



TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL

ANNEXURES for ORDINARY COUNCIL AGENDA

27 MAY 2025

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Yarriin: Culture, Fish and Flows

Cultural Watering Place Case Study,
Galala, Peel River, Tamworth

February 2025

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The Cultural Watering Place Case Study: Galala (Paradise Weir) on the Peel River, Tamworth has been co-authored with members of the Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay community of the Peel River, Tamworth: Aunt Sharon Porter (Gamilaroi), Uncle Len Waters (Kamilaroi), Lyniece Keogh (Gomeroi), Marc Sutherland (Gomeroi), Wally Hammond (Kamilaroi, Local Lands Services), Amy Allerton (Gumbaynggirr, Bundjalung, Gamilaroi), Luke Raveneau (Gomeroi, Local Lands Services), Terri Whitton (Kamilaroi), Hank Flett (Gomeroi), Karwin Knox (Gomeroi), Zac Spreadborough (Kalkadoon, Gamilaraay), Karen Porter (Kamilaroi, Wiradjuri), Luke Dimmock (Kamilaroi), Joelene Faint (Kalkadoon), Ben Kent (Gomeroi).

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Acknowledgment of Country

We acknowledge the Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people as the traditional custodians of the land we work on. We recognise the strength, resilience and capacity of our Aboriginal community and have the utmost respect for our Elders past, present and future. We acknowledge that the meetings and workshops for this project took place in Tamworth on Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay land. We pay our respect to the Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay and other First Nations participants who shared their lived experience, knowledge and understanding.



Featured artwork: ‘Paradise’ by Amy Allerton (Gumbaynggirr, Bundjalung and Gamilaroi).

Artwork story: We are part of an ancient Paradise that has existed since the beginning of time. This Paradise brings together every story that was and will be, and weaves them into the fabric of Country, creating an eternal flowing river that sustains life, teaches, guides and connects all things.

As long as the river continues to flow through Country, we will continue to walk in the ancient Paradise that we have called home for tens of thousands of years. But paradise is much more than Country, more than a place.

Paradise is the beating heart of our people, where our culture and communities thrive; it is the stories we share, the legacies we forge and the future we build. Paradise lives within us and all around us, it is the strength that carries us forward and the flowing river that holds our spirits forever.

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Glossary

In this document Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi/ Gomeroi / Gamilaraay language has been used where possible. This Glossary provides a list of names and a pronunciation guide to aid in reading this document. The species referenced in this glossary and throughout the document are important to Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people and culture.

The language included in this document was referenced from Gamilaraay, Yuwaalaraay, Yuwaalayaay Dictionary (2003) and provided by the Yarliin: Culture Fish and Flows participants. If clarification on language is sought, please contact the authors.

Legend

GR = Gamilaraay language group

YR = Yuwaalaraay language group

YY = Yuwaalayaay language group

Our Name	English Name	Pronunciation guidelines
Bagay (YR, GR)	River	b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either a = short vowel, as in 'cut' g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either ay = as in 'bay' or 'hay'
Bagay-galgaa (galgaa = YR, YY)	galgaa = <i>many</i> (Rivers -plural)	b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either a = short vowel, as in 'cut' g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either ay = as in 'bay' or 'hay' l = the same as in English aa = long vowel, as in 'father'
Nhama Bagay (nhama = YR, YY, GR)	The River	nh = like English 'n' but with the tip of your tongue between your teeth a = short vowel, as in 'cut' m = the same as in English aa = long vowel, as in 'father'
Gali (GR)	Water	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either a = short vowel, as in 'cut' l = the same as in English i = short vowel, as in 'pin'
Wii (YR, YY, GR)	Fire	w = the same as in English ii = long vowel, as in 'peel'
Yaraaybaa (GR)	Summer / Time of the Sun (yaraay = sun) (baa = time)	y = the same as in English a = short vowel, as in 'cut' r = like 'r' in English 'run', but with the tongue tip turned back aay = as in 'my' or 'buy' (but sometimes said 'oy', as in 'boy') b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either aa = long vowel, as in 'father'

Our Name	English Name	Pronunciation guidelines
Yuuruu (GR)	Rain-February March	y = the same as in English uu = long vowel, as in 'cool' r = like 'r' in English 'run', but with the tongue tip turned back
Balal (YR, YY, GR)	Dry-April May	b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either a = short vowel, as in 'cut' l = the same as in English
Dhandarraa (YR, YY, GR)	Winter –Time of Frost (June –July)	dh = like English 'd' but with the tip of your tongue between your teeth a = short vowel, as in 'cut' n = the same as in English d = between English 'd' and 't', or can sound like either rr = a 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it aa = long vowel, as in 'father'
Yarragaa (YR, YY, GR)	Spring Wind –August September	y = the same as in English a = short vowel, as in 'cut' rr = a 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either aa = long vowel, as in 'father'
Guya (Fish) and aquatic invertebrates		
Biirrnga (YR, YY, GR)	Bony Bream	b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either ii = long vowel, as in 'peel' rr = a 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it ng = a single or 'one' sound, as in singer (not 'two' sounds, as in finger) a = short vowel, as in 'cut'
Guduu (YR, YY, GR)	Murray Cod	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either u = short vowel, as in 'put' d = between English 'd' and 't', or can sound like either uu = long vowel, as in 'cool'
Giirray (GR)	Yabbies	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either ii = long vowel, as in 'peel' rr = a 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it ay = as in 'bay' or 'hay'
Gaygay (YR, YY, GR)	Catfish	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either ay = as in 'bay' or 'hay'
Gambaal (YR, YY, GR)	Black Bream	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either a = short vowel, as in 'cut' m = the same as in English b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either aa = long vowel, as in 'father' l = the same as in English

Our Name	English Name	Pronunciation guidelines
Babi (YY)	Spangled Perch	b = Between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either a = short vowel, as in 'cut' i = Short vowel as in 'pin'
Dhagaay (YR, YY, GR)	Golden Perch (Yellowbelly)	dh = like English 'd' but with the tip of your tongue between your teeth a = short vowel, as in 'cut' g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either aay = as in 'my' or 'buy' (but sometimes said 'oy', as in 'boy')
Dhanggal (YR, YY, GR)	Mussels	dh = like English 'd' but with the tip of your tongue between your teeth a = short vowel, as in 'cut' ng = a single or 'one' sound, as in singer (not 'two' sounds, as in finger) ngg = is two sounds together (ng and g). A 'g' that follows 'ng' is pronounced between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either, like English finger l = the same as in English
Nguluumanbuu (YY)	Flat-Headed Gudgeon	ng = a single or 'one' sound, as in singer (not 'two' sounds, as in finger) u = short vowel, as in 'put' l = the same as in English uu = long vowel, as in 'cool' m = the same as English a = short vowel, as in 'cut' n = the same as English b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either
Dhugaalubaa (YR, YY) *Mirrindjaa (GR)*	Shrimp	dh = like English 'd' but with the tip of your tongue between your teeth u = short vowel, as in 'put' g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either aa = long vowel, as in 'father' l = same as English b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either aa = long vowel, as in 'father'
Mammals		
Buubumurr (GR)	Platypus	b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either uu = long vowel, as in 'cool' u = short vowel, as in 'put' m = the same as in English rr = a 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it.
Gumaay (YR, YY, GR)	Rakali (Water Rat)	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either u = short vowel, as in 'put' m = the same as in English aay = as in 'my' or 'buy' (but sometimes said 'oy', as in 'boy')
Buruma (GR)	Dog	b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either u = short vowel, as in 'put' r = like English 'r', but with the tongue tip turned back m = the same as in English a = short vowel, as in 'cut'

Our Name	English Name	Pronunciation guidelines
Reptiles		
Balawagarr (GR)	Eastern Bearded Dragon	b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either a = short vowel, as in 'cut' l = the same as in English w = the same as in English g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either rr = a 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it.
Dhuru (GR)	Snake	dh = Like English 'd' but with the tip of your tongue between u = short vowel, as in 'put' r = like English 'r', but with the tongue tip turned back
Dhulii (YR, GR)	Sand Monitor (Sand Goanna)	dh = Like English 'd' but with the tip of your tongue between u = short vowel, as in 'put' l = the same as English ii = long vowel, as in 'peel'
Guugaarr (YR, YY) *Yurrandaali (GR)*	Lace Monitor (Tree Goanna)	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either uu = long vowel, as in 'cool' aa = long vowel, as in 'father' rr = a 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it.
Gawu (Insects)		
Murrumanama-naa (YR, YY)	Dragonfly	m = the same as in English u = short vowel, as in 'put' rr = a 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it. n = the same as English aa = long vowel, as in 'father'
Balabalaa (YR, YY, GR)	Butterfly	b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either a = short vowel, as in 'cut' l = the same as in English aa = long vowel, as in 'father'
Gaiya (YY)	Spider	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either a = short vowel, as in 'cut' Y = the same as in English i = short vowel, as in 'pin'
Gunambaay (Waterbirds)		
Garrangay (YR, YY, GR)	Duck – referring to any duck	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either a = short vowel, as in 'cut' rr = 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it ng = a single or 'one' sound, as in singer (not 'two' sounds, as in finger) ay = as in 'bay' or 'hay'

Our Name	English Name	Pronunciation guidelines
Giinbaywarraymal (YY)	Seagull	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either ii = long vowel, as in 'peel' n = the same as in English b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either ay = as in 'bay' or 'hay' w = the same as in English a = short vowel, as in 'cut' rr = 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it m = the same as in English l = the same as in English
Gulguwi (YR, YY, GR)	Black-tailed Waterhen	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either u = short vowel, as in 'put' l = the same as in English w = the same as English i = short vowel, as in 'pin'
Dhaadhiirr (YR, YY, GR)	Kingfisher	dh = like English 'd' but with the tip of your tongue between your teeth aa = long vowel, as in 'father' ii = long vowel, as in 'peel' rr = a 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it.
Gulayaali (YR, YY, GR)	Pelican	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either u = short vowel, as in 'put' l = the same as in English ay = as in 'bay' or 'hay' aa = long vowel, as in 'father' i = short vowel, as in 'pin'
Yuwagayrr (GR)	Ibis	y = the same as in English u = short vowel, as in 'put' w = the same as in English a = short vowel, as in 'cut' but sounds like 'o' in 'got' after w g = Between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either ay = as in 'bay' or 'hay' rr = 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it. Often, at the end of a word when 'rr' follows 'ay', it can sound like the 'd' in 'bed'
Ganandhaal (YY, GR)	Long-necked Shag	g = Between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either a = short vowel, as in 'cut' but sounds like 'o' in 'got' after w n = the same as in English dh = Like English 'd' but with the tip if your tongue between your teeth aa = long vowel, as in 'father' l = the same as in English
Garraagaa (YR, YY, GR)	Crane	g = Between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either a = short vowel, as in 'cut' rr = 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it aa = long vowel, as in 'father'

Our Name	English Name	Pronunciation guidelines
Wurungayawaa (GR)	Great Cormorant	w = the same as in English u = short vowel, as in 'put' r = like 'r' in English 'run', but with the tongue tip turned back ng = a single or 'one' sound, as in singer (not 'two' sounds, as in finger) ay = as in 'bay' or 'hay' a = short vowel, as in 'cut' but sounds like 'o' in 'got' after w aa = long vowel, as in 'father'
Maadhaabulaa (YY)	Spoonbill	m = the same as English aa = long vowel, as in 'father' dh = Like English 'd' but with the tip of your tongue between your teeth b = Between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either u = short vowel, as in 'put' l = the same as in English
Baluun (YR, YY)	Egret	b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either a = short vowel, as in 'cut' l = the same as in English uu = long vowel, as in 'cool' n = the same as in English
Dhigaraa (Birds)		
Burrugarrbuu (YR, YY, GR)	Magpie	b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either u = short vowel, as in 'put' rr = 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it g = Between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either a = short vowel, as in 'cut' uu = long vowel, as in 'cool'
Barawaa (YR, GR)	Plains Turkey	b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either a = short vowel, as in 'cut' r = like 'r' in English 'run', but with the tongue tipped turned back w = the same as in English aa = long vowel, as in 'father'
Galalu (GR)	Currawong	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either a = short vowel, as in 'cut' l = the same as in English u = short vowel, as in 'put'
Gugurrgaagaa (YR, YY, GR)	Kookaburra	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either u = short vowel, as in 'put' rr = 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it aa = long vowel, as in 'father'
Barriindjiin (YR, YY, GR)	Magpie Lark	b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either a = short vowel, as in 'cut' rr = 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it ii = long vowel, as in 'peel' n = the same as English dj = sometimes sounds like John, or as in budge, and even like 'ch' in catcher

Our Name	English Name	Pronunciation guidelines
Dhirridhirri (YR, YY, GR)	Willy Wagtail	dh = Like English 'd' but with the tip of your tongue between your teeth i = short vowel, as in 'pin' rr = 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it
Biliirr (YR, YY, GR)	Red-tailed Black Cockatoo	b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either i = short vowel, as in 'pin' l = the same as in English ii = long vowel, as in 'peel' rr = 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it
Gilaa (YR, YY, GR)	Galah	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either i = short vowel, as in 'pin' l = the same as in English aa = long vowel, as in 'father'
Muraay (GR)	White Cockatoo / Sulphur Crested Cockatoo	m = the same as English u = Short vowel, as in 'put' r = like 'r' in English 'run' but with the tongue tip turned back aay = as in 'my' or 'buy' (but sometimes said 'oy', as in 'boy')
Muyaana (Tree)		
Murrugu (YR, YY, GR)	She-oak	m = the same as English u = Short vowel, as in 'put' rr = 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either
Nhungga (YR, YY) Nhimin (GR)	Kurrajong	nh = Like English 'n' but with the tip of your tongue between your teeth as in onion u = Short vowel, as in 'put' ng = a single or 'one' sound, as in singer (not two sounds, as in finger) ngg = is two sounds together (ng and g) as in finger . A 'g' that follows 'ng' is pronounced between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either a = short vowel, as in 'cut'
Dhariil (GR)	Reeds	dh = Like English 'd' but with the tip of your tongue between your teeth a = short vowel, as in 'cut' r = like 'r' in English 'run', but with the tongue tipped turned back ii = long vowel, as in 'peel' l = the same as English
Bibil (YR, YY, GR)	Bimble Box Tree	b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either i = short vowel, as in 'pin' l = the same as in English

Our Name	English Name	Pronunciation guidelines
Bilaarr (YR, YY, GR)	Swamp Oak	b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either i = short vowel, as in 'pin' l = the same as in English aa = long vowel, as in 'father' rr = 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it
Gurraari (GR)	Cypress Pine	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either u = short vowel, as in 'put' rr = 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it aa = long vowel, as in 'father' r = like 'r' in English 'run' but with the tongue tip turned back i = short vowel, as in 'pin'
Buunhu (YR,YY) *Garaarr (GR)*	Native Grass (general)	b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either uu = long vowel, as in 'cool' nh = like English 'n' but with the tip of your tongue between your teeth u = short vowel, as in 'put'
Guli (YY, GR)	River Grass	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either u = short vowel, as in 'put' l = the same as in English i = short vowel, as in 'pin'
Yarraan (YR, YY, GR)	River Red Gum	y = the same as in English a = short vowel, as in 'cut' rr = 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it aa = long vowel, as in 'father' n = the same as English
Gundhi (YR, YY, GR)	Stringy Bark Gum	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either u = short vowel, as in 'put' n = the same as English dh = Like English 'd' but with the tip if your tongue between your teeth i = short vowel, as in 'pin'
Guburruu (YR, YY, GR)	Black Box or River Box	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either u = short vowel, as in 'put' b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either rr = 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it uu = long vowel, as in 'cool'
Gurrulay (YR, YY)	River Wattle	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either u = short vowel, as in 'put' rr = 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it l = the same as in English ay = as in 'bay' or 'hay'
Bambul (YR, YY, GR)	Native Orange	b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either a = short vowel, as in 'cut' m = the same as English u = short vowel, as in 'put' l = the same as in English

About this Case Study

Yarriin is the current flowing through our bagay-galgaa; it is the lifeblood of our people, and connects all things across country. Yarriin holds the spirit of the Gomeroi people, both strong and unbroken. It mirrors the deep and sacred relationship between land, gali, and community, embodying the pulse that sustains us. As nhama bagay's current supports everything it touches, the current within Gomeroi people carries the legacy, strength, and connection to Country. In yarriin, nhama bagay, the guya and the people move as one.

Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people have an important role and connection to care for Country and bagay-galgaa of the Peel River Valley. This Case Study shares the views of specific members of the Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay community in Tamworth about Galala (Old Paradise Weir) and the Peel River.

We do not speak for all Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people or the entirety of Country. Neither is this Case Study a reflection of the entire Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay Nation, rather a specific place on the Peel River.

Our goal is that Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay knowledge contributes to the health of bagay-galgaa (rivers), and therefore the health and survival of First Nations people. Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people need to have a say in improving the bagay (river) health and all the native guya (fish), dhigaraa (birds) and dhii (meat or animals) that depend on nhama bagay.

We want our stories and knowledge to be shared, so people understand the importance of the bagay and our history here.

We want our voices to be heard and to work with the government and community partners so we can all Care for Country.



Pictured: Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay community knowledge holders and research participants, and the project team.

Front row left-to-right: Aunt Sharon Porter, Uncle Len Waters.

Second row left-to-right: Stephanie McCaffrey (DPIRD), Hank Flett, Ben Kent, Karen Porter, Kristal Kinsella, Jolene Faint, Terri Whitton, Alexandra Almond.

Back row left-to-right: Alexander Habilay (DPIRD), Luke Dimmock, Karwin Knox, Zac Spreadborough.

Not pictured: Lyniece Keogh, Marc Sutherland, Wally Hammond, Amy Allerton, Luke Raveneau.

A message from DPIRD Fisheries

First Nations voices, cultural knowledge and perspectives are a recognised gap in our understanding of native guya and riparian ecology. The Yarrin: Culture Fish and Flows project explored how Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay knowledge about bagay flow and native guya ecology can be represented in government science and decision-making frameworks.

This Case Study is a part of the Yarrin: Culture Fish and Flows Project. It was prepared through the collaborative efforts of knowledge holders and community members of the Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay Nation living in the Tamworth region, along with Aunty Kay Blades, Alexandra Almond, Kristal Kinsela, and NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) Fisheries.

Fifteen members of the Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay community participated in workshops between April-July 2024, and have co-authored this Case Study. The words printed here reflect their perspectives, values, views and aspirations for their community and bagay-galgaa.

Participants contributed many different culturally important Stories and cultural knowledge frameworks for this project. This Case Study applies the cultural knowledge and frameworks to Story to develop aspirations and objectives for Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people about guya and bagay-galgaa. This supports the participants to articulate their role in caring for Country in the Peel River Valley.

We thank the participants who shared their lived experience, knowledge and understanding to make this project possible.

Purpose

Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people have an important role and connection to care for Country and bagay-galgaa of the Peel River Valley. This Case Study shares the views of specific members of the Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay community in Tamworth about Galala (Old Paradise Weir) and the Peel River. We do not speak for all Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people or the entirety of Country. Neither is this Case Study a reflection of the entire Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay Nation, rather a specific place on the Peel River.

Our goal is that Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay knowledge contributes to the health of bagay-galgaa (rivers), and therefore the health and survival of First Nations peoples and their cultures. Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people need to have a say in improving the bagay (river) health and all the native guya (fish), dhigaraa (birds) and dhii (meat or animals) that depend on nhama bagay.

We want our stories and knowledge to be shared, so people understand the importance of the bagay and our history here.

We want our voices to be heard and to work with the government and community partners so we can all Care for Country.



Galala

Galala is Paradise

Galala (Old Paradise Weir) is a really special place. We have a strong connection to Country at the bagay here and many stories to share.

The Peel River flows through Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay Country. The Peel's gali was birthed deep beneath Country, emerging with Garriya the creator serpent/crocodile, from the Mountain Country up near Nundle. Gali followed Garriya on its journey, flowing into the Peel, Manning and Hunter Rivers, creating Story in different places at different times, with gali as the thread that connects Country together. Galala is one of the places Garriya rests as it travels Country - it is where it curled up and made a home.

"When all the small creeks flow into this place, the connection forms a huge eddy of water. This connection event is important to this place and to Gomeroi."

"The colours and the sounds of Country flow through this place, and that reflection of country is important for our mental health."

"As boys we used to make clay-balls from the riverbanks under the She-Oaks. We would get our launchers and throw the clay-balls as far as we could."



Galala's Character

For some people, Galala is a deep pool of cultural significance that exists on the confluence of the Peel River and Calala Creek, near Tamworth NSW.

In Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay language the word Galala can be interpreted as “vessel, something that holds water.” It could also mean the “winding of water, coiling like a whirlpool, like a snake at rest.” Some people believe that Galala is one of the many places Garriya rests as it travels across Country, leaving gali behind and embedding Story all across Country.

The Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people have cared for their Country since Garriya emerged from deep beneath the land, from the time when Bayaami first walked nhama bagay-galgaa, and long before their bagay was renamed the Peel.

When time is viewed through a cultural lens, it unfolds differently on Country. Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay Story tracks back to deep time and describes when our Country was first created and how our people came to be. Contemporary information about artefacts found near Dungowan Creek indicate that the Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people have occupied the Tamworth area for at least 5,500 years (DCCEEW 2024). Both views are correct and can be paired together to enhance the knowledge of our Country.

Just as the Peel River and Calala Creek connect at Galala, the Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people have always known that the Tamworth region is an important area to connect with kin and other groups. The Country Galala belongs to was once rich and abundant, John Oxley wrote *“it would be impossible to find a finer, or more luxuriant country than its waters”* and the *“abundance of game, such as emus and kangaroos and of wild ducks on the stream, was wonderful”* (Oxley 1820).

When the Country was abundant, different Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay groups would meet for ceremony, trade and exchange (Boileau 2007). This is evident at Boundary Rock, which is a 600-year-old rock art site that marks a ceremonial meeting place with the neighbouring Anaiwan people (Stead 2019). There is also a stone axe quarry at Daruka, which is a significant trade resource that was exchanged with clans in the far west (where the Country had significantly less hard stones). Close to both these

special places is Long Gully, which is one of the many places where Garriya left the main bagay to create Story. Garriya manifests here in the series of freshwater springs that nourish Country. Each of these places are a part of the journey Garriya made across Country and are important to our culture.

Seasonal cycles unfold across Country and trigger important ceremonies or tell Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay to look for specific resources. Usually during dhandarraa (winter), the people moved into the mountains to hunt possum and wallaby, returning to the bagay-galgaa in the yarragaa (spring) where they harvested a rich variety of guya, shellfish, wildfowl and birds' eggs (Boileau 2007).

In 1854, William Gardner observed that at certain seasons of the year, various tribes of the Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay would meet at special places, like Burkanbandean near the Peel River, for ceremony (Boileau 2007). In the 1850s, William Telfer described a corroboree he saw near Tamworth, “There was a tribe of Aboriginals on Tamworth in those days, about 1844, two hundred and fifty males and females. There was a great corroboree or dance, all male Aboriginals were painted with white chalk or pipeclay. The long lines of fires and the dark night amongst the white gum and apple trees with the figures of the blacks had a most striking appearance, gliding from tree to tree flourishing their boomerangs. Some of them looked like demons whooping and shouting in their own language, some with figures of Emus cut out of bark carrying in their hands, also figures of Kangaroos made the same way astonished us children. Some of the gentlemen said there were fully three hundred Aboriginals in the performance.”

For some people, gali is the gift from Garriya and the thread that weaves Story, People and Country together. Country cannot exist without gali. Gali is the essence of Garriya and reflects all the places it left Story as it journeys across Country. Gali is a part of the Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people's custodianship over Country and it's their right and responsibility to care for.

We know that Galala is an important place on Country and that it cannot exist without gali. To this end, some people's vision for Galala is one where gali flows through Galala to maintain and pass-on Story, where everything that belongs to nhama bagay has the best opportunity to thrive and that a healthy bagay will bring a healthy people.

Galala Story: Bagay Flow

As explained above, Galala in Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay language can be interpreted as “vessel, something that holds gali”, it could also mean the “winding of gali, coiling like a whirlpool, like a snake at rest.”

Some Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people believe that the English translation of Galala is describing a culturally significant hydrological event on the Peel River. This hydrological event potentially has deep cultural relevance to the Garriya story and the overall understanding Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people have about the importance of Galala to the entirety of Country.

It is believed that this culturally significant hydrological event occurs during high yuuruu (rain) and results in the connection of up to three bagay-galgaa at Galala. The Peel River and Calala Creek are known to be a part of this hydrological event, however some Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people theorise that the third bagay has been modified, after colonisation, to such an extent that the Galala hydrological event can no longer occur.

This third bagay could potentially be Garrieties Gully, which is a Strahler third order stream (meaning two second order streams have joined), that originates

from Flagstaff Mountain in Tamworth. This place of origin aligns with the Garriya story, in which it left the main bagay channel and created the tributaries of the Peel River, showing the importance of tributaries and bagay connectivity to Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay Story.

Garrieties Gully, and the surrounding Tamworth area, have been modified to such an extent that the tributary no longer naturally connects to Galala or the Peel River. In modern day, this tributary has been modified to use the man-made stormwater network, rather than the natural channel, to return surface gali back to the main bagay. This stormwater network is evident at Galala through a stormwater outlet pipe located on the north-eastern edge of Galala, behind the Big 4 Caravan Park.

The Galala Story hydrological elements can be summarised into the following observations:

1. Galala is a deep pool of cultural significance that should always hold gali;
2. Galala language translation describes a culturally significant hydrological event that has relevance to the Garriya story, Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay language and the entirety of Country surrounding the Peel River;
3. More work to understand the hydrological components of the Galala flow event and how to restore this flow event at Galala needs to occur.



Pictured: Culturally significant tributaries that connect at Galala on the Peel River.

Natural features

Galala retains natural beauty. A lot of the original native plants and animals don't live here anymore. Invasive species are common in and around nhama bagay, but there is still habitat for native birds and animals and we still find native guya.

Some of the plants and animals that could call Galala home are listed here.

