement of your council

Motions should be lodged electronically using the online form available at [www.alga.com.au](http://www.alga.com.au).

Motions should be received no later than 11:59pm AEST on Monday 31 March 2025.



## SETTING THE SCENE

The theme for the 2025 NGA – **National Priorities Need Local Solutions** – highlights the unique role Australia's 537 councils can play delivering local, place-based solutions that meet the needs of their communities, while addressing broader national priorities.

The 2025 NGA provides you - the elected representatives of Australia's local councils and communities - with the opportunity to engage with the Federal Government and key Ministers.

Further, it is your opportunity to advocate for new or expanded programs and key policy initiatives that could strengthen local governments and its capacity to deliver services and infrastructure to local communities across the nation.

This year's call for motion focusses on twelve priority areas:

- Intergovernmental relations;
- Financial sustainability;
- Roads and infrastructure;
- Emergency management;
- Housing and homelessness;
- Jobs and skills;
- Community services;
- Closing the Gap and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Reconciliation;
- Data, digital technology and cyber security;
- Climate change and renewable energy;
- Environment;
- Circular economy





## 1. INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

For almost 30 years, local government was represented by ALGA on the Council of Australian Governments (COAG), providing local input into national decision making. However, when COAG was replaced by National Cabinet in March 2020, local government was not included.

National Cabinet is a forum for the Prime Minister, Premiers and Chief Ministers to meet and work collaboratively; and is a key mechanism in Australia's intergovernmental architecture. A representative of local government, the President of ALGA, is invited to meet with National Cabinet once each year, as well as one meeting of the Council on Federal Financial Relations comprising the Commonwealth Treasurer as Chair and all state and territory treasurers.

While National Cabinet was established to support a coordinated national response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the lack of local representation to this body has unfortunately impacted on decision making.

The Government's review into the COVID-19 response – published in October 2024 – found that Australia's 537 councils were critical for the implementation of National Cabinet decisions during the pandemic.

The inquiry also recommended National Cabinet would benefit from having more structured engagement and active consultation with local government to ensure future decision-making is informed at a local level.

In addition to attending one meeting per year of National Cabinet and CFFR, ALGA also represents local government on a range of Ministerial Councils and Forums, including the Infrastructure and Transport Ministers Meeting, National Emergency Management Ministers Meeting, Local Government Ministers Forum, Joint Council on Closing the Gap, Planning Ministers Meeting, Environment Ministers Meeting, Cultural Ministers Meeting, Energy and Climate Change Ministers Meeting, Road Safety Ministers Meeting, and Building Ministers Meeting.

*Given the important role councils play delivering local solutions to national priorities, how can intergovernmental arrangements be further improved in Australia?*

*Are there new initiatives and programs that could be adopted to improve the level of cooperation and collaboration between the Australian Government and local government?*

## 2. FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainably funded, councils can play a key role delivering local solutions to national priorities. However, across the country many councils are facing significant financial challenges and are struggling to fund the delivery of core community services.

Every year councils are being asked to do more with less as a result of cost shifting, inadequate state and federal funding and, in some jurisdictions, rate pegging.

In 2024/25 councils will receive \$3.27 billion in federal Financial Assistance Grants. This is approximately 0.5% of Commonwealth taxation revenue, which is half the amount it was in 1996. The Australian Parliament is currently undertaking an Inquiry into local government sustainability, to which ALGA, State and Territory associations and many councils provided submissions

ALGA's submission to this inquiry highlighted that:

- If local government were provided annually with an additional \$350 million for the maintenance and delivery of quality open space, Australia's gross domestic product (GDP) would increase by \$858.9 million each year.
- If local government were able to effectively increase its capacity to perform regulatory services in planning and building, there would be an annual saving of \$859 million for development proponents and would generate an additional \$1.67 billion in GDP each year.
- Increased block transfers of Commonwealth funds to local governments can deliver greater efficiency and administrative cost savings of \$236 million and would generate increase GDP by \$330.8 million each year.
- Reducing local government staff turnover can save \$425 million in avoided costs and lead to a \$619.9 million increase in GDP each year.
- Investing an additional \$1 billion each year into the maintenance of local government roads would increase GDP by \$354.6 million annually.

ALGA also stressed that the inquiry should not recommend any actions that will improve the financial sustainability of some councils to the detriment of others.

*What are the opportunities to address financial sustainability across councils, and support their capacity to deliver local solutions to national priorities?*

*Are there improvements to be made to existing federal funding programs and arrangements that would support improved local government financial sustainability?*



## 3. ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Local governments are responsible for around 75% of Australia's road network by length, and play an important role supporting productivity and improving road safety.

However, many councils are not resourced to effectively maintain their local roads, and independent research from the Grattan Institute in 2023 identified a \$1 billion annual local government road maintenance funding gap.

In November 2023 the Government announced that Roads to Funding would be progressively increased from \$500 million to \$1 billion per year over the forward estimates, effectively halving the current funding gap.

In addition to local roads, councils build and maintain community facilities and infrastructure worth more than \$100 billion nationally.

In 2020 the Australian Government introduced a new Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, which saw \$3.25 billion provided to all councils for local projects on a formula basis. ALGA's 2024 National State of the Assets highlighted the success of this federal funding program, reporting a \$1 billion improvement in the condition of local government facilities since the 2021 report.

*Are there new programs or initiatives that the Australian Government could adopt to improve the long-term sustainability of local government roads and community infrastructure?*

*Are there programs or initiatives that the Australian Government could provide to improve the sector's capacity to manage local government infrastructure and to integrate these plans into long-term financial plans?*

*Are there opportunities for the Australian Government to support councils to invest in local infrastructure that will help address national priorities?*

## 4. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Australia is experiencing weather events of greater intensity and frequency – which leads to increased impacts on communities and council resources. Over the past two years, more than 60 per cent of local government areas have been declared natural disaster areas, many of them multiple times.

In 2022 ALGA successfully advocated for a new \$200 million per year Disaster Ready Fund, and to date two rounds of funding have been provided through this program. This program has been legislated to run for five years.

Both rounds of the Disaster Ready Fund have been significantly oversubscribed, and ALGA is advocating for a significant increase in federal funding to improve the emergency management capability and capacity of local government.

The Royal Commission on National Natural Disaster Arrangements made two important recommendations for local government – calling for State and Territory Governments to take responsibility for the capacity and capability of local government for the functions which are delegated to them (recommendation 11.1), and recommending States and Territory Governments review arrangements for resource sharing between local governments (recommendation 11.2).

Released in November 2024, the Colvin Review (Independent Review of Commonwealth Disaster Funding) and Glasser Review (Independent Review of National Natural Disaster Governance Arrangements) both support a strategic shift towards disaster risk reduction and resilience. The Colvin Review also supports a major capacity uplift for local government and an enhanced national training and exercise regime which tests and builds local government capacity.

Councils are encouraged to draw on their practical experience of the improvements that could be made to managing emergencies.

Please note that many aspects of emergency management are state or territory responsibilities, and your motions should focus on how the Australian Government could assist.

*What new programs, or improvements to existing programs, could the Australian Government develop to partner with local government to improve the current natural disaster management systems to further assist in recovery and build resilience?*

*How can the Government best support Australian councils to prepare for, respond to and recover from natural disasters?*

## 5. HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

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Australia is currently facing a housing crisis which is resulting in more people experiencing housing insecurity and homelessness, while also preventing required worker movement across the country.

Councils are not responsible for building housing. Many councils do, however, play a key role in facilitating housing supply by appropriately zoning land and approving development. Others are going above and beyond to address the housing crisis, albeit without adequate resourcing.

One of the biggest issues is a lack of funding for infrastructure such as roads, water and power connections that are necessary for new housing developments.

The National Housing Accord – which ALGA is a signatory to on behalf of local government - sets an ambitious target of 1.2 million new, well-located homes over the next five years.

Research commissioned by ALGA, and delivered by Equity Economics, showed that there is currently a \$5.7 billion funding shortfall for the enabling infrastructure required to bridge the gap between current constructions and Australia's housing targets.

Another significant issue is local government's lack of input into setting housing policy at both a state, territory and federal level. While ALGA represents councils on a wide range of ministerial councils, it is not currently a member of the Housing and Homelessness Ministerial Council or National Cabinet.

A key focus for councils is ensuring that any new housing developments are not just supported by enabling infrastructure, but also the local facilities and services that are vital for healthy, productive and resilient communities.

*What new programs and policies could the Australian Government develop to partner with local government to support the provision of more affordable housing?*

*How can the Australian Government work with councils to address the causes and impacts of homelessness?*



## 6. JOBS AND SKILLS

Local government is a major employer in Australia providing employment, career advancement and training opportunities for more than 200,000 Australians, across an estimated 400 occupations.

However, councils – like many employers across the nation – are experiencing skill shortages that hinder their ability to meet community needs.

The 2022 Local Government Workforce Skills and Capability Survey show nine out of every ten Australian councils are facing jobs and skills shortages.

65% of respondent local governments said that project delivery had been impacted or delayed by vacancies, skills shortages, skills gaps or training needs.

The top five most cited skill shortages that local governments experienced were engineers (as noted by 46% of 2022 survey respondents), urban and town planners (40%), building surveyors (36%), environmental health inspectors (30%) and human resources professionals (29%).

Drivers of skill shortages include difficulty attracting young people to local government jobs, lack of available training courses, wage competition, and lack of resources to upskill the current workforce such as access to training facilities for rural/remote councils, workplace supervisors, subject matter experts, and contextualised training resources.

National priorities, such as increasing housing supply, cannot be achieved without support from local government and the right people to do the work.

*Are there programs or initiatives that the Australian Government could implement that would enhance local government's capacity to attract and retain appropriately skilled staff now and into the future?*

*Are there programs or changes to existing programs that would increase local government's ability to employ apprentices and trainees?*

*Are there other initiatives that the Australian Government could provide to improve the sector's ability to plan and develop skills fit for the future?*

## 7. COMMUNITY SERVICES

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Councils provide a wide range of services based on local characteristics, needs, priorities, and the resources of their community.

Some of these services are provided to address market failure, and many of them are provided by councils on behalf of other levels of government.

It is important to note that nationally local government is more than 83% self-sufficient ie funded at the local level either through rates, fees and charges, sale of goods and services, or interest. The Australian Bureau of Statistics data shows that total local government annual expenditure in 2022-23 was \$48 billion.

Only 17% comes from grants and subsidies from other levels of government. Unfortunately, many of these grants and subsidies are tied, or competitive funding programs, or require matching funding which restricts the ability to address local priorities in the way the council and community might need.

Local government community services are broadly defined, and may include but are not limited to:

- environmental health including food safety;
- childcare, early childhood education, municipal health;
- aged care, senior citizens;
- services to people living with disability;
- programs to address disadvantage, to reduce poverty and homelessness;
- sporting and recreational programs;
- arts and cultural activities, programs and festivals;
- tourism and economic development activities;
- library services

*Noting the funding arrangements for the provision of local government community services are there programs and initiatives that the Australian Government could implement to improve the delivery of these services?*

*Are there reforms or improvements in national community services program that would help local governments support the Australian Government to deliver on its national objectives?*



## **8. CLOSING THE GAP AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER RECONCILIATION**

In 2021, ALGA co-signed a landmark national agreement to close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. At the heart of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap Partnership are four agreed priority reform targets and 19 socio-economic targets in areas including education, employment, health and wellbeing, justice, safety, housing, land and waters, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages.

Local governments are uniquely placed to support partnerships to address long term service gaps and support their delivery. Councils are elected by their communities and have the longitudinal scope to develop a community's economic, skills, and infrastructure needs.

Local governments already play a significant role in helping their communities and the Closing the Gap outcomes. However, councils need appropriate resourcing, be it through place-based initiatives, or broader programs, to better facilitate and meet program objectives in their communities.

*Are there programs or initiatives that the Australian Government could adopt to assist local government to advance reconciliation and close the gap?*

*Are there practical programs or initiatives that local government and the Australian Government could introduce to maintain, build and strengthen partnerships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and governments?*

## 9. DATA, DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY AND CYBER SECURITY

Provision of information technology to all Australians is vital to innovation, economic growth, and social equity. However, it is potentially even more important to regional Australia where the tyranny of distance increases the inequity of services available – including education, health, economic and social. Innovative technology is becoming more broadly available and could boost productivity and economic growth.

