Ordinary Council Meeting

Under Separate Cover Annexures

Tuesday, 19 August 2025

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Final Draft

Parkes Sports Council Annual Report

2024-2025

Parkes Shire Council

Parkes
Shire Council

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Front Cover

The newly completed long jump pit at Berryman Oval in Trundle. This project was made possible with funding through the NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Fund.

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1. Introduction

This report places on record the sports-based achievements and activities of the Parkes Sports Council and the Parkes Shire Council during the past 12 months to 30 June 2025.

As a Section 355 Committee of Parkes Shire Council, the Parkes Sports Council takes considerable pride in its responsibility for the use of facilities by the sporting public of Parkes Shire. Over 7,000 sporting group members and school children use these facilities.

The investment in sport infrastructure returns dividends to the community, through sports tourism and the injection of funds that these events return to local business.

1.1. Parkes Shire Council's Support of Sport

The Sports Council members appreciated the interest and contribution provided by life member of the Sports Council and former Councillor Mr Ken Keith (OAM), as well as Councillors Louise O'Leary and Doug Pout.

The efforts of Council's Open Spaces Supervisor, Geoff Finn and the Sports Field team of Matt Gillogly, Justin Terrill and Andrew Burke were often congratulated by sporting groups and visitors on the presentation of the sporting fields. In addition, the building maintenance services of Bart Ingram was essential. In particular, the efforts of Tim Gillogly and his management of sports projects and maintenance plans was exemplary, as was the relationships he cultivated with his stakeholders.

1.2. Investment in Sport

Luke Nash again provided professional and adept reporting on the sports activities and projects undertaken by the Council during the year.

The income and expenditure report on the sporting activities of Parkes Shire Council has been prepared and is presented and included as Appendix A. The report indicates to the sporting groups where their fees and levies of $63k was spent and shows the nett contribution Parkes Shire Council makes to sport, which was $431k – and increase of $36k on last year. Major costs continue to be salaries and wages, plant, electricity, materials, turf maintenance and repairs.

Also included is a report on the capital projects and their status as of 30 June 2025. In total, Parkes Shire Council delivered $1.39m in sports-based infrastructure during the past twelve months. It must be pointed out that these projects would not have been realised without a significant amount of grant funding. The upgrade of lighting at Cheney Park (jointly funded through a Clubs Grant and Parkes Marist Junior Rugby League Club) is the only ongoing project at the time of this report. Unfortunately, there has been a reduction in State and Federal funding sources to the extent that there are currently no new projects with approved funding. Council continues to advocate to both tiers of government for funding of priority projects.

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Parkes Shire Council also provided $35k towards the Parkes Shire / Evolution Mining Northparkes Operations sports grants program, which delivered $70k in grants to sporting groups and individuals across the shire.

2. Activities of the Sports Council

2.1. Duncan Macdonald Foundation

Parkes Shire Council performed a custodial role for the monies held on behalf of the Duncan McDonald Foundation and is honoured to administer this foundation as it continues its good works in supporting and developing Cricket in Parkes.

The Foundation Committee, including Greg Morrissey, Greg Duffy, Michael Greenwood, and Peter Yelland, in their fiduciary role allocated funds of $1,200 to Jack Dunford, Sam Yelland, Saxon Guess, Lachlan Jennings, Alfie Rosser & Ari Albert to attend the Spirit of Bradman Carnival in Bowral during April 2025.

The current balance of the Duncan McDonald Trust at the end of the fiscal year was $9,310.42.

2.2. Northparkes Parkes Shire Council Rising Star Grants

Parkes Shire Council has joined with Evolution Mining Northparkes Operations to provide $10k in funds towards a new annual program that targets talented individuals needing help to kick start their careers. The program provides $10k per year under a three-year agreement that will see $30k delivered over the three-year period.

During the past 12 months, two rounds of Rising Star Awards, totalling $10,000, was presented 12 sportspersons.

Table 1: Round 2 - 2024 Rising Star Program Recipients

Nominee	Sport	Age	Granted
Max Jones	Squash	13	833
Arlo Cassidy	Athletics	10	833
Nate Calabro	Athletics	13	833
Davey Saunders	Basketball	16	833
Khan Jackson	Rugby League and Rugby Union	14	833
Vashti Williams	Athletics and Cricket	13	833

Table 2: Round 1 - 2025 Rising Star Grant Program Recipients

Nominee	Sport	Age	Granted
George Thomas	Rugby League	16	833

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Nominee	Sport	Age	Granted
Annabelle Teague	Lawn Bowls	15	834
Emrys Cassidy	Athletics	9	834
Huxley Draper	Soccer	9	834
Emily Wild	Athletics	12	834
Jett Johnstone	Hockey	17	833

At the end of each year, one outstanding rising star is selected from the recipients of the Rising Star Awards presented during the year. That sportsperson is known as the Ron Harrison OAM Rising Star.

2.3. Northparkes Operations / Parkes Shire Sports Grants Scheme

Evolution Mining - Northparkes Operations, Parkes Shire Council and the Parkes Sports Council have developed a program to provide donations to sporting bodies under a jointly developed grants policy. This Sports Grant program aims to increase regular and on-going participation opportunities in sport, and to improve the sporting infrastructure within the Parkes Shire. The Parkes Sports Council manages the grant program.

A new improved program started from January 2024. This program boasts total funds of $180,000 over three years and was expanded to include an additional $30, 000 for the Rising Star program.

Sports Grants Selection Panel

The committee that oversees the allocation of the grants includes:

- The Chairperson of the Parkes Sports Council or their delegate (Al Gersbach)
- One (1) Parkes Sports Council member, appointed by the Sports Council (Gail Richardson)
- Two (2) Council representatives from the Sport and Recreation Advisory Committee (Cr Doug Pout and Cr Louise O'Leary)
- One (1) community representative (Michael Greenwood)
- One (1) Northparkes representative (Brooke Plunkett / Chloe Allen)

Sports Grants Provided

During the past fiscal year, there were 18 applications for sports grants in the two rounds of funding offers. The following groups were successful in receiving $72,548 in grants from the Northparkes Operations / Parkes Shire Council Sports Grants Program. These grants supported $97,280 in sports related projects and activities across the Shire.

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Parkes Sports Council
Annual Report 2024-2025

Photo 1: Rising Stars and Sporting Group Grant Recipients for Round 1 March 2025.



Table 3: Northparkes Operations / Parkes Shire Sports Grants Distributed

Title	Project Title	Granted
Parkes Golf Club Inc	Provide an additional community recreational activity through the development of a golf driving range	7,850.00
Parkes and District Amateur Soccer Association	The purchase of 2 sets of goal posts. A full-size set of Portable Goal Post which are certified Australian Made and compliant to Australian Standards and a set of 3m x 2m PVC Goal Post.	2,750.00
Parkes Jockey Club	Replace our existing horse wash bays facilities with a bigger and safer design, bringing them up to current WHS standards.	4,400.00
Parkes Services Squash Centre	Purchase a squash cannon ball machine to provide the best possible coaching tools and equipment.	5,877.00
Parkes Little Athletics Centre Inc.	Upgrade and purchase replacement equipment including high jump bar, measure, markers, tape, discus, javelins, starting blocks, delivery (2950.47). Also, laptop & phone (1568)	2,600.00
Parkes Swimming Club	Purchase of back stroke start ledgers to increase the competitiveness and skill level of local swimmers. Back stroke ledgers can be used for both training and competition purposes but are something that swimmers in Parkes don't have access to as neither the swim club nor the pool currently owns this equipment.	2,671.00

Title	Project Title	Granted
Parkes Sporting Shooters Association of Australia Parkes Branch	Purchase 4 x long-range receiver and a trap set - this will be a dramatic improvement in safety for the operation for the club's activities. the remote receiver will allow the traps to be set off from a distance and all the traps can be set off at once, rather than having to put them through separately. The trap set will allow for a much higher skill set to be practised at the club and at competitions with this style of event the same as the Olympics.	1,600.00
Parkes Touch Association	Purchase equipment for canteen, signage boards to display rules and procedures for the participants to view. Trolleys for transport equipment at rep tournaments and setting up fields at weekly comp.	1,800.00
Parkes East Public School	Purchase of training equipment for the Parkes East Pathways group for 25 gifted and talented students.	3,000.00
Holy Family Primary School - Parents and Friends Assoc.	Purchase sporting equipment, shade gazebos, and starter pistols.	2,470.00
Parkes and District Amateur Soccer Association	Purchase training equipment for Peak Hill Phoenix team.	5,173.32
Parkes and District Amateur Soccer Association	Purchase a Veo sports camera to record and live stream matches and to provide statistics for the Cobras WPL and other sides.	2,778.00
Parkes and District Kennel Club	Purchase twelve ACC55 GALICAN Tunnel Huggers to enhance the safety of agility training and competitions.	505.44
Parkes Croquet Club	Offer training and coaching sessions to Currajong Disability Services during Autum and Winter.	1,840.00
Parkes Little Athletics Centre Inc.	Purchase new high jump mats.	7,500.00
Parkes Spacemen Rugby League Football Club	Purchase of training and game day equipment.	9,353.24
Police Citizens and Youth Club	Purchase pickleball equipment into the Parkes PCYC club.	380.00

2.4. Life Members Honour Roll

The life member's honour roll is maintained by the Sports Council and is on display upstairs at the Parkes Services Club, who has generously provided a significant amount of wall space for it. The Life Members Honour Roll continues to effectively reflect the

extent of voluntary support provided by hundreds of people to sport in Parkes over the years.