Legend

☉ = plants and animals that were observed and recorded during the cultural health assessment (AWA)

Native vegetation

- ☉ She oak (*Casuarina cristata*) - *Murrugu*
- ☉ Reeds - *Dharriil*
- ☉ Swamp oak - *Guburruu*
- ☉ Cypress Pine - *Gurraay*
- ☉ River Red Gum - *Yarraa*
- ☉ River Bottlebrush / Callistemon - *Gurrulay*
- ☉ Panic Grass / native millet - *Guli*
- ☉ Silky Oak
- ☉ Native grass - *Buunhu*
- ☉ Kurrajong - *Nhungga*
- Stringybark Gum - *Gundhi*
- Swamp box - *Guburruu*
- Bimble Box Tree - *Bibil*
- Stringybark Gum - *Gundhi*

Native guya (fish)

- ☉ Murray Cod - *Guduu*
- ☉ Freshwater Catfish - *Gaygay*
- ☉ Black Bream, Silver Perch - *Gambaal*
- ☉ Yellowbelly, Golden Perch - *Dhagaay*
- Bony Bream/ Herring, Forkytail - *Biirrnga*
- River mussels, large - *Dhanggal*
- ☉ Yabbies - *Giirray*
- ☉ Shrimp - *Mirrindjaa*
- Spangled Perch - *Babi*
- Northern River Blackfish
- Darling River Hardyhead
- Carp Gudgeon species complex
- Southern Purple Spotted Gudgeon
- Flat-headed gudgeon - *Nguluumanbuu*
- Mountain Galaxias
- Unspecked Hardyhead
- Australian Smelt
- Murray Darling Rainbowfish

Native birds and animals

Dhigaraa (Birds):

- ☉ Rosella
- ☉ Fire Tail Finch
- Magpie - *Burrugarrbuu*
- Plains Turkey - *Barawaa*
- Currawong - *Galalu*
- Kookaburra - *Gugurrgaagaa*
- ☉ Magpie Lark - *Barrindjiin / Birrgabirrga*
- ☉ Willy-wagtail - *Dhirridhirri*
- Red Tailed Black Cockatoo - *Biliir*

Gunambaay (Waterbirds):

- ☉ Waterhen - *Gulguwi*
- Kingfisher - *Buruma*
- Ibis - *Yuwayayrr*
- ☉ Pelican - *Gulayaali*
- ☉ Shags - *Ganandhaal / Gunambaal*
- ☉ Cormorant - *Wungayawaa / Wurungayawaa*
- ☉ Spoonbill - *Maadhaabulaa*
- ☉ Egret - *Balun*
- ☉ Crane - *Garraagaa*
- ☉ Duck - *Garrangay*

Dhii (Animals):

- ☉ Waterdragon - *Balawagarr*
- ☉ Snake - *Dhuru*
- ☉ Bats
- ☉ Sand Goanna - *Dhulii*
- ☉ Tree Goanna - *Guugaarr*
- Dingo/dog - *Buruma*
- ☉ Dragonfly - *Garrarana / Murrumanamanaa*
- ☉ Butterfly - *Balabalaa*
- ☉ Spider - *Gayiya*
- ☉ Water-rat - *Gumaay*
- ☉ Platypus - *Buubumurr*
- ☉ Short-necked Turtle - *Waraba*

Important places on and around nhama bagay

Dhariil (Rocky Waterhole): A natural permanent spring, which is extremely valuable to Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people. We need gali to live.

Boundary Rock: Home to a ceremonial area, ochre paintings, carvings in the stone, curvature of the rocks. Old fellas say it's on the path of the dragon.

Jewry Street: A significant place for Mob. We felt safe to gather there and swim. Back then someone lost her wedding ring, and we dived in and found it. That's how clear the gali was. You wouldn't find anything in there now.

Long Gully: Holds story about a dhuru (snake) that had travelled along there, connecting a couple of freshwater springs. Most of the places on the map are connected. Lots of significant artefacts found along that crack in the mountain range.

Timbumburi Creek: An important place that holds stories of people camping there. Artefacts and scar trees can be found there.

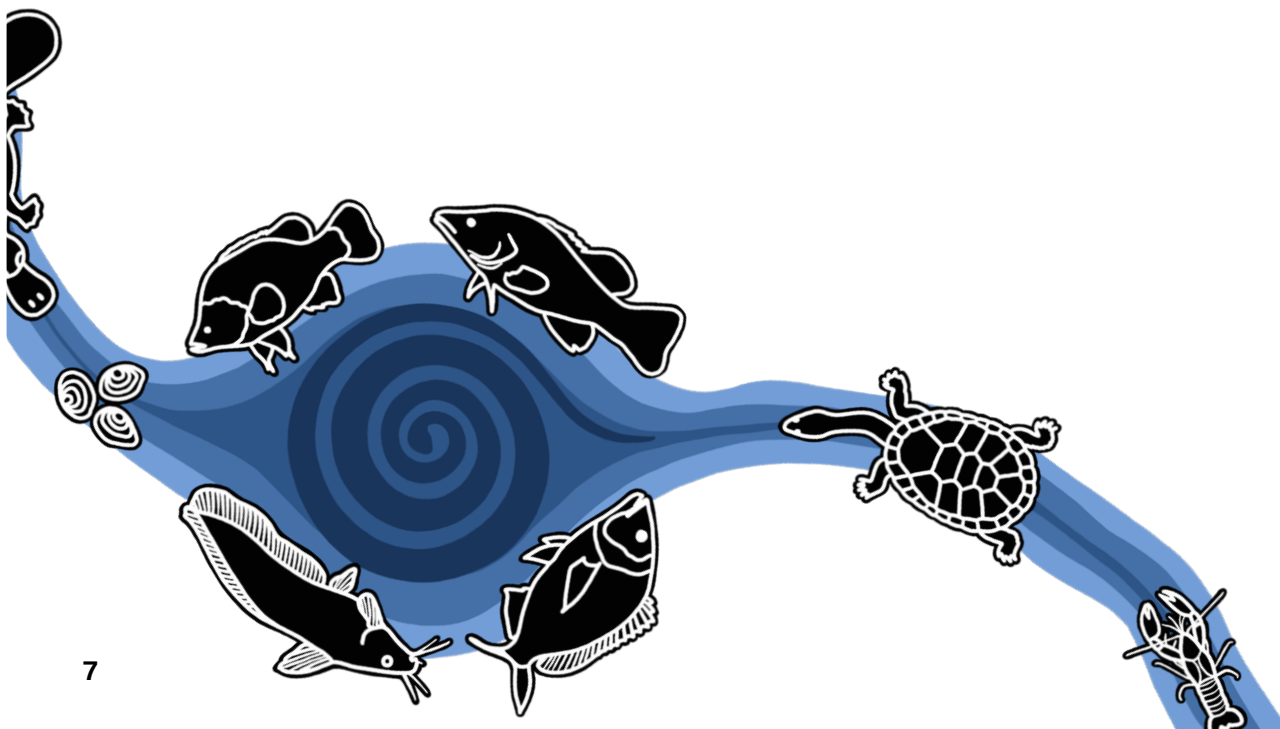
Racetrack: At the back of the Racetrack there is one of the tributaries of the bagay. It's like an overflow of the

Peel. A few of the old non-Aboriginal people would say their grandfathers would walk across the old railway bridge from west Tamworth and they saw our Mob doing corroboree there. You could hear the clapping of sticks and the stomping of feet, and it would go on for hours.

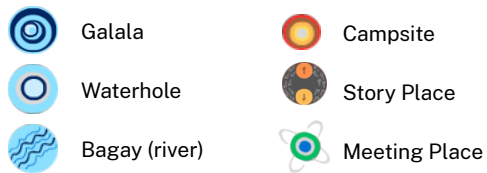
Daruka: A stone axe quarry. Our old people used to trade stone and tools with Mob out west (Gwydir wetlands) where there isn't as much good stone. Gali feeds into this place from those bagay-galgga near Daruka and used it in our grinding stones. Gali connects our cultural practise and people together.

Happy Camp: A place of family. Happy Camp wasn't classed as a mission. It was tin huts that some of the old families moved into in the 1940s and 1950s. Aboriginal people who came to the area would go there. They knew that's where Mob would be. Everyone has stories of coming there to visit rellies [relatives]. There's gali up there, and three dry dams up there too, and right up the creek from there there's a permanent mayan.

The old campsite near the water treatment plant: Recorded by some of the first non-Aboriginal people that came through. They referred to the "Kallala Blacks". There's been some surveys out there that confirm the oral history that people have been there a long time.

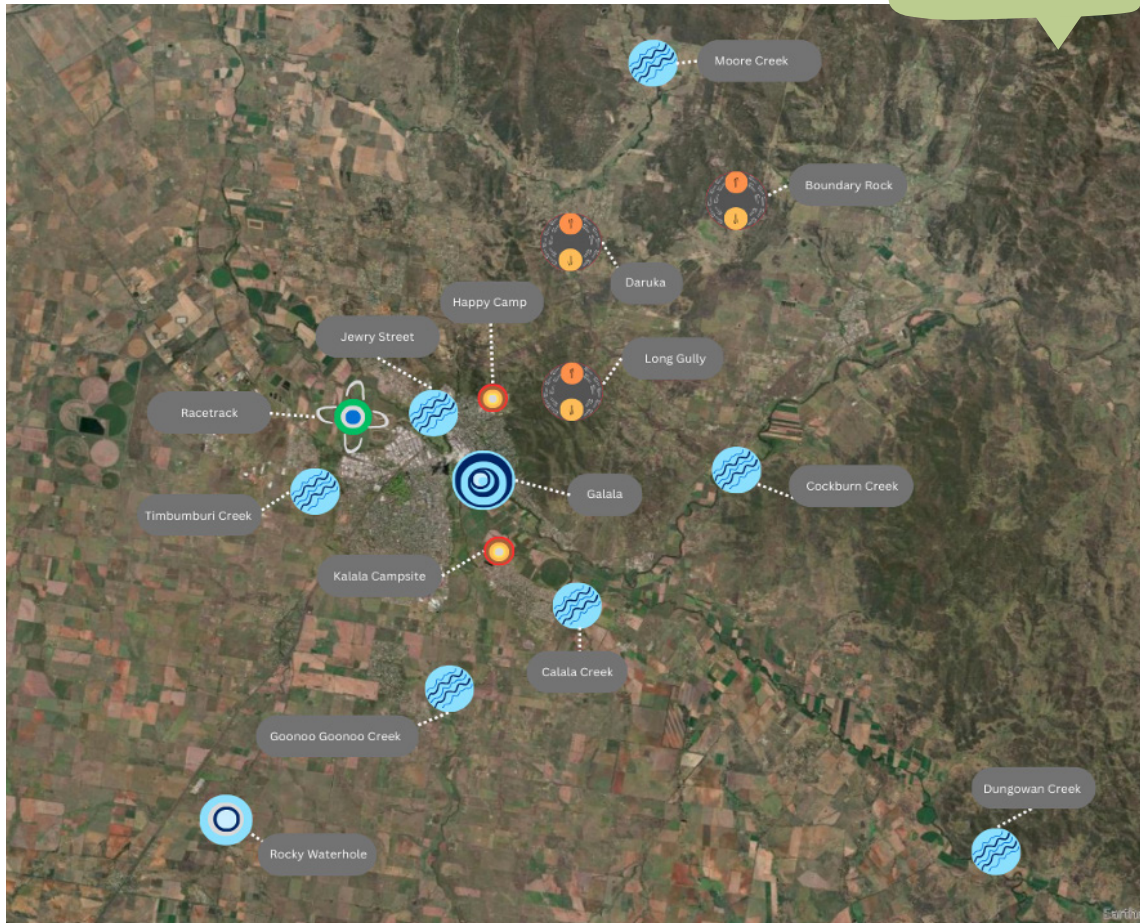


Map Legend



Gali connects all these important places together.

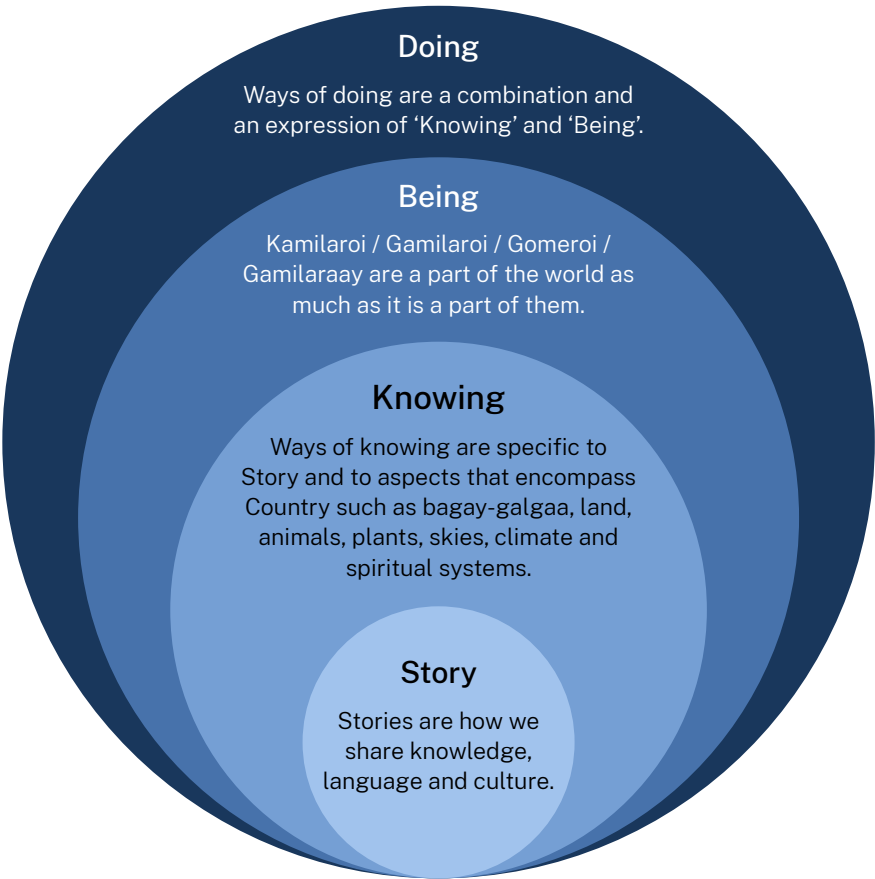
***"Most of the places
on the map are
connected."***



Garaydhi Barawaanha

Diving into story

The Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeri / Gamilaraay Way is an ontological framework that focuses on four domains: story, knowing, being and doing. Story is central to our Culture, with all aspects of Culture originating with Story.



This diagram shows how the Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeri / Gamilaraay Way was visualised by participants.

Story

Stories are how we share knowledge, language and culture. Stories connect people and communities, and they show the importance of the bagay to Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay. If you know those stories, then you know those bagay-galgaa.

To look forward, you always must look back. Our past informs our present and future. This next section reflects our shared stories. Our knowledge, our history and our past.

Knowing

'Ways of knowing' are specific to Story and to aspects that encompass Country such as bagay-galgaa, land, animals, plants, skies, climate, and spiritual systems.

Knowing is an interaction based on the social organisation, time and space aspects of a person, group and Country. Knowing is more than information and facts, it's taught and learned in certain contexts, in certain ways and at certain times.

Knowing is purposeful. It keeps everything known about Country and People within a network of relationships. Without 'knowing' we are unable to 'be'.

Being

Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay are a part of the world as much as it is a part of them.

Everything on Country exists within a network of relationships and in certain contexts. To 'be' Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay means to know how you are a part of this network, which can define the custodianship responsibilities and rights Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people fulfil for Country, community and self.

'Ways of being' have evolved as the context has

changed (i.e. colonisation), just as relationships change and the movement of life (birth, adulthood, death) occurs, the way of being Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay changes.

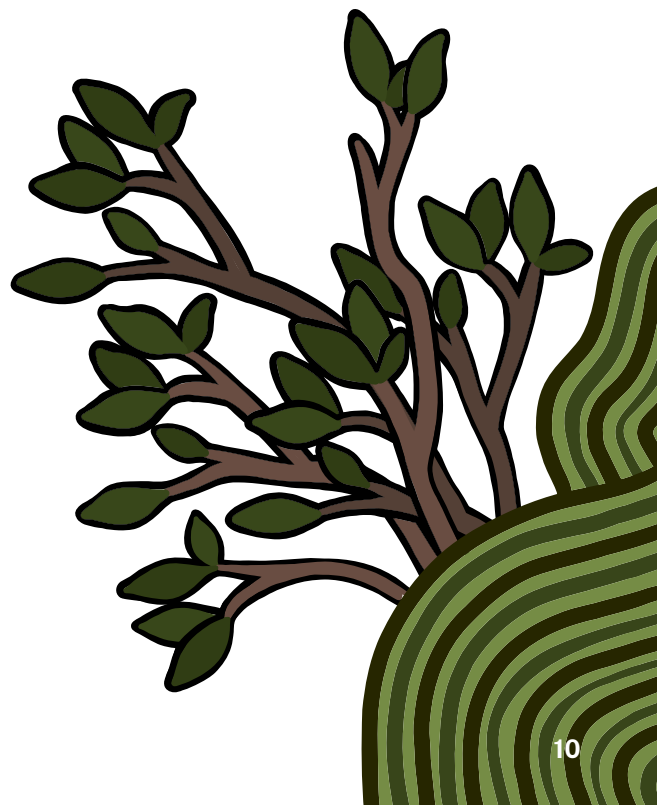
We are custodians. All living things are connected. We not only share with them, but we also guard them.

Doing

'Ways of doing' are a combination and an expression of 'Knowing' and 'Being'.

Doing can be expressed through language, art, symbolism, technology, traditions, ceremony, gali and land management practices and social organisation.

As with 'Knowing' and 'Being', 'Doing' is also affected by life stage, gender and cultural role (i.e. Elders, knowledge holders). 'Doing' is an expression of individual and group identities and individual and group roles in caring for Country.



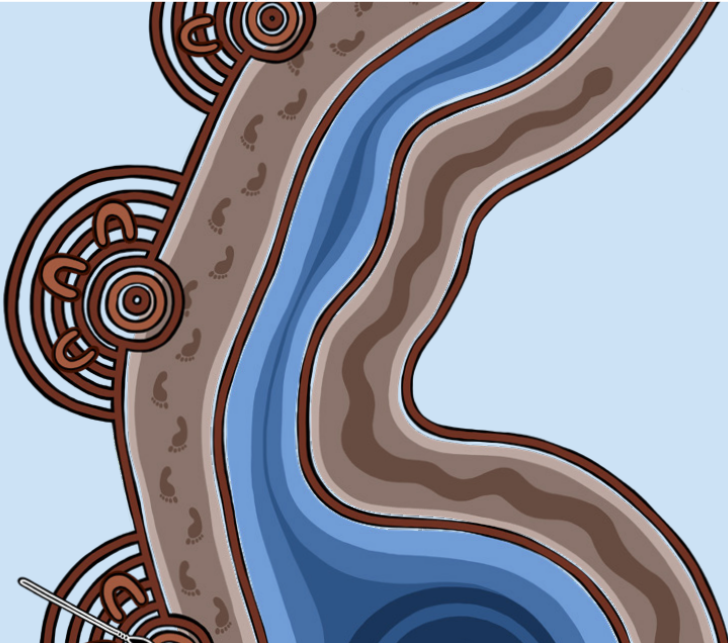
Story

Garriya

Garriya travelled country and left story in different places. Upstream and downstream. The bagay-galgaa are heavily embedded in that story. Garriya can travel underground and over. It's important that it can exist underground as well (groundwater) and stories reflect that.

Garriya didn't travel nhama bagay once, it's always travelling it. We know it's still moving because nhama bagay changes with it. Some Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people believe that as Garriya travels nhama bagay-galgga and aquifers, that it rests in many different places including Galala, Dhariil (Rocky Waterhole) and Boobera Lagoon.

Knowing	Being	Doing
<p>This Dreaming can be interpreted as a story about the importance of gali, bagay connectivity and the connection between surface gali and ground gali sources. To know Country means to understand that Garriya created Country and that Garriya is deeply connected to gali, Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay know that Garriya still travels nhama bagay-galgga and aquifers today.</p>	<p>This Dreaming could explain the importance of gali to Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay Country, because like Garriya it intertwines Country together. It could also explain why surface gali and ground gali are connected on our Country and that Country can't exist without both.</p> <p>The Dreaming may also explain the deep connection Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people have to their Country, and their custodianship over the places Garriya left Story and gali.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people have a voice in decision making, planning and developing gali management outcomes.• Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay People lead caring for Country projects.• Knowledge is shared and Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay maintain cultural practice on Country (education, both ways, for all).



Story

Baayami¹

Our ancestor Baayami lives in the west. There's a story that Garriya travelled down nhama bagay and created it and Baayami walked back up nhama bagay. He camped on nhama bagay and there were great camping spots and so we camped there as well. It's said that he had buruma (dogs) with him on his walk. His buruma would run off and create tributaries, Daruka and Attunga are some of the places he stopped and left Story.

Knowing	Being	Doing
<p>This Dreaming can be interpreted as Baayami giving Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people their Lore. This includes cultural traditions like Story, song, dance and ceremony.</p> <p>It can be interpreted as our people following Baayami's footsteps to look after the songlines that connect Story and Country together.</p>	<p>This Dreaming may explain the deep spiritual connection Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people have to their Country and their custodianship over places Baayami left story. Knowing your Lore and participating in cultural traditions is a part of being Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people have a voice in decision making, planning and developing gali management outcomes.• Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay People lead caring for Country projects.• Knowledge is shared and Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay maintain cultural practice on Country (education, both ways, for all).

¹ Baayami used to be a restricted name, but today it's used commonly, and the group agreed it was appropriate to use in this context.



Story

Dhuluumay & Murrumay

That's Dhuluumay (thunder). The old people say that wii (fire) comes from Murrumay (lightning) in the sky-country and gali comes from the clouds that bring Yuuruu (rain).

Gali and wii are both two healers, they come from the Father, wii from lightning and gali from the rain. Wii provides warmth, protection and regrowth. Gali gives introspection, comfort and eases mental health. This place has both our healers here today.

Knowing	Being	Doing
<p>This Dreaming may be interpreted to explain how wii and gali are brought to Country, and the role each element has in caring for Country and for people.</p> <p>Dhuluumay means thunder, specifically 'low muttering thunder' which is believed to be the voice of the Creator. Murrumay is a word that means lightning. Some people interpret this as Dhuluumay waking up Yarragaa (spring).</p> <p>This Dreaming could explain the importance of seasonal cycles to gali and bagay flow and the cultural practices associated with available resources or seasons.</p>	<p>This Dreaming could explain Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people's connection to wii and gali as a way to influence Country.</p> <p>It could also be interpreted as an example of the deep connection we have to seasonal weather patterns and how these patterns trigger important cultural queues for people to follow.</p> <p>It may also be an example of the deep physical and mental connection Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people have to their Country and how the condition of this Country impacts our welfare.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people have a voice in decisions and are partners in native guya management in the Peel valley. Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people lead caring for Country projects.

William Telfer, Wallabadah Manuscript. 1850s:

This tract of country was a vast lake or inland seas. The Aboriginals have a tradition that it was three hundred miles along, a large lot of islands in the middle of it...they used to have canoes and go fishing from one island to the other, making a stay at each place.

I said at the time, 'where was the river?' and he said 'no river, all water and ridges and mountains all around the outside.' There came this very wet season and his people shifted away to the mountains, he said they heard a great noise at different times, like thunder. He said they were very frightened, when they came back, all the big water was gone, nothing but mud and swamps where the plains are now, plenty of fish in different water holes"

This quote can be interpreted as describing inland flooding on Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay Country near Gunnedah. It includes thematic elements similar to the Dhulumay and Murrumay story, specifically thunder waking up Spring and how hydrological weather cycles influence Country and People.

Thematic History of Nundle, Manilla and Barraba (Page 11-12):

By the spring of 1837 tensions between the Gamilaroi and Europeans increased to a new level. Convinced they had quelled the Gamilaroi resistance, Hall and others had moved cattle and sheep over the Nandewar Range and established runs on the Gwydir plains, disrupting the seasonal cycle of the Gamilaroi. Usually during the winter, the Gamilaroi moved into the mountains to hunt possum and wallaby, returning to the river valley in the spring where they harvested a rich variety of fish, shellfish, wildfowl and birds' eggs. The Gamilaroi returned to the Gwydir that spring to find the delicate ecology of the valley destroyed, the banks of the river trampled by cattle, the reed beds where wildfowl nested flattened, and the water polluted.

This quote explores the seasonal cycle of Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people and details types of seasonal resources our people require. Includes thematic elements similar to the Dhulumay and Murrumay story.

Story

Gulayaali

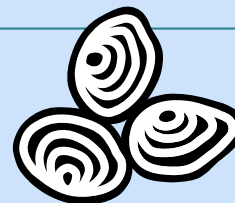
Gulayaali (pelican) was the first fellow to make a gulay (net). But he used to keep it a secret and hid it in his mouth. Eventually people caught onto him and he taught them. He made the gulay out of currajong.



Knowing	Being	Doing
This Dreaming may be interpreted as an example of Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people's connection to ancestor spirits and how they were taught to manipulate Country from their ancestor spirits. It could be interpreted that Country has all the resources needed for people to thrive, but knowledge of Story and language is crucial to knowing how to survive on Country.	This Dreaming may be an example of why gunambaay are important for Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay bagay-galgaa and to our cultural fishing practices. It could be an example of how intangible (Story) and tangible (Country itself) aspects of culture are combined to create cultural practises that define the identity of a group.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people lead caring for Country projects. Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay stories are held, maintained and passed through the generations. Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people have a voice in decisions and are partners in native guyamanagement in the Peel valley.

Story

Giinbaywarraymal



There is a story around Dhanggal (mussels) and how the seagull travelled over by the coast and got tricked by the crow to leave its mussels. Giinbaywarraymal (Sea gull) means bringer of mussels. There were seagulls in the main street and the magpies didn't know what to do with them.

Knowing	Being	Doing
<p>This Dreaming may be an example of how language is a thread that weaves Country and Story together. In our language, Giinbay means 'small mussel', Dhanggal means 'large mussel' and Giinbaywarraymal means 'sender/bringer of mussels'. The language connection between each life-history of the mussel, the seagull and potentially Dungowan Creek (tributary of the Peel River) could be interpreted as a deep cultural relationship between aquatic species, gunambaay (waterbird), specific places and how the life-history needs of species are articulated through language and Story.</p> <p>This Dreaming may also be interpreted as a story about social organisation and interactions with other groups centralised on a resource. In this case, the Seagull and Crow may represent different First Nations groups and the mussel as a resource.</p>	<p>This Dreaming may explain that Dhanggal (mussels) are important species to Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay Country, especially Dungowan Creek. Through language, it identifies that our people observed Dhanggal (mussels) life-history interactions or dependencies with the Giinbaywarraymal (seagull), resulting in a culturally significant relationship between Dhanggal (mussels), Giinbaywarraymal (seagulls) and Dungowan Creek.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people have a voice in decisions and are partners in native guyamanagement in the Peel valley. • Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people lead caring for Country projects. • Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay stories are held, maintained and passed through the generations.

HR Carter, 1968, The Quirindi District Historical Society, surveyed the extent of Aboriginal occupation and found a great amount of evidence. His findings on the Mooki River indicate evidence of trade between coastal and inland Aboriginal groups, which aligns with the Gomeroi story about Ginbaywarraymal:

"An interesting discovery was a shell – Cymatium spenglen – or Spenglers Triton, identified by the Australian Museum as being of coastal origin ... Although the [mussel] shell was not found in a known campsite, it was in a locality frequented by the Aborigines, and show that their movements covered a wide area."