Councils around Australia continue to embrace new technologies to improve their service delivery standards and broaden consultation and engagement with their local communities. However, implementation can be hindered without access to basic technological infrastructure and the necessary IT skills and resources.

In recent times, cyber-attacks on major corporations and other businesses have resulted in significant data breaches. It is a timely reminder as digital information, services and products become an increasing feature of modern business operation including in local government.

Like all risks, local government must manage the risk of cyber-attacks and address cyber security.

While this is primarily a responsibility of the sector itself, governments at all levels must work together to ensure that the public have confidence in government information management systems and its security.

*Drawing upon your council's experience, and your knowledge of other councils within your state or territory, are there programs and initiatives that the Australian Government could implement to help local government develop its digital technology services and infrastructure?*

*Are there actions the Australian Government could take to improve cyber security within the local government sector?*



## 10. CLIMATE CHANGE AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

Climate change is resulting in more frequent and severe disasters, coastal erosion, and rising heat, which are all impacting on the liveability of Australian communities.

Local governments play a role in emissions reduction through reducing their corporate emissions and supporting broader national processes of decarbonisation through community engagement, and provision of services and infrastructure.

The 2024 Local Government Climate Review found that 89% of councils have set or planned ambitious corporate emissions reduction targets.

Councils also play a critical role supporting their communities through change, helping them to adapt and build their resilience. The latest Local Government Climate Review found that two-thirds have done a climate risk assessment and 72% are implementing initiatives.

Barriers to adaptation include internal resourcing (70%), funding (67%), complexity and not knowing how to respond (53%), and limited technical expertise and capacity (48%).

Councils need support to adequately assess climate risk and vulnerabilities and adequately address them in plans, policies investment decisions and engagement with communities. Unfortunately, funding and support from other levels of government has failed to keep pace, placing an inequitable burden on the sector.

The rapid increase in renewable energy projects in regions across Australia is resulting in uneven and inconsistent community benefits being offered and delivered to communities. It is also placing significant pressure on local governments to plan, negotiate and secure an enduring constructive legacy associated with renewable energy projects.

Local governments are the only local democratic institution in a position to convene local interests and broker long term social and economic benefits from renewables projects, and should be recognised and supported for their role in maintaining social license for renewables projects.

*Noting the Australian Government's approach to reducing emissions, are there partnerships, programs, and initiatives that local government and the Australian Government can form to achieve Australia's 2050 net zero emissions target?*

*What are the opportunities to support councils to increase community resilience to the impacts of climate change?*

*What support do councils need to ensure that renewable energy projects deliver lasting benefits to the communities that house them?*

## 11. ENVIRONMENT

The Australian Government's Nature Positive Plan states "Almost half of Australia's gross domestic product (GDP) has a moderate to very high direct dependence on nature. The rate at which we are eroding the environment poses tangible risks to Australia's economic, financial and social stability."

Australia's 537 local governments undertake broad and diverse work to support environmental outcomes.

However, councils do not receive adequate support for this work, which includes managing pests, weeds, and biosecurity threats, contributing to water security and management, managing parklands and reserves, and community education.

In recent years the National General Assembly has considered a range of environmental issues, and passed resolutions on biodiversity, biosecurity, conservation, climate change and water security.

*How could the Australian Government partner with local government to strengthen Australia's environmental services and infrastructure?*

*What new programs could the Australian Government partner with local government in to progress local regional and national objectives?*



## 12. CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Australia's volume of waste continues to increase compared with population growth and GDP, even with rates of recycling improving over the past decades.

The 2022 National Waste Report showed that waste generation has increased by 20% over the last 15 years (8.3% from municipal waste). Since 2006-07, recycling and recovery of Australia's core waste has increased by 57% (+22% in municipal) however Australia continues to have one of the lowest rates of recycling among OCED countries.

Local governments are under pressure to respond to community demand for addressing pollution, while at-capacity landfills and emerging problematic materials pose serious operational challenges.

Collecting, treating, and disposing of waste costs local governments an estimated \$3.5 billion annually.

ALGA believes the onus for waste reduction should be borne by industry, not local governments. Mandatory product stewardship approaches, including payments to local governments for their resource recovery services, would ensure the principle of producer responsibility is operationalised and the cost and risk burden on local governments is rebalanced.

*How could the Australian Government further strengthen product stewardship arrangements to support local governments in their endeavours to increase recycling and reduce the volume of waste?*

*How could the Australian Government partner with local government to advance the circular economy?*



## CONCLUSION

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Thank you for taking the time to read this discussion paper and your support for the 2025 National General Assembly of Local Government.

A final reminder:

- Motions should be lodged electronically at [www.alga.com.au](http://www.alga.com.au) and received no later than 11.59pm on Monday 31 March 2025.
- Motions must meet the criteria published in this paper.
- Motions should commence with the following wording: 'This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to...'
- Motions should not be prescriptive in directing how the matter should be pursued.
- Motions should be practical, focussed and relatively simple.
- It is important to complete the background section on the form.
- Motions must not seek to advance an outcome that would result in a benefit to one group of councils to the detriment of another.
- When your council submits a motion there is an expectation that a council representative will be present at the 2025 National General Assembly to move and speak to that motion if required.
- Resolutions of the National General Assembly do not automatically become ALGA's national policy positions. The resolutions are used by the ALGA Board to inform policies, priorities and strategies to advance local governments within the national agenda.

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at the 2025 National General Assembly in Canberra.







## INSTRUMENT OF DELEGATION TO Mayor

On Tuesday, 11 February 2025 the Tamworth Regional Council ("Council") resolved that:

1. All previous delegations of Functions the subject of this Instrument be revoked.
2. Pursuant to section 377 of the LG Act to delegate to the Mayor authority to exercise and/or perform on behalf of the Council the Council's Functions identified in **Schedule 1** subject to any condition or limitation specified.
3. The Mayor be conferred authority to carry out the Policy Authorities listed in **Schedule 2** and undertake any administrative actions necessary to carry out those Policy Authorities.
4. These delegations and authorities are subject to, and are to be exercised in accordance with:
  - a. the requirements of the relevant Legislation;
  - b. any conditions or limitations set out in **Schedule 1, Schedule 2 and Schedule 3**; and
  - c. any resolution or policy, procedure or budget adopted from time to time by the Council.
5. These delegations and authorities are effective from the date of the Resolution of the Council and remain in force until amended or revoked by a resolution of the Council.
6. In this delegation:
  - o 'Functions' means powers, authorities, duties and functions and anything ancillary or related to the exercise or performance thereof.
  - o 'Legislation' means legislation enacted by the parliament of New South Wales and the parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, including an Act, regulation made under an Act, by-law, rule or ordinance.
  - o 'LG Act' means the *Local Government Act 1993* as amended.



## Schedule 1: Delegated Functions

### Local Government Act 1993

Function Code	Function	Condition/ Limitation (if any)
LG Act 004  Powers and Duties under the Local Government Act 1993	<p><b>Mayor Functions –</b></p> <p>Authority to exercise and/or perform the role of the mayor as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) To be the leader of the Council and a leader in the local community;</li><li>(b) To advance community cohesion and promote civic awareness;</li><li>(c) To be the principal member and spokesperson of the governing body, including representing the views of council as to its local priorities</li><li>(d) To exercise, in cases of necessity, the policy making functions of the governing body of the council between meetings of council</li></ul> <p><b>Pursuant To –</b></p> <p>section 226</p>	
Management of Council Meetings and Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) To preside at and chair all Council Meetings of the Council</li><li>(b) To call Extraordinary Meetings of Council when required.</li><li>(c) To ensure that meetings of the council are conducted efficiently, effectively</li></ul>	Subject to any applicable provisions of the Code of Meeting Practice



	<p>and in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993</p> <p><b>Pursuant To –</b></p> <p>section 226</p>	
Public Statements and Media Releases	<p>(a) To advise the media and respond to enquiries from the media on matters relating to the affairs of the Council and local government area generally.</p> <p>(b) To issue media releases and make statements to the media on behalf of the Council.</p> <p><b>Pursuant To –</b></p> <p>section 226</p>	
Sign and Execute Documents	<p>To sign correspondence or any document<sup>6</sup> requiring the Council Seal.</p> <p><b>Pursuant To –</b></p> <p>section 226</p>	<p>Execution of any documents under Council Seal must be carried out in compliance with Clause 400 of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulation 2021</i></p>
Councillor attendance at seminars and conferences	<p>To approve the attendance of Councillors at any seminar, conference, meeting or training but only if there is no Council Meeting prior to the closing date of registrations</p>	<p>In accordance with the Councillor Expense and Facilities Policy</p>
Negotiations on Behalf of Council	<p>In conjunction with the General Manager, to participate in negotiations on behalf of the Council with third parties and in connection</p>	<p>This function is subject to the limitation that no contractual agreement is to</p>



	<p>with the sale, purchase and lease of land and buildings.</p>	<p>be entered into without a resolution of Council unless the contractual agreement is authorised by a separate delegation.</p>
Represent Council – Government and other Forums/External relations and representations	<p>(a) To act as the official spokesperson of the elected Council;</p> <p>(b) To determine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• who should represent Council on external organisations and committees and inter-agency working parties, where Council has not determined a representative; and</li><li>• who should represent Council at civic ceremonial and social functions, where the Mayor is unable to attend and Council has not determined its representative</li></ul>	<p>This function is subject to the limitation that before a determination is made that a staff member should represent Council, the Mayor must consult with the General Manager.</p> <p>(c) To represent the Council, in conjunction with the General Manager, in deputations to government, inquiries and other forums where it is appropriate that the Mayor</p>



		should present the Council's position.
Organisational Accountability and Performance Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) To exercise the powers, authorities, duties and functions of Council under the General Manager's Contract of Employment, having regard to any functions of a Performance Review Panel or Policy in effect.</li> <li>(b) To provide oversight and monitor General Manager in the exercise of the General Manager's powers, duties and functions</li> <li>(c) To receive complaints about the General Manager and manage those complaints in accordance with the Code of Conduct and Procedures for the Administration of the Code of Conduct and any other policy in effect.</li> <li>(d) To consider and approve or otherwise determine applications for leave submitted by the General Manager</li> <li>(e) To approve the attendance of the General Manager at any seminar, conference or course provided that it is within the adopted budget.</li> </ul>	

## Schedule 2: Policy Authorities

Code	Policy Authority	Conditions / Limitations (if any)
CP FIN008 OGM10K	To incur expenditure up to \$10,000 on the Mayoral	In accordance with the Procurement Policy



Expenditure	Corporate Credit Card in relation to Council Business	
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### Schedule 3: General Limitations

Limitation (if any)
N/A

Pursuant to a Resolution of the Council at its Meeting of Tuesday, 11 February 2025

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Cr Jeff Budd

Deputy Mayor

Date: Tuesday, 11 February 2025

### Delegate Acknowledgement of Delegation

I Russell Webb do hereby acknowledge that I have read and understood this Instrument of Delegation and that I will perform these delegations and authorities in accordance with this Instrument of Delegation and my position description.