Sports Life Members – New Inductees

There following persons were nominated by their respective clubs as life members during the past 12 months.

- Rod Luyt was made a Life Member of the Parkes Golf Club
- Brendan Guy and Chris Summerhayes were inducted as Life Members to the Parkes Boars Rugby Union Club.
- Wayne Osborne & Angela Bottaro were both awarded life membership of Parkes and District Amateur Soccer Association Inc.
- Wayne Pearce received life membership of Lachlan Amateur Soccer Association Inc (men's senior competition).
- Bill and Beth Thomas were made life members of the Parkes Dragon Boat Club.

Photo 2: Rod Luyt life member of Parkes Golf Club with Peter Magill



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Photo 3: Parkes Boars' new life members - Brendan Guy and Chris Summerhayes (Parkes Boars)



Photo 4: PDASA life members Angela Bottaro-Porter and Wayne Osborne (Champion Post)



Photo 5: Life members of the Parkes Dragon Boat Club - Bill and Beth Thomas (Daily Liberal)



2.5. The Ron Harrison OAM Rising Star

The Ron Harrison OAM Rising Star (formally the Ron Harrison Sports Bursary) was established to:

1. Perpetuate the memory of the late Ron Harrison OAM who passed away in 1985 for his contribution to the community of Parkes and district, particularly in the development of sport.

2. Provide recognition to sportspersons of the Parkes Shire, particularly those at junior level, who demonstrate outstanding potential in the chosen sport.

Ron Harrison OAM Rising Star Nominees: Aaryab Gautam (Soccer), Arlo Cassidy (Athletics), Davey Saunders (Basketball), Henry Kross (Squash), Khan Jackson (Rugby League), Mason Wild (Motorbike Racing), Max Jones (Squash), Nate Calabro (Athletics), Ryker Moore (Athletics), Toby Morgan (Athletics), Vashti Williams (Athletics).



The Ron Harrison OAM Rising Star for 2024 was Henry Kross. Henry has achieved most things locally, and at a State and National level. He is the only regional player to be selected for the Australian team. This requires so much discipline and dedication for a boy who has just turned 14. He makes sacrifices to achieve what he does, by having to travel so much. Henry is also the only regional player in the Squash Australia identified athlete program.

Henry also volunteers many hours to our local juniors through coaching them and mentoring them. Now that squash is being included as an Olympic sport, Henry has huge dreams to one day represent Australia at the Olympics.

Photo 6: Mayor Neil Westcott with the 2024 Ron Harrison OAM Rising Star - Henry Kross (Parkes Phoenix)

2.6. Parkes Shire Sports Awards

Nominations

Sportsperson of the Year: Jack Westcott (Hockey), Danielle McDonald (Motorcycle Racing), Sarah Hartin (Running)

Junior Sportsperson of the Year: Archie Daley (Hockey) Asha Munodawafa (Tennis), Charlie Rix (All around), Elizabeth Macgregor (Rugby League), Ewan Moody (Rugby), Harry Yelland (Hockey), Henry Kross (Squash), Jett Johnstone (Hockey), John Thomas (Rugby League), Maddison Spence (Cricket), Maley MacGregor (Rugby), Mason Wild (Motorcycle Racing Dirt) Patrick PJ McPherson (Hockey), Riley Horsbrough (Clay Target Shooting), Ryker Moore (Athletics), Sam Westcott (Hockey), Toby Collins (Hockey), Vashti Williams (Athletics), Zanda Johnstone (Hockey)

Team of the Year: Parkes Marist U16s (Rugby League), Parkes Boars Ladies (Rugby), Parkes Spacemen (Rugby League), Parkes U16 Boys Hockey (Hockey)

Senior Sportsperson or Team: Casey Miles (Hockey), Dean Powter (Hockey), Denise Gersbach (Hockey), Ian Westcott (Hockey), Lee Hodge (Hockey), Mandy Westcott (Hockey), Maureen Massey (Hockey)

Referee, Umpire or Official of the Year: Chris Reynolds (Touch)

Coach, Trainer or Manager of the Year: Angela Bottaro-Porter (Soccer), Jason O'Bryan (Junior Rugby League), Lee Hodge (Hockey)

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Administrator of the Year: Rachel Rice (Touch), Wayne Osbourne (Soccer), Andrew Thomas (Junior Rugby League)

Long Service and Dedication: Barbara Weaver (Swimming). Helen Magill (Tennis)

Sports Award Winners

At the January Australia Day ceremony, the following awards were presented as part of the annual Parkes Shire Sports Awards, which is administered by the Sports Council and supported by the Parkes Shire Council and the Australia Day Committee.

Table 4: Sports Awards Winners for 2024

Award	Awarded To	Sport
Ron Harrison OAM Rising Star	Henry Kross	Squash
Sportsperson of Year	Sarah Hartin	Running
Junior Sportsperson of Year	Ryker Moore	Athletics
Team of the Year	Parkes U16 Boys	Hockey
Senior Sports Person or Team	Lee Hodge	Hockey
Administrator	Wayne Osborne	Soccer
Coach, Manager or Trainer	Angela Bottaro-Porter	Soccer
Referee/Umpire/Official	Chris Reyolds	Touch
Long Service & Dedication	Barbara Weaver	Swimming

Photo 7: Sportsperson of the Year, Sarah Hartin (Running) with her daughter Rhylee (Champion Post).



Photo 8: Junior Sportsperson of the Year, Ryker Moore for Athletics (Champion Post).



Photo 9: Team of the Year, Parkes U16 Boys Hockey with Manager Andrew Daley and Coach Ian Westcott (Champion Post)



Photo 10: Coach of the Year, Angela Bottaro-Porter with Administrator of the Year, Wayne Osborne from Parkes Soccer.





Photo 11: Referee of the Year, Chris Reynolds with Long Service and Dedication awardee Barbara Weaver





3. Associated Sporting Groups

There are over 7,000 sporting group members and school children participating in all sports in Parkes.

3.1. Parkes Sporting Associations

- Parkes AFL Club
- Parkes Croquet Club
- Parkes Dragon Boat Club
- Parkes Netball Association Inc
- Parkes Hockey Inc
- Parkes & District Cricket Association
- Parkes & District Junior Cricket Association
- Parkes & District Kennel Club
- Parkes Rugby League Football Club
- Parkes Rugby Union Club
- Parkes Marist Junior Rugby League Club
- Parkes & District Amateur Soccer Association
- Parkes Services Squash Club
- Parkes Touch Association
- Parkes Little Athletics
- Parkes Tennis Club
- Parkes Harness Racing Club
- Parkes PA & H Association
- Parkes Pony Club
- Parkes Golf Club
- Parkes Bowling & Sports Club

3.2. Schools

- Parkes High School
- Parkes Primary School
- East Parkes Primary School
- Middleton Primary School
- Holy Family Primary School
- Parkes Christian School
- Peak Hill Central School

3.3. Other Groups

Liaison continued with sports organisations and schools in Peak Hill, Trundle and Tullamore and increased oval marking was conducted in all three centres, primarily for school sporting activities, athletics, and football.

3.4. Associated Sports Councils

The associated sports council at Peak Hill is currently in recess, while Trundle has become a sub-committee of the Trundle Progress Association and Tullamore is a sub-committee of Tullamore Inc. The Parkes sports fields team are attending the small towns for line marking and preparing fields, with the assistance of the local maintenance crews and the Parks and Gardens crews.

4. Sporting Fields

The following sporting fields were either monitored, maintained, and/or marked by the Sports Fields team during the year:

- Armstrong Park
- Armstrong Park Basketball Court
- Berryman Oval, Trundle
- Cheney Park
- Cheney Park Stephen Davies Hockey Field
- Christian School
- McGlynn Park Greg Morrissey Field
- McGlynn Park Netball Courts
- McGlynn Park Mariah Williams Field
- Middleton School
- Northparkes Oval
- Northparkes Oval Roger Good Athletics Field

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- East Parkes School
- Geddes Reserve (Parkes High School)
- Harrison Park
- Harrison Park Parker-Stone Field
- Holy Family School
- Joe Judd Pony Club Grounds
- Keast Park
- Kennel Club Grounds
- Lindner Oval, Peak Hill
- McGlynn Park
- Park Run Running Track
- Pola Park, Tullamore
- Parkes Show Ground
- Parkes Show Ground Kennel Club
- Spicer Oval
- Woodward Oval
- Woodward Park Tennis Courts^
- Woodward Park Croquet
- Woodward Park Macdonald Cricket Nets

^ Parkes Tennis Club fully maintain the Tennis facilities and courts. Discussions have been held with the club with a view to assist with the maintenance tasks, however no agreement has been reached.