Story

Bunyip

They used to tell us the Bunyip lived at the mouth of nhama bagay. We could go anywhere we liked on the main bagay but we couldn't go to the mouth. It was forbidden. It was a big stretch of gali very wide and still and deep. But as we got older, the Bunyip turned into something else, it was just a safety thing for when we were kids. The bunyip was a protector, looking after us.

A lot of Murri don't camp around the mayan; they'll do what they need to around the mayan during the day and then camp a long way away.

Knowing	Being	Doing
This Dreaming could be interpreted as a way Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people use Story as a governance system to care for people and places. The meaning of the Story may change with the audience and context. The Story could begin with themes of fear and avoidance, eventually evolving into aspects of protection and respect for Story and important places.	This Dreaming may explain that being Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay means to know Story, but knowing this Story will change as you mature or learn other aspects of our culture. It could be an example of why intergenerational knowledge sharing is a crucial aspect of our culture and that all Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people should be aware of our cultural knowledge frameworks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay stories are held, maintained and passed through the generations.

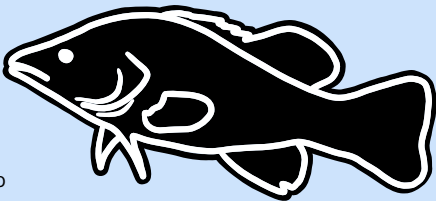
William Telfer, Wallabadah Manuscript. 1850s:

While creating a marked tree line from Port Stephens to Dungowan Creek through Nowendoc and the Barrington Tops, Telfer recorded the following encounter:

"There was one place on the road, the water was running down a narrow gorge in the mountain and my father wanted to see where it went. The Blackfellow said plenty of Blackfellow go down there and never come back. Many more Blacks were very frightened, my father went and had a look but could see nothing, only hear the rumbling underneath as the water disappeared under the surface. By what the Blacks said, there was some kind of animal in the gorge that used to take them when they went for a drink at the place".

Story

Guduu

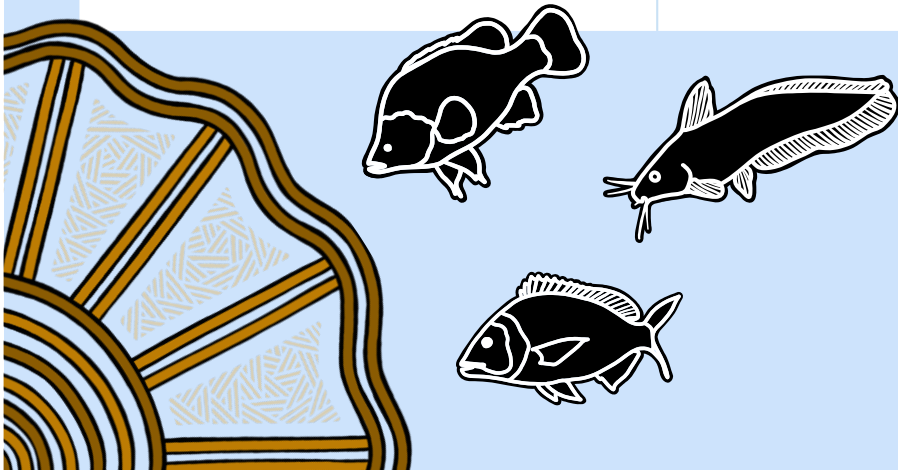


Guduu (Murray Cod) is the grandest of all guya and he's referred to in several stories as the father of all guya.

In Dreamtime he sacrificed himself in order to give other guya a life. He was captured after a great hunt that carved our bagay-galgga and he was cut up by our ancestor hunter into many different pieces and thrown back into nhamaa bagay. As each piece of Guduu entered the gali, it transformed into one of the many guya we have on nhama bagay today. Dhagaay (Yellowbelly), Gambaal (Black Bream), Gaygay (Catfish). But before the hunter threw the last piece back in, the head, he said “You go on and keep being Guduu” and so he did.

In another story he dragged fire into nhama bagay and made it warm enough for all the other guya to live in. Guduu can live in colder gali but other fish can't. The fiercest, the smartest, the cleverman of all guya. He knew all the tricks. He is the grandfather of all guya, big Guduu aren't touched by Mob because he's sacred.

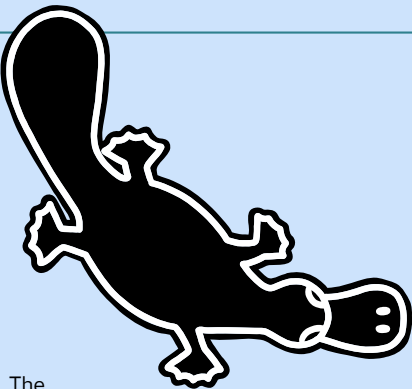
Knowing	Being	Doing
<p>This Dreaming could be interpreted as a reflection on the deep cultural connection Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people have with bagay Country and the native guya that depend on nhama bagay.</p> <p>This Dreaming may indicate that through a cultural knowledge framework, Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people possessed intricate knowledge about managing a native fishery, especially in understanding and respecting apex predators like Guduu and its role in the food web.</p> <p>This Dreaming could also be interpreted as the concept that Country sustains all, including the Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay, and that we have an important role to play in sustaining Country.</p>	<p>This Dreaming may emphasise the deep custodianship relationship Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay have to their Country and especially Guduu, Gambaal, Gaygay and Dhagay as dhii (meat/totem) species and that bagay-galgga should flow in a way that sustains dhii.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people have a voice in decisions and are partners in native guya management in the Peel valley.• Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay stories are held, maintained and passed down through the generations.



Story

Buubumurr

The buubumurr (platypus) story is about the garrangay (duck) who swam far away upstream from his own and found a gumaay (water rat). The garrangay and gumaay were forbidden to meet, but they did so anyway. When the garrangay returned back to their Country they laid some eggs, but instead of a duckling, a buubumurr hatched from the duck's eggs. The buubumurr was an abomination, mixed between the garrangay and the gumaay but not belonging to either Mob.



Knowing	Being	Doing
<p>This Dreaming could be interpreted as being about social organisation through skin moiety and social rules around kinship for Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people.</p> <p>Each person belongs to one of two moieties and to one moiety subdivision. Each person also has a number of totems and one person's dhii (totem) might include the emu, a particular star, a plant or plants, a wind and other things as well. Each person also belongs to one social class and also one 'blood' group.</p> <p>When meeting a person for the first time, the first thing to find out was the person's dhii (totem) and social class. Marriage was determined by dhii (totem) and social class, with strict rules around which dhii can mix. (A. Ash, J. Giacon & A. Lissarrague 2003).</p>	<p>This dreaming could be an example of what Gomeroi means to have an understanding of your kinship and the social rules that are paired to your moiety and dhii. It also reinforces that Gomeroi people's connection to Country is interwoven in their kinship systems.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay stories are held, maintained and passed down through the generations.

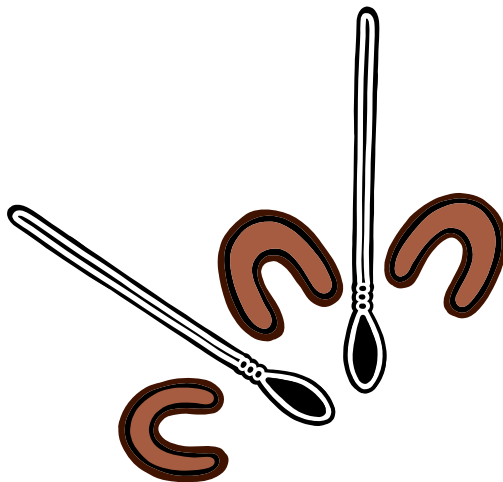


Guya and yinabi-li (fish and fishing)

Some Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people belong to a mayan on the Peel River in Tamworth called Maian Kambaalngu, which means 'waterhole that the Gambaal (Silver Perch) belongs to'. An English translation of Maian Kambaalngu would limit this connection strictly to the Gambaal and the gali. However, we know through the kinship system that they (the people) are also a part of Maian Kambaalngu's deep connection.

Through the Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay kinship system, we are given a number of totems (also called Dhii-meats) which describes who each person is, where they are from, what they are responsible for and provide an aspect of their identity. In Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay language, a more accurate translation of Maian Kambaalngu is "waterhole where the Gambaal belong to, both the fish and the people", which indicates the Gambaal is an important totem for the Tamworth region.

The location of Maian Kambaalngu is not recorded, however the relevance of the Gambaal to the Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people is also outlined in their Dhiingaa, which is a cultural framework explored in the next section.



Excerpt from Gomeroi Dance Company 2021 Facebook:

In 1835, William Telfer Jnr recorded that there was a Gomeroi community of around 250 men and women camped at a large waterhole along the Peel River. Abraham Cohen wrote that up until 1849 'Tamworth was a forest, there were few white people in the place, the inhabitants were mostly black'. It was said that those Gomeroi people belonged to a waterhole on the Peel River in Tamworth called Maian Kambaalngu, meaning the waterhole that Gambaal (Silver Perch / Black Bream) belongs to. An English translation would limit this connection only to the fish and the water but we know that through our kinship system Gomeroi people are also a part of this deep connection. Through our kinship systems we are given a number of totems (also called Dhii-meats). Our totems let us know who we are, where we belong, our responsibilities and provide us with our identity. A more accurate translation of Maian Kambaalngu is, the waterhole where the Gambaal belong to, both the fish and the people. Making the totem for Tamworth Gambaal (the Silver Perch / Black Bream). It is hard to know exactly where this waterhole was located as the river has changed so much over the past 180 years. The earliest written record is from John Oxley in 1818 who named it the Peel River and said "it is the largest interior river (with the exception of the Macquarie and Castlereagh), which we had yet seen. It would be impossible to find a finer or more luxuriant country than it waters".

Dhii (Dhinggaa)

Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay People have a deep connection to guya and yinabi-li (fishing) as a cultural practise. This connection to guya is represented in the Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people's Dhinggaa.

Dhii is an abbreviation of Dhinggaa, which has many meanings in Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay language. Dhii can be translated into three meanings, the first is 'meat' as in the name for all meat foods. The second translation is also 'meat', as in totem in relation to moiety and kinship. A Dhii is primarily a totemic animal or plant inherited from one's mother, it can also include aspects of Country such as the emu, a particular star, a plant or plants, a wind and other things as well. Dhii can also translate to the literal translation of 'animal'.

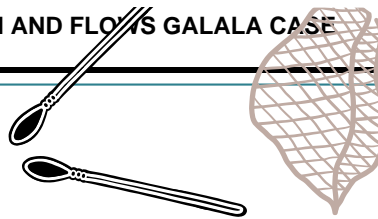
Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay Dreamings refer to the us as only having four meat guya. These are Guduu, Gaygay, Gambaal, Dhagaay. The four Dhii are culturally significant species for Story and as a

resource and are also representations of a cultural framework used by us to guide the management of fisheries and fishing practises. Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people believe that this cultural framework can be expanded to include complementary western scientific elements required by each Dhii.

The western scientific concepts of habitat types, food web interactions, bagay flow requirements, interactions with other species or Country, seasons or relationship to other environmental patterns are complementary to the Dhii cultural framework. Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people have determined that the Dhii cultural framework can be applied to western scientific management practises for gali and native guya species. It can also be expanded to include complementary western scientific elements required by each dhii. In this application, the Biirnga (Bony Bream), Giiray (Yabbies) and Dhanggal (Mussels) have been added for consideration. The Biirnga representing small-bodied native guya and their role in the food web, whereas Giiray and Dhanggal have been included due to their cultural significance in story and as a food resource.



Long established fishing practices



We have a Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay name for fishing nets (gulay), spears (dhindi), and fishing line (yalaayn) so we used all those things in our fishing practices. We also use poison from the Black Wattle and some other plants to temporarily stun the guys then pick them up.

"On the mission you wouldn't take any more than what you needed. No good getting 30 [fish] when 10 would feed everyone. A sugarbag full would be sufficient."

But we knew not to overfish. We have laws around how many guys to catch and when to catch them.

There's the idea that where things have a place, that's where they're meant to be, and that's a kind of sanctuary. There are times when you don't catch guys, but there are also places where you don't fish, and guys that you don't catch.

Our Name	English Name	Pronunciation guidelines
Yalaayn (YR) *Buurr (YR, YY, GR)*	Fishing line	y = the same as English a = short vowel, as in 'cut' aay = as in 'my' or 'buy' (but sometimes said 'oy' as in 'boy') n = the same as English
Gulay (YR, YY, GR)	Fishing net / net bag	g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either u = short vowel, as in 'put' l = the same as English ay = as in 'bay' or 'hay'
Dhindi (YY) *Bilaarr (YR, YY, GR)*	Fishing spear	dh - Like English 'd' but with the tip of your tongue between your teeth i = Short vowel as in 'pin' n = Same as in English d = Between English 'd' and 't', or can sound like similar
yinabi-li (YR, YY, GR)	Fish, catch fish, fish with instrument	Y = the same as English, though yi at the start of a word is mostly pronounced like i i = short vowel as in 'pin' n = the same as English a = short vowel, as in 'cut' b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either i = short vowel as in 'pin' l = the same as English
Bunduurraa (YR, YY) *Nganda (YR, YY, GR*)	Bark canoe	b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either u = short vowel, as in 'put' n = the same as English d = between English 'd' and 't', or can sound like either uu = long vowel, as in 'cool' rr = a rolled 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it aa = a long vowel, as in 'father'

Our Name	English Name	Pronunciation guidelines
Bin.guwi (YR, YY, GR) Guliman (YR, GR)	Coolamon	b = between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either i = ghort vowel as in 'pin' n = the same as English g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either u = short vowel, as in 'put' w = the same as in English i = short vowel as in 'pin' g = between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either u = short vowel, as in 'put' l = the same as English i = short vowel as in 'pin' m = the same as English a= short vowel, as in 'cut' n = the same as English
Badi (YR, YY)	Fish trap	b = Between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either a = short vowel, as in 'cut' d = Between English 'd' and 't', or can sound like either i = Short vowel as in 'pin'
Yinabil (GR)	Hook	y = the same as English, though yi at the start of a word is mostly pronounced like i i = Short vowel as in 'pin' n = The same as English a = short vowel, as in 'cut' b = Between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either i = Short vowel as in 'pin' l = The same as English
Buurr (YR, YY, GR)	Fishing line / rope / string	b = Between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either uu = Long vowel, as in 'cool' rr = A rolled 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it
Ngunmal (YY, GR)	Yard / enclosure - fish trap	ng = a single or 'one' sound, as in singer (not 'two' sounds, as in finger) u = short vowel, as in 'put' n = the same as English m = the same as English a = short vowel, as in 'cut' l = the same as English
Giinbal (YR, YY, GR)	Scales -part of fish	g = Between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either ii = long vowel, as in 'peel' n = the same as English b = the same as English a = short vowel, as in 'cut' l = the same as English
Guya (GR)	Fish-general	g = Between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either u = short vowel, as in 'put' y = the same as English a = short vowel, as in 'cut'

It's all connected

We have a story that up in the mountain, at the head of the Peel, where Garriya comes out of the ground. Three bagay-galgga start, this is just one of them, but they're all connected at the top.

The flow is integral to everything around nhama bagay. It's not just guya who depend on flowing gali; there's gumaay, dhigaraa, turtles, Buubumurr and all things that survive on and around gali. Their whole existence depends on gali flowing across Country. You can't have one without the other.

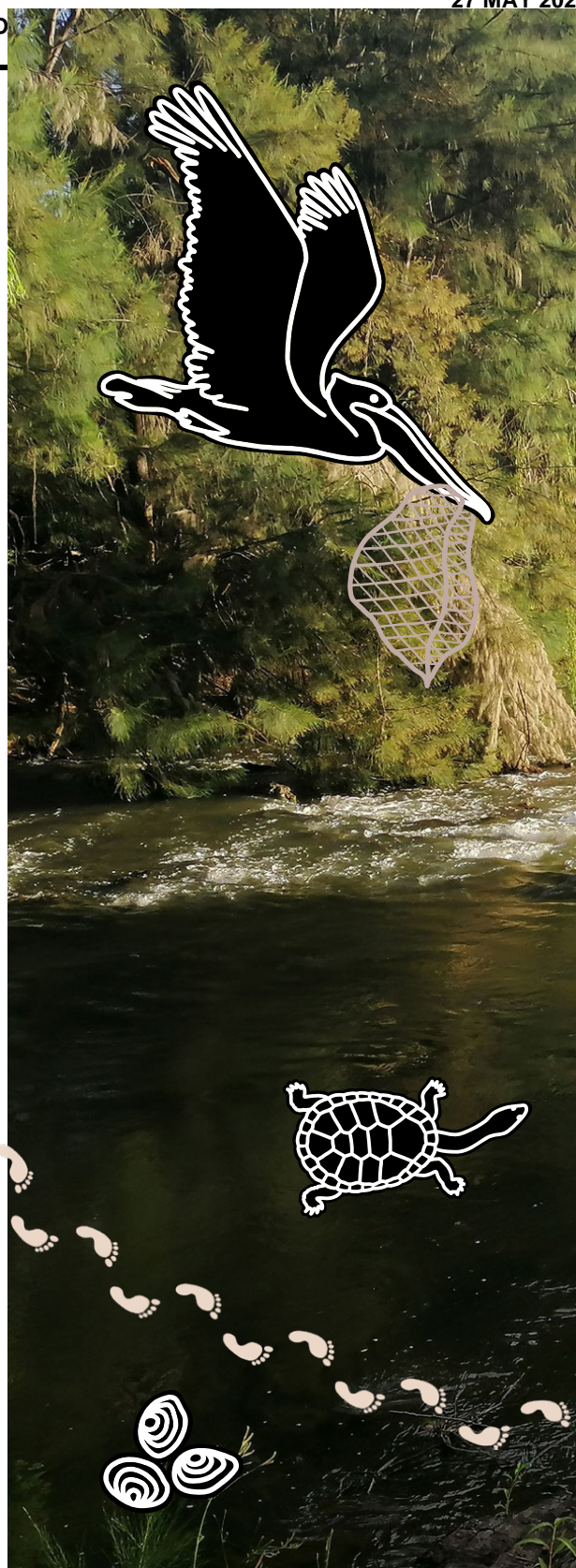
In Wee Waa, during the drought we were at nhama bagay and the gilaa (galahs) and muraay (cockatoos) started going mad. A few minutes later the gali started coming down. They knew.

Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people know that as gali flows across Country, Garriya moves with it, leaving story in different places along the way. Galala is one of the places Garriya rests and so is Boobera Lagoon, near Boggabilla. While the distance between these places is large, gali and Story connect Country together.

The importance of these stories is about the connection of people and communities across language groups through story. It's also about how gali is needed to connect these stories together. No matter the distance between places or the stories that exist on the way, flowing bagay-galgga are needed to navigate and listen to all of Country.

"Funny story from Wullamaringal, there was a big Guduu that used to go from one side of the river to get the sun, morning and afternoon. But people wouldn't eat that fella. There's a thing where we say, these things have sustained us for generations and generations and sometimes we've got to give back. As people we should try to sustain them."

"Dharuka is an example of that, where Garriya left the river and created that landscape. It's a cultural landscape, all connected to a larger story."





Bangahawaanha

Travelling on top of water (How Galala has changed)

Our bagay is not healthy

Galala doesn't look the way it used to look. Colonisation has had a significant and detrimental impact on the waterway at this site.

Bagay shape and flow

There is significantly less gali now than there used to be. This was known to be a deep mayan, but there's a lot less gali now.

Nhama bagay has changed; it's narrower in some areas and wider in others. Rapids have formed upstream where there never used to be any, and there is almost no flow here where there used to be a lot.

Changes to nhama bagay aren't always bad — Garriya didn't travel nhama bagay once, it's always travelling it. We know it's still moving because nhama bagay changes. But most of these changes are man-made.

Journal of Two Expeditions into the Interior of New South Wales, John Oxley, 1817-18, September 2:

This quote describes Oxley's first encounter with the Peel River and its depth and velocity, quite different to the river today.

"We came to a deep and rapid stream running to the north, through the valley whose eastern side it waters: finding it too deep to be forded."

Gali quality and pollution

There is a lot of rubbish in gali and on the banks and that's just what you can see. Knowing about all the upstream run-off, it's worrying what else might be here. Gali looks murky and stagnant and clarity is very low. Sometimes there's a stale smell here, like dead carp.

Signs of neglect and poor access

There's been minimal maintenance and the site looks neglected. It's overgrown and you can see vehicle damage. It's not easy to get to, with no vehicle access and the pathway being overgrown. It's steep and rough walking for our elders.

Signs of neglect and poor access

There's been minimal maintenance and the site looks neglected. It's overgrown and you can see vehicle damage. It's not easy to get to, with no vehicle access and the pathway being overgrown. It's steep and rough walking for our elders.

Vegetation

There are still native trees and grasses and reeds around but also a lot of weeds and willows. Overgrown vegetation is strangling the native tree species. The far bank was once clear and easily accessible. It's now overgrown with non-native trees and plants. Part of nhama bagay is concealed, and the banks have eroded away.

"It's not just about flow, it's about the ecosystem."

Wallabadah Manuscript, William Telfer 1860s:

"The climate has changed of late years, there was no dams to hold water in those days only natural water holes such as Nicolas Lagoon and Gillons lagoon, the dirty lagoon on the Walhallow Run and several others on the Liverpool plains Country. There was a great deal of myall timber on the Walhallow station those days, but all this had disappeared, only a few scattered trees remain at the present time, the reason a great deal more stock has been de-pastured on the Country and dry seasons they have had to cut it down as fodder for the stock, also the saltbush has disappeared that used to grow in those myall scrubs on the Liverpool plains, thus deteriorating their fattening capacity. I have seen those plains with an emerald coat of green herbage of all descriptions, the cattle and sheep rolling fat in a short time, but now there is a lot of noxious weeds growing in the place of the natural pasture, also overstocking the runs has a great deal to do with the Evil, when a run is overstocked they destroy the natural grasses, there is nothing but rubbish to take its place."

Native guya, dhigaraa and animals

There is still good habitat for native dhigaraa and animals around here. There are trees, reeds and logs around, dead trees in nhmama bagay and nesting holes in the bank. There are bush dhigaraa flitting around, garrangay in the reeds, a wurungayawaa (cormorant) perched on the dead tree. We saw a turtle.

Some kids caught a few gaygay while we were at nhama bagay but other than that it's mainly carp.

Lack of people

Many of us have memories of coming to this place to swim or fish, at this site or up above the weir, but not recently. Some generational ties have been cut because of the increased man-made changes. A healthy bagay has people, using the gali because it's a part of them.

Accessibility

It's not easy to get to, with no vehicle access and the pathway being overgrown. It's steep and rough walking for our elders.

There's still a connection, despite the downsides

Gali is a place of healing, and we can find a spiritual connection here. We're in town but away from town, we can relax and listen to the sounds of Country and observe all its interactions. Being here is good for our wellbeing.

Culture and history

This is our bagay, and this place holds significant Aboriginal stories. Even for those who haven't visited this particular site, it's a part of our cultural history. For some this was the go-to swimming mayan growing up, at this site or up above nhama bagay. There is history and a connection to Country within this area, and many stories to share.

Connection and recreation

It provides a place to relax recreationally and get away from man-made structures and designs. To reconnect with Country when you're in town but away from it at the same time.

Sharing stories and history

This is a culturally significant area we can use for storytelling and teaching. Our people have history here and we have many stories to tell. It could be a place of learning and a place to share traditional knowledge.

Bringing people together

It's a good place to come and yarn, bring community together. It's peaceful and away from man-made structures. It could be good for recreation; people are still fishing here.

"The water has and always will take away stresses with its flow."

"I can't believe how low the water is. We used to jump in where we're sitting now."

"Today made me realise that if I'm not coming here, then my kids won't come here."

"This river has changed so much. You don't see [Silver] Perch and Bony Bream anymore, once upon a time that's all you'd catch and you'd be cursing them because they're hard to eat. Now it's Carp that's the curse."

"I've heard it used to be a good fishing hole. I've never caught anything here though, only Carp."



A voice for Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people

Our people have no say about the use of nhama bagay and when we're asked about what's important, we're expected to respond through a western lens. We don't think about nhama bagay in the same way, and it's hard to answer the way they [managers, scientists] want.

There is a tension because of a lack of shared traditional knowledge. Even those Mob who care and want to honour and do right need western information to respond.

We are in contemporary modern times with cities, communities, businesses that need gali and we need to figure out how we can all work together. Wouldn't it be great if we had better flow, but also improved bagay conditions: habitat and gali quality. We need a collective approach, so everyone is working towards the same goal in caring for and looking after our bagay systems.

It would be great for us to have a better voice.

"The impact of agriculture and cows and invasive species, that's been devastating. If our river was cleaner and healthier, that's part of what we're looking for. There's no point doing one thing (flow) if you don't deal with the cattle, and the native vegetation, and the pollution."

"It comes back to respect, respecting it as a life source. The river is part of everything. It's so beautiful. You talk about losing beautiful creatures, but what about the river and losing it? We see it as a resource but one day it won't be there."

"Our rock art diminishes every year, our rivers diminish, we as a people are being diminished. Part of this project needs to acknowledge that has been done."

Maarumaldanha

Fixing, healing, making better

Our aspirations for Galala

Our aspiration is for a clean and flowing bagay (river) that provides a healthy habitat for all the native guya (fish), dhigaraa (birds) and dhii (meat or animals) that belong here. A place that welcomes people to reconnect with Country and community.

A healthy bagay means healthy people

Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay are a part of Country and Country is a part of us. We can't thrive without Country, so in caring for this bagay, we're looking after our people. Not just for ourselves but for generations to come.

Everything that's in nhama bagay and belongs to nhama bagay, should have the best opportunity to thrive

All nhama bagay-galgga and tributaries are part of the system, all the guya and other animals and dhigaraa and all the plants are connected to gali. We're looking for a holistic approach that helps the whole ecosystem to survive, not just elements of it.

Our stories should be held, maintained and passed on through generations

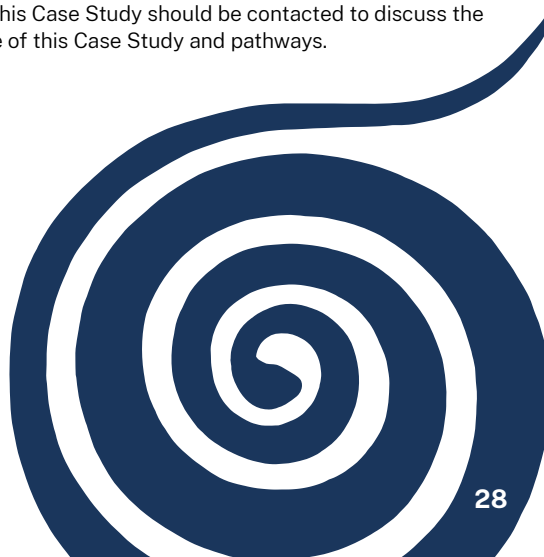
We want to bring our young people here and teach them our culture, our way. It is a place to regain connection to country, a place for stories and sharing knowledge to pass through generations.