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Mayor of Tamworth Regional Council

Date:

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## 2024-2025

### Annual Donations Program

#### Application Assessment Panel Meeting

Tuesday, 14 January 2025

Meeting Room1, 474 Peel Street, Tamworth

#### Overview of Applications

- Budget of \$75,746.00 (includes schools, excludes recurring donations)
- 44 (including two late application) applications received
- 11 applications from 2022-2023 recipients
- Total donations requested \$184,676.67
- Largest donation requested \$16,555
- Smallest donation requested \$500
- 76 schools, preschools and childcare centres to receive a total of \$4,620
- Ten recurring donations totalling \$72,050:

1.	Tamworth Conservatorium Music	\$30,915
2.	Tamworth RSL Brass Band	\$5,330
3.	Tamworth Highland Society Pipe Band	\$7,462
4.	Manilla Pipe Band	\$2,132
5.	Barraba Shire Band	\$3,198
6.	City of Tamworth Eisteddfod	\$12,793
7.	Homeless Connect	\$5,159
8.	RSL	\$1,929
9.	St Peter's Anglican Church Committee	\$2,132
10.	North & North West Community Legal Services Inc	\$1,000

Page	Name of Organisation	Project Name	Requested donation amount
6	Animal Welfare League NSW (Tamworth)	Animal Welfare League (AWL) Tamworth Storage Container Fitout	\$3,000.00
7	ArtsNational Tamworth (Formerly ADFAS Tamworth)	ArtsNational Tamworth Annual Lecture Program - Venue Hire	\$3,008.00
8	Barraba Community Incorporated (Barraba Mosaic Group as a sub-committee of)	Friends of Barraba Pots Mosaic Art Installation	\$5,000.00
9	Barraba P A & H Association	Saturday Night Entertainment	\$8,000.00
10	Barraba Potters and Craft Guild Inc.	New blinds on the front awning	\$4,000.00
11	Barraba Preschool incorporated	Bus Transportation	\$1,500.00
12	Bendemeer Preschool Incorporated	Defibrillator Purchase	\$1,500.00
13	Bendemeer Public School P&C Association Inc	Defibrillator	\$1,609.85
14	Co Care Inc.	Co Care Inc.	\$500.00
15	Collegians Junior Rugby League Football Club	Collegians Junior Rugby League Football Club - Safety of Members Project	\$4,842.97
16	Connecting With Bricks Inc	TMCF 2025 Connecting Through Creativity: LEGO® based Workshops, Displays and Community Engagement	\$10,000.00
17	Families of Veterans Guild	Supporting Tamworth and Surrounds War Widows Yearly Function	\$3,369.00

18	Foodbank NSW & ACT Limited	Foodbank NSW & ACT (FBNA): Regional Food Relief Funding	\$10,000.00
19	Frost Over Barraba as a subcommittee of BARRABA COMMUNITY INCORPORATED	Plinths for Frost Over Barraba art show	\$2,332.00
20	ISHE Tamworth Inc	ISHE 2024 - REIMBURSEMENT OF HIRE FEES	\$5,000.00
21	Lifeline Direct Limited t/a Lifeline New England North West	SafeTalk Community Training for Tamworth	\$3,645.00
22	Manilla Historical Society	Security of our Collection	\$1,429.00
23	North & North West Community Legal Service Inc	Legal Outreach Clinic	\$1,700.00
24	Northcott Tamworth	Northcott Defibrillator Request	\$1,500.00
25	Nundle CWA Art Exhibition	Nundle CWA Art Exhibition and Sale	\$1,000.00
26	PCYC Tamworth	Gymnastics flooring upgrade	\$16,555.00
27	Rally Barraba	Barraba Rallysprint	\$6,500.00
28	Riding for the Disabled (association) Tamworth Centre	Concrete Path	\$4,000.00
29	Ronald McDonald House Tamworth	Country Under the Vines - Advertising	\$1,000.00
30	Scripture Union Tamworth	Jubilee Cafe,	\$3,000.00
31	Senior Citizens Barraba	Barraba Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner for the Elderly	\$500.00
32	Sunnyfield	Inclusive Activities	\$3,000.00

33	Tamworth CDAT	Family Drug Support forum and Drug and Alcohol First Aid course.	\$1,825.00
34	Tamworth Community Garden - project of the Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light	Tamworth Community Garden Accessibility Project	\$15,220.00
35	Tamworth Dementia Respite Service Inc	Summer Lovin	\$6,743.20
36	Tamworth Historical Society	Calala Cottage 150th Anniversary in 2025	\$3,000.00
37	Tamworth Legacy	Tamworth Legacy Connecting Widows Project	\$4,050.00
38	Tamworth Local Aboriginal Land Council	Yilaan.gaal Dhina	\$5,000.00
39	TAMWORTH NETWORKING GROUP	Tamworth Networking Group - Inclusive Dance, and International Day of People with Disability	\$2,000.00
40	Tamworth Peel Evening View Club	Spring High Tea	\$750.00
41	Tamworth Pride Inc	2025 Mardi Gras Viewing Party	\$4,000.00
42	Tamworth Scouts	Replace galvanised water pipes	\$13,261.40
43	Tamworth Regional Craft Centre Inc	Tools For Outdoor Maintenance	\$1,419.00
44	Tamworth U3A Inc.	Tamworth U3A Community Progress and Participation	\$1,581.25
45	Tamworth Veterans Week of Golf	Tamworth Veterans Week of Golf	\$1,000.00
46	United Hospitals Auxiliaries of NSW Inc Barraba Branch	Refurbishment of "Quiet Room" in the Barraba Multi-Purpose Service	\$4,556.00

<b>47</b>	Youth Insearch Foundation	Brighter Day Tamworth	\$10,000.00
<b>48</b>	Aircooled Assembly Inc.	Aircooled Container Build	\$1,780.00
<b>49</b>	Tamworth Clarinet Choir	Music Stands	\$1,000.00
		<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$184,676.67</b>

2024-2025

Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Animal Welfare League NSW (Tamworth)**

**Animal Welfare League (AWL) Tamworth Storage Container Fitout**

**Requested donation: \$3,000**

**Project Summary:**

Due to the generous donation of the use of a storage container by Council's, Gina Vereker, to be located on a Council owned block of land, Tamworth branch (AWL) is applying for funding to fit-out this storage container to store our equipment and materials for use in our branch activities. This storage container will allow our Branch to have a central location to store all equipment, materials and donated goods for purposes of fundraising to provide education and information on responsible pet ownership, assistance with feeding of animals, animal desexing costs, micro-chipping and vaccinations to the community. Our other regular activities include attending local Community Markets and Gala Days, and participating in visits from the AWL Animal Care Truck. Having a central secure, storage facility for our goods will allow our volunteers to provide more timely and organised assistance to our stakeholders, pets and their families.

**Benefits to target group:**

Having a fit-for-purpose storage facility located in Tamworth CBD will allow our branch to provide timely and proactive assistance to our target groups. AWL promote the importance of desexing, micro-chipping, vaccination and registering of companion and working animals. AWL provide financial assistance to those in need, especially with the cost of desexing animals, which ultimately reduces the numbers of unwanted litters within our community. We also aim to encourage new animal Foster Carers and Volunteers. It has been proven that companion animals have a positive impact with people's general health, mental health and wellbeing.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

Our volunteers will assist with setup of the fitout of the container and transportation and sorting of the goods from our homes, and personal storage sheds to this central location.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025

Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**ArtsNational Tamworth (formerly ADFAS Tamworth)**

**ArtsNational Tamworth Annual Lecture Program - Venue Hire**

**Requested donation: \$3,008**

**Project Summary:**

ArtsNational Tamworth is a not for profit association which conducts a series of arts and social history lectures for its members and guests. The lectures are provided by highly credentialed speakers from Britain and Australia. Our members and guests cover the costs of bringing them to Tamworth. The funding will be used to cover the cost of hire of the Tamworth Community Events Centre on the following dates. 12 July 2024, 9 August 2024, 13 September 2024, 18 October 2024, 12 March 2025, 2 April 2025, 7 May 2025, 11 June 2025. Tamworth Community Centre Quote attached.

**Benefits to target group:**

Eight or nine lectures are held at the Tamworth Community Events Centre during the year. Members and guests attending the lectures enjoy a friendly social setting which includes a glass of wine and finger food, and an opportunity to meet the visiting lecturer after each session. ArtsNational Tamworth contributes to the diversity of programs that are on offer to Tamworth residents. Our members and guests will continue to enjoy and benefit from a lively and diverse range of lectures and activities in the arts and cultural fields, along with the social benefits of meeting with like-minded people who enjoy the arts and wish to continue their lifelong learning. With the funding relief that covers the cost of hire of the Community Events Centre we will be able to concentrate our resources on greater marketing to grow the organisation, thus enriching the lives of residents in the region with the diversity of programs available to our citizens.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

ArtsNational Tamworth covers all costs associated with its program. Its committee members are all volunteers who contribute their time to arranging lecture tours, managing membership, contributing to promotion and marketing and hosting our guests in Tamworth. Lecturers are paid a professional fee for their services and ArtsNational Tamworth covers the cost of their accommodation and some food while they are in Tamworth.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Barraba Community Incorporated (Barraba Mosaic Group as a sub-Committee**

**Friends of Barraba Pots Mosaic Art Installation**

**Requested donation: \$5,000**

**Project Summary:**

Friends of Barraba Pots Mosaic Art Installation is a project which will beautify the existing street pots of Barraba's main street by adding 12 individual tiles to the surface of the hexagonal shaped pots - 2 per side. There are 26 pots in total and each pot will be themed to nature. Each tile will be designed and created by a community member during free mosaic art courses.

**Benefits to target group:**

The target group being the general population will benefit by the following: \* Free mosaic art classes. \* Contribution to an art installation. \* Involvement with the community. \* Improvement to mental health through art. \* Increased pride in the surrounding environment.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

Nil

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

**2024-2025**  
**Annual Donations Program**  
**Summary of Applications**

**Barraba PA&H Association**

**Saturday Night Entertainment**

**Requested donation: \$8,000**

**Project Summary:**

The Barraba PA and H Association is requesting \$8,000 from the Tamworth Regional Council Annual Donations Program to support the Saturday night entertainment at the 2025 Barraba Show on 8th March. As part of the TRC area, this event engages residents and visitors from across the region. The night's highlight will be the Rooftop Express Show featuring stunts with horses, bison, mini horses, and bullocks, followed by a Rodeo. With a total cost of \$12,000, we are seeking \$8,000 to help bring this world-class entertainment to Barraba. The show boosts community ties and local economies.

**Benefits to target group:**

How the Show Benefits Different Groups: Children, youth and Families – The show provides a variety of events and attractions that entertain all ages, creating a day of bonding and enjoyment. General Population – A major community event bringing people together from across the region, fostering connection and local pride. Indigenous Persons – Opportunities for cultural inclusion and participation in a welcoming community setting. Men and Women – Events like rodeo, pavilion entries, campdrafting, and livestock shows appeal to rural and agricultural interests. Older People (50+ years) – Traditional events such as pavilion displays and animal sections evoke nostalgia and community connection. People with a Disability – Accessible facilities and a welcoming environment ensure everyone can enjoy the show. Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Backgrounds – A celebration of rural life in an inclusive atmosphere, encouraging cultural exchange.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

We will be contributing the additional funds to make up the \$12,000.00 (approximately \$4000.00) which is normally our entertainment budget.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Barraba Potter and Craft Guild Inc.**

**New Blinds on the Front awning**

**Requested donation: \$4,000**

**Project Summary:**

To replace the 9M of blinds attached to the awning across the front of the building. The blinds are approx. 40 years old, very degraded and damaged as a result of normal westerly weather, wear and tear. There is a need to have blinds in place to protect the display items in the 3 large front plate glass windows.

**Benefits to target group:**

The Guild operates in a heritage building in the main street of Barraba so it's important to have a tidy street presence which enhances the building and streetscape rather than looking unkept. The display items in the windows, belonging to Guild members, need protection from the westerly sun so they don't fade.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

The Guild can provide a contribution of \$1040 towards the full cost of \$5040.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Barraba Preschool incorporated**

**Bus Transportation**

**Requested donation: \$1,500**

**Project Summary:**

This donation will cover the cost of bus transportation for the preschool children to attend various events across the year. Our preschool makes regular (monthly) trips to the local nursing home, Richardson House to spend time with the residents. We also participate in events held at the local schools e.g. Easter Hat Parade, as these opportunities form part of the transition to school process. Finally, we try to take the children on an excursion out of Barraba e.g. Tamworth or Bingara to give them an opportunity to experience something different like a play.

**Benefits to target group:**

The children of Barraba Preschool will be able to continue visiting the elderly residents of Richardson House. Studies suggest there are many benefits to programs such as these, for all involved. Older individuals may experience enhanced mood, new learning new learning opportunities, improved physical capability and movement, more enjoyment of life and possibly reduced dementia symptoms. Benefits for the children may include increased patience, insight into life's ageing process, supportive relationships, a lifetime of stories to hear and opportunities to learning something new

**In kind or financial contribution:**

If the donation is less than requested or if we are unsuccessful in our application, the preschool will cover the cost of the bus transportation.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

**Note: 2023-2024 Successful ADP – \$1,600**

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Bendemeer Preschool Incorporated**

**Defibrillator Purchase**

**Requested donation: \$1,500**

**Project Summary:**

As part of our Quality Improvement Plan in relation to Quality Area 2 -Health and Safety, of the National Quality Standards, our Preschool plans to purchase a defibrillator. This will be located on site at the Bendemeer Preschool, yet outdoors and accessible by the whole Bendemeer Community in the event of a medical emergency.