5. Sports Council Executive

5.1. Executive Committee

Council Representatives	Cr Doug Pout, Cr Louise O'Leary	
Chairperson	Al Gersbach	(11th term, 16th year)
Vice Chairperson	Andrew Daley	(5th term)
Secretary`	Anthony McGrath	(15th term)
Financial Advisor	Luke Nash	(11th term)
Grounds Disputes Committee	Gail Richardson, Greg Morrissey, Wayne Osbourne & Andrew Daley	
Plant Usage Advisor	Michael O'Shannessy	
Grants Selection Committee Rep	Gail Richardson	
Community Representative – Grants	Michael Greenwood (PSM)	

5.2. Patrons

Messrs Noel Johnstone, Gordon Pritchard, Ken Keith OAM, Bob Aitken AM, Michael Greenwood PSM, Greg Duffy OAM, Richard Hamilton, Greg Morrissey OAM and John Davies.

Sadly, Mr Bob Aitken sadly passed away last year.

5.3. Life members

Elected August 2001 - Greg Duffy, Michael Greenwood PSM, Ken Keith OAM, and Noel Johnstone.

Elected August 2004 - Richard Hamilton.

Deceased life members - Ron Harrison OAM, Eric Nash, and Wes Cheney.

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6. Sport and Recreation - Major Projects Delivered

6.1. Cheney Park Rehabilitation and Drainage - Final Stage

After waiting on the construction of the new Stephen Davies Field; difficulty securing a contractor and a funding shortfall, work has finally been completed on the drainage at the Southern end of Cheney Park.

The project also includes a water trunk main replacement, irrigation system upgrade and new turf.

Photo 12: Cheney Park with new field marked out on the rehabilitated area.



6.2. Lake Endeavour – Places to Swim Project

Parkes Shire Council announced the completion of the Lake Endeavour Activation Project in November 2024, marking a significant milestone in transforming the lake into the Parkes Shire's first developed natural water location for recreational use. This $1 million project, funded by the NSW Government's Places to Swim program, brings new opportunities for locals and visitors to enjoy the natural beauty of Lake Endeavour.
The Lake Endeavour Activation Project includes:

- A 90-metre floating pontoon
- A sandy foreshore
- CCTV cameras for enhanced safety
- Dual toilets, seating and shelters
- A designated swimming area
- Telecommunications infrastructure
- A concrete path and car park

- Exclusion bollards and gates for safety

Places to Swim was an NSW Government program which seeks to better connect people to water. The program targets places most in need, so that more people can get in, on and around the water.

Photo 13: Lake Endeavour showing swimming area and pontoon.



Photo 14: Lake Endeavour toilets with picnic shelter in background



6.3. Kelly Reserve Ninja Park (Active Play)

Stage 2 of the Kelly Reserve precinct upgrade opened to the public on 30 August 2024. The new active play space includes a Ninja course, inclusive carousel and toddler equipment. This project was funded by the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, the NSW Government's Places to Play grant program as part of the Open Spaces Program, Evolution Mining Northparkes Operations and Parkes Shire Council.

Photo 15: Kelly Reserve Ninja Park under construction.



Photo 16: Kelly Reserve Ninja Park fully completed with stop clock.



6.4. Berryman Oval Long Jump Pit Upgrade

Work was completed on the long jump pit upgrade at Berryman Oval in Trundle. It includes a new concrete pit and runway with a layer of wet pour rubber for a top-quality finish. The project was funded by the NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Fund and will support local school carnivals and the annual cluster carnival, which brings students from four additional schools to compete at Berryman Oval.

Photo 17: Berryman Oval's long jump pit (Marg Applebee)



Photo 18: Project Manager, Bronte O'Shannessy evaluates the new long jump pit at Berryman Oval, Trundle.



6.5. Harrison Park Turf Rehabilitation

A consultant was engaged to take soil tests and provide recommendations for soil improvements at Harrison Park. Testing revealed that ground pearl (type of scale insect) was evident in bare soil locations. The soil was removed from the affected areas with new soil imported and turf laid. The total area under rehabilitation was approximately 500m2.

Photo 19: Areas of Harrison Park showing new turf.



6.6. Harrison Park Storage Shed

A new storage facility was installed at Harrison Park. The shed was funded to the tune of $41,625 by Parkes Shire Council's Open Space assets capital program and project managed by Tim Gillogly with assistance from Wayne Osborne of Parkes and District Amateur Soccer Association.

The new shed provides secure storage of equipment and assets for Harrison Park's user groups and Council teams. It features three lockup bays, with a fourth open bay for shelter.

Additional storage sheds are under consideration for Cheney Park and Spicer Oval.

Photo 20: The new storage shed at Harrison Park



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6.7. Turf Wicket Renovations at Woodward and Spicer Ovals

Turf Cricket Wicket renovations at Woodward oval & Spicer Oval works included:

- Scarfing Fertilizing
- Top Dressing & Laser levelling

Photo 21: Laser leveling the turf wicket at Woodward Oval



Photo 22: Top dressing the Spicer Oval turf wicket



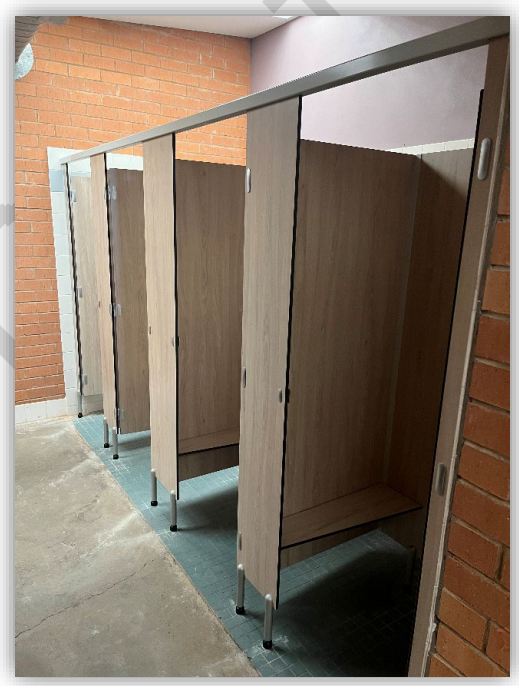
6.8. Northparkes Oval Amenities – Changeroom Shower Cubicles

The open showers inside the Northparkes Oval Changerooms were upgraded to four individual shower cubicles in each changeroom. The upgrade was requested by the Parkes Panthers AFL club and identified as an issue by those using the amenities during the Parkes Elvis Festival.

The eight new cubicles, which include a change area and separate shower area inside each, provide privacy not only for mixed female and male sporting teams using the facilities but also for others using the amenities such as campers during the Parkes Elvis Festival.

Photo 23: New shower cubicles inside the Northparkes Oval changerooms





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6.9. Parkes Racecourse – Sand Track Reconstruction

The upgrades were completed by the Nicolson Projects and included reshaping the sub-grade, upgrading drainage and evenly spreading 2100 tonnes of fine sand. The project was made possible by Crown Land Reserves Funding and co-contribution from Parkes Jockey Club. Parkes Jockey Club was grateful for the assistance provided by Parkes Shire Council staff and Julie from Prout Assist for their assistance with the tender process.

Photo 24: Tiffany Prout putting Obsessive Nature through his paces on the new sand track at the Parkes Racecourse (Parkes Jockey Club)



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7. Sport and Recreation - Major Projects in Delivery

7.1. Cheney Park LED Lighting Upgrade

The Cheney Park LED Lighting Upgrade project is to install energy-efficient LED lighting to enhance usability of Cheney Oval, and support local sporting activities during evening hours, and improve community safety and sustainability.

Project Benefits:

- Extended use of facilities for training and events
- Improved visibility and safety
- Energy savings and environmental benefits
- Enhanced community amenity

The Parkes Marist Junior Rugby League Football Club secured an NSW Clubs Grant and are contributing $75,000 towards the $285,580 project cost. Parkes Shire Council assisted the club with the grant application and will procure the lights and project manage the installation.

Photo 25: Phil Donato Member for Orange and Jason O'Bryan, PMJRL President at Cheney Park announcing the $210,580 grant for LED Lighting



7.2. Northparkes Oval Light Pole Replacement

In April, our Sports Field team noticed that the southwest light pole at Northparkes oval had a significant lean. On further inspection it was noticed that several bolts securing the pole to the foundation had come loose. Teams from Little's Power, Essential Energy and Knights Cranes attended the site and after further inspection it was determined that the pole was unsafe and needed to come down.

The power to the lights was disconnected, however a temporary electrical solution was installed ensure the remaining poles continued working for nighttime training.

A replacement pole will be installed once the insurance implications are fully understood.