Maarumaldanha (fixing, healing, making better)

To realise our aspirations — a clean and flowing bagay that provides a healthy habitat for all the native guya, dhigaraa and dhii that belong here. A place that welcomes people to reconnect with Country and community — we've identified four key objectives to work towards.

These objectives and pathways have been developed through information gathered during the Aboriginal Waterways Assessment of Galala on the Peel River, and by applying the Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay Way to Story. This is a method used to articulate our aspirations for nhama bagay, specific objectives related to Guya, Gali, Story and People.

DPIRD Fisheries and project participants collaborated to develop these objectives into potential pathways for future projects. These pathways should be cross-referenced against Peak First Nations organisations relevant to the Tamworth region, to identify how the pathways can be used to support current First Nations community strategies or programs. The Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay participants involved in this Case Study should be contacted to discuss the use of this Case Study and pathways.



Objectives	Potential pathways
Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi Gamilaraay people continue to care for Country , taking the lead on caring for country projects.	1. Site management plans for places of importance with Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for First Nations groups to be involved in their management of. Places of significant importance include: Happy Camp, Old Paradise Weir & Dhariil (Rocky Waterhole).
	2. Improve the health and abundance of native dhigaraa, mammals and other gali dependent species.
	3. Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay community members and NSW Government (NSW Geographic Names Board) collaborate to identify a Gomeroi name for the Peel River and incorporate dual-naming across the Peel River catchment.
	4. Kinship and totem mapping: cultural values, monitoring and distribution map.
Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay knowledge and science is integrated into native guya management decisions and practice.	5. The following cultural flow objectives are incorporated into the DPIRD Fisheries Fish and Flows framework that is used to guide native guya management in the Tamworth area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Galala ("Windy water, in a spiral") cultural flow element identified and restored at Old Paradise Weir site. This includes removing barriers to guya passage and reinstating natural flow regimes. Hydrological connectivity along the Peel River and between the Peel-Namoi Rivers is maintained. Lateral connectivity to the floodplain is supported. The health, abundance and distribution of Dhii and other native guya is improved. Support movement and dispersal opportunities for native guya and other gali-dependent biota to complete lifecycles. In-stream productivity is supported.
	6. In addition, that NSW DPIRD Fisheries implement updates to the Fish and Flows Framework based on learnings from the Yarrriin: Culture, Fish and Flow project. These include the development of ecosystem approaches to native fish management, developing cultural monitoring methods, dual naming, and the inclusion of cultural aspirations or objectives.
	7. Conceptual hydrographs for Dhii guya species are developed.
	8. Learnings from the Yarrriin: Culture, Fish and Flow project are shared with NSW and Commonwealth government agency partners.
	9. Learnings, objectives and aspirations from the Yarrriin: Culture, Fish and Flow project contribute to cultural gali planning where the opportunity arises (with appropriate consultation with the community.)

Objectives	Potential pathways
Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people have a voice in decisions and are partners in guya management in the Peel valley.	10. Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people are represented on decision making bodies such as the Environmental Water Advisory Group (EWAG) with government partners when established for the Peel River.
	11. Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people are represented on other Water Advisory Groups (WAG) if established for the Peel River.
	12. Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay community members and DPIRD Fisheries co-design and develop a Gambaal (Silver Perch) project.
	13. Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay community members and DPIRD Fisheries co-design and develop a Dhangaal mapping and rehabilitation project.
	14. Opportunities for community to undertake cultural monitoring of river flow and gali management activities on the Peel River, with focus on Dhii species response to changes in flow e.g., at Galala (Old Paradise Weir) are explored.
	15. Support cultural monitoring programs at additional sites e.g. Dhariil (Rocky Waterhole) monitoring program.
	16. Opportunities for community to undertake gali quality monitoring program for the Peel River and its tributaries.
Knowledge is shared and Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay maintain cultural practice on Country (education, both ways, for all).	17. Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay Fishing Guide is developed to share information with community. Topics include cultural fishing catch sizes, locations, seasons, site specific restrictions. For example –cultural fishing calendars, gaygay nest restrictions, Dhii catch size.
	18. A guide to Cultural fishing practices, net-making, gathering bait resources, plant species used to create fishing tools or to poison guya is developed.
	19. Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people receive training, competency and qualifications that supports jobs pathways toward working on country.
	20. Moiety mapping: Kinship mapping project to identify the social organisation of Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay people, investigate kinship totems and co-design a process to identify totems and determine custodianship duties based on moiety system.
	21. Galala (Old Paradise Weir) site developed into a knowledge sharing place.
	22. Kamilaroi / Gamilaroi / Gomeroi / Gamilaraay cultural education signage developed for the Peel River and tributaries (including story-places and songlines). Possible sites include all those identified earlier in this document. Important Places on and around nhama bagay.
	23. Guya education workshops for First Nations communities held in Tamworth annually.
	24. Improve recreational fishing experience by enhancing fishing facilities on the Peel River.

Appendices

References

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- h. Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW). (2024). Dungowan artefacts returned to Country. NSW Government. Accessed October 31, 2024, from <https://water.dpie.nsw.gov.au/news/dungowan-artefacts-returned-to-country>
- i. Telfer, William, 1841-ca. 1925 & Milliss, Roger, 1934-. (1980). *The Wallabadah manuscript : the early history of the northern districts of New South Wales : recollections of the early days / by William Telfer ; introduction & notes by Roger Milliss*. Kensington, N.S.W. : New South Wales University Press

Workshop dates and content

Workshop 1 on 16-17 April 2024: We applied the Aboriginal Waterways Assessment tool to assess and prioritise the cultural health of Galala. Aunt Kay Blades was invited as an Aboriginal Waterways Assessment advisor and facilitated the workshop, supported by Kristal Kinsela.

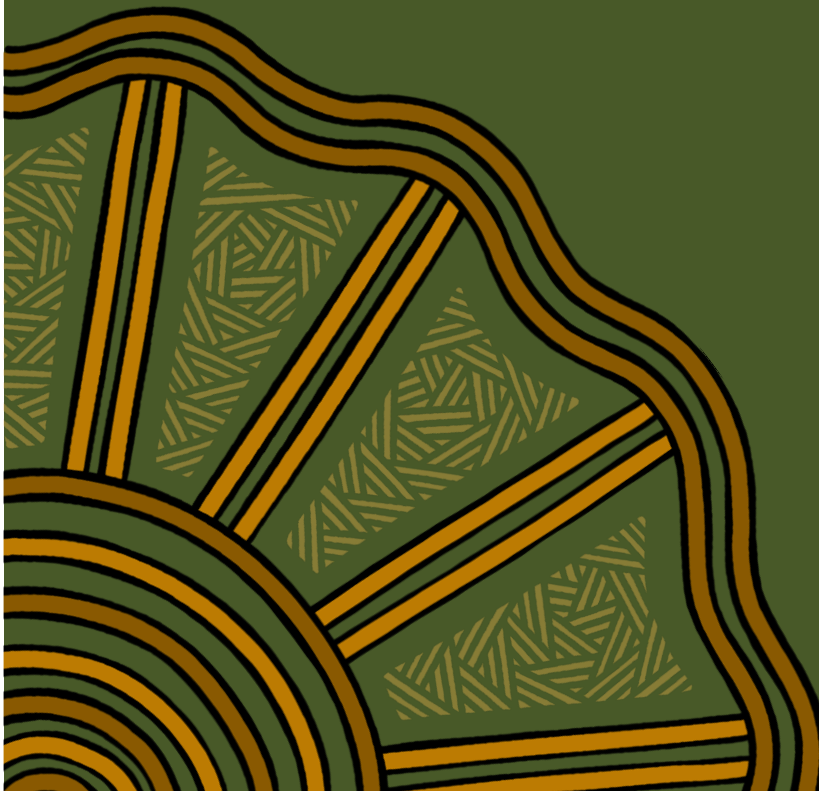
Workshop 2 on 14 June 2024: We further explored the values of Galala and its cultural relationship to floodplain, upstream and downstream places including changes over time. We captured knowledge about guya and other valued species, exploring their interrelatedness or interconnectedness.

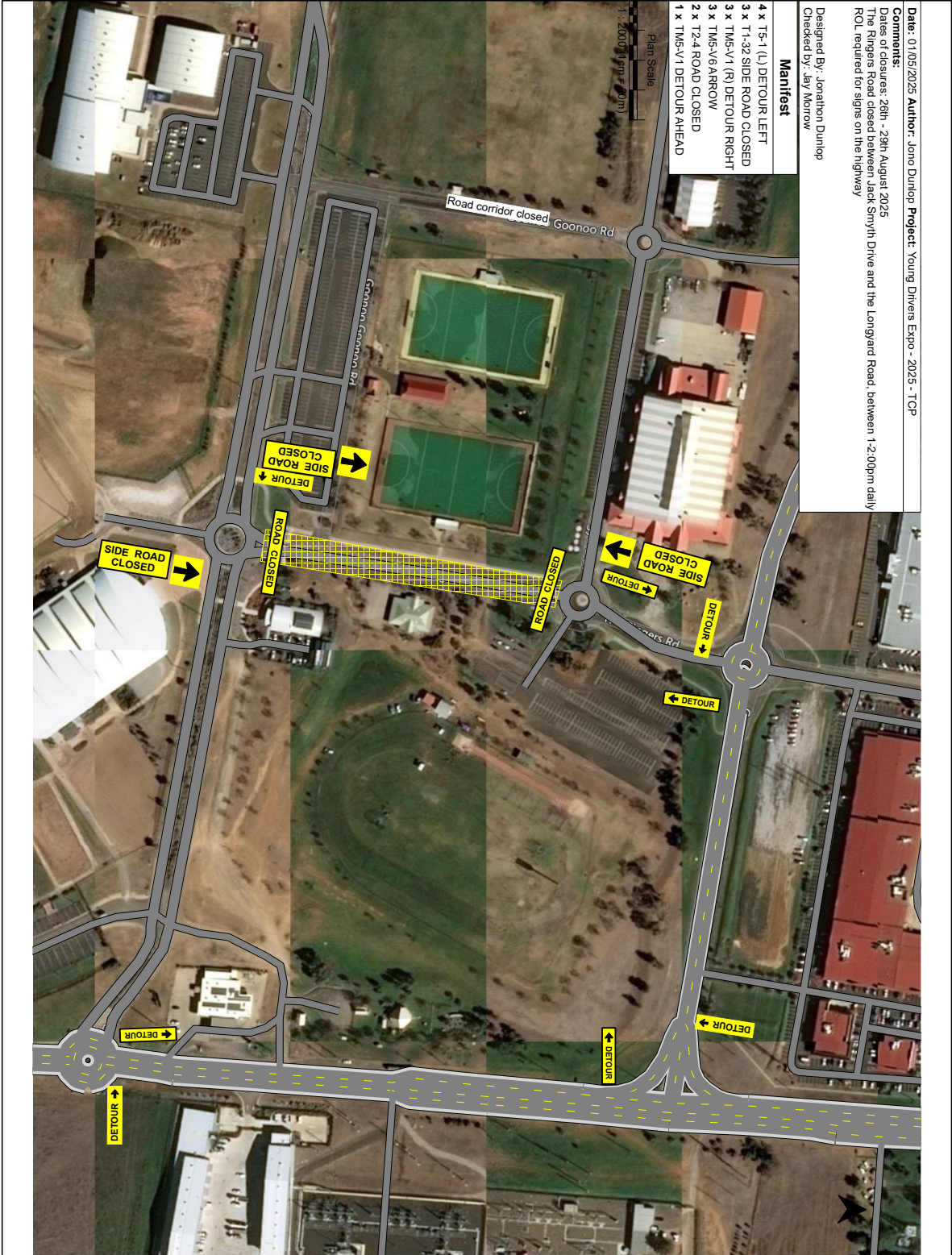
Workshop 3 on 16 July 2024: We looked at the relationship between Cultural and Western science perspectives, examined gali management decisions, explored aspirations and pathways forward.

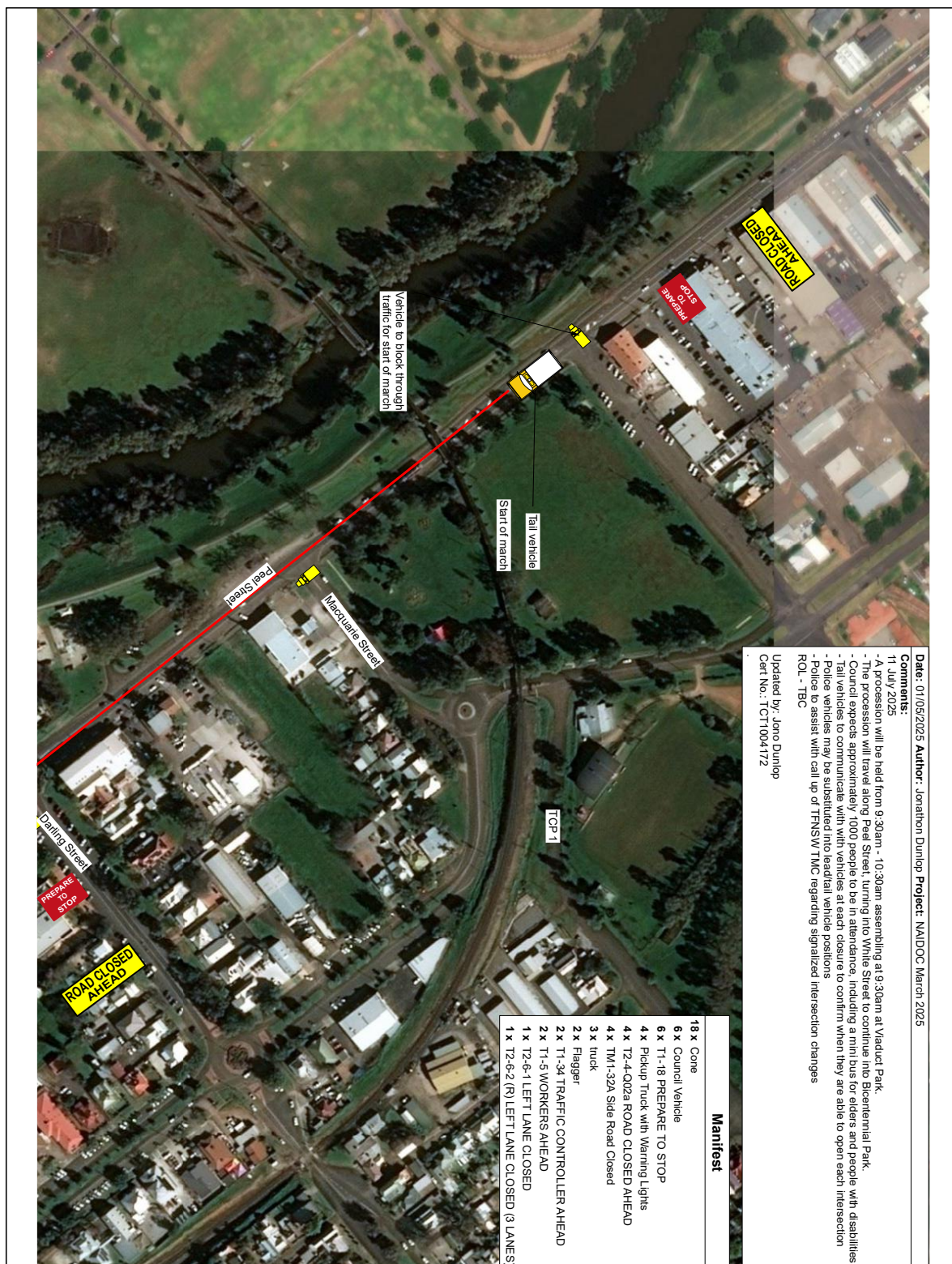
Pronunciation notes

from the Gamilaraay, Yuwaalaraay, Yuwaalayaay Dictionary 2003

GY Spelling	Similar English sound
a	short vowel, as in 'cut', but sounds like 'o' in 'got' after w
aa	long vowel, as in 'father'
i	short vowel, as in 'pin'
ii	long vowel, as in 'peel'
u	short vowel, as in 'put'
uu	long vowel, as in 'cool'
ay	as in 'bay' or 'hay'
aay	as in 'my' or 'buy' (but sometimes said 'oy', as in 'boy')
b	between English 'b' and 'p', or can sound like either
d	between English 'd' and 't', or can sound like either
g	between English 'g' and 'k', or can sound like either
dh	like English 'd' but with the tip of your tongue between your teeth
m	the same as in English
n	the same as in English
ng	a single or 'one' sound, as in singer (not 'two' sounds, as in finger)
nh	like English 'n' but with the tip of your tongue between your teeth
ny	as in onion
dj	sometimes sounds like John, or as in budge, and even like 'ch' in 'catcher'
l	the same as in English
r	like 'r' in English 'run', but with the tongue tip turned back
rr	a 'rolled' 'r', as some Scottish or German people say it. Often, at the end of a word when 'rr' follows 'ay', it can sound like the 'd' in 'bed'
w	the same as in English, though yi at the start of a word is mostly pronounced like i
y	the same as in English, though yi at the start of a word is mostly pronounced like i





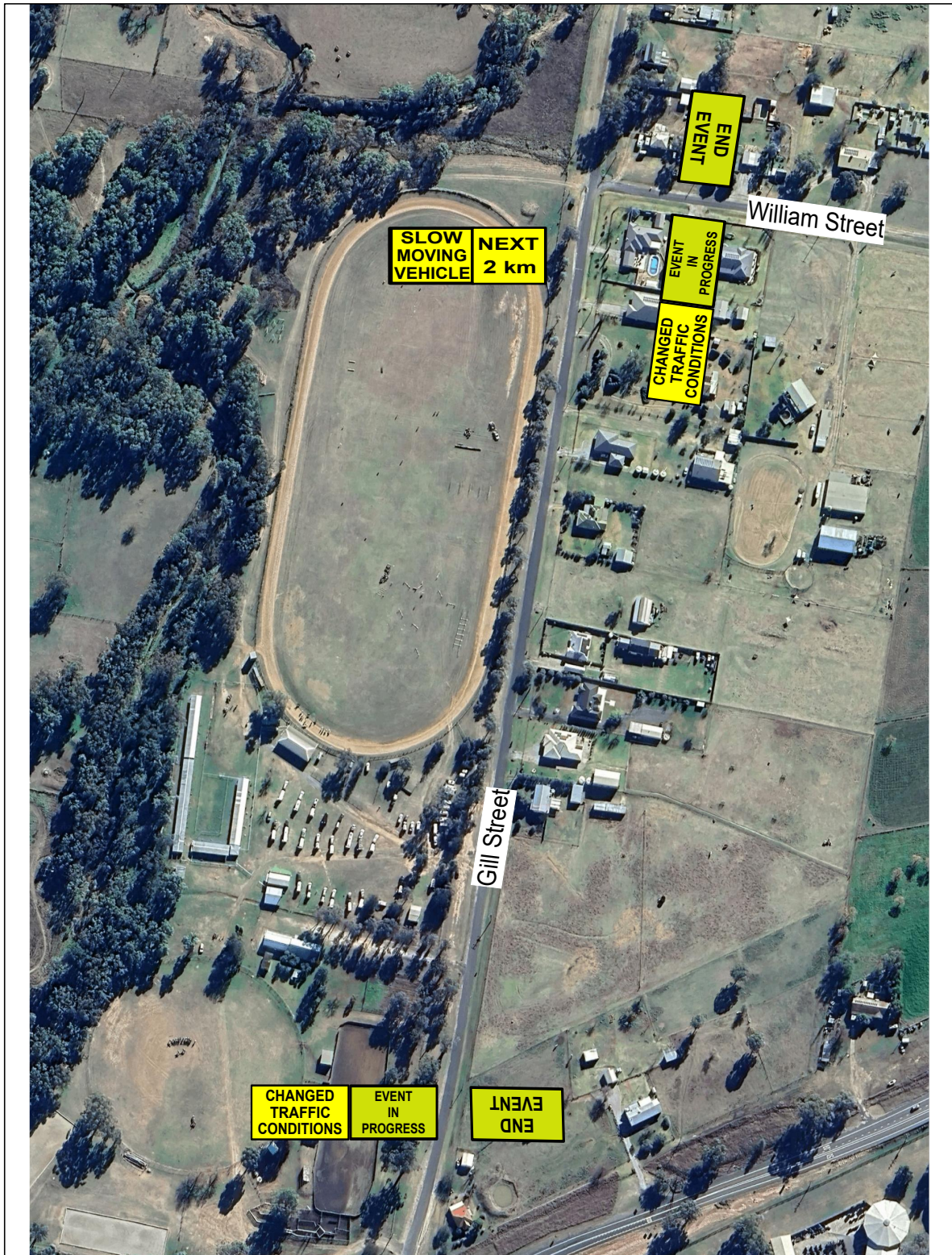




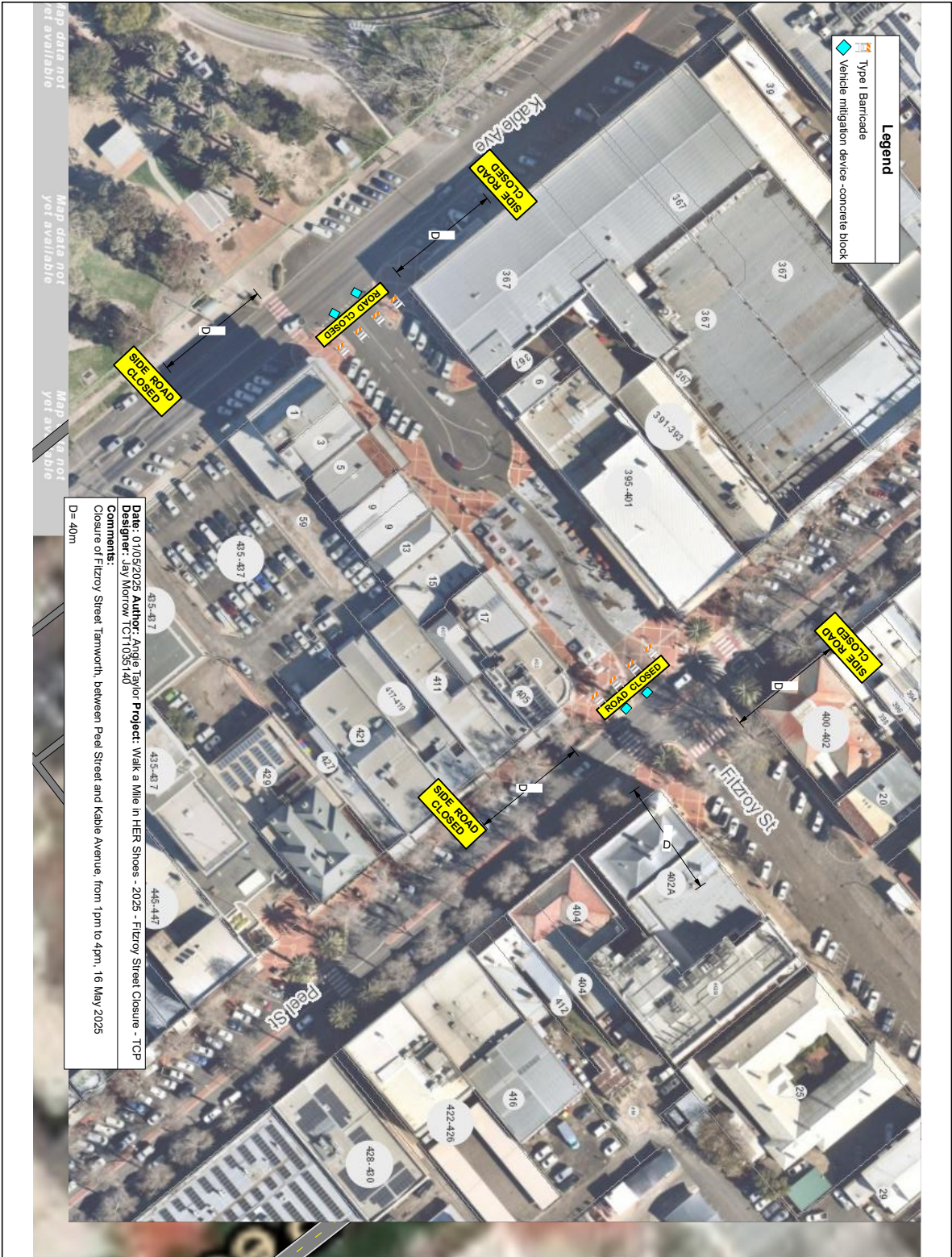






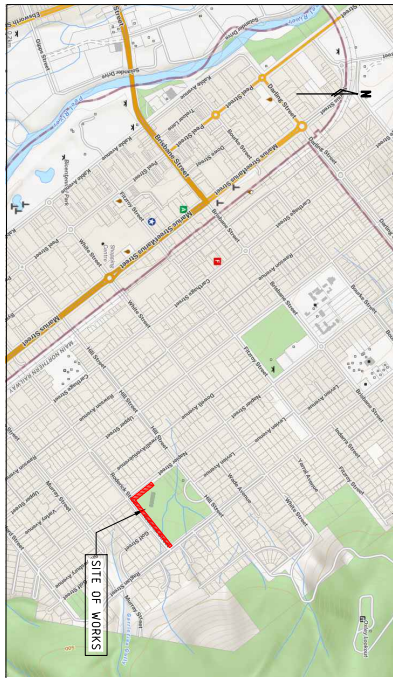








TRELOAR PARK TENNIS REDEVELOPMENT
ON STREET PARKING
ISSUED FOR CONSTRUCTION



LOCALITY PLAN
SCALE

DATE	ISSUED FOR CONSTRUCTION
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Version Date: 29/04/2025

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PREPARED BY REGIONAL
SERVICES DIRECTORATE
SURVEY & DESIGN

CLIENT APPROVAL		ECM REF	
NAME	DIRECTORATE	2628056	
SIGNATURE	DATE	1634-001	



ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
ANNEXURE 5 TO ITEM - TAMWORTH REGIONAL LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE
- 02-05-2025 - ITEM 29-2025

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Drawing Version Date: 29/04/2025

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DATE		DESCRIPTION

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CHECKED	YVETTE LESGROVE-MEYER	DATE: 29-04-25
CHECKED	MARK GARDNER	DATE: 29-04-25