**Benefits to target group:**

The Bendemeer Preschool care for a vulnerable group of the community ( under 5 year olds ) and their families. We often have children enrolled who have additional medical needs in relation to asthma, allergies, and anaphylaxis, and our rural and remote location means we see a delay in the arrival of any support via ambulance. An on site defibrillator will improve health and safety in relation to an emergency situation for children, families and educators. Its external location means it will be accessible by the local Bendemeer community should the need arise to save a life. The defibrillators location will be noted on the nationwide STAYING ALIVE app and its presence in Bendemeer advertised through local social media sites.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

The Preschool will pay any costs remaining of the quote after contribution through the Annual Donations Program. The Preschool will pay for installation and any ongoing maintenance costs associated with having a defibrillator on site.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

**Note: 2023-2024 Successful ADP – \$1,485**

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Bendemeer Public School P&C Association Inc.**

**Defibrillator Purchase**

**Requested donation: \$1,609.85**

**Project Summary:**

As a community we recently reviewed the location and quantity of defibrillators in Bendemeer following the death of one of our community leaders. We want to ensure that we have several spread around our town for speed of community access and where social or other groups congregate. EG our police station, bowling club, and preschool (who have also applied for this grant as a separate application). We would like to have one located at our primary school.

**Benefits to target group:**

Our primary school has 30 children and teachers now located at the school which acts as a community hub. It is a location in town that everyone knows and our intent is to promote the location of all local defibrillators to assist our community.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

We are happy to install the unit ourselves and pay for the ongoing costs to service it. The battery and pads need to be replaced every 5 years at a cost of \$500.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

**Note: 2023-2024 Successful ADP – \$1,000**

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Co Care Inc.**

**Co Care Inc.**

**Requested donation: \$500**

**Project Summary:**

Co Care Inc provides transport to frail aged and disabled clients who need transport to medical appointments, shopping and social outings in the Tamworth region. The transport is provided by volunteers using their own vehicles and the volunteers are reimbursed their fuel costs. This service enables our clients to remain living in their own homes for as long as possible and maintain their independence. As we receive no government assistance we rely heavily on donations to continue operating.

**Benefits to target group:**

Our main objective is to enable elderly and disabled persons to remain living in their own homes for as long as possible. This reduces pressure on providers of full time care and allows our clients to maintain their independence.

**In kind or financial contribution:** Contributing other funds received e.g. bank interest and grants  
Donations from clients we transport

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

**Note: 2023-2024 Successful ADP – \$500**

2024-2025

Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Collegians Junior Rugby League Football Club**

**Collegians Junior Rugby League Football Club - Safety of Members Project**

**Requested donation: \$4,842.97**

**Project Summary:**

The Collegians Junior Rugby League Club gives our local children up to the age of 16 the opportunity to compete in weekly matches from April to September of each year under the Tamworth District Minor League Competition. Our Club relies on our valued business partners (Sponsors) to help us deliver our football training programs, our playing jerseys, our member events and overall operations. In 2025 our Club need to invest in the safety of our members by providing tackle safe training equipment, First Aid kits, League Safe Officers apparel and we want to purchase 2 Club Marquees to use at our sporting gala/carnival days to provide sun protection for our players which is something we have never been able to provide as Club.

**Benefits to target group:**

Our members will benefit as follows: Training equipment aimed at safe tackling - A must-have training tool for the Juniors to practise the development of correct tackling technique and contact position providing a safe and secure experience at training. First Aid Kits - Safety Officers - Under the NRL Safety Education Framework, Our Club must meet on-field requirements by providing LeagueSafe Trainers, League First Aid Officers, Level 1 Sports Trainers and Level 2 Sports Trainers. They help ensure a safe, healthy and fun rugby league environment for our players. They are recognisable on the field in their bright yellow, green, blue and orange shirts which the Club need to purchase. Marquees (Collegians branded) - the purchase of two marquees will allow our members to be provided shade and protection during Gala/Carnival Days.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

\$1000

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Connecting With Bricks Inc**

**TMCF 2025 Connecting Through Creativity: LEGO® based Workshops, Displays and Community Engagement**

**Requested donation: \$10,000**

**Project Summary:**

Connecting With Bricks is excited to present Connecting Through Creativity, an enriched series of LEGO®-based workshops and community events during the Tamworth Country Music Festival. Building on last year's success, our objective is to strengthen community connections, enhance family bonds, and promote education through engaging activities. The fun, family-friendly event will feature hands-on workshops led by LEGO® Masters, community displays showcasing local talent, and attractions like a life-sized LEGO® guitar and a special Tamworth mosaic build. Targeting families, children, and LEGO® enthusiasts, we aim to create an inclusive atmosphere that encourages participation from locals and visitors, including participants from Gunnedah, Quirindi, and Walcha. With support from the Tamworth Regional Council Donation Program, we aspire to complement the existing TCMF program and deliver a memorable experience that fosters creativity, collaboration, and a deeper appreciation for the LEGO® community.

**Benefits to target group:**

The target groups will benefit in several ways: Community Connection: Fostering a sense of belonging and community engagement by bringing together participants in creative interests. Skill Development: Workshops provide participants hands-on experience and learning opportunities, enhancing creative skills and STEM learning. Visibility for Local Talent: Engaging local talent to showcase their skills and provide a platform to gain recognition. Families: Participate together and strengthening bonds through shared experiences, while enjoying a fun, creative environment. Support for Local Businesses: The tiered sponsorship program allows local businesses to gain visibility and connect with the community, fostering relationships that can lead to further collaboration and support for our school programs. Inclusive Participation: By welcoming in-kind contributions and volunteer assistance, the event becomes accessible to a broader audience, encouraging participation from different community segments.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

To run the Connecting Through Creativity event, we require approximately \$50,000. This budget will cover expenses such as venue rental, materials for workshops, marketing and logistics for engaging local talent and LEGO® Masters. We are introducing a tiered sponsorship program to attract various levels of financial support from local businesses. Sponsors will gain visibility through branding opportunities at the event, promotional materials, and social media recognition. We also welcome in-kind contributions, ie LEGO® materials, event needs and volunteer assistance, to help offset costs. By securing these funds, we aim to create an engaging event that fosters community connection and celebrates creativity through LEGO®, benefiting both participants and sponsors.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Families of Veterans Guild**

**Supporting Tamworth and Surrounds War Widows Yearly Function**

**Requested donation: \$3,369**

**Project Summary:**

Our organisation administers 52 War Widows Social Clubs (WWSC's) which support 2,200 war widows across NSW, the majority of whom live regionally. These WWSC's, including the one located in Tamworth, are co-ordinated by local volunteers who organise monthly social outings for their club. These clubs and the services they provide are instrumental in reducing social isolation and loneliness amongst war widows, who have experienced complex bereavement and loss. We host an annual function for local war widows in Tamworth, Gunnedah and Armidale WWSC's. This year's function is at Tamworth Wests on 12/11/24. We are expecting up to 60 war widows, carers and guests to attend. We will also be inviting the Local State Member and Mayor. This grant will fund transport costs for our less mobile, disabled, rurally located and low-income war widows, making it easier and free for them to attend. Funds will also cover costs of room hire, meals, print media, posting invitations, a post event wrap.

**Benefits to target group:**

The target groups will benefit from social connection, reduced isolation and loneliness. It also ensures war widows with disabilities or mobility issues can continue to be part of their community and are connected to community services such as community transport. These events are crucial to providing support to regional war widows, allowing us to monitor the health and wellbeing of members, service access and provision as well as provide intensive support where needed. We assist widows by providing wellbeing services, case management, service access and navigation including through DVA and the aged care system. Additionally, the anticipated publicity from this event spreads the word in Tamworth and surrounds about the existence of our program, connecting new war widows and reconnecting former members to this program, or other veteran and defence families to our other programs.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

Nil

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

**2024-2025**  
**Annual Donations Program**  
**Summary of Applications**

**Foodbank NSW & ACT Limited**

**Foodbank NSW & ACT (FBNA): Regional Food Relief Funding**

**Requested donation: \$10,000**

**Project Summary:**

Regional communities are in food crisis. Data from Foodbank Hunger Report 2023 (<https://reports.foodbank.org.au/foodbank-hunger-report-2023/?state=au>) revealed food insecurity has increased by more than 10% since just last year, with over a third of our community now struggling to put food on the table. Many regional partners, starting and maintaining a food pantry relies on the availability of volunteers to conduct and fund their operations. Funding will increase capacity to access and distribute essential food relief that can reach individuals and families within the Tamworth region that are in desperate need. Eligible community partners will be able to establish a local food pantry, and access both food supply and essential start-up costs for equipment, such as fridges, freezers, shelving, and capital to purchase pantry items. Foodbank NSW and ACT works with a network of 700 place-based partners across NSW to ensure food relief can reach communities in crisis.

**Benefits to target group:**

- Addressing an urgent and desperate need for increasing food relief into the Tamworth regional and remote communities.
- Respond to communities facing financial hardship or crisis (environment, cost of living, other).
- Distributing more food into regional and remote areas of Tamworth.
- Reduce the closure or reduction of regionally based food relief services due to financial and environmental crisis.
- Identify and support local First Nations communities and their efforts to provide food relief support to community.
- Improved productivity: ability to focus and concentrate better.
- Improved social connections by individuals and families, through interaction with food relief services.
- Ability for community partners to redirect available monies to pay other expenses, ie rent, utilities etc.
- Increase capacity for new community partners to establish additional food relief services in their local community.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

\$2,000 - Project Management Costs, Staff and Administration.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025

**Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications****Frost Over Barraba as a subcommittee of BARRABA  
COMMUNITY INCORPORATED****Plinths for Frost Over Barraba art show****Requested donation: \$2,332****Project Summary:**

The Frost Over Barraba committee would like to acquire plinths for displaying sculpture and other artworks at the Frost Over Barraba Arts Festival. The festival is an annual community art event held in Barraba featuring an art show, artist workshops, live music, market stalls, and pop-up art shows. The art show is the headline activity for the festival, and the plinths are essential to display artworks for judging and public viewing. The committee currently loans plinths from the Tamworth Art Gallery each year. However, their availability cannot be guaranteed as they are often used for other exhibitions. Securing our own plinths will ensure that the art show can continue to run smoothly and professionally each year. When not in use, the Frost Over Barraba committee would also be able to loan the plinths to other community groups in Barraba, such as the local schools, Barraba Show Pavilion and Barraba Craft and Potters Guild.

**Benefits to target group:**

The Frost Over Barraba art show is a competition open to adult and child artists. The competition is for many different types of artworks, such as photography, 2D artworks, and 3D artworks. There are significant prizes in each category of the competition and artworks in the adult sections also listed for sale. The income and public exposure from the art show helps to support both novice and established local artists. The plinths are essential for displaying the 3D artworks, which includes sculpture and ceramics. These artworks need to be displayed first for judging and secondly for public viewing. The Frost Over Barraba arts festival is spread over 4 days and includes a street festival. During this time, there are many visitors to the event, which is a significant boost to local businesses, as well as to local community groups who participate in the event to raise funds by providing food and drinks etc. The ongoing success of Frost is important to the local community.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

Contributing other funds received e.g. bank interest and grants Donations from clients we transport.

**Incorporated body? Yes****Non-profit? Yes****Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted? Yes**

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**ISHE Tamworth Inc**

**ISHE 2024 - REIMBURSEMENT OF HIRE FEES**

**Requested donation: \$5,000**

**Project Summary:**

Each year a small committee of volunteers host the largest Equestrian Inter-schools' event in Australia at the beautiful AELEC. Our event caters to school students from Kindergarten to Year 12 and attracts over 600 Horse and Rider combinations every year. Our event brings riders and their families to Tamworth from all around the country, including Tasmania and Western Australia. As with all recreational activities, the ever-increasing costs are making it more difficult for people to participate, and we are seeking your support by way of a partial hire fee reimbursement to allow us to keep our entry fees as low as possible. As a committee we are dedicated to supporting local charities as part of our annual donations program and believe should our application be successful this would not only benefit our competitors but also our beneficiaries.