Photo 26: The southwest light pole at Northparkes Oval being removed for safety.



7.3. Open Space Strategy – Destination Playing Fields Masterplans

The draft Parkes Shire Open Spaces Strategy aims to ensure that public open spaces are safe, functional, attractive, accessible and manageable in the local context. The specific objectives of the Parkes Shire Open Spaces Strategy are to:

- Review the existing quantity and quality of public open spaces in the Parkes Shire.
- Review existing use of open space areas to determine their current relevance and value.
- Identify priority improvement areas so those areas can be project managed and implemented.
- Establish a program to remove redundant public open spaces from the network, where appropriate.

A series of Masterplans have been developed for the main destination parks and playing fields in the Parkes Shire, aimed at guiding future improvements at these popular facilities. It is intended to place this draft Parkes Shire Open Spaces Strategy on public exhibition in 2025, along with the draft Masterplans for the main destination parks and playing fields.

Figure 1: Draft Pioneer Oval Master Plan Image



The Strategy includes updated draft masterplans for

- Spicer, Pioneer & Northparkes Ovals
- Cheney and McGlynn Park
- Harrison Park including Parker-Stone Field
- Lindner Oval
- Berryman Oval

Final Draft

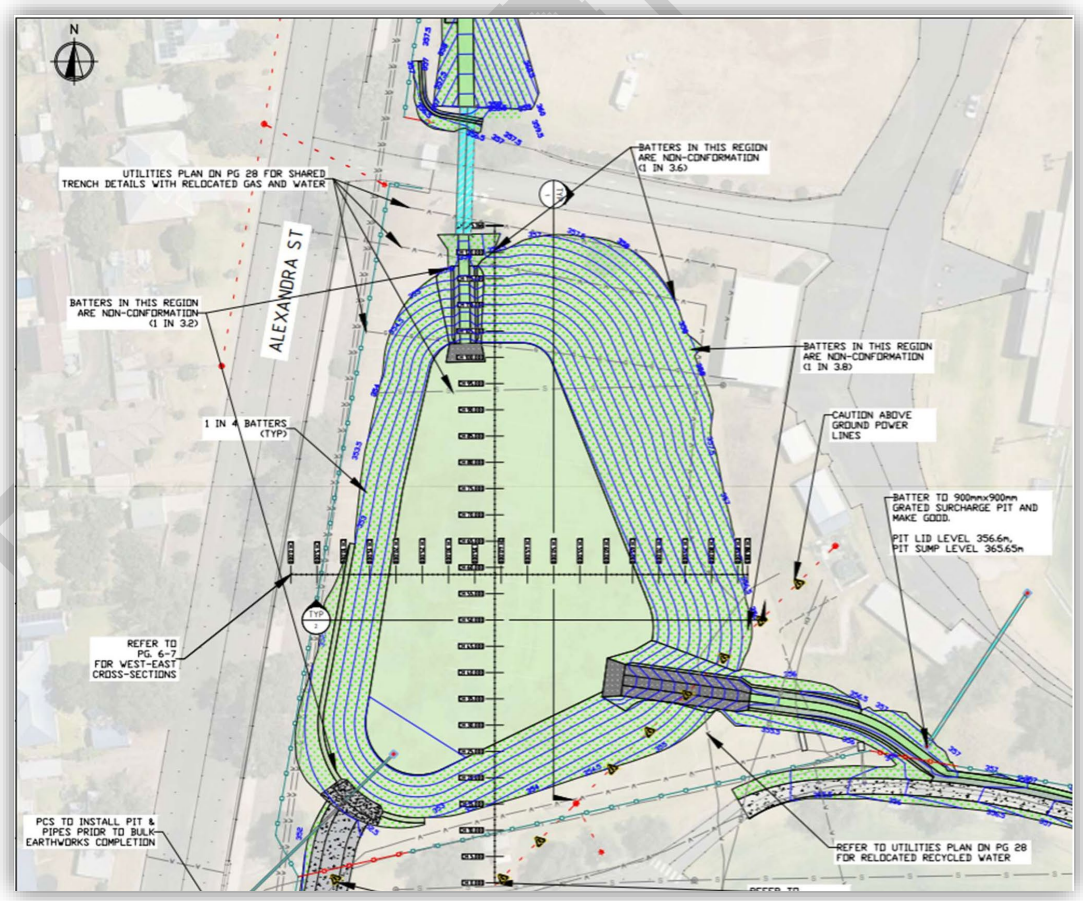
7.4. Croaker Oval Detention Basin

Mitigation efforts to reduce flooding on Main Street in the Parkes CBD will include the construction of a new detention structure, known as "Croaker Basin." Surface works will be carried out to channel overland flow from the surrounding catchment into this detention structure. These surface works will extend to the entry points of North Parkes Oval and Pioneer Oval, as well as the reshaping of the access road at Spicer Oval, ensuring that overland flow is effectively redirected into the Croaker Basin.

Additionally, roadworks on Victoria Street will divert stormwater away from the CBD and towards Bogan Street. This will facilitate further surface works at the intersections of Victoria and Currajong Streets, as well as Victoria and Clarinda Streets.

Work has commenced with service relocation inside the Croaker oval area and several old trees have been removed from Spicer and Pioneer Ovals. New turf will be laid, and irrigation will be installed. The area can continue to be used as a warmup area when complete however it will not be suitable for overflow parking for large games or for caravan sites as it was used for the Elvis festival.

Figure 2: Croaker Basin design plan



8. Future Sports Infrastructure Projects

Parkes Shire Council has an Open Space Assets capital program, which used to upgrade or add facilities for sporting fields. During the last fiscal year, the following projects were completed from the list:

1. Harrison Park Storage Sheds
2. Berryman Oval Long Jump Pit Upgrade
3. Community Gym in Trundle (War Memorial Hall and Berryman Oval)

This Financial Year, the program will be used to install additional storage to compliment the ongoing program of adding storage sheds at the Shire's sporting facilities.



Photo 27: Phil Donato, Member for Orange tries out the Community Gym in the Memorial Hall, Trundle

The following projects are currently listed in Council's operational plan as a future works. These projects are currently unfunded, so it is important that Council identifies these projects in case grant opportunities present themselves.

Table 5: List of Possible Future Sporting Projects (Currently Unfunded)

Principal Activity	Township / Location	Proposed Future Works - Unfunded Project	Priority
Sports Fields	Parkes	Cheney Park Upgrades - Storage Facility	L
Sports Fields	Parkes	Northparkes Oval Upgrades - Lighting of field events area	M
Sports Fields	Parkes	Northparkes Oval Upgrades – Additional training shot put facility	M
Sports Fields	Parkes	Northparkes Oval Upgrades – AFL ball net southern end of field.	M
Sports Fields	Parkes	Northparkes Oval Upgrades - Grandstand Seating	H
Sports Fields	Parkes	Northparkes Oval Upgrades - Rejuvenation of Turf Wicket	H
Sports Fields	Parkes	Indoor Sports Complex	L
Sports Fields	Parkes	Pioneer Oval - new grandstand facility, with changerooms, canteen, club room, and amenities.	H

Principal Activity	Township / Location	Proposed Future Works - Unfunded Project	Priority
Sports Fields	Parkes	Spicer Oval - Stage 2 inc. Second field, relocate turf wicket, lighting changes, field leveling	L
Sports Fields	Parkes	Spicer Oval - Storage Shed	H
Sports Fields	Parkes	Woodward Oval - Additional Cricket Nets	L
Sports Fields	Parkes	Woodward Oval - Fencing installation	M
Sports Fields	Parkes	Woodward Oval - Electronic scoreboard	H
Sports Fields	Parkes	Woodward Oval - Fixed sightscreens	L
Sports Fields	Parkes	Woodward Oval - Public Access Tennis Hardcourt	H
Sports Fields	Parkes	Woodward Oval – Public Amenities Upgrade	L
Sports Fields	Peak Hill	Lindner Oval - Fencing	L
Sports Fields	Peak Hill	Lindner Oval – Changerooms and amenities	H
Sports Fields	Peak Hill	Lindner Oval - development and upgrade of precinct for sporting competitions inc. Soccer Fields, Little Athletics Areas and Netball Courts (P5)	L
Sports Fields	Peak Hill	Lindner Oval - Shared Path around sports oval	H
Sports Fields	Peak Hill	Lindner Oval - Dog Park with agility equipment	L
Sports Fields	Shire	Sporting Field Entrances - Signage and Presentation	M
Sports Fields	Trundle	Berryman Oval - Amenities/Changerooms	L
Sports Fields	Trundle	Berryman Oval - Tennis Court Upgrade	M
Sports Fields	Tullamore	P1 - Pola Park Lighting Upgrade - emergency helicopter landing area	H

Draft

9. Appendix A: Sports Related Operations – Parkes Shire Council

Following is a financial report of activities relation to sport for the year and a summary of the capital expenditure program, which was tabled at the Annual General Meeting.