CHECKED	ALEX FARMER	DATE: 29-04-25
CHECKED	YVETTE LESGROVE-MEYER	DATE: 29-04-25
CHECKED	MARK GARDNER	DATE: 29-04-25

SURVEYED: RB	CLIENT REF: MG	DESIGNED: AI	JOB NO: 0510634
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SHEET INDEX AND LEGEND

TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL
TRELOAR PARK TENNIS REDEVELOPMENT ON STREET PARKING

DATUM	SCALE AS SHOWN
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SHEET INDEX


PLAN	DESCRIPTION
001	COVERSHEET
002	SHEET INDEX AND LEGEND
003	OVERALL PLAN
004	MAPPER STREET LINEMARKING PLAN
005	RODERICK STREET LINEMARKING PLAN - SHEET 1 OF 3
006	RODERICK STREET LINEMARKING PLAN - SHEET 2 OF 3
007	RODERICK STREET LINEMARKING PLAN - SHEET 3 OF 3

LEGEND


EDGE OF BITUMEN	---
GAS MAIN AND PIT	---
GATE, FENCE	---
GUARD RAIL	---
MAIL BOX	---
OPTIC FIBRE (OPTUS)	---
OPTIC FIBRE (AARNET)	---
OPTIC FIBRE (TELSTRA)	---
PROPERTY BOUNDARY	---
OVERHEAD POWER HV	---
UNDERGROUND ELECTRICITY	---
POWER POLE	---
LIGHT POLE	---
SEWER MAIN (8 SIZE)	---
SEWER SERVICE CONNECTION	---
SEWER MANHOLE	---
STORMWATER (8 SIZE)	---
STORMWATER MANHOLE	---
TELSTRA CABLES AND PIT	---
INDICATIVE SERVICE NOT ABLE TO BE LOCATED	---
SIGN	---
TREE	---
POTHOLE	---
CONTROL POINT	---
WATER MAIN (8 SIZE)	---
WATER SERVICE CONNECTION	---
PROPOSED WATER MAIN	---
PROPOSED SEWER MAIN	---
PROPOSED STORMWATER LINE	---
PROPOSED DESIGN ALIGNMENT	---

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CHECKED: MARK GARDNER DATE: 29-04-25					
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DESIGNED: AI					
JOB NO: 05JAN254					
OVERALL PLAN					
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TRELOAR PARK TENNIS REDEVELOPMENT					
ON STREET PARKING					
DATE: 29-04-25					
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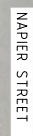
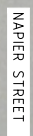
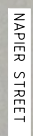


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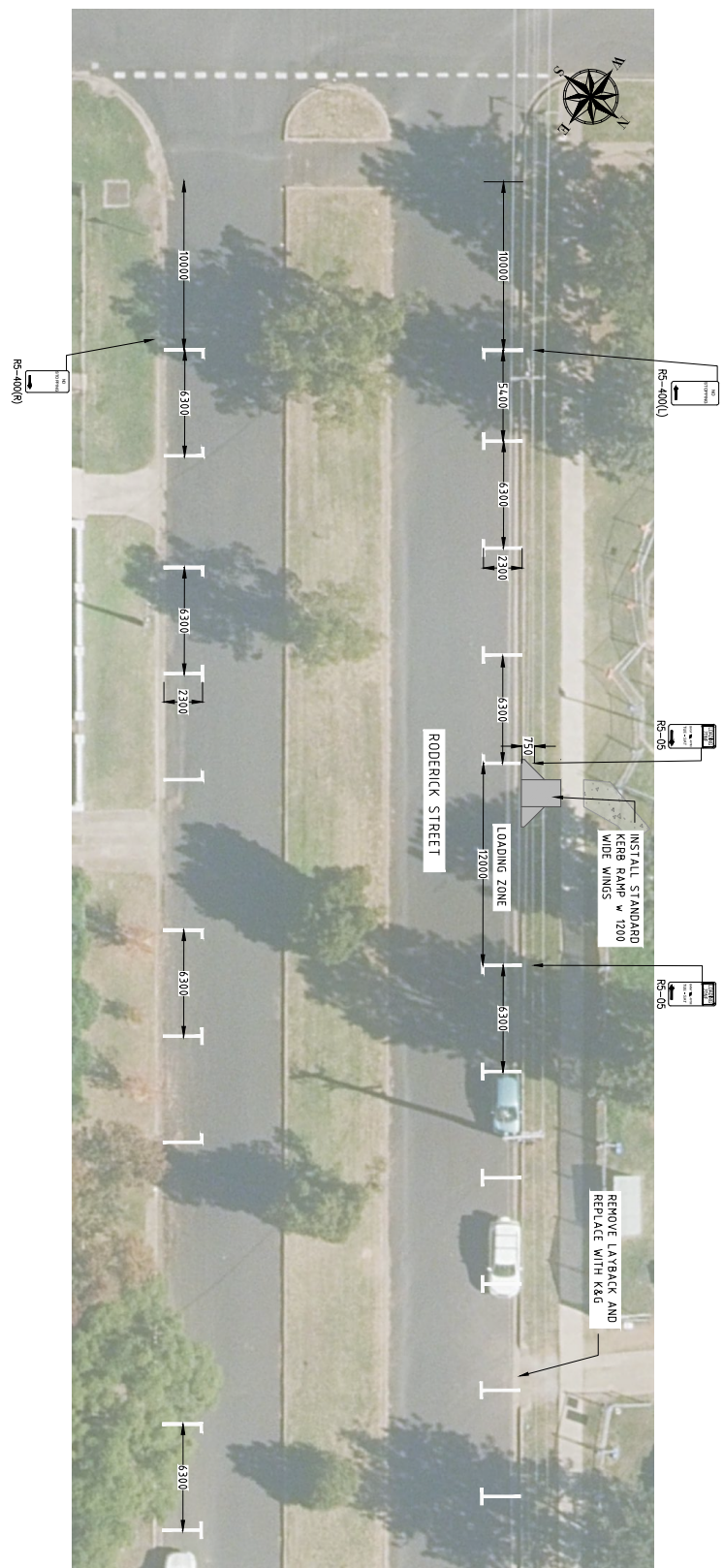


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		TRELOAR PARK TENNIS REDEVELOPMENT		
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CHECKED	MARK GARDNER	DATE: 29-04-25

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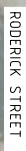
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TRELOAR PARK TENNIS REDEVELOPMENT	
ON STREET PARKING	

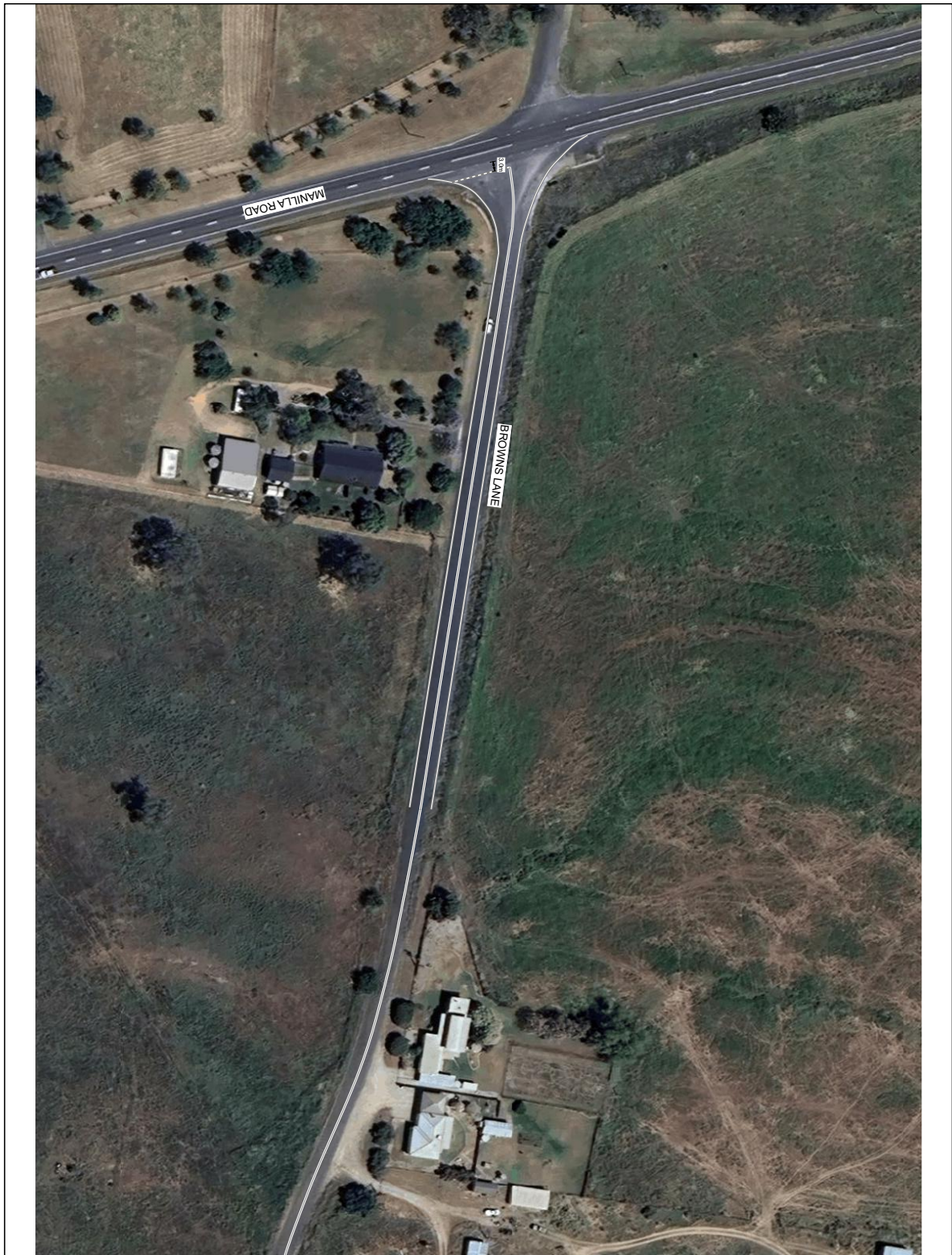
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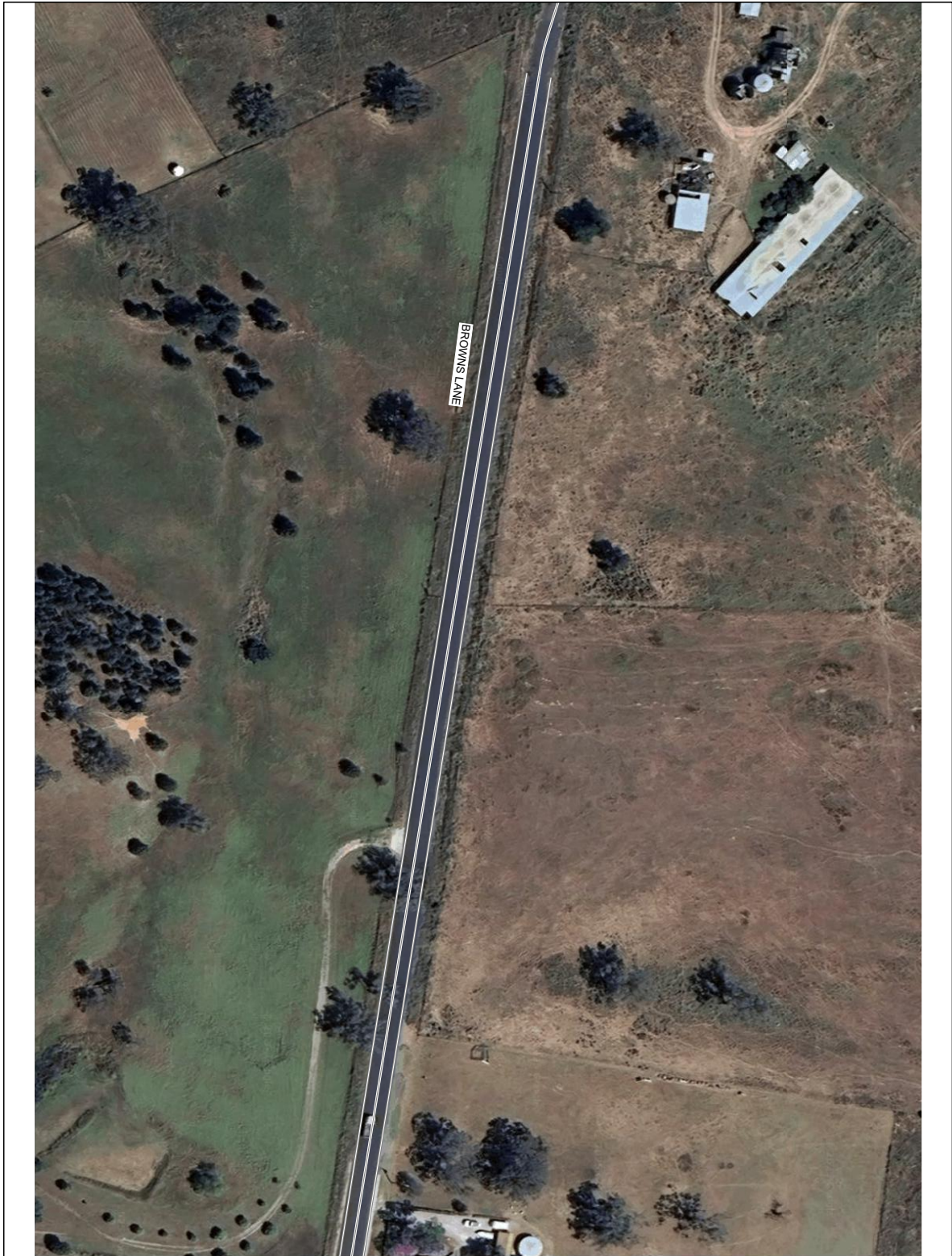
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**Local Government
Remuneration Tribunal**

Annual Determination

Report and determination
under sections 239 and 241 of the
Local Government Act 1993

17 April 2025



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Executive Summary

The *Local Government Act 1993* (LG Act) requires the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal (the Tribunal) to report to the Minister for Local Government by 1 May each year on its determination of categories of councils and the maximum and minimum amounts of fees to be paid to mayors, councillors, as well as chairpersons and members of county councils.

Categories

Section 239 of the LG Act requires the Tribunal to determine the categories of councils and mayoral offices at least once every 3 years. A review of categories was last carried out by the Tribunal in 2023.

The Tribunal will next consider the model, the criteria for each group, and the allocation of councils in the 2026 review.

The criteria for each category is published in Appendix 1 of the Determination and remains unchanged from 2023.

It should be noted that **the Tribunal determined that one Council - Mid Coast Council – would be re-categorised from a Regional Centre to Regional Strategic Area from 1 July 2025** as a result of meeting the criteria at Appendix 1.

Fees

The Tribunal has determined a **3%** per annum increase in the minimum and maximum fees applicable to each category from **1 July 2025**.

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Section 1 – Introduction

Background

1. Section 239 of the LG Act requires the Tribunal to determine the categories of councils and mayoral offices at least once every 3 years. The Tribunal last undertook a comprehensive review of the categories and the allocation of councils into each of those categories in 2023.
2. The Tribunal will next conduct a full review of the categories and the allocation of councils as required by the LG Act in the 2026 Annual Review.
3. Section 241 of the LG Act provides that the Tribunal determine the minimum and maximum amount of fees to be paid to mayors and councillors of councils, as well as chairpersons and members of county councils for each of the categories determined under s.239.
4. The Tribunal can also determine that a council be re-categorised into a different category, existing or new, with a higher range of fees.
5. The Tribunal's Annual Determination takes effect from 1 July each year.

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Section 2 – 2024 Determination

2024 Annual Determination

6. In 2024, the Tribunal received 19 written submissions, which included two requests for re-categorisation.
7. The Tribunal found that the current allocation of the councils remained appropriate, with the exceptions outlined below.
8. The Tribunal closely reviewed population and data relating to council operations in the 2024 Annual Determination process to ensure categorisation of councils was consistent with the criteria.
9. For reasons explained at paragraphs 35-39 of the Local Government Annual Determination 2024, Hilltops Council and Muswellbrook Shire Council were reclassified as Regional Rural Councils.
10. The Tribunal determined that fees would increase by 3.75% for the minimum and maximum fees applicable to each category from 1 July 2024.

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Section 3 – 2025 Review

2025 Annual Review process

11. The Tribunal's 2025 Annual Review commenced in October 2024, when it wrote to all councils inviting submissions regarding fees. The Tribunal noted that it is only required to review the categories every three years and will next consider the model, the criteria applicable to each category and the allocation of councils in the 2026 Annual Review.
12. The invitation noted that it is expected that submissions are endorsed by respective councils.
13. The Tribunal also wrote to the President of Local Government NSW (LGNSW) inviting a submission.
14. The Tribunal received 16 written submissions from individual councils and one submission from LGNSW.
15. The Tribunal acknowledges and thanks all parties for their submissions.

Submissions Received – Requests for Re-categorisation

16. Seven of the 16 council submissions received requested re-categorisation or changes to current category criteria.
17. LGNSW also advocated for changes to factors affecting categorisation of councils.
18. Berrigan, City of Parramatta, Gilgandra Shire, Lake Macquarie City, City of Ryde, City of Sydney and Blacktown put forward cases for re-

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categorisation, or changes to category criteria, and the creation of new categories, for the Tribunal's consideration.

Requests for Re-classification

19. **Berrigan Shire Council** requested re-categorisation from Rural to Rural Large, despite acknowledging that they do not meet all the benchmarks in the criteria for this category.
20. The criteria for Rural Large is outlined at Appendix 1 of the 2024 Annual Determination, page 38 which states:

“Councils categorised as Rural Large will have a residential population greater than 10,000, and a councillor to resident ratio of at least 1 to 1200.

Other features may include:

- *one or two significant townships combined with a considerable dispersed population spread over a large area and a long distance from a major regional centre*
- *a limited range of services, facilities and employment opportunities compared to Regional Rural councils*
- *local economies based on agricultural/resource industries.”*

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21. Council's submission states they are currently at 86% of the population target threshold and 90% of the representation ratio but are meeting other criteria benchmarks.
22. Given that Council does not currently satisfy the population and ratio thresholds specified for Rural Large, the Tribunal is not persuaded to include Berrigan Shire Council in Rural Large at this time.
23. **City of Parramatta Council** requested that it be re-categorised to the highest category of general purpose councils, Principal CBD, in order to recognise its size, rate of growth, economic and global influence, operational budget, and strategic and geographical importance.
24. Council put forward a similar case for re-categorisation as part of the 2024 annual determination process, which was unsuccessful. In addition to the reasons put forth in paragraph 20 of the 2024 annual determination, the Council has included the following reasons for its re-categorisation request:
 - A local economy that has more than 30% of Australia's top 500 companies with offices in Parramatta, and estimated public and private investments in the next 5 years of \$20 billion
 - It is estimated by 2050 that Parramatta will be a city with a population of more than 500,000 people
 - The expected accessibility of the City, being a 'gateway to Sydney' with more people expected to live west of Parramatta than to its

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east by 2050, and being accessible by 2.3 million people within 45 minutes

- Key infrastructure in Parramatta, including but not limited to the Parramatta PHIVE, Commbank Stadium, the new Parramatta Light Rail, the Westmead Institute for Medical Research, Sydney Olympic Park and construction of Powerhouse Parramatta
- Expansion of education and innovation precincts, with Parramatta's education and training sector being valued at \$1.6 billion, and
- Significant operating and capital works budget of \$607 million, including multiple town centres, and sports and cultural hubs.

25. The Council also argues that a re-classification would reflect the additional skills and abilities that representing a growth council requires.
26. The City of Parramatta notes that the number of electors that each councillor represents is higher than the City of Sydney's. The submission states that the elected councillors represent more than 125,000 enrolled electors, compared to City of Sydney's elected councillors representing 45,891 enrolled electors.
27. Parramatta was classified as a Major CBD, following the 2017 Annual Determination. The Tribunal had found that Parramatta Council was significantly different from other large metropolitan councils on the basis of its secondary CBD status, as recognised by the State Government, at paragraph 21 of the 2017 annual determination. As a result, the

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description of Major CBD has remained specific to the City of Parramatta. Similarly, the Principal CBD criteria remained specific to the City of Sydney, since its inception in 2017.

28. Given the specific nature of both Major CBD and Principal CBD categories, the City of Parramatta's request for re-categorisation will require a change in the categories' criteria. As stated above, the Tribunal is not considering the criteria applicable to each category in the 2025 Annual Review process. The Tribunal will next consider the categories and criteria as part of the 2026 Annual Review process.
29. **Gilgandra Shire Council's** submission requests that it be re-categorised from Rural to Rural Large. Gilgandra Shire Council's case to be included in Rural Large category is based on two main points. The first point being Council offers a diverse range of services, and secondly these services result in higher levels of accountability and responsibilities for councillors.
30. Council submits it offers a diverse range of services over and above traditional local government services, which includes being the primary service provider for the community in the aged care and disability services. These include:
 - Age care and disabilities services
 - Meals on wheels and community transport
 - Home care package delivery
 - Operation of a villa retirement village
 - Indigenous specific residential age care facility

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- Residential aged care nursing home
- Supported employment service for adults with intellectual disabilities
- Special disability accommodation properties for adults with intellectual disabilities
- Supported Living Services through the National Disability Insurance Scheme, and
- Day activities centre to support clients with unique challenges.

31. The submission notes these services not only entail a higher level of accountability and responsibility from Council (due to changes in the regulatory environment) but also generate larger revenue and employment opportunities that is comparable to a Rural Large category.
32. Council further submits that when assessing categories to place councils in, the Tribunal should also give due consideration to other factors than those outlined in the s.240 of the LG Act, such as services provided; financial responsibility; scale of operation; and number of employees.
33. While the Tribunal notes Council's request, it does not satisfy the population and ratio thresholds specified for the category of Rural Large. Further, the changes to criteria suggested would require a change in categories, which is not being considered this year. For these reasons, the Tribunal is not persuaded to include Gilgandra Shire Council in Rural Large at this time.

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34. Similar to last year, **Lake Macquarie City Council** requested that it be re-categorised from Regional Strategic Area to Major Strategic Area. Council also advocated for the population threshold of Regional Strategic Area be adjusted from its current threshold of 300,000 down to 200,000.
35. Council argues that its population, scale and output of council operations is significantly greater than other councils categorised as Regional Strategic Area, and more aligns with the Central Coast, as the council classified as a 'Major Strategic Area'.
36. Lake Macquarie City Council's request for re-categorisation is based on the following:
- Lake Macquarie being the second largest non-metropolitan council by population in NSW, with a larger population than Newcastle and Wollongong, which are classified as Major Regional Cities.
 - A population density that is 'significantly larger' than other Regional Strategic Areas and supported by 5 precincts in the Lake Macquarie LGA that have been identified for inclusion in the NSW Government Transport Oriented Development Program, which aims to encourage housing development near transport hubs, and are argued to lead to population growth near the hubs; and
 - A Gross Regional Product that is comparable to those of Major Strategic Areas and Major Regional City, rather than other Regional Strategic Areas.

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37. Council provided population data to support its case for the population threshold of Regional Strategic Area to be adjusted from its current threshold of 300,000 down to 200,000. The data was also provided as justification for its claim of a 'significant disparity within the Regional Strategic Area category' between Lake Macquarie and other councils:
- Lake Macquarie: 219,249 residents, 24,769 non-residents
 - Shoalhaven: 108,895 residents, 4,632 non-residents
 - Tweed: 98,967 residents, 7,755 non-residents
 - Maitland: 95,958 residents, 15,305 non-residents
38. As stated in paragraph 28 of the 2024 Annual Determination, all categories were determined by extensive evidence examined and considered by the Tribunal. It was determined that the population threshold for the Major Strategic Area was appropriate. As a result, the Tribunal is currently not persuaded to modify the criteria for the Major Strategic Area.
39. **City of Ryde Council** provided a submission requesting it be re-classified from its existing category of Metropolitan Large to Metropolitan Major. Council's case to be re-classified includes:
- The LGA having an area of 40.651 km², 16 suburbs, 3 wards, a population of 135,000 residents and over 54,000 rateable properties within its boundaries
 - A local economy that consists of 92,000 local jobs, 14,300 businesses and a gross regional product of \$19.2 billion

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- An innovation district within its west ward that has a long history of investment from all tiers of government, ultimately contributing \$13.6 billion annually to the NSW economy
- Future growth opportunities linked to the Governments Transport Oriented Development Accelerated Precincts, which Macquarie Park is identified as, that will bring increased housing, amenities and job retention, and
- Plans to build 2 new schools, 11,600 new homes, the redevelopment of Ryde Hospital and bringing together a range of organisations to create a fully integrated academic health sciences centre at Macquarie University Hospital.

40. As stated in Council's own submission, currently it does not satisfy the population threshold criteria required for Metropolitan Major. Accordingly, the Tribunal is not persuaded at this time to include City of Ryde in the category of Metropolitan Major.
41. The Tribunal also notes **Wollondilly Council's** submission confirming its adopted position to remain classified as a Regional Centre.
42. The Tribunal acknowledges each of the Council's requests for re-categorisation. Whilst the Tribunal has not been persuaded at this time to grant these requests, any council that provides a submission in the 2026 annual review, which includes a request for re-categorisation, will of course be considered.

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Requests for New Classifications

43. The **City of Sydney** Council requested the Tribunal change the classification name from Principal CBD to the previously used term “Principal City”.
44. The category “Principal City” was last used in the 2016 Determination. It was changed to Principal CBD in 2017 as a result of a review of categories. This review was undertaken in the context of Local Government reform, and council amalgamations, reducing the number of councils from 152 to 128.
45. Council’s submission outlines the history of boundary changes, including its expansion of the City of Sydney as a consideration in reverting to the 2016 category name.
46. Sydney City Council contends that reverting to the category term “Principal City” recognises that the council’s significance and contribution extends beyond the Sydney CBD.
47. The Tribunal notes the City of Sydney’s request would constitute modification to the category of “Principal CBD”. As stated above, the category “Principal CBD” is specific to City of Sydney and the Tribunal is not considering changes to the criteria applicable to each category in the 2025 Annual Review.
48. **Blacktown Council** requested re-categorisation from its current category of Metropolitan Major to a newly created category of “Metropolitan Major – High Growth”.

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49. Council's case to be re-categorised to a newly created category is based on the following:
- Council asserts that it is the largest and one of the fastest growing local government areas in NSW, and
 - It undertakes several transformational projects, including projects funded from NSW Government and Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants.
50. Further, Council submits that the category of Metropolitan Major fails to account for the transformational nature of projects undertaken by Council, including the economic and strategic impacts for NSW, and impact on its local government area (LGA), which results in attracting new residents and people to the LGA.
51. The Tribunal notes that a new category, Metropolitan Major, was introduced in 2023, to address generally the issues raised in the current submission.
52. As explained in the Tribunal's letter inviting submissions, the Tribunal is required to review the categories at least once every three years. The Tribunal will next consider the model, the criteria applicable to each category and the allocation of councils in the 2026 Annual Review process.
53. As such, the Tribunal is not persuaded at this time to create a new category.