**Benefits to target group:**

Our event is open to school students from the age of 5 to 18, equestrian events such as ours insist children are supervised by a parent or caregiver at all times, it is an extremely family orientated environment that invites families and spectators to Tamworth for the 5 days. Many of which camp on site or stay in local motels.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

Our event costs us approximately \$170,000 per annum to host in its entirety. Included in this expense is approximately \$20,000 worth of Hire and Use Fees for the venue (AELEC).

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

**Note: 2023-2024 Un-Successful ADP**

It is noted that ISHE gives donations from its profits to other organisations and schools. From ISHE's website:

*Each year the Committee donates revenue raised by ISHE to various charities and local small schools and clubs, including; Westpac Helicopter, Riding for the Disabled, Werris Creek Swimming Club, Nundle Pony Club, Tamworth Pony Club, Manilla Pony Club, Bullimbal School Tamworth, Woolbrook Primary School, Mullaley Primary School, and Spring Ridge Primary School.*

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Lifeline Direct Limited t/a Lifeline New England North West**

**SafeTalk Community Training for Tamworth**

**Requested donation: \$3,645**

**Project Summary:**

Lifeline New England North West supports the local community through accessible crisis support, counselling, education, community capacity building and referral services. This donation will support the delivery of a SafeTalk workshop in Tamworth at no cost to participants. SafeTalk is a half-day awareness program to increase alertness to signs that a person may be considering suicide. The program acknowledges that while most people at risk of suicide signal their distress and invite help, these intervention opportunities are often overlooked. Participants learn to recognise when someone may have thoughts of suicide and to respond in ways that link them with further suicide intervention help. Suicide alert helpers contribute to a suicide-safer community. The assistance in funding to run a SafeTalk course in Tamworth or Manilla will mean local people have the skills to help someone facing imminent suicide or having thoughts of suicide.

**Benefits to target group:**

National numbers suggest 7 people a day in the Tamworth LGA call Lifeline. That's almost 50 people in crisis every week. Lifeline NENW is seeing huge community demand for mental health and domestic violence courses in our region. In the past three months Lifeline has run three free workshops educating 54 people in Accidental Counsellor Foundations and Domestic Violence Aware. These courses were booked out with waiting lists that continue today. This grant would enable us to provide the training free of cost to the community in either Tamworth or Manilla. It would also enable Lifeline to train our local Lifeline community engagement coordinator in presenting this course. This would mean, in future, the course could be run more regularly without the costs of a visiting teacher/trainer. This would benefit our community for years to come. Lifeline NENW has the support of the University of New England providing a cost-free training space in the Howard Campbell Lecture Theatre.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

Lifeline will be self funding further set-up costs for the call centre including IT equipment, internet, and utilities connections.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

**Note: 2023-2024 Un-Successful ADP**

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Manilla Historical Society**

**Security of our Collection**

**Requested donation: \$1,429**

**Project Summary:**

Members of Manilla Historical Society are applying to gain a grant to install a security system into the Manilla Heritage Museum. Over the past 12 months we have found some significant items to our collection have been stolen. Our museum is only open on days the Manilla Visitors Information Outlet (VIO) is open. As volunteers are low on both Museum members and VIO it's impossible to keep a close watch on visitors. We are also wanting as part of the security install a buzzer on the back fire door, as visitors have gained access through here.

**Benefits to target group:**

By installing the security system, our members feel that are our collection stays intact for future generations to enjoy. Our collection is large and many items are on permanent display, all telling a story to the past. As part of the infants school curriculum is a visit to our museum where they gain insight first hand on what life was like for their grandparents and past generations. We would love to keep our collection safe.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

Contributing other funds received e.g. bank interest and grants Donations from clients we transport.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**North & North West Community Legal Service Inc**

**Legal Outreach Clinic**

**Requested donation: \$1,700**

**Project Summary:**

This Legal Outreach Clinic provides all residents of the Tamworth region access to free face to face legal services, from its base in Armidale. Clients requiring our assistance are not means tested; we help everyone whose problem type falls within our extensive area of assistance. This Legal Clinic operates fortnightly and ensures all barriers of accessibility and financial disadvantage are removed when Tamworth community members are faced with a legal issue. This valuable Clinic not only provides free legal assistance to the region but due to its longevity and connectedness to other Tamworth organisations, and its holistic approach, it also forms part of a valuable referral pathway network to services when non-legal issues are recognised.

**Benefits to target group:**

All target groups mentioned will have access to our FREE legal services; as we do not means test we are free to everyone. NNWCLS understands that the vulnerable community members in these target groups can tend to leave resolving their legal issues until crisis point. Having face to face access to free legal advice allows legal issues to be resolved swiftly and as such increases the health and well-being of our clients and their families.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

NNWCLS will provide wages and salary costs for a Solicitor to conduct the clinic, while paying all travel expenses and appropriate insurances.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

**Note: 2023-2024 Successful ADP – \$3,000**

North & North West Community Legal Services were previously granted a full hire fee waiver in the 2020/2021 financial year by Council resolution. At the same time Council resolved for the Annual Donations Program Committee to consider establishing a recurring budget item in the 2021/2022 financial year and beyond. This appears to not have been established, and during the pandemic North & North West Community Legal Service Inc stopped face-to-face services.

At Council's Ordinary meeting of 24 October 2023 it was resolved that a recurring budget item of \$1,000 be allocated to North and North West Community Legal Service Inc.

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Northcott Tamworth**

**Northcott Defibrillator Request**

**Requested donation: \$1,500**

**Project Summary:**

As a disability service provider Northcott provides centre based and community support disability programs. Looking to purchase 2 defibrillators to support our staff who possess First Aid and CPR accreditation. One defibrillator will be mobile for day groups in the community, one will be Centre based at 147 Goonoo Goonoo Road Tamworth. Northcott Tamworth is raising funds this year with 2 Bunnings BBQ's and a small fete onsite in September 2024. Northcott Tamworth will buy 1 defibrillator and is looking at TRC Annual Donations program to purchase the 2nd one. Many defibrillators are priced up to \$3,000 or more and some are around the \$1500 mark (see attached). The \$1500 mark is the funds sought under Annual Donations Program as we will shop around for a good deal. In addition we believe chasing two defibrillators at the same time will give us better purchasing power, and in the Black Friday sales?

**Benefits to target group:**

A higher level of First Aid safety equipment will always be with our customers with disability. A higher community benefit is also available to Tamworth people as the Defibrillator can be used to help others who may collapse in the community where we are conducting group activities - only to have our first aid trained staff with a defibrillator close to the incident.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

Two Defibrillators are sought, one onsite and one of community safety. One funded by Northcott Tamworth customer and staff fundraising, and one defibrillator funded by the Tamworth Regional Council Annual Donations program.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

**Note: 2023-2024 Successful ADP – \$1,000**

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Nundle CWA Art Exhibition**

**Nundle CWA Art Exhibition and Sale**

**Requested donation: \$1,000**

**Project Summary:**

Nundle CWA Art Exhibition is held annually in the Nundle Memorial Hall and allows both local artists and artists from other regions to display and sell their works. The junior section also allows junior artists an opportunity to display and sell their works if they wish. This year, on the Saturday of the exhibition, we will be working in conjunction with the Open Streets Program and the Nundle Christmas Markets to promote Nundle. We will also be providing children's art activities in the main street while it is closed. Funds raised from this event go towards the maintenance of the CWA rooms which house Nundle CWA Preschool and the community nurse service of Hunter New England Health and Tamworth Aboriginal Medical Services who provide a medical outreach service to Nundle and District.

**Benefits to target group:**

The exhibition gives a platform to local and regional artists to display and sell their works. The children's section encourages children from local and regional areas to display their art works. Anyone is able to enter the exhibition and the population of Tamworth and other areas are encouraged to attend the event. This year in collaboration with the Open Street Program and Nundle Christmas Markets, people will have an all-day event and children will have an opportunity to be involved in children's art activities for free. This is another cultural event for the region and provides much needed services for Nundle and district by helping to maintain the Nundle CWA rooms. The organisations using these rooms provide educational and health benefits to the community of Nundle and the surrounding district.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

The event is entirely organised, set up and pulled down by volunteers. We start organising in March each year. Setting up the exhibition takes at least two weeks.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**PCYC Tamworth**

**Gymnastics flooring upgrade**

**Requested donation: \$16,555**

**Project Summary:**

PCYC Tamworth has a mission to provide easily affordable and accessible fitness and movement programs to the local community. Our constantly expanding gymnastics classes are currently providing 200 students and over 70 school sports and school holiday participants with a diverse range of gymnastics activities and classes for school aged children. The growing numbers mean we need to expand our classes and upgrade our facilities to be able to continue to offer more programs in a safe and professionally equipped environment. Our gymnastics parallel bar area is in desperate need of proper flooring to be able to continue using the apparatus safely and to offer an all-encompassing program of gymnastics skills to our local community. If we could install purpose fit flooring, we would be able to expand the range of classes we have on offer to include more skills using the parallel bars, and continue our affordable and diverse range of gymnastics classes to the local community.

**Benefits to target group:**

Upgrading our gymnastics area with safe, purpose fit flooring will enable us to offer more classes to our community. PCYC strives to keep our young people fit, active and empowered. By upgrading our facilities, we can continue to offer affordable options for families to enrol in classes that are fun, engaging, and teach them not only movement and flexibility, but keep them socially connected. The benefits of team sports such as gymnastics have been proven to enhance physical and mental health in young people, and PCYC are keen to continue our contribution to the overall wellbeing of our local youth. PCYC has a unique relationship with NSW police, and our Youth Engagement Officers run free Fit for Life programs for youth who are considered at-risk, who are becoming disengaged from school and their community. An upgrade in our gymnastics facilities will mean our Fit for Life programs can continue to expand to offer a gymnastics component.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

PCYC has \$2000 in fundraising available to put towards this project.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Rally Barraba**

**Barraba Rallysprint**

**Requested donation: \$6500**

**Project Summary:**

We are hosting a Rallysprint in Barraba Showgrounds and surrounds. Our request for a donation is to purchase equipment to enable the safe running of the event - specifically with people management and crowd control. We will use the donation to purchase parra-webbing (orange cloth temporary fencing), bunting, star pickets and other items to build temporary structures. We will also use the funding to purchase radios for communication, hi-vis clothing for volunteer staff and general beginning infrastructure all based around safe management of people/crowds. The equipment can/will be made available to other groups/events on request. Additionally, we ask for a waiving of any Tamworth Council fees/charges that may be incurred by the Rallysprint in its initial year. This will help ensure financial strength moving forward with what is hoped to be an annual event.

**Benefits to target group:**

As per the Rallying in Barraba guide attached - the benefits are many and variety. The crux is - increased tourism exposure for Barraba / Region, increased business and economics for Barraba and the region and an inspirational event for the town - enjoyment and fun.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

\$2000 voluntary contribution from club president for Rally project infrastructure.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes



2024-2025

**Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications**

**Riding for the Disabled (association) Tamworth Centre**

**Concrete Path**

**Requested donation: \$4,000**

**Project Summary:**

We need to have a concrete path from our front gate to our club house to enable safe access for our disabled clients. We have many clients in wheelchairs and it is difficult for their carer's to bring them over the uneven ground. We have completed a risk assessment and most of our clients have mobility issues and along with our older volunteers we consider it necessary to construct this access path for safety.

**Benefits to target group:**

Safety while visiting our grounds.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

RDA Tamworth will contribute to the cost.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

**Note: 2023-2024 Successful ADP – \$642.95**

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Ronald McDonald House Tamworth**

**Country Under The Vines - Advertising**

**Requested donation: \$1,000**

**Project Summary:**

Each year during 'Tamworth Country Music Festival', Ronald McDonald House Tamworth holds our 'Country Under the Vines' event. The event raises vital funds to support country families who call our House their home when they have a seriously ill child or new baby seeking treatment at Tamworth Base Hospital. It truly takes an army of generous individuals for this event to occur – with the end result of bringing our local community together to enjoy the afternoon full of great artists and activities. Our goal this year is to spread the word through expansion of advertising, with the hopes of reaching a larger audience to increase our fundraising potential and ultimately be able to support more country families.