9.1. Income and Expenditure for Operational Activities

Parkes Shire Council Sporting Grounds & Facilities Income Statement For Year Ended 30 June 2025	Actual 2025 $'000	Actual 2024 $'000	Actual 2023 $'000
Income			
User Charges & Fees	63	62	55
Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	42	35	30
Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	648	1,954	2,464
Total Income from continuing operations	**753**	**2,051**	**2,549**
Expenses			
Employee benefits & on-costs	193	190	192
Materials & Consumables	68	45	16
External Services	64	43	33
Water, Electricity & Statutory	30	34	29
IT & Communications	2	1	-
Administration & Contributions (Inc. Sporting Grants)	73	65	61
Internal Charges (Plant & Equipment)	107	115	64
Total Expenses from continuing operations	**537**	**493**	**395**
Operating result from continuing operations	**216**	**1,559**	**2,154**
Net operating result for the year	**216**	**1,559**	**2,154**
Net operating result for the year before grants & contributions provided for capital purposes	**(431)**	**(396)**	**(310)**

9.2. Sporting Grounds and Facilities - Capital Works

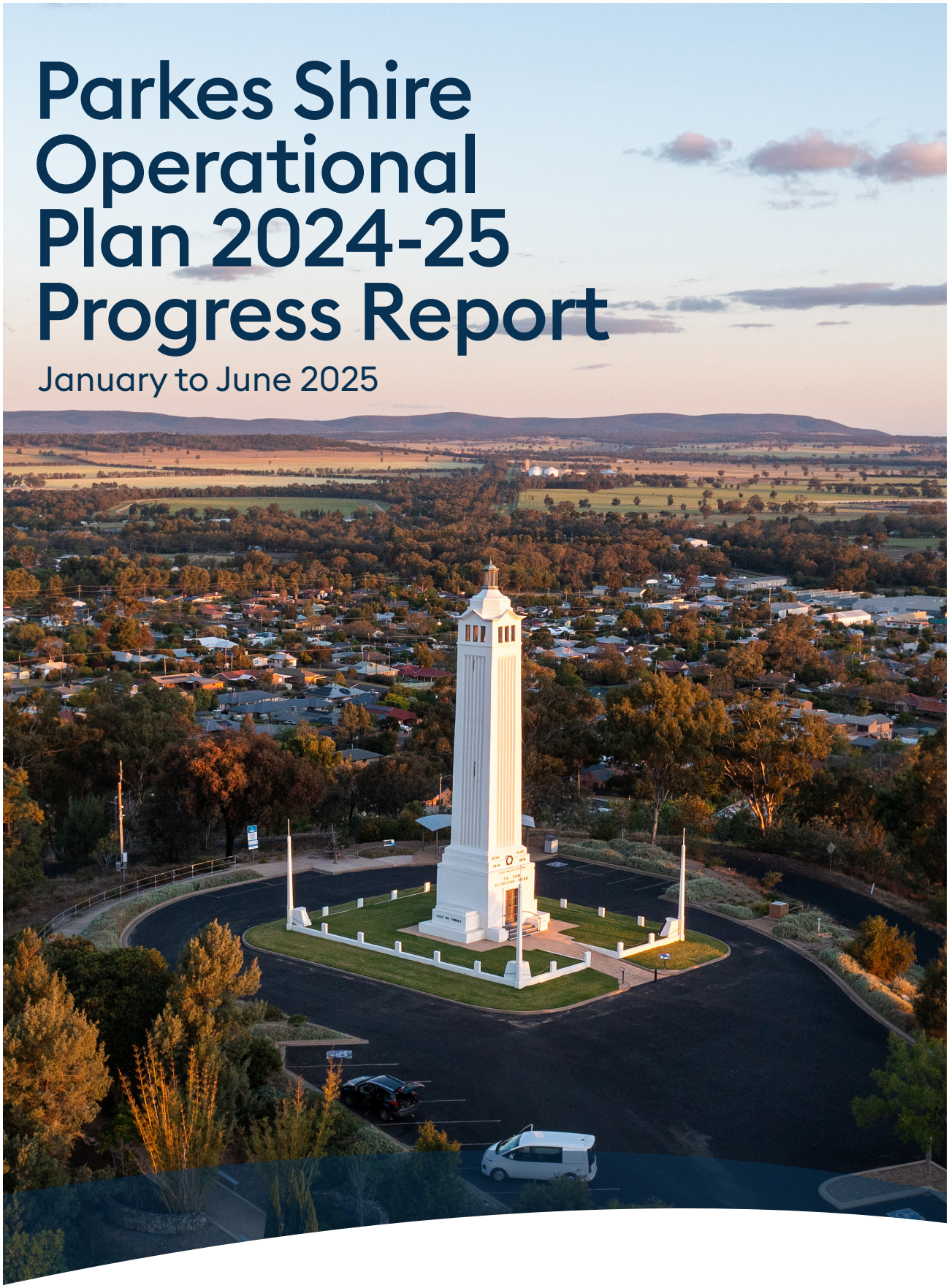
Parkes Shire Council Sporting Grounds & Facilities						
Capex Summary Year Ending 30 June 2025						
Project	Funding Partners	Budget	Actuals	Commitments	A + C	Status
Upgrades to Berryman Park, Trundle	State Govt (Stronger Country Communities Fund)	210,000	210,096	-	210,096	Completed
Cheney Park - Final Stage Rehabiliation	State Govt (Stronger Country Communities Fund) & Parkes Shire Council	1,111,448	1,108,987	-	1,108,987	Completed
Northparkes Changerooms Shower Partitions	Parkes Shire Council	18,100	18,101	-	18,101	Completed
Mariah Williams Hockey Field Lights	Parkes Shire Council	12,000	6,299	-	6,299	Completed
Cheney Park - Lighting Upgrades	State Govt (ClubsGrant NSW) & Parkes Marist Junior Rugby League Club	285,000	1,289	4,950	6,239	In Progress
Harrison Park - Storage Shed	Parkes Shire Council	45,000	42,364	-	42,364	Completed
		1,681,548	**1,387,137**	**4,950**	**1,392,087**	

Final D

Final Draft

Parkes Shire Operational Plan 2024-25 Progress Report

January to June 2025



parkes.nsw.gov.au

Parkes Shire Council

Operational Plan and Budget

2024-25



Acknowledgement of Country

Parkes Shire is part of the Wiradjuri nation - the largest Aboriginal territory at the time of European settlement. Parkes Shire Council acknowledges the Wiradjuri people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land and pays respect to the Elders both past and present of the Wiradjuri nation.

The Wiradjuri are the largest group in central New South Wales (NSW) by area and population, with lands stretching from Coonabarabran in the North to the Great Dividing Range and out to Western NSW, encompassing one fifth of NSW and were known as the people of the three rivers: the Wambuul (now known as the Macquarie River), the Galari (the Lachlan River), and the Marrambidya (the Murrumbidgee River).

The Wiradjuri people lived in harmony with the Country, they believed they didn't own the land, but they were responsible for looking after it. The Gugaa (Goanna) is the overarching totem for the Wiradjuri Nation. It is the symbol that connects all people, past and present, of Wiradjuri land.

We recognize and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing connection with the land and rivers and recognise the resilience, strength, and pride of the Wiradjuri community.

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01 Introduction



- Our integrated planning and reporting framework
- How we plan and report on our progress
- Guiding principles
- Quadruple bottom line