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54. **LGNSW** submitted that the Tribunal should, as part of its determination for the categorisation of councils, consider the demographic and economic shifts impacting the complexity of council operations, and the communities that councils serve.
55. The LGNSW submission provides examples of recent demographic shifts the Tribunal should consider, as factors affecting categorisation of councils, including:
- The NSW Government's Transport Oriented Development Program, where the resulting accelerated growth drastically increases demands on the strategic and infrastructure planning functions of councils affected
 - The Renewable Energy Zones, which drive tens of billions of dollars of investment in rural and regional LGAs, and creates additional impacts in said councils, including population growth and growing infrastructure for transport and utilities, or
 - The Renewable Energy Planning Framework, which includes benefit sharing guidelines for councils to ensure their communities share the benefits of the project and require additional responsibility and management from affected councils.
56. Section 240 of the LG Act notes that the Tribunal is to determine categories for councils and mayoral offices according to prescribed matters. One such matter is the 'nature and extent of the development of areas', which could reasonably be accepted to include the items listed by LGNSW.

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57. However, this matter would also require a change to the categories' criteria, in order to identify areas of high development. As stated above, the Tribunal is not considering any modifications to the categories as part of the 2025 Annual Review process. However, the Tribunal will consider proposed modifications to categories as part of the 2026 Annual Review process.

Reclassification due to population thresholds

58. As was the case last year, the Tribunal reviewed applicable data as part of this review, to determine if any councils have met relevant benchmarks, therefore requiring a move in category.
59. The Tribunal identified that **Mid-Coast Council** met the population benchmark to be considered a Regional Strategic Area. As a result, Mid-Coast Council will be classified as a Regional Strategic Area in the 2025 Annual Determination.
60. The Tribunal will continue to monitor and review applicable data to ensure categorisation of councils remain consistent with the current criteria.

Submissions Received – Remuneration Structure

61. The current state of the remuneration structure continues to be a key issue of concern raised in submissions. A significant number of submissions received provide commentary on the structure, including examples of how it could be improved. These are addressed in the points below.

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Fees for Deputy Mayors

62. The issue of fees for deputy mayors was once again raised.
63. Three submissions asserted that the position of deputy mayor should attract its own distinct independent fee, beyond the fee provided for in s.249(5) of the LG Act.
64. The Tribunal dealt with this issue in its 2024 Annual Determination at paragraph 53-55. It was noted that the Tribunal lacked the powers to implement changes to the fee structure that would include a distinct independent fee for the position of deputy mayor.
65. There has been no change to the legislation to permit such a change. Therefore, the Tribunal is currently unable to introduce a remuneration structure that would include a distinct independent fee for the position of deputy mayor.

Changes to the role of Mayors and Councillors

66. It was suggested that the current remuneration structure is not fit for purpose as it no longer recognises the roles and responsibilities required of councillors and mayors.
67. Multiple submissions, including the LGNSW's submission, highlighted how the role of the councillor and mayor have changed over the past 9 years. Submissions identified a variety of factors that have impacted the roles of councillors and mayors, including the impact of NSW Government

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priorities and investments, and amendments to the LG Act (e.g. via the *Local Government Amendment (Governance and Planning) Bill 2016*).

68. It has been suggested that these changes have impacted the volume, nature and workload of the role, whilst remuneration has not been increased accordingly.
69. The recent submissions to the Tribunal, along with its own observations, highlight that the role of mayor in civic leadership, advocacy and representation has become more complex and demanding – an issue that must be addressed.
70. Community expectations are increasing on the mayor from both the council and the community to be seen and immediately present during times of natural disasters, major events or crisis.
71. Additionally, the disparity in the council categorisation between the annual fees for councillors and the mayor needs to be more consistent, so as not to be seen to be devaluing the role of mayor in some circumstances.
72. The Tribunal is not suggesting a fundamental review of the role of mayors and notes that people that enter local government representation do so from a sense of civic service, rather than remuneration.
73. However, the Tribunal has a statutory function, and not unlike the governing body of a council, mayors and councillors, its role, responsibility and functions are clear. The same can be said in relation to the clear functions of the general manager of a council.

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74. As previously stated, many of the matters raised in both council and LGNSW submissions are beyond the remit of the Tribunal, and to a degree, were addressed in the 2023 determination.

Regional and Rural mayors and councillors

75. Several submissions, including LGNSW, also raised concerns regarding the inadequacy of the remuneration structure, for rural and regional councils.
76. Specifically, that the remuneration provided to regional and rural councillors does not reflect the significant stressors that regional and rural councils in NSW face and that consideration should be given to the additional demands placed on mayors and councillors in rural and regional councils.
77. One submission suggested that fees for rural councils should be commensurate with fees for regional and metropolitan councils – arguing that mayors and councillors, regardless of their location, are required to possess a wide range of skills and knowledge.

Fees set by councils

78. Submissions received by the Tribunal regarding the current state of the remuneration framework raised concerns about councils setting their own fees, asserting that it could potentially be seen as a conflict of interest.

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79. It was suggested that a possible solution would be for the Tribunal to determine a fixed annual fee for mayors and councillors.
80. Whilst the Tribunal acknowledges and understands the concern raised, as explained in the 2024 Annual Determination at paragraph 68-69, such a change to the framework, to determine a fixed annual fee for mayors and councillors, would require legislative change.
81. As there has been no changes to the legislative scheme, it is not within the Tribunal's remit to determine a fixed annual fee for mayor and councillors' remuneration.

Request for a Review of the Remuneration Structure

82. For the reasons outlined above, several submissions suggested the Tribunal undertake a comprehensive review of the framework.
83. One submission went so far as to request the Tribunal recommend to the Minister for Local Government that a comprehensive review of the framework and LG Act be undertaken. Others suggested the Tribunal actively seek a referral from the Minister to undertake such a review.
84. The LG Act does not specify that the Tribunal is able to carry out a comprehensive review of the framework. As such, it is not within the Tribunal's remit to undertake such a review, unless such a function is conferred or imposed on it by the Minister, as per s.238(2) of the LG Act.
85. Should such a function be conferred on the Tribunal, it will of course carry out its functions and undertake a review.

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Section 4 – 2025 Fees

Submissions – 2025 Fees

86. LGNSW's submission to the Tribunal advocated for an increase in the minimum and maximum fees payable to mayors and councillors of at least 4%, to:

- Assist in reversing the fee erosion which occurred under the previous NSW Public Sector Wages Policy
- Mitigate economic pressures and the rising cost of living
- Ensure councillors and mayors receive fair and reasonable remuneration for the work they perform, and
- Address historic undervaluation of the work performed by elected representative in local government in NSW.

87. Economic data provided to the Tribunal by LGNSW to support their claim for an increase of at least 4% included:

- An annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase of 3.8% for the 12 months to June 2024
- The Fair Work Commission (FWC) awarding a 3.75% increase to the minimum pay for modern awards, and increasing the national minimum wage to \$915.90, as well as the FWC's comments regarding the growing cost of living and deterioration of disposable income, and
- The rate peg for the 2025-26 financial year being between 3.6%-5.1%.

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88. LGNSW also noted that the annual wage review, state wage case, award increases and the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal all had a clear theme on the increasing financial pressures on councils and its officers, which warrant increases in revenue and wages.
89. During its meeting with the Tribunal and assessors, LGNSW asserted that the current fees paid to mayors and councillors do not reflect their responsibilities. Nor do the current level of fees contribute to attracting a diverse range of candidates to stand for local government elections.
90. LGNSW also raised the issue of superannuation. It was contended that the payment of superannuation be mandated. Current arrangements require that a council pass a resolution at an open meeting to make such payments.
91. Four submissions received from individual councils directly addressed the issue of quantum increase to the minimum and maximum fees. These submissions sought an increase ranging from 3% to 10%.
92. The City of Sydney Council notes in its submission that it was not seeking an increase in fees payable for the Lord Mayor of Sydney.
93. The Tribunal is empowered under the s.241 of the LG Act to set minimum and maximum fees payable. It is then up to council to fix payment of annual fees for the mayor as outlined in s.249 of the LG Act.
94. It was suggested that the current fees, particularly in rural and remote communities, do not recognise or value the role of mayor and councillor,

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with fees set at a level that is commensurate to unqualified or inexperienced personnel.

95. The Tribunal was provided with a number of examples to demonstrate the financial impact, by way of lost wages, under the current fee rates.
96. Furthermore, 4 submissions compared the remuneration for NSW mayors and councillors with mayors and councillors in Victoria and Queensland as well as state Members of Parliament. The figures were provided to the Tribunal to demonstrate that the remuneration for NSW mayors and councillors is lower than all comparison examples provided.
97. It was also asserted that the low level of fees set for mayors and councillors devalues the importance and responsibility of the roles, diminishing the work undertaken on behalf of the community and is a significant barrier as to why people do not run for council.

“If councillors were paid a full-time wage I would have run again. Nothing surer.”

98. Another submission suggested that fees need to reflect the part-time or full-time nature of the work carried out by mayors and councillors. The setting of fees at such a rate would appropriately recognise and value this important work, whilst also mitigating any financial loss incurred by those members of the community elected to carry out these critical functions.
99. Nine submissions supported an increase, whilst not making a direct comment on the quantum. Other submissions advocated for remuneration to be set at a level that:

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- Is in line with responsibilities and challenges councillors' face
- Reflects the public profile and exposure of the role
- Reflects the growing complexity of the role
- Reduces the gap between minimum and maximum fees for each category
- Accounts for the rising cost of living challenges
- Reflects the commitment, accountability, workload, skills and knowledge required to perform the role of councillor and mayor regardless of location
- Establishes and maintains parity with mayors and councillors in other States and Territories
- Is 'determined outside of council so as councillors are not determining their own payments', and
- Overcomes economic barriers that prevent diverse members of the community from participating as a mayor or councillor.

Fee Increase

100. The Tribunal considered a range of factors in determining the amount to increase minimum and maximum fees payable to councillors and mayors. This included a wide range of economic data such as:

- Consumer Price Index for the 12 months to December each year
- Wage Price Index for the 12 months to December each year

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- Full-time average weekly ordinary time earnings for the 12 months to November each year
- NSW Public Sector Salaries increases
- Local Government State Award increases
- IPART Rate Peg Base Cost Change
- Public Service Senior Executive remuneration determinations, by the Statutory and Other Offices Remuneration Tribunal, and
- State Members of Parliament Basic Salary remuneration determinations by the Parliamentary Remuneration Tribunal.

101. On this occasion the Tribunal has determined that a **3%** increase will apply to the minimum and maximum fees applicable to existing categories.

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Conclusion

102. The Tribunal's determination has been made with the assistance of the Assessors, Ms Kylie Yates and Mr Brett Whitworth.
103. Determination 1 sets out the allocation of councils into each of the categories as per s.239 of the LG Act.
104. Determination 2 sets out the minimum and maximum fees paid to councillors and mayors and chairpersons of county councils as per s.241 of the LG Act.
105. The Tribunal acknowledges and thanks the Remuneration Tribunal secretariat for its excellent research and support to facilitate the successful completion the 2025 Annual Determination.



Viv May PSM

Local Government Remuneration Tribunal

Dated 17 April 2025

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Section 5 – Determinations

Determination No. 1 – Allocation of councils into each of the categories as per section 239 of the LG Act effective 1 July 2025

General Purpose Councils – Metropolitan

Principal CBD (1)

- Sydney

Major CBD (1)

- Parramatta

Metropolitan Major (2)

- Blacktown
- Canterbury-Bankstown

Metropolitan Large (10)

- Bayside
- Cumberland
- Fairfield
- Inner West
- Liverpool
- Northern Beaches
- Penrith
- Ryde
- Sutherland

- The Hills

Metropolitan Medium (8)

- Campbelltown
- Camden
- Georges River
- Hornsby
- Ku-ring-gai
- North Sydney
- Randwick
- Willoughby

Metropolitan Small (8)

- Burwood
- Canada Bay
- Hunters Hill
- Lane Cove
- Mosman
- Strathfield
- Waverley
- Woollahra

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General Purpose Councils - Non-Metropolitan

Major Regional City (2)

- Newcastle
- Wollongong

Major Strategic Area (1)

- Central Coast

Regional Centre (22)

- Albury
- Armidale
- Ballina
- Bathurst
- Blue Mountains
- Byron
- Cessnock
- Clarence Valley
- Coffs Harbour
- Dubbo
- Eurobodella

Regional Strategic Area(5)

- Lake Macquarie
- Maitland
- Mid-Coast
- Shoalhaven
- Tweed
- Hawkesbury
- Lismore
- Orange
- Port Macquarie-Hastings
- Port Stephens
- Queanbeyan-Palerang
- Shellharbour
- Tamworth
- Wagga Wagga
- Wingecarribee
- Wollondilly

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Regional Rural (14)

- Bega
- Broken Hill
- Goulburn Mulwaree
- Griffith
- Hilltops
- Kempsey
- Kiama
- Lithgow
- Mid-Western
- Muswellbrook
- Nambucca
- Richmond Valleys
- Singleton
- Snowy Monaro

Rural Large (16)

- Bellingen
- Cabonne
- Cootamundra-Gundagai
- Cowra
- Federation
- Greater Hume
- Gunnedah
- Inverell
- Leeton
- Moree Plains
- Murray River
- Narrabri
- Parkes
- Snowy Valleys
- Upper Hunter
- Yass

Rural (38)

- Balranald
- Berrigan
- Bland
- Blayney
- Bogan
- Bourke
- Brewarrina
- Carrathool
- Central Darling
- Cobar
- Coolamon
- Coonamble
- Dungog
- Edward River

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- Forbes
- Gilgandra
- Glen Innes Severn
- Gwydir
- Hay
- Junee
- Kyogle
- Lachlan
- Liverpool Plains
- Lockhart
- Murrumbidgee
- Narrandera
- Narromine
- Oberon
- Temora
- Tenterfield
- Upper Lachlan
- Uralla
- Walcha
- Walgett
- Warren
- Warrumbungle
- Weddin
- Wentworth

County Councils

Water (4)

- Central Tablelands
- Goldenfields Water
- Riverina Water
- Rous

Other (6)

- Castlereagh-Macquarie
- Central Murray
- Hawkesbury River
- New England Tablelands
- Upper Hunter
- Upper Macquarie

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Determination No. 2 - Fees for Councillors and Mayors as per section 241 of the LG Act effective from 1 July 2025

The annual fees to be paid in each of the categories to Councillors, Mayors, Members, and Chairpersons of County Councils effective on and from 1 July 2024 as per section 241 of the *Local Government Act 1993* are determined as follows:

Table 4: Fees for General Purpose and County Councils

General Purpose Councils – Metropolitan

Councillor/Member Annual Fee (\$) effective 1 July 2025

Category	Minimum	Maximum
Principal CBD	31,640	46,420
Major CBD	21,120	39,100
Metropolitan Major	21,120	36,970
Metropolitan Large	21,120	34,820
Metropolitan Medium	15,830	29,550
Metropolitan Small	10,530	23,220

Mayor/Chairperson Additional Fee* (\$) effective 1 July 2025

Category	Minimum	Maximum
Principal CBD	193,650	254,810
Major CBD	44,840	126,320
Metropolitan Major	44,840	114,300
Metropolitan Large	44,840	101,470

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Metropolitan Medium	33,630	78,480
Metropolitan Small	22,420	50,650

General Purpose Councils - Non-Metropolitan

Councillor/Member Annual Fee (\$) effective 1 July 2025

Category	Minimum	Maximum
Major Regional City	21,120	36,690
Major Strategic Area	21,120	36,690
Regional Strategic Area	21,120	34,820
Regional Centre	15,830	27,860
Regional Rural	10,530	23,220
Rural Large	10,530	18,890
Rural	10,530	13,930

Mayor/Chairperson Additional Fee* (\$) effective 1 July 2025

Category	Minimum	Maximum
Major Regional City	44,840	114,300
Major Strategic Area	44,840	114,300
Regional Strategic Area	44,840	101,470
Regional Centre	32,940	68,800
Regional Rural	22,420	50,680
Rural Large	16,820	40,530
Rural	11,210	30,390

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County Councils**Councillor/Member Annual Fee (\$) effective 1 July 2025**

Category	Minimum	Maximum
Water	2,090	11,620
Other	2,090	6,930

Mayor/Chairperson Additional Fee* (\$) effective 1 July 2025

Category	Minimum	Maximum
Water	4,490	19,080
Other	4,490	12,670

*This fee must be paid in addition to the fee paid to the Mayor/Chairperson as a Councillor/Member (s.249(2)).



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Local Government Remuneration Tribunal

Dated: 17 April 2025

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Appendices

Appendix 1 Criteria that apply to categories

Principal CBD

The Council of the City of Sydney (the City of Sydney) is the principal central business district (CBD) in the Sydney Metropolitan area. The City of Sydney is home to Sydney's primary commercial office district with the largest concentration of businesses and retailers in Sydney. The City of Sydney's sphere of economic influence is the greatest of any local government area in Australia.

The CBD is also host to some of the city's most significant transport infrastructure including Central Station, Circular Quay and International Overseas Passenger Terminal. Sydney is recognised globally with its iconic harbour setting and the City of Sydney is host to the city's historical, cultural and ceremonial precincts. The City of Sydney attracts significant visitor numbers and is home to 60 per cent of metropolitan Sydney's hotels.

The role of Lord Mayor of the City of Sydney has significant prominence reflecting the CBD's importance as home to the country's major business centres and public facilities of state and national importance. The Lord Mayor's responsibilities in developing and maintaining relationships with stakeholders, including other councils, state and federal governments, community and business groups, and the media are considered greater than other mayoral roles in NSW.

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Major CBD

The Council of the City of Parramatta (City of Parramatta) is the economic capital of Greater Western Sydney and the geographic and demographic centre of Greater Sydney. Parramatta is the second largest economy in NSW (after Sydney CBD) and the sixth largest in Australia.

As a secondary CBD to metropolitan Sydney the Parramatta local government area is a major provider of business and government services with a significant number of organisations relocating their head offices to Parramatta. Public administration and safety have been a growth sector for Parramatta as the State Government has promoted a policy of moving government agencies westward to support economic development beyond the Sydney CBD.

The City of Parramatta provides a broad range of regional services across the Sydney Metropolitan area with a significant transport hub and hospital and educational facilities. The City of Parramatta is home to the Westmead Health and Medical Research precinct which represents the largest concentration of hospital and health services in Australia, servicing Western Sydney and providing other specialised services for the rest of NSW.

The City of Parramatta is also home to a significant number of cultural and sporting facilities (including Sydney Olympic Park) which draw significant domestic and international visitors to the region.

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Metropolitan Major

Councils categorised Metropolitan Major will typically have a minimum residential population of 400,000.

Councils may also be categorised Metropolitan Major if their residential population combined with their non-resident working population exceeds 400,000. To satisfy this criteria the non-resident working population must exceed 50,000.

Other features may include:

- total operating revenue exceeding \$300M per annum
- the provision of significant regional services to greater Sydney including, but not limited to, major education, health, retail, sports, other recreation and cultural facilities
- significant industrial, commercial and residential centres and development corridors
- high population growth.

Councils categorised as Metropolitan Major will have a sphere of economic influence and provide regional services considered to be greater than those of other metropolitan councils.

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Metropolitan Large

Councils categorised as Metropolitan Large will typically have a minimum residential population of 200,000.

Councils may also be categorised as Metropolitan Large if their residential population combined with their non-resident working population exceeds 200,000. To satisfy this criteria the non-resident working population must exceed 50,000.

Other features may include:

- total operating revenue exceeding \$200M per annum
- the provision of significant regional services to greater Sydney including, but not limited to, major education, health, retail, sports, other recreation and cultural facilities
- significant industrial, commercial and residential centres and development corridors
- high population growth.

Councils categorised as Metropolitan Large will have a sphere of economic influence and provide regional services considered to be greater than those of other metropolitan councils.

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Metropolitan Medium

Councils categorised as Metropolitan Medium will typically have a minimum residential population of 100,000.

Councils may also be categorised as Metropolitan Medium if their residential population combined with their non-resident working population exceeds 100,000. To satisfy this criteria the non-resident working population must exceed 50,000.

Other features may include:

- total operating revenue exceeding \$100M per annum
- services to greater Sydney including, but not limited to, major education, health, retail, sports, other recreation and cultural facilities
- industrial, commercial and residential centres and development corridors
- high population growth.

The sphere of economic influence, the scale of council operations and the extent of regional servicing would be below that of Metropolitan Large councils.

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Metropolitan Small

Councils categorised as Metropolitan Small will typically have a residential population less than 100,000.

Other features which distinguish them from other metropolitan councils include:

- total operating revenue less than \$150M per annum.

While these councils may include some of the facilities and characteristics of both Metropolitan Large and Metropolitan Medium councils the overall sphere of economic influence, the scale of council operations and the extent of regional servicing would be below that of Metropolitan Medium councils.

Major Regional City

Newcastle City Council and Wollongong City Councils are categorised as Major Regional City. These councils:

- are metropolitan in nature with major residential, commercial and industrial areas
- typically host government departments, major tertiary education and health facilities and incorporate high density commercial and residential development

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- provide a full range of higher order services and activities along with arts, culture, recreation, sporting and entertainment facilities to service the wider community and broader region
- have significant transport and freight infrastructure servicing international markets, the capital city and regional areas
- have significant natural and man-made assets to support diverse economic activity, trade and future investment
- typically contain ventures which have a broader State and national focus which impact upon the operations of the council.

Major Strategic Area

Councils categorised as Major Strategic Area will have a minimum population of 300,000. To satisfy this criteria the non-resident working population can be included.

Other features may include:

- health services, tertiary education services and major regional airports which service the surrounding and wider regional community
- a full range of high-order services including business, office and retail uses with arts, culture, recreation and entertainment centres
- total operating revenue exceeding \$250M per annum

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- significant visitor numbers to established tourism ventures and major events that attract state and national attention
- a proximity to Sydney which generates economic opportunities.

Currently, only Central Coast Council meets the criteria to be categorised as a Major Strategic Area. Its population, predicted population growth, and scale of the Council's operations warrant that it be differentiated from other non-metropolitan councils. Central Coast Council is also a significant contributor to the regional economy associated with proximity to and connections with Sydney and the Hunter Region.

Regional Strategic Area

Councils categorised as Regional Strategic Area are differentiated from councils in the Regional Centre category on the basis of their significant population and will typically have a residential population above 100,000. To satisfy this criteria the non-resident working population can be included.

Other features may include:

- health services, tertiary education services and major regional airports which service the surrounding and wider regional community
- a full range of high-order services including business, office and retail uses with arts, culture, recreation and entertainment centres
- total operating revenue exceeding \$250M per annum

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- significant visitor numbers to established tourism ventures and major events that attract state and national attention
- a proximity to Sydney which generates economic opportunities.

Currently, only Lake Macquarie Council meets the criteria to be categorised as a Regional Strategic Area. Its population and overall scale of council operations will be greater than Regional Centre councils.

Regional Centre

Councils categorised as Regional Centre will typically have a minimum residential population of 40,000. To satisfy this criteria the non-resident working population can be included.

Other features may include:

- a large city or town providing a significant proportion of the region's housing and employment
- health services, tertiary education services and major regional airports which service the surrounding and wider regional community
- a full range of high-order services including business, office and retail uses with arts, culture, recreation and entertainment centres
- total operating revenue exceeding \$100M per annum
- the highest rates of population growth in regional NSW

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- significant visitor numbers to established tourism ventures and major events that attract state and national attention
- a proximity to Sydney which generates economic opportunities.

Councils in the category of Regional Centre are often considered the geographic centre of the region providing services to their immediate and wider catchment communities.

Regional Rural

Councils categorised as Regional Rural will typically have a minimum residential population of 20,000. To satisfy this criteria the non-resident working population can be included.

Other features may include:

- a large urban population existing alongside a traditional farming sector, and are surrounded by smaller towns and villages
- health services, tertiary education services and regional airports which service a regional community
- a broad range of industries including agricultural, educational, health, professional, government and retail services
- large visitor numbers to established tourism ventures and events.

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Councils in the category of Regional Rural provide a degree of regional servicing below that of a Regional Centre.

Rural Large

Councils categorised as Rural Large will have a residential population greater than 10,000, and a councillor to resident ratio of at least 1 to 1200.

Other features may include:

- one or two significant townships combined with a considerable dispersed population spread over a large area and a long distance from a major regional centre
- a limited range of services, facilities and employment opportunities compared to Regional Rural councils
- local economies based on agricultural/resource industries.

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Rural

Councils categorised as Rural will typically have a residential population less than 10,000.

County Councils - Water

County councils that provide water and/or sewerage functions with a joint approach in planning and installing large water reticulation and sewerage systems.

County Councils - Other

County councils that administer, control and eradicate declared noxious weeds as a specified Local Control Authority under the Biosecurity Act 2015.

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Quarterly Budget Review Statement

Quarter Ending

31 March 2025

Tamworth Regional Council

Income and Expenses - General Fund

	ORIGINAL	Approved Changes		REVISED	Budget Adjustments	PROJECTED	
	Budget	September Review	December Review	Budget	Processed for Quarter	year end result	ACTUAL YTD
Income							
Rates and Annual Charges	64,063,931	(189,747)	106,549	63,980,733	20,585	64,001,318	64,091,378
User Charges and Fees	30,201,465	1,593,057	1,074,753	32,869,275	2,924,100	35,793,375	20,964,656
Other Revenues	2,188,677	29,633	440	2,218,750	0	2,218,750	1,713,771
Grants and Contributions - Operating	22,556,776	3,225,823	501,765	26,284,364	(488,283)	25,796,081	5,932,237
Grants and Contributions - Capital	38,192,849	(20,190,938)	3,043,043	21,044,954	(466,714)	20,578,240	9,648,669
Interest and Investment Revenue	3,241,916	0	495,586	3,737,502	419,000	4,156,502	4,949,099
Other Income	3,575,187	(140,029)	412,499	3,847,657	143,810	3,991,467	2,619,816
Total Income from continuing operations	164,020,801	(15,672,201)	5,634,635	153,983,235	2,552,498	156,535,733	109,919,626
Expenses							
Employee Costs	60,466,247	1,414,943	(1,061,454)	60,819,736	(1,100,064)	59,719,672	41,231,969
Materials and Contracts	30,348,348	11,758,155	3,457,499	45,564,002	2,634,539	48,198,541	27,528,657
Borrowing Costs	1,976,698	0	0	1,976,698	0	1,976,698	1,482,523
Depreciation	31,524,156	0	0	31,524,156	(6,945)	31,517,211	17,100,049
Other Expenses	2,708,860	179,647	(26,811)	2,861,696	(17,158)	2,844,538	2,043,274
Total Expenses from continuing operations	127,024,309	13,352,745	2,369,234	142,746,288	1,510,372	144,256,660	89,386,473
Net Operating result from continuing operations	36,996,492	(29,024,946)	3,265,401	11,236,947	1,042,126	12,279,073	20,533,153
Net Operating result before capital items	(1,196,357)	(6,834,008)	222,358	(9,808,007)	1,508,840	(6,299,167)	10,884,484

NOTES:

ORIGINAL Budget +/- approved budget changes in previous quarters = REVISED Budget
REVISED Budget +/- recommended changes this quarter = PROJECTED year end result

*Quarterly Budget Review Statement 31 March 2025
Budget Adjustments Processed for Quarter - Explanations*

Income Statement – General Fund

Income

Rates and Annual Charges \$20,585 Income Increase

The reason for the increase were supplementary adjustments for general rates.