**Benefits to target group:**

Increasing the advertisement surrounding our event, not only assists us to reach potential attendees, creating more funds for country families. It also creates community awareness and knowledge of Ronald McDonald House Tamworth. As a 100% community owned and operated House, we rely on the generosity of our local community to support hundreds of country families each year

**In kind or financial contribution:**

\$1000 raised via individual fundraising or through in-kind contribution.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Scripture Union Tamworth**

**Jubilee Cafe**

**Requested donation: \$3,000**

**Project Summary:**

An entertainment, refreshment zone in Hands of Fame Park during TCMF. 10am-10pm each day with live music, kids program, tourist help. Everything is free, provided by the churches of Tamworth. It is intended to be a friendly welcome to Tamworth and a help where needed.

**Benefits to target group:**

A place where families and visitors will be looked after, fed, entertained and assisted at no cost. A place to stop between concerts, or leave the children.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

The total costs are low because all the food and equipment is provided by the volunteers from the churches and artists give of their time freely. However, there are significant bills: Hire of Park, hire of stage, parking fee for stage, printing, ad in The Guide, portaloo.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

**Note: 2023-2024 Successful ADP – \$2,000**

Scripture Union has been also applied for a fee waiver for the hire of the park. Application has been put on hold until after the Annual Donation Program has been finalised.

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Senior Citizens Barraba**

**Barraba Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner for the Elderly**

**Requested donation: \$500**

**Project Summary:**

We have decided to do what the Salvation Army used to do but have stopped doing a Christmas Lunch for those that do not have anywhere to go and no family to spend time with for the Christmas celebration we do not intend on charging anyone for this lunch and would appreciate any help we could get.

**Benefits to target group:**

They will be able to celebrate Christmas day with company instead of sitting at home alone

**In kind or financial contribution:**

We have already raised \$300.00 towards this through raffles during the year as we are a non for profit organization and still have bills for our building ie rates insurance power water etc we rely on donations from our members mostly

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Sunnyfield**

**Inclusive Activities**

**Requested donation: \$3,000**

**Project Summary:**

Sunnyfield has a long-standing commitment to providing support services for individuals with disability, a mission we have upheld for over 72 years across NSW. Our Community Services Hub in Tamworth currently supports 35 local clients who engage in a diverse range of therapeutic, educational, and recreational activities. These activities are designed to improve their wellbeing and promote social inclusion. Clients participate in these programs for up to 6 hours each day, five days a week. To further enrich the programs and activities available at our hub, we are seeking funding to acquire essential resources such as board games, puzzles, arts and crafts supplies, as well as a variety of sporting activities and equipment.

**Benefits to target group:**

Sunnyfield, a local provider of disability support services, recognises the importance of offering a diverse array of activities that cater to the unique needs of its clients. By integrating options such as games, sports, and arts and crafts, Sunnyfield promotes an environment where clients can participate meaningfully and experience enjoyment at the Hub. This is particularly beneficial for clients who may experience anxiety or have difficulties adjusting to new environments, as it promotes positive social interactions with peers. Sunnyfield's dedication to providing a variety of engaging activities aligns with its mission to empower individuals with disability while nurturing an inclusive community where everyone has the chance to thrive.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

Sunnyfield is committed to the longevity of this project and will provide in kind staff support to run the program.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Tamworth CDAT**

**Family Drug Support forum and Drug and Alcohol First Aid course.**

**Requested donation: \$1,825**

**Project Summary:**

Family Drug Support to facilitate 'Stepping Forward' forum and Lives Lived Well organisation to facilitate FREE Drug and Alcohol First Aid course. These activities are being organised by the Tamworth CDAT as part of Tamworth AOD Awareness Week.

**Benefits to target group:**

Objective of Tamworth CDAT is to make our local community safer, healthier and stronger by reducing the harms associated with the use of alcohol and other drugs through evidence-based, primary prevention activities.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

Extensive in-kind hours provided by the Tamworth CDAT committee through organising various and attending various events. Other activities to receive funding from CDAT.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Tamworth Community Garden - project of the Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light**

**Tamworth Community Garden Accessibility Project**

**Requested donation: \$15,220**

**Project Summary:**

The Tamworth Community Garden (TCG) is seeking funding to enable better access to the garden site through the purchase and installation of gravel and seating with shade within the existing fenced area of the community garden. The current floor space within the garden is grass, weeds and dirt that is uneven and prone to ant nests. Through the installation of gravel, the sites flooring can become level, accessible and reduce the risk of ant nests in the area. The garden currently has no seating for any community members visiting the site with no nearby seating either. The provision of seating with shade will enable great use of the space by all members of the community for longer.

**Benefits to target group:**

The safety of all visitors to the garden is our priority, we envisage increasing this by levelling the walking areas with gravel and providing much needed shaded seating. Such additions will ensure the disabled and elderly accident-free access and enjoyment. Gravel will also assist in drought proofing and less maintenance allowing more time for the more enjoyable gardening pursuits. Tamworth's vicious summers demand seating with shade to extend the time anyone spends on site. Local service clubs have been involved in previous projects, but the improvements will encourage more members to participate. Men's Shed members will find it safer to continue assisting us knowing there is level ground to work on. It's well recognised that community gardens improve food security, increase fruit and vegetable intake, and improve mental and physical health. All target groups will benefit from this project, and we await their fresh ideas to make the community garden an engaging space to spend time in.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

xx

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025

Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Tamworth Dementia Respite Service Inc**

**Summer Lovin**

**Requested donation: \$6,743.20**

**Project Summary:**

We would like to make better use of our outdoor space by creating a shaded garden area. This will enable our participants with dementia to do more outdoor activities and include more movement into their day. Our current outdoor area is very barren and uninviting, and we have created our wish list of what it will take to make our space beautiful for them. We will need this area partially shaded so that our clients with dementia will have a shaded place to sit and enjoy the garden. The clients who enjoy gardening themselves will also be contributing to creating the garden once we have all the items needed in which to create the garden.

**Benefits to target group:**

Our target group is people over 65 (50 ATSI) who have dementia. We provide a day respite for the carers so that they can have a much-needed break from their caring role. We create a home-like, welcoming environment for our participants that encourage them to want to stay and enjoy their day with us. We only have a small garden space out the back that the participants that enjoy gardening have already filled and now we would like to create a larger, welcoming, colourful area out the front entrance (in the concreted area) so that they can move around more freely, create a space that they enjoy and give them onus of control over their environment.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

We will be purchasing and supplying the potting mix and plants to fill all of the pots. Approximately \$1000

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

**2024-2025**  
**Annual Donations Program**  
**Summary of Applications**

**Tamworth Historical Society**

**Calala Cottage 150th Anniversary in 2025**

**Requested donation: \$3000**

**Project Summary:**

2025 marks the 150th Anniversary of Calala Cottage. To mark this occasion Tamworth Historical Society is planning on a number of small and large events to celebrate with the community. We are in the early stages of planning at least 4-5 events, ranging from the return of our Fabulous Flicks and Spring Fair events, to smaller intimate exhibitions of our collection items not normally seen in our general museum space. To assist in the success of these events we request grant funding for printed and outdoor advertising to enhance our exposure to the local community and to our visitors passing through town.

**Benefits to target group:**

The museum will host events designed to be accessible to individuals of all backgrounds and abilities, ensuring that everyone can participate in and benefit from its offerings. Families will also find engaging, interactive experiences that cater to children and adults alike, promoting quality time spent together in a cultural setting.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

Tamworth Historical Society will be budgeting for social media paid advertising and general event expenses in order to host these events.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Tamworth Legacy**

**Tamworth Legacy Connecting Widows Project**

**Requested donation: \$4,050**

**Project Summary:**

We will provide our widows/ers across the Tamworth Regional Council Area a series of social support groups through Christmas and Mother's Day lunches and outings managed by staff members and Legatees (volunteers). 52% of our beneficiaries are aged over 90 and our project, aimed at our most vulnerable widow/ers at risk of social isolation, would benefit 192 widows/ers across the Tamworth LGA. Over 25% of our widows/ers require a walking aid, and for some these will be their only social opportunities

**Benefits to target group:**

Our widow/ers can foster connections with peers and Legatees (volunteers) to create a sense of belonging to form their "Legacy family" for support, addressing social inclusion, reducing isolation and improving mental health and wellbeing for our beneficiaries, who's veteran loved ones sacrificed so much for our nation. Analysis of social interactions, welfare and wellbeing of our widows/ers to be formalised in post event reports, and if required referred to a Legacy Case Service Worker and Well-being advocate for additional care and support.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

We will contribute to the project through non-financial (in-kind) inputs including staffing, event management and volunteer hours. The details and costings are outlined in the attached budget.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Tamworth Local Aboriginal Land Council**

**Yilaan.gaal Dhina**

**Requested donation: \$5,000**

**Project Summary:**

The project is a joint initiative of 15 local agencies, led by the Tamworth LALC, which works with young people at risk of becoming entrenched in the justice system by virtue of long histories of offending, and provides them with paid part-time work 4 days a week alongside Aboriginal mentors drawn from 6 local agencies. The young people aged 15 - 17 who participated in a pilot of the program (two youth crime ringleaders and 3 of their peers) reduced their offending behaviour to 0 within the 4 week pilot (from 8 offences in the month prior to its commencement). At the end of the 4 week period, all young people had their ID and white cards, and 3 were offered work placements. One has been successful in maintaining work already, freeing up a place for another young person to join the program. The young people are engaged in on-Country management across a range of sites including the Botanic Gardens, TSRs, LALC land, and have commenced doing some lawnmowing/ grounds maintenance.

**Benefits to target group:**

The young people are supported to turn their lives around within the program. They are equipped with employability skills and encouraged to re-imagine their lives and the trajectories they set not only for themselves but for their own future families. We believe that by engaging more youth crime ringleaders in the program, we will see a ripple effect which will significantly impact youth crime in Tamworth, and improve community safety overall.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

The LALC will purchase the oil in the quote which is required to extend the warranty and will also provide ongoing maintenance of the asset. The LALC will provide all other required equipment to make the project viable including other push lawnmowers, whippersnippers, leaf blower, hand trimmer, PPE and training. The funding for the other equipment is coming from a combination of the LALC's own funds and funding provided by the Police through Oxley District as part of their commitment to the program. Police contact person is Bruce Grassick Superintendent or Jacob Cantwell Inspector.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Tamworth Networking Group**

**Tamworth Networking Group - Inclusive Dance, and International Day of People With Disability**

**Requested donation: \$2,000**

**Project Summary:**

The Tamworth Networking Group (TNG) was formulated early 2023 and is coordinated by Enlarge Living. Meetings are held bi-monthly and provide networking opportunities for Tamworth service providers who provide support to vulnerable people; to collaborate, share expertise, break down silos, and work together towards agreed purpose. One focus of the group is to provide opportunities for inclusion to people with disability (PWD). There are two large activities the group is working towards: \*All Inclusive Dance – The Chapel Tamworth (Yearly - Nov 1 2024). An opportunity for up to 100 PWD to dress up and attend a dance in a safe and inclusive environment. Pizza and drink will be provided. \*International Day of People with Disability (IDPWD) at the Tamworth Youths (yearly - Dec 3 2024 / Dec 3 2025) An opportunity for 150+ PWD and their carers to engage in activities provided by different disability services and school students, lunch and entertainment.

**Benefits to target group:**

Both projects provide an opportunity for vulnerable people to participate in accessible and inclusive events, increase their social engagement, and create a sense of community and belonging in a safe and supportive environment.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

Inclusive Dance 2024 - financial contributions from different disability service providers and Rotary clubs. In kind contribution from The Chapel and IGA. Contributions for 2025 yet to be determined - but will be similar to 2024. IDPWD 2024 - Financial contribution from Tamworth Family Support. In kind contributions by different disability service providers from within the networking group and TRC for the use of The Youths. Contributions for 2025 yet to be determined. The group have other projects that they are working on, focusing on providing opportunities for support and connection activities for carers of people with disability. Freeing up some of the currently allocated funds for the youth activities will allow more funding to be allocated to the carer activities. The group is not incorporated. It is coordinated by Enlarge Living. EL either pays for entire events and invoice different service providers for areas they have committed to, or services pay invoices directly.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Tamworth Peel Evening View Club**

**Spring High Tea**

**Requested donation: \$750**

**Project Summary:**

Our Spring High Tea, whilst being a fund-raising event, provides a social outing for up to 90 members of the Tamworth community. Guests will enjoy a beautifully presented High Tea consisting of sweet and savoury morsels along with a bottomless cup of tea or coffee. Music will be provided on the Grand Piano by a well-known Tamworth musician whilst accompanied by a local clarinetist. A raffle with prizes donated by many local businesses and a 100's club will be run and drawn at the event. A market stall will also add to the event and items will be for sale during the High Tea. Our club members volunteer their time, providing food and items for sale, and running the event on the day. As you can appreciate many hours of organising, preparation and execution on the day goes into making a successful event. our Spring High Tea, whilst only in its second year, is an event we hope will become a yearly event on the Tamworth social calendar.