Our integrated planning and reporting framework

Integrated planning and reporting

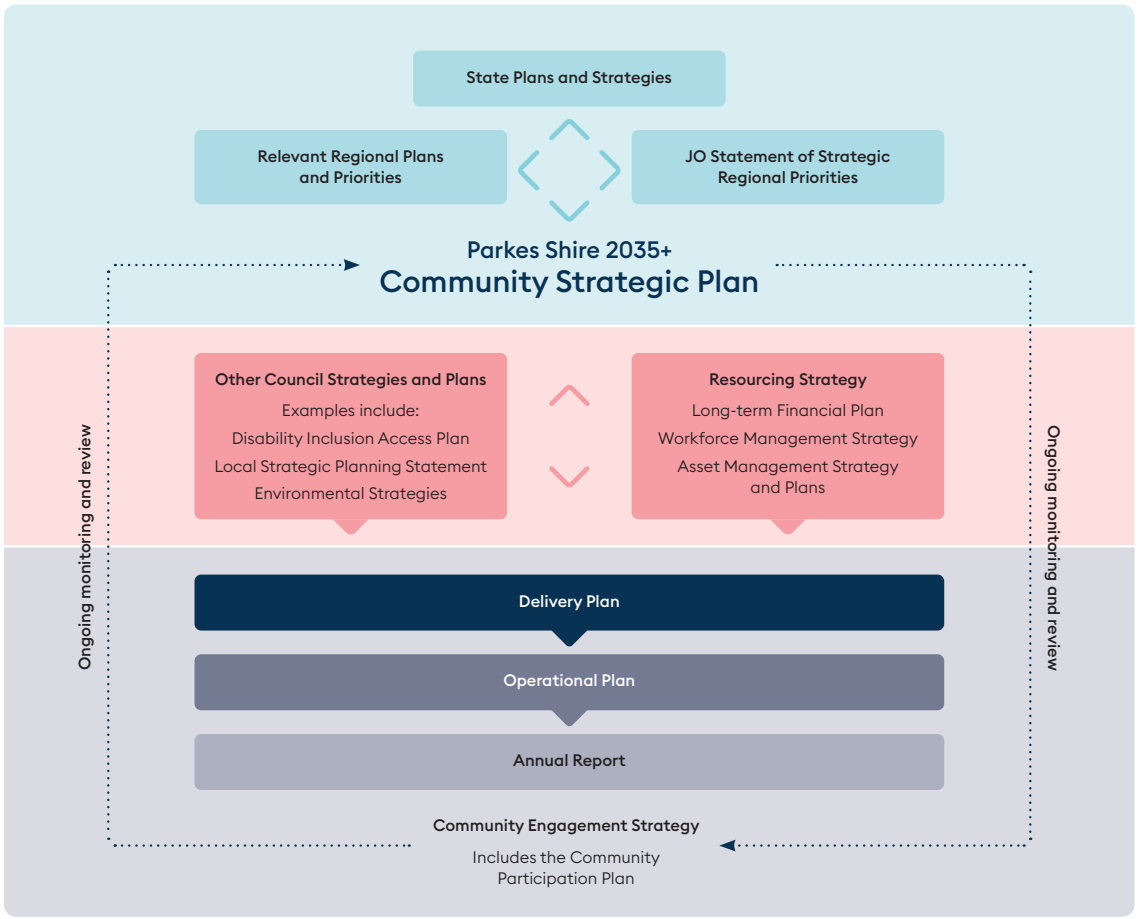
The 2024-25 Operational Plan and Budget forms part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting ("IP&R") framework.

In 2009, a new IP&R framework was introduced across Local Government in New South Wales ("NSW"). Parkes Shire Council was one of the first Council's to embrace this large and wide-ranging reform in becoming what was termed a "Group One" Council. Participation within this grouping saw Parkes Shire Council fully adopt its IP&R documentation in the 2009–10 Council year.

Parkes Shire has continued to develop its approach whilst regularly reporting on its progress, culminating in the latest End of Term Report being tabled at the final meeting of the previous Council in November 2024.

Council has now prepared its new suite of IP&R documents. These documents are structured to demonstrate what the newly elected Council (elected in December 2021) will deliver in order to assist the community to achieve the aspirations set out in the Parkes Shire 2035+ Community Strategic Plan ("CSP").

The following diagram illustrates how the IP&R framework ensures that local strategic planning and reporting is informed, relevant and responsive to community needs.



How we plan and report on our progress

Operational plan and budget

Supporting the delivery program are annual operational plans. These outline the details of the delivery program - the individual projects and actions that will be undertaken in that year to achieve the commitments made in the delivery program. The operational plan includes council's budget for that financial year.

Reporting our progress

Reporting is a key element of the ip&r framework. We use a variety of tools to report our progress in achieving this community strategic plan and implementing the delivery program, as well as our financial performance against the annual and long-term budgets.

Annual report:

Within five months of the end of each financial year, council prepares an annual report, which includes a copy of our audited financial reports. The annual report details our progress in implementing the delivery program and the activities we have undertaken to deliver on the objectives of the community strategic plan.

State of the shire report:

Tabled at the last meeting of the outgoing council, the end of term report provides an update on our progress in implementing the community strategic plan over the council term, as well as the results and outcomes the implementation of the community strategic plan has had for our community.

Delivery program progress reports:

Every six months, council prepares a report detailing our progress in achieving the principal activities detailed in the delivery program.

Budget review statement:

Council prepares a budget review statement three times each year which shows, by reference to the estimate of income and expenditure set out in the statement of council's revenue policy in the operational plan for the relevant year; a revised estimate of the income and expenditure for that year.

Guiding principles

Social justice

Preparation of Parkes Shire 2035+ Delivery Program has been guided by the following social justice principles:

- **Equity:** there should be fairness in decision making, prioritising and allocation of resources, particularly for those in need
- **Access:** all people should have fair access to service, resources and opportunities to improve their quality of life
- **Participation:** everyone should be given genuine opportunities to participate in decisions which affect their lives
- **Rights:** equal rights should be established and promoted, with opportunities provided for all people from all backgrounds

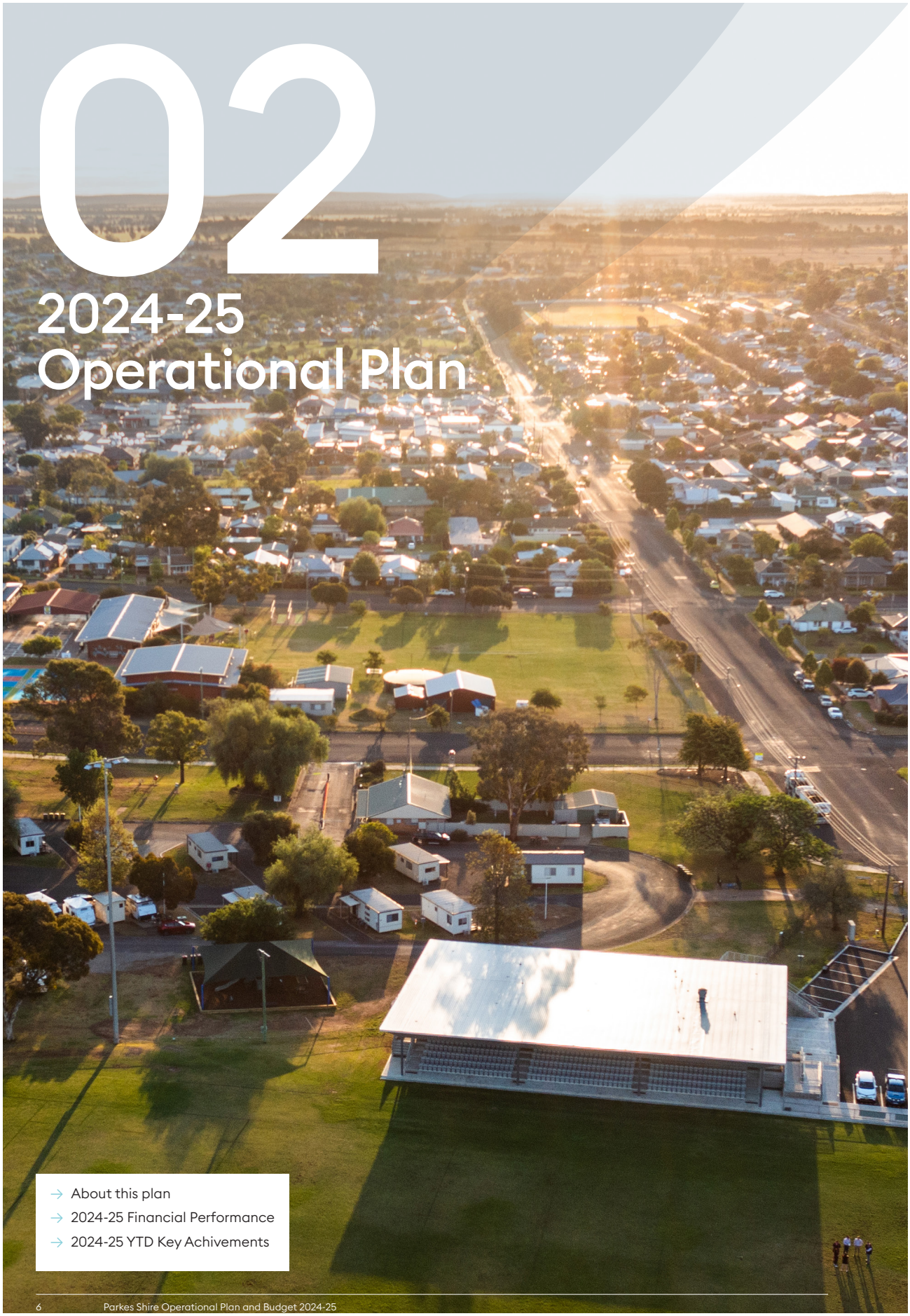
Quadruple Bottom Line

The Quadruple Bottom Line (QBL) addresses social, environmental, economic, and civic leadership (governance) considerations. The QBL ensues a holistic balanced approach is applied to all aspects of the 2024-25 Operational Plan and Budget.



02

2024-25 Operational Plan



→ About this plan
→ 2024-25 Financial Performance
→ 2024-25 YTD Key Achivements

About this Plan

The 2024-25 Operational Plan and Budget forms part of the Parkes Shire 2035+ Delivery Program. These plans outline the details of the Delivery Program – specifically the individual projects, actions and budget that will be undertaken in this year to achieve the commitments made in the Parkes 2035+ Delivery Program. Council reports on these measures on a three-monthly basis.