User Charges and Fees \$2,924,100 Income Increase

The major reasons for the increase were; additional works for Transport for NSW - State Roads (\$2,521k) and income increases for; airport (\$150k), events (\$80k), waste management (\$76k), entertainment venues (\$64k), sports & recreation private works (\$12k), development engineering (\$10k), financial services (\$5k), visitor services (\$3k) and corporate buildings (\$2k).

Grants and Contributions Operating \$488,283 Income Decrease

The major reasons for the decrease were; removal of grants associated with projects carried over to 2025/2026 (\$750k), offset by new/additional grants for; flood damage support other Councils (\$200k), state emergency services (\$29k), Central Northern Regional Libraries (\$11k), art gallery/museums (\$9k), Tamworth libraries (\$7k) and apprenticeships (\$5k).

Grants and Contributions Capital \$466,714 Income Decrease

The major reasons for the decrease were removal of grants associated with projects carried over to 2025/2026 (\$2,428k), reduced footpath grants (\$46k) and reduced pedestrian infrastructure around schools grant (\$86k). These amounts were offset by income increases for; developer contributions (\$932k), current year proportion new aquatic grant (\$750k), airport (\$211k), marsupial park (\$150k), international flight training – Tamworth (\$42k) and road safety (\$10k).

Interest & Investments \$419,000 Income Increase

The major reasons for the increase were; increased interest income due to higher interest rates and cash held on; general purpose funds (\$300k), developer contribution funds (\$61k), Nundle retirement village funds (\$4k) and higher than expected interest on overdue rates (\$55k).

Other Income \$143,810 Income Increase

The major reasons for the increase were new/additional income for; entertainment venues (\$89k), events (\$22k), internal audit (\$18k), visitor services (\$7k), gallery/museums (\$6k), waste management wages subsidy (\$5k) and customer services (\$1k). These amounts were offset by reduced income financial services (\$5k).

*Quarterly Budget Review Statement 31 March 2025
Budget Adjustments Processed for Quarter - Explanations*

Income Statement – General Fund (continued)

Expenses

Employee Costs

\$1,100,064 Expense Decrease

The major reasons for the decrease were; wages savings from vacant positions (partially offset by materials increases). This amount was offset by additional wages for positions added to the organisational structure.

Materials and Contracts

\$2,634,539 Expense Increase

The major reasons for the increase were; new works for Transport for NSW - State Roads, wages savings from vacant positions transferred to materials and increased legal expenses, offset by non-recurrent operational works carried over to 2025-2026.

Depreciation

\$6,945 Expense Decrease

The reason for the decrease was minor adjustments to library depreciation based on latest assets held.

Other Expenses

\$17,158 Expense Decrease

The major reasons for the decrease were budgets related to events contributions to Country Music Queen (\$12k) and Gymnastics Sporting event (\$5k), transferred to materials classification for expenditure.

Income and Expenses - Water Fund

	ORIGINAL	Approved Changes		REVISED	Budget Adjustments	PROJECTED	
	Budget	September Review	December Review	Budget	Processed for Quarter	year end result	ACTUAL YTD
Income							
Rates and Annual Charges	9,221,903	92,216	863	9,314,982	0	9,314,982	9,304,783
User Charges and Fees	14,058,328	8,128	236,269	14,302,725	2,168,091	16,470,816	9,300,206
Other Revenues	42,113	(41,500)	800	1,413	0	1,413	1,300
Grants and Contributions - Operating	6,552	(2,826)	0	3,726	10,588	14,314	4,562
Grants and Contributions - Capital	2,202,500	200,000	0	2,402,500	1,100,000	3,502,500	3,111,326
Interest and Investment Revenue	1,249,791	0	199,866	1,449,657	147,000	1,596,657	976,240
Other Income	6,550	0	0	6,550	0	6,550	10,506
Total Income from continuing operations	26,787,737	256,018	437,798	27,481,553	3,425,679	30,907,232	22,708,924
Expenses							
Employee Costs	3,784,029	0	0	3,784,029	0	3,784,029	2,659,386
Materials and Contracts	13,280,072	2,063,531	123,645	15,467,248	35,740	15,502,988	10,642,908
Borrowing Costs	788,482	0	0	788,482	0	788,482	591,364
Depreciation	7,465,439	0	0	7,465,439	0	7,465,439	5,885,948
Other Expenses	1,634,644	0	5,000	1,639,644	0	1,639,644	1,060,712
Total Expenses from continuing operations	26,952,666	2,063,531	128,645	29,144,842	35,740	29,180,582	20,840,318
Net Operating result from continuing operations	(164,929)	(1,807,513)	309,153	(1,663,289)	3,389,939	1,726,650	1,868,606
Net Operating result before capital items	(2,367,429)	(2,007,513)	309,153	(4,065,789)	2,289,939	(1,775,850)	(1,242,721)

NOTES:
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*Quarterly Budget Review Statement 31 March 2025
Budget Adjustments Processed for Quarter - Explanations*

Income Statement – Water Fund

Income

User Charges & Fees **\$2,168,091 Income Increase**

The increase was due to increased water consumption charges (\$2,064k), water meter connection fees (\$76k) and special water meter read fees (\$28k).

Grants and Contributions Operating **\$10,588 Income Increase**

The reason for the increase was new apprenticeship subsidies.

Grants and Contributions Capital **\$1,100,000 Income Increase**

The reason for the increase was greater than expected developer contributions.

Interest on Investments **\$147,000 Income Increase**

The reasons for the increase were; increased interest income due to increased interest rates and cash held on; water general purpose funds (\$78k) and developer contribution funds (\$69k).

Expenses

Materials and Contracts **\$35,740 Expense Increase**

The reason for the increase was capital budget transferred to major maintenance/operations activities – demolish Manilla Water Treatment plant (\$20k) and water meter replacement (\$16k).

Income and Expenses - Sewer Fund

	ORIGINAL	Approved Changes		REVISED	Budget Adjustments	PROJECTED	
	Budget	September Review	December Review	Budget	Processed for Quarter	year end result	ACTUAL YTD
Income							
Rates and Annual Charges	21,108,261	222,244	(1,213)	21,329,292	0	21,329,292	21,318,691
User Charges and Fees	4,137,886	0	16,218	4,154,104	272,977	4,427,081	2,747,931
Other Revenues	42,646	15,708	10,000	68,354	6,000	74,354	53,145
Grants and Contributions - Operating	0	3,726	0	3,726	5,657	9,383	4,562
Grants and Contributions - Capital	1,003,000	0	0	1,003,000	400,000	1,403,000	1,190,890
Interest and Investment Revenue	3,671,297	0	202,000	3,873,297	385,000	4,258,297	2,753,474
Other Income	49,426	(39,680)	0	9,746	0	9,746	2,200
Total Income from continuing operations	30,012,516	201,998	227,005	30,441,519	1,069,634	31,511,153	28,070,893
Expenses							
Employee Costs	2,910,550	0	0	2,910,550	0	2,910,550	1,998,452
Materials and Contracts	8,514,194	379,273	(98,057)	8,795,410	0	8,795,410	6,213,314
Borrowing Costs	1,312,105	0	0	1,312,105	0	1,312,105	984,079
Depreciation	6,410,631	0	0	6,410,631	0	6,410,631	4,489,310
Other Expenses	8,592	0	5,000	13,592	0	13,592	8,634
Total Expenses from continuing operations	19,156,072	379,273	(93,057)	19,442,288	0	19,442,288	13,693,789
Net Operating result from continuing operations	10,856,444	(177,275)	320,062	10,999,231	1,069,634	12,068,865	14,377,104
Net Operating result before capital items	9,853,444	(177,275)	320,062	9,996,231	669,634	10,665,865	13,186,214

NOTES:
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REVISED Budget +/- recommended changes this quarter = PROJECTED year end result

Quarterly Budget Review Statement 31 March 2025
Budget Adjustments Processed for Quarter - Explanations

Income Statement – Sewer Fund

Income

User Charges & Fees	\$272,977 Income Increase
The increase was due to greater than expected wastewater usage charges-non-residentials (\$433k) offset by; reduced trade waste charges (\$160k).	
Other Revenues	\$6,000 Income Increase
The increase was due to additional property lease income.	
Grants and Contributions Operating	\$5,657 Income Increase
The reason for the increase was new apprenticeship subsidies.	
Grants and Contributions Capital	\$400,000 Income Increase
The reason for the increase was greater than expected developer contributions.	
Interest & Investment Revenues	\$385,000 Income Increase
The reasons for the increase were; increased interest income due to increased interest rates and cash held on; sewer general purpose funds (\$310k) and developer contribution funds (\$75k).	

Income and Expenses - Consolidated

	ORIGINAL	Approved Changes		REVISED	Budget Adjustments	PROJECTED	
	Budget	September Review	December Review	Budget	Processed for Quarter	year end result	ACTUAL YTD
Income							
Rates and Annual Charges	93,704,050	124,713	106,199	93,934,962	20,585	93,955,547	94,714,851
User Charges and Fees	46,830,615	1,601,185	1,327,240	49,759,040	5,365,168	55,124,208	33,012,793
Other Revenues	2,273,436	3,841	11,240	2,288,517	6,000	2,294,517	1,768,216
Grants and Contributions - Operating	21,510,921	3,226,723	501,765	25,239,409	(472,038)	24,767,371	5,941,361
Grants and Contributions - Capital	41,398,349	(19,990,938)	3,043,043	24,450,454	1,033,286	25,483,740	13,950,885
Interest and Investment Revenue	7,863,004	0	897,452	8,760,456	951,000	9,711,456	8,678,814
Other Income	3,631,163	(179,709)	412,499	3,863,953	143,810	4,007,763	2,632,523
Total Income from continuing operations	217,211,538	(15,214,185)	6,299,438	208,296,791	7,047,811	215,344,602	160,699,442
Expenses							
Employee Costs	67,160,826	1,414,943	(1,061,454)	67,514,315	(1,100,064)	66,414,251	45,889,808
Materials and Contracts	48,833,098	14,200,959	3,483,087	66,517,144	2,670,279	69,187,423	44,384,878
Borrowing Costs	3,777,285	0	0	3,777,285	0	3,777,285	3,057,966
Depreciation	45,400,226	0	0	45,400,226	(6,945)	45,393,281	27,475,307
Other Expenses	4,352,096	179,647	(16,811)	4,514,932	(17,158)	4,497,774	3,112,620
Total Expenses from continuing operations	169,523,531	15,795,549	2,404,822	187,723,902	1,546,112	189,270,014	123,920,579
Net Operating result from continuing operations	47,688,007	(31,009,734)	3,894,616	20,572,889	5,501,699	26,074,588	36,778,863
Net Operating result before capital items	6,289,658	(11,018,796)	851,573	(3,877,565)	4,468,413	590,848	22,827,978

NOTES:
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Income and Expenses - Themes

	ORIGINAL	Approved Changes		REVISED	Budget Adjustments	PROJECTED	
	Budget	September Review	December Review	Budget	Processed for Quarter	year end result	ACTUAL YTD
Income							
Our Water Security	56,699,053	(677,048)	704,803	56,726,808	4,495,313	61,222,121	50,961,980
A Liveable Built Environment	16,593,651	(9,406,500)	1,631,796	8,818,947	1,573,062	10,392,009	8,646,100
Prosperity and Innovation	8,024,364	76,158	118,519	8,219,041	151,387	8,370,428	7,258,712
Resilient and diverse communities	4,068,532	52,771	144,851	4,266,154	47,820	4,313,974	2,025,734
Connecting our Region and its Citizens	40,088,221	(7,169,143)	3,160,146	36,079,224	141,434	36,220,658	12,372,095
Working with and protecting our environme	23,151,297	(82,596)	(1,832)	23,066,869	80,652	23,147,521	19,537,382
Celebrate our cultures and heritage	2,148,578	402,123	(89,526)	2,461,175	142,505	2,603,680	1,685,746
A Strong and Vibrant Identity	383,596	902	0	384,498	12,934	397,432	256,877
Open and Collaborative Leadership	1,793,575	(640)	106,714	1,899,649	27,119	1,926,768	1,340,310
General Purpose Income	64,260,671	1,589,788	523,967	66,374,426	375,585	66,750,011	56,614,505
Total Income	217,211,538	(15,214,185)	6,299,438	208,296,791	7,047,811	215,344,602	160,699,442
Expenses							
Our Water Security	42,800,381	2,723,764	68,771	45,592,916	35,740	45,628,656	32,553,532
A Liveable Built Environment	17,470,720	1,309,634	(129,199)	18,651,155	51,498	18,702,653	14,040,205
Prosperity and Innovation	14,532,943	604,207	439,399	15,576,549	429,214	16,005,763	12,716,235
Resilient and diverse communities	12,735,634	547,817	177,984	13,461,435	4,275	13,465,710	8,875,343
Connecting our Region and its Citizens	40,475,102	9,453,535	1,483,818	51,412,455	709,046	52,121,501	28,288,990
Working with and protecting our environme	22,715,288	1,959,181	47,103	24,721,572	3,991	24,725,563	14,782,639
Celebrate our cultures and heritage	6,542,492	388,982	(17,771)	6,913,703	226,128	7,139,831	5,050,773
A Strong and Vibrant Identity	2,442,819	44,439	(6,000)	2,481,258	(76,964)	2,404,294	1,769,796
Open and Collaborative Leadership	9,808,152	(1,236,010)	340,717	8,912,859	163,184	9,076,043	5,843,107
Total Expenses	169,523,531	15,795,549	2,404,822	187,723,902	1,546,112	189,270,014	123,920,579
Net Operating result from continuing operations	47,688,007	(31,009,734)	3,894,616	20,572,889	5,501,699	26,074,588	36,778,863

NOTES:
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Capital Budget - Consolidated

	ORIGINAL	Approved Changes		REVISED	Budget Adjustments	PROJECTED	
	Budget	September Review	December Review	Budget	Processed for Quarter	year end result	ACTUAL YTD
Capital Funding							
Unrestricted Revenue - All Funds	34,870,291	6,365,363	90,512	41,326,166	209,209	41,535,375	4,473,567
Internal Reserves	14,940,609	11,218,846	(5,308,275)	20,851,180	(1,969,091)	18,882,089	19,581,145
Developer Contributions	3,489,900	2,405,371	(1,899,600)	4,199,671	(36,300)	4,163,371	899,955
Loans	71,952	2,326,871	(344,335)	2,054,488	(191,854)	1,862,634	5,825,225
Grants & Contributions	41,310,513	(10,044,903)	(3,375,476)	27,890,134	(808,858)	27,081,276	16,403,407
Total Capital Funding	94,683,265	12,271,548	(10,633,174)	96,321,639	(2,796,894)	93,524,745	47,183,299
Capital Expenditure							
<i>Creative Communities & Experiences</i>							
Other Assets	728,587	191,618	6,000	926,205	174,650	1,100,855	522,343
<i>Office of General Manager</i>							
Other Assets	5,070,000	2,234,434	(69,576)	7,234,858	(2,815,339)	4,419,519	2,257,785
<i>Liveable Communities</i>							
Other Assets	448,278	683,175	(37,682)	1,093,771	(36,397)	1,057,374	425,528
<i>Regional Services</i>							
Roads & Drainage Assets	46,591,319	(9,103,910)	(471,308)	37,016,101	(3,135,284)	33,880,817	21,107,947
Recreational Assets	17,736,857	(4,077,203)	(5,591,314)	8,068,340	(685,615)	7,382,725	4,107,774
Buildings Fleet & Equipment	9,625,405	2,487,938	(2,472,133)	9,641,210	(137,877)	9,503,333	6,975,005
Other Assets	0	1,334,236	(103,756)	1,230,480	(23,677)	1,206,803	695,974
Airport Assets	1,004,500	1,166,352	(108,693)	2,062,159	344,388	2,406,547	942,595
<i>Water Enterprises</i>							
Laboratory and Sustainability	161,000	27,738	(830)	187,908	0	187,908	89,125
Waste Assets	5,307,311	4,570,840	2,894,330	12,772,481	0	12,772,481	4,508,766
Water Assets	3,733,545	3,675,992	(161,943)	7,247,594	(35,924)	7,211,669	2,577,338
Sewer Assets	8,403,530	6,727,776	(5,711,029)	9,420,277	0	9,420,277	1,877,008
<i>Other Non-Operating</i>							
Loan Principal Repayments	9,482,110	0	0	9,482,110	0	9,482,110	7,111,585
Loan Principal Raised/Given	(9,490,000)	2,333,333	1,194,760	(5,961,907)	3,961,907	(2,000,000)	0
Other	(4,119,177)	19,239	0	(4,099,938)	(407,526)	(4,507,464)	(6,015,475)
Total Capital Expenditure	94,683,265	12,271,548	(10,633,174)	96,321,639	(2,796,894)	93,524,745	47,183,299

NOTES:
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*Quarterly Budget Review Statement 31 March 2025
Budget Adjustments Processed for Quarter - Explanations*

Capital Budget – Consolidated

Capital Expenditure

Creative Communities & Experiences

Other Assets **\$174,650 Expense Increase**

The reasons for the increase were; additional/new projects for; AELEC (\$147k) and Tamworth Regional Entertainment & Conference Centre (\$28k).

Office of the General Manager

Other Assets **\$2,815,339 Expense Decrease**

The reasons for the decrease were projects carried over to 2025/2026 (\$2,965k), offset by budget for Lands Building refurbishment (\$150k).

Liveable Communities

Other Assets **\$36,397 Expense Decrease**

The reason for the decrease was regional halls & facility program works that will not be completed in financial year, 2024/2025.

Regional Services

Roads and Drainage Assets **\$3,135,284 Expense Decrease**

The major reasons for the decrease were; projects carried over to 2025/2026 (\$2,552k), special variation residual asset renewal budget transferred to aquatic centre (\$1,266k), kerb & gutter budget not required in 2024/2025 (\$300k), under-expended Infrastructure Around Schools project (\$86k), completed stormwater drainage projects (\$45k), transfer footpaths construction budget to pedestrian grant program (\$30k), under-expended Get Active NSW footpath grant project (\$16k) and completed bridge projects (\$6k).

These amounts were offset by expenditure increases for; increased asset renewal transferred from operating budget (\$800k), increased regional roads budget transferred from regional roads operating budget (\$209k), additional budget for TGGP Precinct management (\$130k), transfer to Tamworth Global Gateway (TGGP) project from TGGP non-recurrent operating budget (\$17k) and new road safety project – Longyard Drive (\$10k).

*Quarterly Budget Review Statement 31 March 2025
Budget Adjustments Processed for Quarter - Explanations*

Recreational Assets

\$685,815 Expense Decrease

The major reasons for the decrease were; removal of Council reserve funding for Aquatic Centre (\$1,266k) projects carried forward to 2025-2026 (\$1,100k), transfer capital budget to non-recurrent operating project-Tamworth Cemetery Beam (\$8k) and Barraba Mall Disability Toilet project completed under budget (\$4k).

These amounts were offset by expense increases for; special variation residual asset renewal budget transferred to aquatic centre (\$1,266k), additional new Aquatics Centre preliminary costs (\$153k), new grant project Tamworth Marsupial Park (\$150k), Sports Dome Sewer Pump renewal (\$71k), transfer from community projects operating budget to capital projects (\$30k), additional budget transferred from building reserve for Woolomin Evacuation Centre (\$20k) and transfer from strategic maintenance operating budget to minor renewal works (\$3k).

Buildings, Fleet and Equipment

\$137,877 Expense Decrease

The major reasons for the decrease were; building works completed under budget (\$101k), projects carried forward to 2025-2026 (\$26k) and capital budget transferred to major operating works – Data-fuel consoles (\$12k).

Other Assets

\$23,677 Expense Decrease

The reasons for the decrease were; projects carried forward to 2025-2026 (\$30k) offset by additional budget Arcadia Urban release access project (\$6k).

Airport Assets

\$344,388 Expense Increase

The major reasons for the increase were; International Flight Training Tamworth (IFTT) F Block Renovations (\$270k), IFTT House Renovation works (\$38k) and IFTT tenant funded works – Retrofit/IT/Preparation Works (\$35k).

Water Enterprises

Water Assets

\$35,924 Expense Decrease

The major reason for the decrease were capital budget transferred to non-recurrent operating projects (\$36k).

*Quarterly Budget Review Statement 31 March 2025
Budget Adjustments Processed for Quarter - Explanations*

Other Non-Operating

Loan Principal Raised

\$3,961,907 Income Decrease

The reasons for the decrease were; deferral of loan raising to match project spending carried forward to 2025-2026 – Digitech (\$2,770k), Aquatic Centre (\$667k) and Skywalk (\$525k).

Other

\$407,526 Income Increase

The reason for the increase was greater than expected land sales – Tamworth Global Gateway Park.

Funding Source Statement - Consolidated

	ORIGINAL	Approved Changes		REVISED	Budget Adjustments	PROJECTED	
	Budget	September Review	December Review	Budget	Processed for Quarter	year end result	ACTUAL YTD
Unrestricted	(291,764)	5,272,650	(304,089)	4,676,797	47,860	4,724,657	(11,070,488)
Externally Restricted							
<i>General Fund</i>							
Reserves	(58,245)	4,352,882	2,866,281	7,160,918	(80,652)	7,080,266	1,045,401
Developer Contributions	(1,974,415)	(172,417)	(3,118,000)	(5,264,832)	(992,500)	(6,257,332)	(6,234,492)
Loans	(3,048)	1,791,409	0	1,788,361	(191,854)	1,596,507	5,825,556
Grants & Contributions	1,997,543	13,603,566	(3,326,655)	12,274,454	381,065	12,655,519	11,404,928
<i>Water Fund</i>							
Unrestricted Cash - Water	(353,269)	186,309	(134,298)	(301,258)	(2,256,679)	(2,557,937)	(4,430,184)
Reserves	1,278,545	5,070,072	(1,449,670)	4,898,947	(184)	4,898,763	3,131,871
Developer Contributions	(2,689,436)	227,114	1,112,872	(1,349,450)	(1,169,000)	(2,518,450)	(3,142,084)
Loans	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grants & Contributions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Sewer Fund</i>							
Unrestricted Cash - Sewer	(307,711)	(77,118)	(211,505)	(596,334)	(594,634)	(1,190,968)	(16,852,846)
Reserves	(3,671,370)	4,212,323	(4,296,114)	(3,755,161)	(532,265)	(4,287,426)	(978,835)
Developer Contributions	1,220,603	2,119,721	(3,123,472)	216,852	(475,000)	(258,148)	(1,139,809)
Loans	75,000	635,300	(200,000)	510,300	0	510,300	112,268
Grants & Contributions	0	24,825	0	24,825	0	24,825	23,826
Total Externally Restricted	(4,485,803)	31,973,986	(11,880,561)	15,607,622	(5,911,703)	9,695,919	(11,234,400)
Internally Restricted							
All	4,992,201	6,034,646	(2,343,140)	8,683,707	(2,427,805)	6,255,902	16,095,924
Total Internally Restricted	4,992,201	6,034,646	(2,343,140)	8,683,707	(2,427,805)	6,255,902	16,095,924
Total Restricted	506,398	38,008,632	(14,223,701)	24,291,329	(8,339,508)	15,951,821	4,861,524
Total Cash and Investments	214,634	43,281,282	(14,527,790)	28,968,126	(8,291,648)	20,676,478	(6,208,964)
Available Cash	(291,764)	5,272,650	(304,089)	4,676,797	47,860	4,724,657	(11,070,488)

NOTES:

ORIGINAL Budget +/- approved budget changes in previous quarters = REVISED Budget
REVISED Budget +/- recommended changes this quarter = PROJECTED year end result

*Quarterly Budget Review Statement 31 March 2025
Budget Adjustments Processed for Quarter - Explanations*

Funding Source Statement – Consolidated

Unrestricted Funds

\$47,860 Funds Decrease

The major reasons for the decrease in Unrestricted Cash for General Fund include; increased legal costs – Liveable Communities Directorate (\$308k), increased legal costs – Legal Services Division (\$150k), additional wages – statutory accountant succession plan (\$51k), increased operational costs - AELEC (\$30k), expression of interest/valuation report – Ray Walsh House (\$20k) and Council funding for 6th Fibre Textiles (\$10k).

These amounts were offset by increases in Unrestricted Cash due to; interest on investments (\$300k), various Financial Services savings including wages (\$129k), increased interest on overdue rates and annual charges (\$55k), additional general fund rates income (\$21k), previous period budget funding correction – buildings (\$8k), additional library income (\$7k) and Legal Services operational savings (\$4k).

Externally Restricted Funds

\$5,911,703 Funds Increase

The major reasons for the increase in Unrestricted Cash – Water (\$2,257k) were; increased income from; water consumption charges (\$2,064k), water meter fees (\$104k), increased interest on investments income (\$78k) and apprenticeship subsidies (\$11k).

The major reasons for the increase in Unrestricted Cash – Sewer (\$595k) were: increased income from non-residential wastewater usage (\$433k), interest on investments (\$310k), property leases (\$6k), and apprenticeship subsidies (\$6k). These amounts were offset by reduce trade waste charges income (\$160k).

The balance, being an increase to Externally Restricted Funds (\$3,060k) was predominately due to funding not being used, due to projects carried forward to 2025-2026, offset by new additional/capital works.

Internally Restricted Funds

\$2,427,805 Funds Increase

The major reason for the decrease were funds relating to incomplete works to be carried over to 2025/2026 and changes to the capital works budget.