**Benefits to target group:**

Our View Club sponsor 8 students through The Smith Family Learning for Life programme. This programme supports 43 children in Tamworth who are experiencing disadvantage. It provides them with funding for educational costs such as uniforms, school supplies, excursions, internet etc. Our sponsorship (so long as we can fundraise) covers these costs on an annual basis and stays with the children throughout their school life.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

Please see on the other Supporting Documents section our proposed budget for the event. We have based it on 50 attendees but can cater for up to 90 attendees. Income from the event needs to cover all expenditure. Profit all goes to our Learning for Life students who we sponsor to assist with education costs.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Tamworth Pride Inc**

**2025 Mardi Gras Viewing Party**

**Requested donation: \$4,000**

**Project Summary:**

Tamworth Pride Inc would hire a suitable event venue where the 2025 Sydney Mardi Gras (Saturday 1/03/2025) could be viewed on a large screen, the venues considered may be Forum 6 Cinema, Capitol Theatre, Tamworth Community Centre, The Regional Art Gallery, The Press Basement Bar. A safe and inclusive environment would be created to welcome LGBTIQASB+ community of all ages, their friends, families and allies. There would be entertainment, food and non-alcoholic beverages provided to enhance the celebration. Tamworth Pride has entered an application to march in the 2025 parade, and so if successful, the local community could cheer them on. The event would include attendance from mental health/other local support services and information available for further education, connection and support.

**Benefits to target group:**

The Sydney Mardi Gras is a significant cultural event for the LGBTIQASB+ community and by virtue of distance and costs associated community members are often unable to attend, despite Tamworth Pride doing its best to subsidise costs and car pool/share accommodation where possible. Many LGBTIQASB+ people suffer from adversity and loneliness, especially living in a regional area that offers less opportunities to meet with other LGBTIQASB+ people. There is greater proportion of mental health issues evident in our community that can be eased by connection and inclusion. Tamworth Pride is hoping to create more opportunities for our community to connect and be supported. Tamworth Pride was recently proud to be recognised as one of four Finalists for the ACON LGBTIQASB+ Community Organisation award. We would like to continue with, and expand on, the work we do with the LGBTIQASB+ community in Tamworth and surrounding areas. This event would enable a safe space to celebrate our diversity.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

\$1000

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Tamworth Scouts**

**Replace galvanised water pipes**

**Requested donation: \$13261.40**

**Project Summary:**

The water pipe supplying the scout hall is galvanised, and the water coming out of the pipes has been dirty for the past couple of years. After some research it appears the solution is to replace the galvanised pipe between the water main and the scout hall with a poly pipe. It is apparently a matter of time before the pipe fails and stops supplying water to the hall. Inside the hall is a kitchen, accessible bathroom and toilets. The hall is used for weekly meetings of scout groups (cubs, scouts and venturers), and is also hired out as a venue to other groups. Not having a supply of clean water is an issue for our scout group, and we advise people to not drink the water from the kitchen tap. The project involves: Identify services and seek appropriate approvals before construction. Install and commission a new poly water pipe between the water main on the corner of Hall and Carthage St and the Scout Hall. Reinstate the ground and tidy.

**Benefits to target group:**

Currently we do not use tap water in the kitchen as the appearance indicates the galvanised pipes are failing which potentially presents a water quality issue and potentially associated health issues. Weekly activities for the scouting groups are mainly held at the scout hall and incorporate activities around cooking, STEM, art and craft, and using the taps are integral to these activities. Once a term we hold a group night where all our groups and families gather for activities and a light supper. Hiring out the scout hall is a valuable income stream for our group, and having a compromised water supply is an issue for our guests, who sometimes camp there overnight for several nights. Hirers of the hall have included security for the Tamworth Country Music Festival, and sporting clubs travelling to Tamworth for carnivals. Having a clean water supply through the provision of a new water pipe, will be a big benefit to our scout group, families and other users of the hall.

**In kind or financial contribution:** Nil

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** No

**Note: 2023-2024 Successful ADP – \$1,475**

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Tamworth Regional Craft Centre Inc**

**Tools For Outdoor Maintenance**

**Requested donation: \$1,419**

**Project Summary:**

The project will help maintaining the grounds around the Craft Centre to encourage people to join and enjoy the facilities.

**Benefits to target group:**

As the Craft Centre has at least 80% of members over 70 years old and all work is done voluntary (no paid people) the tools will make it easier to maintain the grounds and surrounds.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

Pay for wheelbarrow - \$166

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

**Note: 2023-2024 Successful ADP – \$5,065**

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Tamworth U3A Inc.**

**Tamworth U3A Community Progress and Participation**

**Requested donation: \$1,581.25**

**Project Summary:**

Tamworth U3A caters for the ongoing learning of seniors in the Tamworth and surrounding areas by providing a diverse range of courses every Term (25-30 courses per term ranging from Scrabble, Music, Art, Cards to Shakespeare and History) that engages seniors in active learning and socialisation. The provision of equipment will greatly assist with the distribution of newsletters, course materials and social activities for our members, rather than outsource printing costs. Every term, U3A holds a launch day, inviting the public to the Tamworth Community Centre to find out about the activities offered, join the organisation and have social interaction.

**Benefits to target group:**

The project will support the seniors of Tamworth and the surrounding area by continuing to provide ongoing learning and social interaction thorough a diverse range of activities every term. Members pay a nominal fee (\$50 annually) and can undertake as many courses as they wish to every term. The social interaction for our seniors is just as important as continuing their learning as attending courses and social events supports their health and wellbeing...they regularly become active and interact with others.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

U3A hires various venues within Tamworth to run courses and will continue to pay for hire costs-the annual hire fee for all venues is \$12000. U3A caters for social functions for members and is actively involved in community promotion events-costs met by U3A.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

**Note: 2023-2024 Successful ADP – \$2,000**

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Tamworth Veterans Week of Golf**

**Tamworth Veterans Week of Golf**

**Requested donation: \$1,000**

**Project Summary:**

Male and female golfers over the age of 55 from across NSW and South-East QLD come together for 4 days of golf from March 17 -March 21, 2025. The majority of participants are visitors to Tamworth. 2 days of golf are played at each of the Tamworth and Longyard Golf Courses. Players are divided into divisions according to their Golf Australia handicaps so all levels of golfing ability are catered for.

**Benefits to target group:**

The week provides an opportunity for golfers over the age of 55 to take part in a friendly but competitive competition. Many friendships are forged by people sharing a common interest. Tourism Tamworth provides tourist information, so visitors are able to visit local tourist attractions on the midweek Wednesday rest day.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

The committee intends to obtain sponsorship from local businesses. Entry fees will be charged, and a raffle will be held to help offset the costs of staging the event.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

**Note: 2023-2024 Successful ADP – \$1,000**

2024-2025

**Annual Donations Program**  
**Summary of Applications**

**United Hospitals Auxiliaries of NSW Inc Barraba Branch**

**Refurbishment of “Quiet Room” in the Barraba Multi-Purpose Service**

**Requested donation: \$4,556**

**Project Summary:**

The “Quiet Room” is the name given to a room in the Barraba Hospital which is across the corridor from the “Palliative Care Room”. That room is used for treatment, care and support for patients with terminal conditions. Treatment is person and family centred, so it is important to have a space where family and friends can be together in privacy, and this is an important purpose of the quiet room. It is also used for consultations with doctors and other medical professionals. For family and friends this can be an important stage in their relationship with their family member, and a comfortable and relaxing environment can make a significant difference to their experience. There is also a small outdoor courtyard that adjoins the quiet room. We plan to refurbish these areas by purchasing comfortable seating and furniture for the room and large pot plants to enhance the outdoor area.

**Benefits to target group:**

People who find themselves in the position of supporting a seriously ill friend or relative in the Barraba MPS will benefit from a comfortable private space to take some time out for themselves, spend time with their friends and family and have confidential discussions with medical and health personnel.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

We will adjust the project in accordance with the size of the donation and hopefully be able to make up the shortfall. The estimates of costs are only very general, and we will shop around for the necessary items.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

**Note: 2023-2024 Successful ADP – \$2,770**

**2024-2025**  
**Annual Donations Program**  
**Summary of Applications**

**Youth Insearch Foundation**

**Brighter Day Tamworth**

**Requested donation: \$10,000**

**Project Summary:**

The Brighter Day Tamworth will be a day for the community to come together and recognise the reality of youth suicide, but also to celebrate and remind struggling community members that there is a Brighter Day coming and that things will get better. It will be a day where people, and especially young people, can learn more about the local services and get to know and build trust with local workers. This will support young people to access help when they need it.

**Benefits to target group:**

Young people in Tamworth face high rates of suicide and hospitalisations due to self-harm, coupled with limited access to mental health services. In the Hunter New England Primary Health Network, 15-24-year-olds are hospitalised for self-harm at a rate 33.5% higher than the NSW average (339.8 vs. 225.9 per 100,000), while the suicide rate (all ages) is 38% higher (14.5 vs. 10.5 per 100,000) (Core Needs Assessment 2022-25). A Department of Regional NSW report (2022) found 65% of young New England respondents felt they lacked adequate mental health support, with some waiting over 8 months for care. The Brighter Day event in Tamworth will address these challenges by raising awareness of youth suicide and connecting young people with critical mental health services like Youth Insearch. It will also raise funds to support local mental health initiatives, ensuring these services remain accessible to the community.

**In kind or financial contribution:**

Youth Insearch is proud to make a significant in-kind contribution to the 2025 Brighter Day Tamworth event by absorbing all administration costs associated with the event. Additionally, we will be providing dedicated staff and volunteer resources to attend and promote the event, ensuring its success and maximising community engagement. This commitment reflects our ongoing dedication to raising awareness about youth suicide and supporting young people across the region.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Aircooled Assembly Inc. (Late application)**

**Aircooled Container Build**

**Requested donation: \$1,780**

**Project Summary:**

Supply power to new site container for Air Con and Lighting

**Benefits to target group:**

Offer space during our annual car show which bring in excess of 2000 people to town.

**In kind or financial contribution:** Nil

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

2024-2025  
Annual Donations Program  
Summary of Applications

**Tamworth Clarinet Choir (Late application)**

**Music Stand Purchase**

**Requested donation: \$1,000**

**Project Summary:**

We need to purchase new music stands as the ones presently being used are plastic and beyond repair. The new ones will be metal, foldable and light for ease of transporting to and from venues and performances. A sample of the stand we wish to purchase has already been sourced and paid for to ascertain viability.

**Benefits to target group:**

Everyone in the target groups can benefit from the diverse genres of music played

**In kind or financial contribution:**

We need to purchase at least 11 new stands which would cost at least \$770 and if we are fortunate to receive \$1,000.00 the balance of the funds would be used to buy new sheet music to increase the selection of music in our library.