The projects, actions, and budget of year one of the Parkes 2035+ Delivery Program are split into eleven core functions of Council, with Principal Activities grouped within each. These functions include:

The Budget details how Council intends to fund these activities and includes provisions relating to the content of Council's Annual Statement of Revenue Policy.

This includes details of:

- Estimated income and expenditure.
- Ordinary rates and special rates.
- Proposed fees and charges.
- Council's proposed pricing methodology.
- Proposed borrowings.

The Operational Budget is reviewed and reported to Council within two months, after the end of each quarter (excluding the June quarter).

Core functions of Council

Commercial enterprise	• Central West Childcare Services • Caravan Parks • Rental and Leasing • Land Development and Sales
Council and corporate	• Information Communication and Technology • Governance and Strategy • Civic • People, Safety and Culture • Finance • Fleet • Council Land and Buildings • Council Environmental Management • Customer Service • Community Services and Wellbeing • Communication and Engagement
Economy and activation	• Economic Development • Grants • Events and Festivals • Tourism and Destination Marketing
Emergency services	• Emergency Services Support
Library, arts and culture	• Library Services • Arts and Culture • Social Justice
Open space and recreation	• Parks and Gardens • Sports Fields • Open Space Facilities, Amenities and Public Toilets • Cemeteries • Swimming Pools • Wetlands Restoration
Planning, certification and compliance	• Local Strategic Land Use Planning • Development Assessment • Building Certification • Environmental Health and Ranger Services • Noxious Weed Management
Sewerage	• Sewerage System
Transport and drainage	• Sealed Roads • Unsealed Roads • Regional Roads • Other Transport and Overheads • Urban Stormwater • Regional Airport • Road Maintenance Council Contract • Road Safety
Water supply	• Water Supply • Water Security Project • Recycled Water Extension Project
Waste management	• Domestic Waste Management • Commercial Waste • Waste Education and Sustainability

2024-25 Financial Performance

		Operational Performance		Capital Performance	
Function	**Principal Activity**	**Income**	**Expenditure**	**Income**	**Expenditure**
Commercial Enterprise	Central West Childcare Services	1,322,132	1,185,099	-	-
	Caravan Park	253,234	114,474	-	-
	Rental and Leasing	-	-	-	-
	Land Development and Sales	1,367,258	82,253	129,135	156,556
Council	ICT	604	340,997	-	121,565
	Governance and Strategy	-	874,656	-	-
	Civic	266,711	667,702	-	-
	People, Safety and Culture	115,482	603,169	-	-
	Finance	4,391,520	1,219,478	-	-
	Fleet	570,502	391,922	-	1,624,186
	Council Land and Buildings	156,721	513,814	-	167,077
	Council Environment Management	-	-	20,057	29,799
	Customer Service	-	277,059	-	-
	Community Services and Wellbeing	-	-	-	-
Economy	Economic Development and Grants	100,466	268,696	7,948	1,678
	Communication and Engagement	-	148,304	-	-
	Elvis Festival, Special Events and Event Support	679,938	1,425,716	-	-
	Visitor Economy	64,543	202,230	-	13,330
Emergency Services	Emergency Services Support	57,227	466,538	672,368	259,607
Library	Library Services	69,857	345,417	-	41,855
	Arts and Culture	11,701	118,478	-	1,500
	Social Justice	-	-	-	-

		Operational Performance		Capital Performance	
Function	**Principal Activity**	**Income**	**Expenditure**	**Income**	**Expenditure**
Open-Spaces	Parks and Gardens	-	1,288,382	-	22,359
	Sports Fields	15,461	235,496	488,652	149,342
	Open Space Facilities, Amenities, Cemetries and Public Toilets	84,984	251,224	925,837	135,956
	Swimming Pools	23,994	624,039	-	25,019
	Wetlands Restoration	-	-	-	-
Planning	Local Strategic Land Use Planning	-	-	-	-
	Development Assessment	271,911	137,028	-	-
	Building Certification	154,670	222,917	-	-
	Environmental Health and Ranger Services	50,661	593,853	-	-
	Noxious Weeds Management	69,500	141,880	-	-
Sewer	Sewerage System	3,258,401	1,664,314	87,562	1,049,277
Water	Water Supply	7,518,309	3,964,942	3,316,520	1,983,564
Waste	Waste Management	600,427	1,901,926	-	203,566
Tranport	Sealed Roads	4,052,139	249,202	6,153,721	7,075,000
	Unsealed Roads	-	1,280,712	-	83,752
	Other Transport	13,059	127,999	64,213	140,583
	Urban Stormwater	79,514	421,655	133,288	106,936
	Regional Airport	179,201	162,184	-	55,885
	Road Maintenance and Council Contract / Regional Roads	2,925,351	138,821	1,488,582	2,940,568
	Road Safety	230,027	84,554	-	-
	Depreciation	-	10,249,450	-	-
		28,907,515	**32,986,579**	**13,487,881**	**16,075,848**

January to June 2025 Key Achievements

Actions completed
272

Actions progressing
39

Actions not progressing
6

Actions not due to start
10

No update provided
0

Commercial enterprise

- Managed educator to student ratio numbers within the Central West Childcare
- Maintained Preschool numbers with 30 children per day
- Coordinated play group sessions which were facilitated within the Preschool setting, along with out-of-town locations including park
- Developed marketing opportunities for recruitment, including a new recruitment video, with success in recruiting a total of five (5) new Educators
- Optimised the Service Strategic Inclusion Plan with updates, funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employed,
- Implemented programs for early intervention including Sprouts, Aruma, Happee Ears and Steps
- Maintained meeting the National Quality Standards
- Optimized visitors to the Caravan Park with a total of 10,863 guests

Council & corporate

- Developed updates to the ICT Strategic Plan
- Managed and implemented the mobile devices and laptop replacement program
- Implemented actions which were staggered from the Cyber Security Audit which identified twenty-five (25) actions, and they were broadly grouped into two (2) categories
- Implemented regular Cyber Security Health Checks across Council owned assets, commenced and completed
- Facilitated the effective operations and meetings of the Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee
- Developed and implemented an effective Internal Audit Program
- Developed and implemented an Enterprise Risk Management Framework
- Contracts Register continued to be updated and monitored
- Maintain International Standard 45001 OH&S Management System accreditation
- Commenced, developed and delivered the full suite of Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework documents successfully on-time and presented on-line and hard copies. Community drop-in sessions held to introduce IP&R
- Coordinated citizenship ceremonies, which were held within six months of applications received
- Implemented the LGNSW Capability Framework across position descriptions
- Reviewed, monitored and refined Council's Business Continuity Plan ("BCP"), conducted BCP exercises
- Delivered the annual financial statements in line with statutory deadlines
- Achieved an unrestricted ratio greater than the Office of Local Government ("OLG") benchmark and achieved the 'debt service cover ratio' with the benchmark set by OLG is greater than two times Achieved Cash expense cover ratio benchmark set by OLG
- Submitted on time the Quarterly Budget Review Statements
- Implemented the 2024-25 plant replacement program and plant uptime across fleet meeting operational needs within budgetary constraints.
- Introducing the fleets new GPS system installation into Council-owned vehicles
- Delivered reporting improvements by the fleet team
- Park bookings received over 70 during the year
- Delivered biodiversity using the Council's Crown Land Environmental Masterplan
- Delivered environmental initiatives for example national tree day and homegrown markets days Council partnered with Landcare
- Delivered customer services CRM which contributed to the overall functioning of services embedding best practice
- The Customer Service Charter was accessible to the community on the Council website and hard copies were displayed at the Parkes Shire Library, the Planning Department and the Henry Parkes Centre

Economy & engagement

- Coordinated grant applications, with the targets exceeded during the year for successful applications in each township
- Coordinated forty-two (42) grant applications for Council submitted with a success rate of Council grants applied for eighteen (18) successful applications, and eleven (11) unsuccessful
- Coordinated ninety-nine (99) Community Grants submitted with a success rate of 89 successful applications 31 unsuccessful
- Maintained information centre accreditation, visitor information available in each township

Emergency services

- Maintained Local Emergency Operations Centre in a state of readiness
- Reviewed DISPLAN (Local Disaster Plan)
- Maintained facilities as per agreement with State Emergency Services
- Maintained Service Level Agreement with Rural Fire Service
- Maintained Rural Fire Service “Red Fleet”
- Delivered Cookamidgera RFS Shed project