Key Performance Indicators

	General		Water		Sewer	
Based on Projected Budget Results						
Operating Result Ratio						
Operating result before Capital Income	(8,299,167)	-6%	(1,775,850)	-6%	10,665,865	35%
Operating Revenue before Capital	131,966,026		27,398,182		30,098,407	
Debt Service Cover Ratio						
Operating result before capital (excl interest & depreciation)	24,634,319	4.31	6,478,071	2.50	18,388,601	3.92
Debt service costs	5,715,513		2,591,287		4,692,172	
Own Source Operating Revenue						
Operating revenue (excl grants/cont)	110,161,412	70%	27,390,418	89%	30,098,770	96%
Total operating revenue	156,535,733		30,907,232		31,511,153	
Based on YTD Actuals						
Rates & Annual Charges Outstanding %						
Rates & annual charges outstanding	16,266,623	24%	2,455,202	24%	5,945,337	26%
Rates & annual charges collectible	66,510,959		10,057,586		23,174,728	

*Quarterly Budget Review Statement 31 March 2025
Budget Adjustments Processed for Quarter - Explanations*

Investments – Statement by Responsible Accounting Officer

'All funds have been invested in accordance with Council's investment policies.'

Cash – Statement by Responsible Accounting Officer

'A bank reconciliation is undertaken on a daily basis. Cash funds were reconciled with the Bank Statement on 31 March 2025'

Cash and Investments – Reconciliation

Actual YTD total Cash & Investments	\$ 6,208,964
Plus: Opening balances	<u>\$205,794,056</u>
Balance as at 31-03-2025	<u>\$212,003,020</u>
Investment Register balance 31-03-2025	\$211,954,333
Bank Reconciliation as at 31-03-2025	<u>\$48,687</u>
Reconciliation Total	<u>\$212,003,020</u>

*Quarterly Budget Review Statement 31 March 2025
Budget Adjustments Processed for Quarter - Explanations*

Contracts Listing

Contractor	Contract Detail and Purpose	Value \$	Date Awarded	Budgeted (Y/N)
JT Fossey Trucks	Quotation - Supply & Delivery of One 4,500 kg GVM Factory Tipping Truck	77,556	23/01/2025	Y
B&G Fabrications	Tender - Entrance Strategy - Tier 1 and 2 Signage	468,700	25/02/2025	Y
J.C Bramley & J.M Bramley	Quotation - Tamworth LGA Entrance Signage - Supply and Install Stone Clad Wall	100,645	7/03/2025	Y
M & M Stock Yards & Steel Fabrication	Quotation - Barraba Showground - Rough Stock Facility Upgrade	128,660	7/03/2025	Y
100% Renewables Pty Ltd	Quotation - Tamworth Regional Council Energy Audits	102,000	10/03/2025	Y

Notes

1. Minimum reporting level is those contracts over \$50,000.
2. Contracts listed are those entered into during the quarter (excluding contractors that are on Council's preferred supplier list).
3. Contracts for employment are not included.
4. Panel Tender is a tender awarded to a panel of successful tenderers for regular tasks that occur throughout the year based on a schedule of rates for services

Explanation – Contracts Listed - Statement by Responsible Accounting Officer

'There were no contracts entered into in the March 2025 Quarter that were outside the scope of the approved budget.'

*Quarterly Budget Review Statement 31 March 2025
Budget Adjustments Processed for Quarter - Explanations*

Consultancy and Legal Expenses

Expense	Expenditure YTD	Budgeted (Y/N)
Consultancies	\$2,340,745	Y
Legal Fees	\$420,718	Y

Definition of Consultant

A consultant is a person or organisation engaged under contract on a temporary basis to provide recommendations or high-level specialist or professional advice to assist decision-making by management. Generally, it is the advisory nature of the work that differentiates a consultant from other contractors.

Consultancies – Statement by Responsible Accounting Officer

'There were no consultancies awarded in the March 2025 Quarter that were outside the scope of the approved budget.'

Major consultancy expenditure has occurred on the Tamworth Regional Aquatic Centre preliminaries, Water Security Plan, Port Stephens Cutting Upgrade and Tamworth Global Gateway Park projects. Consultancy costs are covered by each overall project budget.

Explanation – Legal Expenses - Statement by Responsible Accounting Officer

Legal Expenses have increased significantly from previous financial years.

The main sources of expenditure have been Community Safety & Well-Being division - property matter, Development division – development/planning matters and Legal Division – property and general legal matters.

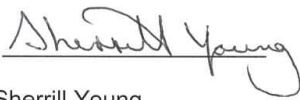
Budget increases for legal expenses are listed in the Monthly budget variation report to Council as well as the Quarterly Budget Review Statement.

Statement by Responsible Accounting Officer

The following statement is made in accordance with Clause 203(2) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021.

This statement provides an opinion on the impact of the identified variations for the quarter only, not on council's projected financial position.

It is my opinion that the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for Tamworth Regional Council for the quarter ended 31 March 2025 indicates that the budget adjustments identified for approval in this quarter are satisfactory in regard to the variance of the projected estimates to the original budget.

Signed: 

Date: 07/05/2025

Sherrill Young

Responsible Accounting Officer, Tamworth Regional Council

Tamworth Global Gateway Park
Income and Expenses 31/03/2025
Phase 1

		Stage 1 Actuals	Stage 1 Budget	Total Cost of Development to Date
Sales		15,861,828.35	28,940,000.00	
Acquisition Costs	*	1,978,099.18	1,978,099.18	16,006,986.81
Holding Costs	*	33,474.44	48,971.92	270,828.81
Debt Service Internal Loan	*	429,316.77	603,062.22	3,473,436.68
Debt Service External Loan		750,174.29		750,174.29
Master Plan				276,034.08
Goddard La Development Costs		6,995,021.73	6,916,973.00	6,995,021.73
Business Park Initial		3,233,476.96	3,320,697.00	3,233,476.96
Selling Costs		936,857.74	2,894,000.00	936,857.74
Intermodal Access		2,660,256.72	3,583,980.00	2,660,256.72
Slashing		30,369.61		30,369.61
Contingency		0.00	198,350.00	0.00
Marketing		25,761.39	35,000.00	25,761.39
Total Expenditure		17,072,808.83	19,579,133.32	34,659,204.82
Profit/(Loss)		-1,210,980.48	9,360,866.68	

* Costs allocated using land area

Tamworth Global Gateway Park
Income and Expenses 31/03/2025
Entire Precinct

Sales	15,861,828.35
Total Sales	15,861,828.35
Acquisition Costs	16,006,986.81
Holding Costs	270,828.81
Debt Service Internal Loan	3,473,436.68
Debt Service External Loan	750,174.29
Master Plan	276,034.08
Stage 1	13,855,982.76
Marketing	25,761.39
Landscaping	753,047.52
Trunk Drainage Channels	118,714.00
Trunk Stormwater Main	1,192,175.00
Cottage Demolition	32,297.93
Precinct Management	763,850.38
Precinct Ext Auth Svcs & St Lighting	74,029.07
Phase 2 Design Plans	592,492.49
Total Expenditure	38,185,811.21

TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL INVESTMENT REGISTER AS AT 30 APRIL 2025

Investment Type: Term Deposit

Financial Institution	S&P Credit Rating	IFRS Classification	Investment Type	Investment Date	Maturity Date	No of Days	Interest Rate	Term Deposit Value
NAB	A-1+	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	8/05/2024	6/05/2025	363	5.25%	3,000,000
NAB	A-1+	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	3/09/2024	13/05/2025	252	4.95%	10,000,000
NAB	A-1+	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	22/05/2024	20/05/2025	363	5.15%	2,000,000
NAB	A-1+	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	3/09/2024	27/05/2025	266	4.95%	10,000,000
NAB	A-1+	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	3/06/2024	3/06/2025	365	5.26%	5,000,000
Westpac	A-1+	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	18/06/2024	17/06/2025	364	5.12%	8,000,000
NAB	AA-	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	28/06/2024	1/07/2025	368	5.45%	6,000,000
NAB	AA-	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	2/07/2024	15/07/2025	378	5.45%	6,000,000
RAB	BBB+	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	16/01/2025	15/07/2025	180	5.05%	5,000,000
NAB	AA-	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	2/07/2024	29/07/2025	392	5.45%	6,000,000
NAB	AA-	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	31/07/2024	12/08/2025	377	5.30%	4,000,000
NAB	A-1+	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	16/04/2025	12/08/2025	118	4.45%	4,000,000
NAB	A-1+	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	18/10/2024	26/08/2025	312	4.95%	4,000,000
BOQ	A-2	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	27/02/2025	26/08/2025	180	4.70%	10,000,000
RAB	BBB+	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	3/02/2025	9/09/2025	218	4.92%	5,000,000
NAB	A-1+	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	3/12/2024	23/09/2025	294	5.05%	6,000,000
RAB	BBB+	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	16/01/2025	7/10/2025	264	4.95%	5,000,000
NAB	AA-	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	18/10/2024	21/10/2025	368	4.95%	4,000,000
NAB	AA-	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	20/02/2025	4/11/2025	257	4.70%	3,000,000
BOQ	A-2	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	6/03/2025	18/11/2025	257	4.72%	2,000,000
Westpac	AA-	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	22/11/2024	24/11/2025	367	5.17%	12,000,000
BOQ	A-2	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	6/03/2025	12/12/2025	281	4.72%	8,000,000
NAB	AA-	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	20/02/2025	16/12/2025	299	4.70%	3,000,000
NAB	A-1+	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	19/03/2025	13/01/2026	300	4.65%	8,000,000
Westpac	A-1+	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	18/02/2025	17/02/2026	364	4.76%	7,000,000
Westpac	A-1+	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	20/02/2025	24/02/2026	369	4.78%	6,000,000
Westpac	AA-	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	8/03/2023	10/03/2026	1098	4.70%	2,000,000
Westpac	A-1+	Held to Maturity	Term Deposit	16/04/2025	7/04/2026	356	4.23%	8,000,000
TOTAL							4.95%	\$ 162,000,000

Investment Type: Floating Rate Note, Fixed Rate Bond

Financial Institution	S&P Credit Rating	IFRS Classification	Investment Type	Investment Date	Maturity Date	No of Days	Interest Rate	Purchase Value	# Maturity Value
NAB	AA-	Held to Maturity	Fixed Rate Bond	4/11/2022	30/05/2025	938	3.90%	1,000,000	1,000,000
Bendigo	BBB+	Held to Maturity	Floating Rate Note	19/01/2023	2/12/2025	1048	BBSW+0.52%	4,000,000	4,000,000
Bendigo	BBB+	Held to Maturity	Floating Rate Note	15/05/2023	15/05/2026	1096	BBSW+1.25%	3,000,000	3,000,000
Suncorp	A-1	Held to Maturity	Floating Rate Note	19/01/2023	15/09/2026	1335	BBSW+0.48%	5,000,000	5,000,000
NAB	AA-	Held to Maturity	Fixed Rate Bond	4/03/2024	25/02/2027	1088	2.90%	5,000,228	5,241,000
CBA	AA-	Held to Maturity	Floating Rate Note	18/10/2022	18/08/2027	1765	BBSW+1.02%	1,000,000	1,000,000
ANZ	AA-	Held to Maturity	Floating Rate Note	8/11/2022	4/11/2027	1822	BBSW+1.20%	4,000,000	4,000,000
TOTAL								\$ 23,000,228	\$ 23,241,000

Floating Rate Notes can be purchased at a premium or a discount. The difference between the Purchase Value and Market Value is recognised by Council on a monthly basis as interest.

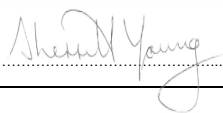
Investment Type: On Call, On Hold

Financial Institution	S&P Credit Rating	IFRS Classification	Investment Type	Date Invested	Due Date	No of Days	Interest Rate	Market Value at 30 April 2025
NAB	A-1+	N/A	On Call	N/A	N/A	N/A	4.20%	17,518,218
Westpac	A-1+	Held to Maturity	On Hold		90 Day Maturity		4.60%	5,866,005
TOTAL								\$ 23,384,223
TOTAL INVESTMENT REGISTER								\$ 208,625,223

Comparative Rates

RBA Cash Rate: 4.10%
BBSW: 3.87%

I, Sherrill Young, Tamworth Regional Council Manager of Financial Services (Responsible Accounting Officer) certify as required under Section 16(1)(b) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1999, that Council's investments have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, Regulations and Tamworth Regional Council Investment Policy.

Signed.....

Investment By Rating (excluding cash accounts)

S&P Credit Rating		Portfolio Limit	Counterparty Limit	Bank	Amount invested as at 30 April 2025 (\$)	% of Total Investments	Maturity	
Long Term	Short Term						Less than 12 months (\$)	One to five years (\$)
AAA	A-1+	100%	100%		-	0.00%	-	-
AA+ to AA-	A-1+	100%	100%	ANZ	4,000,000	2.16%	-	4,000,000
				CBA	1,000,000	0.54%	-	1,000,000
				NAB	90,000,228	48.65%	85,000,000	5,000,228
				Westpac	43,000,000	23.24%	43,000,000	-
A+ to A	A-1	100%	30%	Suncorp	5,000,000	2.70%	-	5,000,000
A-	A-2	40%	20%	Bendigo	7,000,000	3.78%	4,000,000	3,000,000
				BOQ	20,000,000	10.81%	20,000,000	-
BBB+	A-2	30%	10%	RAB	15,000,000	8.11%	15,000,000	-
					\$ 185,000,228	100.00%	\$ 167,000,000	\$ 18,000,228

The General Manager or his delegated representative is authorised to approve variations to Council's investment policy if the investment is to Council's advantage or due to revised legislation.

Council's investments are mostly comprised of restricted funds that have been received for specific purposes or funds held for future renewal works. The following table provides an indicative summary of investments held by each fund. The figures provided are based on opening balances from the last completed and audited financial year. The figures provide a guide on the proportion of total cash that is restricted in use:

Investments Held by Fund (including cash accounts)

Fund	Restriction	Amount	%
General	Unrestricted	12,994,360	6.23%
General	Internally Restricted	35,758,353	17.14%
General	Externally Restricted	33,015,958	15.83%
General Fund Total		\$ 81,768,671	39.19%
Water	Unrestricted	2,131,655	1.02%
Water	Internally Restricted	19,347,595	9.27%
Water	Externally Restricted	15,578,502	7.47%
Water Fund Total		\$ 37,057,752	17.76%
Sewer	Unrestricted	2,187,583	1.05%
Sewer	Internally Restricted	68,540,200	32.85%
Sewer	Externally Restricted	19,071,017	9.14%
Sewer Fund Total		\$ 89,798,800	43.04%
Total Investments		\$ 208,625,223	100.00%

April 2025 Budget Variations

Description	Reason	Budget Type	Budget Variation	Revenue	Reserves	Grants/Contributions	Loans
Financial Services							
Operational Overheads							
Governance	Expense Decrease	Op Exp OH	(1,780)	(1,780)	0	0	0
Long Term Financial Plan - Annual Mfcs	Expense Increase	Op Exp R	1,275	1,275	0	0	0
Cash Management	Expense Increase	Op Exp R	455	455	0	0	0
Revenue	Income Increase	Op Exp R	14,717	14,717	0	0	0
Employment Overheads	Income Increase	Op Inc R	(363)	(363)	0	0	0
Finance Division	Expense Increase	Op Exp OH	(28,551)	(28,551)	0	0	0
	Expense Increase	Op Exp R	(114,439)	(114,439)	0	0	0
Sub Total			(128,686) ↑	(128,686) ↑	0	0	0
Digitech							
Digitech Project - Budget Control - Exp	Incomplete Works	Cap Exp	(1,415,339)	0	0	0	(1,415,339)
Technology One - One Council Transition Consulting	Incomplete Works	Cap Exp	(100,000)	0	0	0	(100,000)
Network Infrastructure Rebuild	Incomplete Works	Cap Exp	(625,000)	0	0	0	(625,000)
TTC Website Optimisation & Rebuild	Incomplete Works	Cap Exp	(475,000)	0	0	0	(475,000)
TTC Intranet Rebuild	Incomplete Works	Cap Exp	(350,000)	0	0	0	(350,000)
Sub Total			(2,965,339) ↑	0	0	0	(2,965,339) ↑
Legal							
Operational Overheads - Legal Expenses	Expense Increase	Op Exp OH	150,000	150,000	0	0	0
Sub Total			150,000 ↓	150,000 ↓	0	0	0
General Purpose Income							
Extra Charges	Income Increase	Op Inc R	(55,000)	(55,000)	0	0	0
Net Rate Levy	Income Increase	Op Inc R	(20,585)	(20,585)	0	0	0
Interest On Investments	Income Increase	Op Inc R	(300,000)	(300,000)	0	0	0
Sub Total			(375,585) ↑	(375,585) ↑	0	0	0
Central Northern Regional Library							
Local Priority Funding	Income Increase	Op Inc R	(6,230)	0	(6,230)	0	0
Council Contributions - Operating	Income Increase	Op Inc R	(4,788)	0	(4,788)	0	0
Sub Total			(11,018) ↑	0	(11,018) ↑	0	0
Community Safety and Wellbeing							
Monitoring/Surveillance - Legal Expenses	Expense Increase	Op Exp R	55,000	55,000	0	0	0
Sub Total			55,000 ↓	55,000 ↓	0	0	0
Development							
Planning - Legal Expenses	Expense Increase	Op Exp R	288,000	253,000	35,000	0	0
Sub Total			288,000 ↓	253,000 ↓	35,000 ↓	0	0
Future Communities							
Sec 94 Contributions - Interest Income	Income Increase	Op Inc R	(60,000)	0	0	(60,000)	0
Inv Interest on Contributions	Income Increase	Op Inc R	(75,000)	0	0	(75,000)	0
Inv Interest on Contributions	Income Increase	Op Inc R	(69,000)	0	0	(69,000)	0
Sub Total			(204,000) ↑	0	0	(204,000) ↑	0

April 2025 Budget Variations

Description	Reason	Budget Type	Budget Variation	Revenue	Reserves	Grants/Contributions	Loans
Airport & Aviation Development							
Gairnas Classic Parking Project - Inc	Income Increase	Op Inc NR	(150,000)	0	(150,000)	0	0
Sub Total			(150,000) ↑	0	(150,000) ↑	0	0
Plant, Fleet & Buildings							
Bay Walsh House - Options Report	Expense Increase	Op Exp NR	20,000	20,000	0	0	0
Nundie ACU - Rental Charges	Income Increase	Op Inc R	(4,000)	0	(4,000)	0	0
Sub Total			16,000 ↓	20,000 ↓	(4,000) ↑	0	0
Project Costing							
Westdale Land Sales - Income	Incomplete Works	Non-Operating Cash	(419,050)	0	(419,050)	0	0
Westdale Land Sales - Expenses	Incomplete Works	Non-Operating Cash	11,524	0	11,524	0	0
Goddard Lane Electrical Zone Substation Upgrade - Exp	Incomplete Works	Cap Exp	(124,739)	0	0	0	(124,739)
Powerstation - Collection Cafe & Conserve/Digitisation - Inc	Incomplete Works	Cap Inc NR	30,000	0	0	30,000	0
No. 1 Oval Pavillion Upgrade - Exp	Incomplete Works	Cap Exp	(30,000)	0	0	(30,000)	0
Anthony Rd Footpath - Woodward Av to Petra Av - Exp	Project completed	Cap Exp	(100,000)	0	0	(100,000)	0
Garden St Footpath - Hillvue Rd to South End - Exp	Project completed	Cap Exp	(2,848)	0	0	(2,848)	0
Murray St Footpath - Hillvue Rd to South End - Exp	Project completed	Cap Exp	(26,633)	0	0	(26,633)	0
Thibault St Footpath - Levee to Goonoo Goonoo Rd - Exp	Project completed	Cap Exp	20,025	0	20,025	0	0
Garden St Footpath - Robert St to Kent St - Exp	Project completed	Cap Exp	10,425	0	10,426	(1)	0
Get NSW Active 2022/23 - Income	Project completed	Cap Inc NR	(16,811)	0	0	(16,811)	0
Jack Smyth Drive - Road Safety Program - Exp	Incomplete Works	Cap Exp	46,293	0	0	46,293	0
Jack Smyth Drive - Road Safety Program - Inc	Incomplete Works	Cap Inc NR	(644,454)	0	0	(644,454)	0
The Ringers Road - Road Safety Program - Exp	Incomplete Works	Cap Exp	644,454	0	0	644,454	0
The Ringers Road - Road Safety Program - Inc	Incomplete Works	Cap Inc NR	(432,859)	0	0	(432,859)	0
Carriage Street - Road Safety Program - Inc	Incomplete Works	Cap Inc NR	432,859	0	0	432,859	0
Carriage Street - Road Safety Program - Exp	Incomplete Works	Cap Exp	(350,000)	0	0	(350,000)	0
Precinct Management and Consultants - Exp	Project completed	Cap Inc NR	350,000	0	0	350,000	0
TGSP - Survey for Plans	Project completed	Op Exp NR	16,747	0	16,747	0	0
Footpath Construction Program	Decreased project costs	Cap Exp	(16,747)	0	(16,747)	0	0
TGCP - Green Energy Agreement	Incomplete Works	Cap Exp	(30,452)	0	(30,452)	0	0
Burgmanns Lane Bridge/Culverts - Exp	Incomplete Works	Cap Exp	(26,436)	0	(26,436)	0	0
Burgmanns Lane Bridge/Culverts - Inc	Incomplete Works	Cap Inc NR	(899,562)	0	(212,391)	0	0
Rocky Gully Road Major Repair - Exp (AGRN1034)	Incomplete Works	Cap Inc NR	637,171	0	0	(637,171)	0
Watson Ck-Tilmunda Rd Major Repair - Exp (AGRN1034)	Incomplete Works	Op Exp NR	(300,000)	0	0	(300,000)	0
Langers Lane Major Repair - Exp (AGRN1034)	Incomplete Works	Op Exp NR	(240,000)	0	0	(240,000)	0
Major Repair Works - Various Roads (AGRN1034) - Inc	Incomplete Works	Op Exp NR	(210,000)	0	0	(210,000)	0
Marathon Street Farmstead - Demolition	Incomplete Works	Op Inc NR	750,000	0	0	750,000	0
Stormwater Upgrade - Deane Street West Tamworth	Incomplete Works	Cap Exp	(150,000)	0	(150,000)	0	0
Tamworth Mechanics Institute - Sub Floor - Replacement	Project completed	Cap Exp	(92,800)	0	(92,800)	0	0
Stormwater Upgrade - Evans Street Westdale	Project completed	Cap Exp	(18,671)	0	(18,671)	0	0
Stormwater Upgrade - Panorama Road Calala	Project completed	Cap Exp	(26,175)	0	(26,175)	0	0
Kiaora Bridge No 1, Bendemeer - Renewal Exp	Project completed	Cap Exp	(6,474)	0	(6,474)	0	0
Tamworth Velodrome - Site Remediation	Increased project costs	Op Exp NR	20,000	0	20,000	0	0
Sub Total			(1,220,213) ↑	0	(995,474) ↑	(100,000) ↑	(124,739) ↑

April 2025 Budget Variations

Description	Reason	Budget Type	Budget Variation	Revenue	Reserves	Grants/Contributions	Loans
Waste Management							
Resource Recovery Income	Income Increase	Op Inc R	(71,379)	0	(71,379)	0	0
Bendemeer Transfer Station	Income Increase	Op Inc R	(4,728)	0	(4,728)	0	0
Barraba Landfill - Office Conversion	Increased project costs	Cap Exp	21,353	0	21,353	0	0
Barraba Landfill - Improvements - Road Reserve Access	Decreased project costs	Cap Exp	(21,353)	0	(21,353)	0	0
Sub Total			(76,107) ↑	0	(76,107) ↑	0	0
Water & Wastewater							
Boosting Apprenticeship Program	Income Increase	Op Inc NR	(5,657)	(5,657)	0	0	0
Westdale WWTP - Ferric Dosing System Renewal	Increased project costs	Cap Exp	110,000	0	110,000	0	0
Tam Sewer - RE System Duplication	Decreased project costs	Cap Exp	(50,000)	0	(50,000)	0	0
Tam Sewer - Trickling Filter-columns and bearing	Decreased project costs	Cap Exp	(60,000)	0	(60,000)	0	0
Wastewater Usage - Non Residential	Income Increase	Op Inc R	(482,742)	(482,742)	0	0	0
T/Waste Inc - Category 3 Charges	Income Decrease	Op Inc R	159,765	159,765	0	0	0
Property - 16-32 Calala Lane, Hillvue - Inc	Income Increase	Op Inc R	(6,000)	(6,000)	0	0	0
Water Meter Replacement	Expense Increase	Op Exp R	15,740	0	15,740	0	0
Boosting Apprenticeship Program	Income Increase	Op Inc NR	(10,588)	(10,588)	0	0	0
Barraba Water - Connors Creek Dam Renewal Works	Increased project costs	Cap Exp	25,000	0	25,000	0	0
Manilla Water - Demolish old Water Treatment Plant	Expense Increase	Op Exp NR	20,000	0	20,000	0	0
Chenford Street - Water Main Design	Expense Decrease	Cap Exp	(4,248)	0	(4,248)	0	0
Robert Street - Water Main Design	Expense Decrease	Cap Exp	(5,667)	0	(5,667)	0	0
Water Chgs - Consumption	Income Increase	Op Inc R	(2,157,721)	(2,157,721)	0	0	0
Water Chgs - Bulk Standpipes	Income Decrease	Op Inc R	37,513	37,513	0	0	0
Water Charges - Bulk Standpipes	Income Decrease	Op Inc R	55,729	55,729	0	0	0
Water Meters - Free Income	Income Increase	Op Inc R	(103,612)	(103,612)	0	0	0
TRC Water - Mains Renewal - Control	Increased project costs	Cap Exp	33,989	0	33,989	0	0
Tamworth Water - Calala Storage Dam - Survey Monitoring	Decreased project costs	Cap Exp	(42,100)	0	(42,100)	0	0
Main Replacement - Wongala St	Decreased project costs	Cap Exp	(33,974)	0	(33,974)	0	0
Shand Circuit Water Main Renewal	Decreased project costs	Cap Exp	(8,740)	0	(8,740)	0	0
Interest Income	Income Increase	Op Inc R	(310,000)	(310,000)	0	0	0
Interest On Investments	Income Increase	Op Inc R	(78,000)	(78,000)	0	0	0
Sub Total			(2,851,313) ↑	(2,851,313) ↑	0	0	0
Grand Total			(7,473,261) ↑	(2,877,584) ↑	(1,201,599) ↑	(304,000) ↑	(3,090,078) ↑

↑ Budget variation will reduce Council's forecast net operating result and/or bank balance
↑ Budget variation will increase Council's forecast net operating result and/or bank balance
0 If the amount is zero there has been no impact on the forecast operating result and/or bank account balance
Care needs to be taken with regards to analysis
Council spends money to provide services and renew infrastructure for the benefit of the community. Expenditure increases need to be assessed accordingly.