**Incorporated body?** Yes

**Non-profit?** Yes

**Is the project still viable with a smaller donation granted?** Yes

## Assessment Panel Recommendations

		Requested	Proposed
<b>Animal Welfare League NSW (Tamworth)</b>	<b>Animal Welfare League (AWL) Tamworth Storage Container Fitout</b>	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
<b>ArtsNational Tamworth (Formerly ADFAS Tamworth)</b>	ArtsNational Tamworth Annual Lecture Program - Venue Hire	\$3,008.00	\$500.00
<b>Barraba Community Incorporated (Barraba Mosaic Group as a sub-committee of)</b>	Friends of Barraba Pots Mosaic Art Installation	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
<b>Barraba P A &amp; H Association</b>	Saturday Night Entertainment	\$8,000.00	\$4,000.00
<b>Barraba Potters and Craft Guild Inc.</b>	New blinds on the front awning	\$4,000.00	\$1,000.00
<b>Barraba Preschool incorporated</b>	Bus Transportation	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
<b>Bendemeer Preschool Incorporated</b>	Defibrillator Purchase	\$1,500.00	\$750.00
<b>Bendemeer Public School P&amp;C Association Inc</b>	Defibrillator	\$1,609.85	\$750.00
<b>Co Care Inc.</b>	Co Care Inc.	\$500.00	\$500.00
<b>Collegians Junior Rugby League Football Club</b>	Collegians Junior Rugby League Football Club - Safety of Members Project	\$4,842.97	\$2,000.00

<b>Connecting With Bricks Inc</b>	TMCF 2025 Connecting Through Creativity: LEGO® based Workshops, Displays and Community Engagement	\$10,000.00	\$2,000.00
<b>Families of Veterans Guild</b>	Supporting Tamworth and Surrounds War Widows Yearly Function	\$3,369.00	\$3,369.00
<b>Foodbank NSW &amp; ACT Limited</b>	Foodbank NSW & ACT (FBNA): Regional Food Relief Funding	\$10,000.00	Nil
<b>Frost Over Barraba as a subcommittee of BARRABA COMMUNITY INCORPORATED</b>	Plinths for Frost Over Barraba art show	\$2,332.00	\$2,332.00
<b>ISHE Tamworth Inc</b>	ISHE 2024 - REIMBURSEMENT OF HIRE FEES	\$5,000.00	Nil
<b>Lifeline Direct Limited t/a Lifeline New England North West</b>	SafeTalk Community Training for Tamworth	\$3,645.00	Nil
<b>Manilla Historical Society</b>	Security of our Collection	\$1,429.00	\$1,429.00
<b>North &amp; North West Community Legal Service Inc</b>	Legal Outreach Clinic	\$1,700.00	Nil
<b>Northcott Tamworth</b>	Northcott Defibrillator Request	\$1,500.00	Nil

<b>Nundle CWA Art Exhibition</b>	Nundle CWA Art Exhibition and Sale	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
<b>PCYC Tamworth</b>	Gymnastics flooring upgrade	\$16,555.00	\$2,000.00
<b>Rally Barraba</b>	Barraba Rallysprint	\$6,500.00	\$2,000.00
<b>Riding for the Disabled (association) Tamworth Centre</b>	Concrete Path	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
<b>Ronald McDonald House Tamworth</b>	Country Under the Vines - Advertising	\$1,000.00	Nil
<b>Scripture Union Tamworth</b>	Jubilee Cafe,	\$3,000.00	Nil
<b>Senior Citizens Barraba</b>	Barraba Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner for the Elderly	\$500.00	\$500.00
<b>Sunnyfield</b>	Inclusive Activities	\$3,000.00	NII
<b>Tamworth CDAT</b>	Family Drug Support forum and Drug and Alcohol First Aid course.	\$1,825.00	\$1,000.00
<b>Tamworth Community Garden - project of the Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light</b>	Tamworth Community Garden Accessibility Project	\$15,220.00	\$3,000.00
<b>Tamworth Dementia Respite Service Inc</b>	Summer Lovin	\$6,743.20	\$4,000.00
<b>Tamworth Historical Society</b>	Calala Cottage 150th Anniversary in 2025	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
<b>Tamworth Legacy</b>	Tamworth Legacy Connecting Widows Project	\$4,050.00	\$1,000.00

<b>Tamworth Local Aboriginal Land Council</b>	Yilaan.gaal Dhina	\$5,000.00	\$3,000.00
<b>TAMWORTH NETWORKING GROUP</b>	Tamworth Networking Group - Inclusive Dance, and International Day of People with Disability	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
<b>Tamworth Peel Evening View Club</b>	Spring High Tea	\$750.00	\$750.00
<b>Tamworth Pride Inc</b>	2025 Mardi Gras Viewing Party	\$4,000.00	\$3,000.00
<b>Tamworth Scouts</b>	Replace galvanised water pipes	\$13,261.40	NII
<b>Tamworth Regional Craft Centre Inc</b>	Tools For Outdoor Maintenance	\$1,419.00	\$1,419.00
<b>Tamworth U3A Inc.</b>	Tamworth U3A Community Progress and Participation	\$1,581.25	\$1,581.25
<b>Tamworth Veterans Week of Golf</b>	Tamworth Veterans Week of Golf	\$1,000.00	NII
<b>United Hospitals Auxiliaries of NSW Inc Barraba Branch</b>	Refurbishment of "Quiet Room" in the Barraba Multi-Purpose Service	\$4,556.00	\$2,000.00
<b>Youth Insearch Foundation</b>	Brighter Day Tamworth	\$10,000.00	\$2,500.00
<b>Aircooled Assembly Inc.</b>	Aircooled Container Build	\$1,780.00	Nil
<b>Tamworth Clarinet Choir</b>	Music Stands	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00



## TAMWORTH REGIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL

### TERMS OF REFERENCE

#### 1. Name of Committee

Tamworth Regional Youth Council

#### 2. Purpose

The purpose of the Tamworth Regional Youth Council is to enable youth leaders across the region to develop skills and knowledge to enable them to achieve their potential and desired future within the community.

The Youth Council will provide a platform for young people to gain traction with their ideas and aspirations and in doing so, provide its representatives with the skills and support to make a lasting positive change. To achieve this purpose, Council's vision for the Youth Council is that it assumes a significant leadership role in influencing Council policy and future direction. As such, the Youth Council will operate to provide a direct avenue for young people to engage with the elected Council and Council Executive and take part in decisions that impact their lives, both now and in the future.

#### 3. Objectives of the Tamworth Regional Youth Council

Youth Council members will:

- (i) Act as an advisory committee and respond to inquiries from the Council regarding specific youth issues in the Tamworth region;
- (ii) provide advice to the Council on emerging issues of importance to or facing youth;
- (iii) identify key priorities for local youth and initiate projects to help address these issues;
- (iv) Liaise with youth and service agencies within the region to promote youth issues;
- (v) Participate in training and mentoring programs and activities to upskill Youth Council members;
- (vi) Participate in projects and initiatives in collaboration with Council's Executive and Senior managers;

- (vii) recommend to Council the need to advocate to State and Federal government on behalf of youth in relation to issues that affect young people directly;
- (viii) consult and include their own networks when providing advice and recommendations to Council; and
- (ix) raise and promote events and opportunities for local young people.

#### 4. Responsibilities and Expectations

Youth Council members will:

- (i) contribute the time needed to understand the Committee's business papers and to attend Youth Council meetings;
- (ii) read and understand the relevant legislative and regulatory requirements applicable to Council, including Council's Code of Conduct;
- (iii) in accordance with responsibilities, provide advice, feedback and recommendations to Council on matters brought before the Youth Council and.
- (iv) participate in a range of positive youth development activities including service learning (an educational approach that combines learning objectives with community service), youth policy development and leadership training.

#### 5. Membership

The Youth Council Membership consists of: -

- A maximum of 25 young people between the ages of 15 and 18 years who reside within the Tamworth LGA.;
- A maximum of two (2) Councillors with one (1) elected Councillor being the key advisor/speaker. Councillors to hold a current Working With Children Check (WWCC);
- Director – Liveable Communities;
- Executive Manager Strategy and Performance; and
- A maximum of two (2) representatives of Youth Services team.

**5.1. Appointment:**

Representation by members of youth within the Tamworth community is encouraged. Membership will be coordinated by calling for 'Expressions of Interest' at the expiration of two (2) years followed by an interview. Members are appointed by the elected Council following an assessment against selection criteria based on the member's contribution to achieving the Purpose and Expectations (see above) of the Youth Council.

**5.2. Chairperson**

The Tamworth Regional Youth Council will be chaired by the Youth Council Mayor to be determined at the first meeting. Nominations for the positions of Youth Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be elected by the Youth Council members. The election process will be facilitated by Council staff.

**5.3. Term of Office;** will be a period of up to two (2) years. Youth Councillors reserve the right to reconsider their role on Youth Council every 12 months according to work, study and personal commitments.

**5.4. Resignation of Members;** An appointed Youth Council member may resign their membership of the Youth Council at any time by formally notifying the Team Leader, Inclusive Community in writing.

**6. Induction**

**6.1.** Within the first two weeks of their appointment, all Youth Council members must attend induction training including in relation to governance, conducted by Council officers.

**7. Operations of the Committee**

**7.1. Quorum;** A quorum shall be the Youth Council Mayor plus any eight (8) members. The quorum and staff representatives must be present for all votes taken by the Tamworth Regional Youth Council.

**7.2. Frequency of Meetings;** The Tamworth Regional Youth Council will meet on a monthly basis at a time convenient to members. If a meeting is cancelled due to lack of a quorum, the agenda items will be carried over to the next scheduled meeting.

**7.3. Attendance at Meetings;** Attendance at meetings is expected from all Youth Council Members. During a period of twelve months, an unexcused absence of more than three (3) occasions may be deemed a reason for dismissal unless reasonable explanation is provided. A member of the Executive will attend each Youth Council meeting on a rotational basis.

**7.4. Notice of Meetings;** The Executive Assistant/Business Support at Tamworth Regional Council will notify the Youth Council of a meeting, no later than two (2) weeks prior to the scheduled meeting date. The notice can be provided by telephone, email, SMS or post.

**7.5. Agenda Items;** Agenda items for meetings are to be received within ten (10) days prior to the next scheduled meeting. Agenda items and attachments will be forwarded to members with the Notice of Meeting. Items outside of the Agenda may be raised during 'General Business'. All members are entitled to one vote against each recommendation put forward to the Youth Council. The Youth Mayor will if necessary, have the casting vote. Any decisions of the Youth Council that require the expenditure of Council funds and/or an action by the Council will require a resolution of the Council.

**7.6. Business Support;** Council shall provide administrative support to the Youth Council, and professional advice/input where required. Business Support will collate the minutes of each meeting and circulate within a timely manner. Minutes of the Meeting will incorporate an attendance register, noting any apologies or absences and an outcome of the recommendations put forward in the agenda. Minutes of the previous meeting must be confirmed at the next meeting of the Youth Council.

## 8. Duties of Governance Positions

### Youth Mayor

With assistance from Council Officers the Youth Mayor will:

- Chair Youth Council meetings, including:
  - Keeping meetings on track;
  - Ensuring all agenda items have been addressed;
  - Ensuring that everyone's voice is heard;
  - Encouraging full participation from all members;
  - Seeking clarification of points that have been made;

- Ensure that all tasks are evenly distributed and actions are followed up;
- Support Council's Business Support in developing the agenda and ensuring the minutes are accurate;
- Represent the Youth Council at special community meetings/events; and
- Remain at all times impartial and unbiased when making decisions.

#### **Youth Deputy Mayor**

With assistance from Council Officers the Youth Deputy Mayor will:

- Support the Youth Mayor as required;
- Assume all Youth Mayor responsibilities in the absence of the Youth Mayor;
- Represent the Youth Council at special community meetings/events; and
- Chair meetings if the Youth Mayor is unable to attend.

#### **9. Portfolios**

The Youth Council may determine (or Youth Councillors may nominate based on their area of interest) to allocate members specific portfolio responsibilities. The objectives of each portfolio are to be approved by the Youth Council and be consistent with Tamworth Regional Council's Blueprint 100, Youth Strategy and align with the Purpose and Objectives of the Tamworth Regional Youth Council (see above).

A representative(s) from the Youth Council may be invited to attend specific meetings and/or other Council committees and Working Groups to advise on youth issues in relation to specific Council projects and in alignment with their chosen portfolio.

#### **10. Reporting Requirements / Council support**

Tamworth Regional Youth Council will be supported by the Cultural and Community Services division of Tamworth Regional Council with the principal contact being the Team Leader, Inclusive Community.

Council officers will be responsible for:

- Convening Youth Council meetings, organising a meeting venue and providing refreshments;
- Attending meetings as required;

- Supporting the Youth Council to complete their set tasks
- Supporting the Youth Mayor and Deputy Youth Mayor to meet the requirements of their positions

The Youth Council will have no delegated authority from Council to make decisions. Recommendations of the Youth Council will be reported to a subsequent Council meeting for determination under the Management Accountability of the Director of Liveable Communities.

**12 Confidentiality**

Confidentiality is to be maintained by all members of the Youth Council. Discussions occurring within the Youth Council shall be treated as confidential until the minutes are reported to Council or as agreed for release to the media.

**13 Media**

The Director of Liveable communities and Team Leader Inclusive Communities are authorised to represent and speak on behalf of the Youth Council in any media.