Library, arts & culture

- Managed over 40,000 in-person visitors into the Shire libraries, which included Parkes, Peak Hill, Trundle and Tullamore. Parkes Shire Library loaned out 18,559 items to members second half. We welcomed a total of 152 new members. 369 meeting room bookings
- Delivered successful activities and workshops in Makerspace. Library held 50 activities: preschool visits, rhyme times, story times, and Paint the Town REaD performances. Parkes Shire Library delivered 34 early literacy sessions for children under school age, including 18 Storytime sessions and 16 Rhymetime sessions for 609 children and carers. Hosted a document screening, this truth telling event 50 people attended with a standing ovation. The documentary of Her Name is Nanny Nellie coincided with NAIDOC week.
- Implemented the annual Arts Advisory Plan. Two art exhibitions in the Coventry Room, which included annual Waste-2-Art regional showcase.
- Delivered two (2) CASP funded art workshops for Parkes Multicultural Art Group, and thirteen (13) creative workshops in the Marramarra Makerspace.
- Delivered eight (8) creative workshops in Marramarra Makerspac
- Supported Homegrown Parkes event.
- Delivered the Music Development Grant awarded to Parkes Shire Band.
- Implemented assistance support for use of Council facilities: Parkes Pottery Group, Parkes Painters Group and Parkes Shire Concert Band
- Supported community arts and cultural groups and hosted local, non-local and travelling exhibitions
- Supported working party and school holiday programs: Parkes Aboriginal Community, Bushmans Hill master plan
- Supported celebrations for NAIDOC Week celebrations

Open space & recreation

- Optimized engagement regarding current and upcoming play space developments
- Optimized communication channels engaged with community and community committees, sporting groups, and school groups
- Delivered support to Council’s major events and visitor economy teams with pre-event and post-event logistical efforts with management of Council assets
- Delivered final stages rehabilitation works at Cheney Park, construction commenced and completed: subsoil drainage, new irrigation, earthworks, turf
- Managed inspection schedules, met standards on facilities, amenities and public toilet inspected
- Delivered Memorial Park, Berryman Park at Trundle, Burrawang Park at Bogan Gate and Kelly Reserve at Parkes upgrades to infrastructure
- Led the swimming pool contractor for daily water tests, monthly water samples, results were compliant for Department of Health Pool Operations standards
- Advocated community participation in learn to swim classes
- Swimming pool instructors held AUSTSWIM accreditations

July to December 2024 Key Achievements (continued)

Planning, certification & compliance

- Managed strategic planning decisions and development matters assessed, consistent with objectives, provisions to LSPS 2020
- Delivered timely, accurate and professional advice, for comprehensive and responsible development by the assessment team
- Delivered Development Assessments, consistent with State Environmental Planning Policies, Parkes Local Environmental Plan 2012, and Parkes Development Control Plan 2021
- Coordinated Heritage Funding allocations
- Managed compliant and non-compliant swimming pool barrier inspection certificates
- Managed companion animal registrations, sixty (60) completed, under the Companion Animals Act
- Managed noxious weed inspections on private property monthly
- Managed monitored and inspected Council owned and managed public land including roadsides
- Managed environmental and biosecurity issues: private landholders, community including at Shire shows

Sewerage

- Managed the recycled water management system, zero samples not complying
- Managed Critical Control Point (CPP) with zero exceedances recorded
- Sewer chokes cleared 42km per 100km
- 76 T of biosolids were diverted from landfill

Transport & drainage

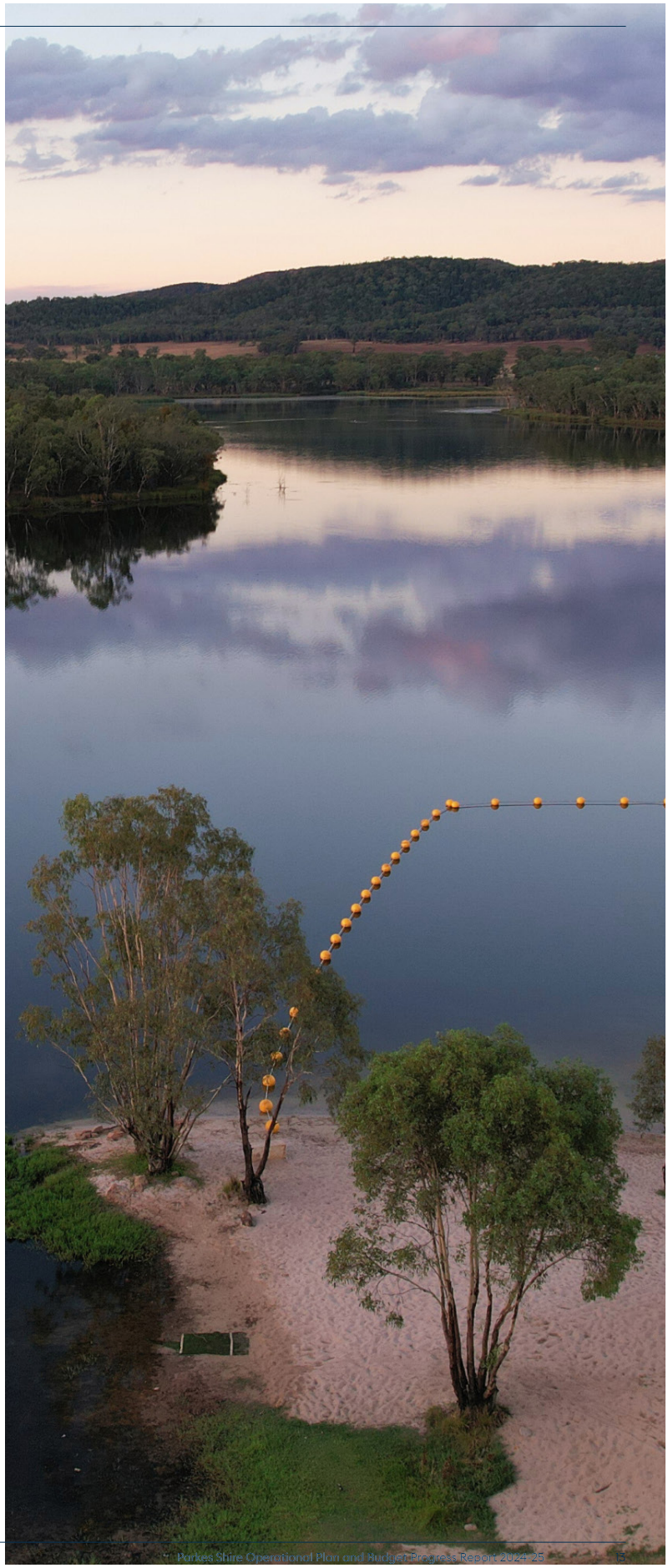
- Managed the completion of extensive condition assessment across the sealed road network, revaluation, as part of the sealed road upgrades
- Managed table drains cleaned to ensured drainage, supported maintenance to network
- Delivered required output of maintenance of unsealed road network
- Delivered resheeting: ongoing commitment, infrastructure development, maintenance approximately 10 kilometres
- Delivered grant funded upgrades and renewal projects before funding deadlines
- Delivered effective upgrades and renewals: regional roads capital works program, approximately 4km MR354 McGrane Way, 0.5km MR350, Bogan Road, north of Bogan Gate. MR348 Tullamore Peak Hill Road and the Bogan Way
- Delivered road rehabilitation works across regional road networks: 2km MR348 Tullamore Peak Hill Road, MR354 McGrane Way and MR57
- Managed Gravel Pits ensuring responsibly utilised
- Delivered the use of Council's Roadside Vegetation Management Plan (RVMP)
- Delivered new shared footpath in Tullamore: To ensure safe and inclusive pathways, all abilities, enhanced mobility, encouraged active transport like walking, cycling to support healthier sustainable lifestyles
- Delivered 100% Compliance Civil Aviation Safety Authority surveillance
- Delivered Parkes, Forbes and Lachlan Shire Councils' road safety plans: 'NOT A STATISTIC!, 'Helping Learner Drivers Become Safer Drivers' workshops, I'm Counting on You', 'Plan B', 'Heavy Vehicle Safety',

Waste management

- Managed 3-bin service contract as part of Parkes waste strategy
- Delivered annual audits: general recycling and green bins
- Delivered investigated opportunities between Sircel with RGDC: e-Waste recycling, shared agreement
- Coordinated reporting to RIDonline: illegally dumped waste
- Managed Parkes CRC: good uptake by community
- Coordinated recycling, regular metal and drums removed from waste facilities
- Coordinated crushing concrete at Parkes: re-used on-site
- Delivered recycling bin banks to Bogan Gate, Trundle and Tullamore, and a bin swap at Alectown.
- Delivered Chemical CleanOut collected 786kgs of hazardous waste: Peak Hill Transfer Station. Tyres and mattresses collected from sites included village tips
- Coordinated e-waste from Parkes Landfill collected by Sircel on a circular arrangement and Parkes Landfill cardboard exchange.
- Coordinated metal, green waste, used motor oil, and concrete recycled
- Delivered operations, maintenance of waste facilities across Parkes Shire
- Delivered Bogan Gate earthworks/ push-in/cover works and services: soil testing
- Delivered Bogan Gate service improvements: new roadway, designate drop off for users and recyclers, trench 60% completed
- Delivered Alectown tip cell and regular push-in's
- Coordinated Sircel on behalf of Parkes High School supported increase waste diversion from landfill
- Coordinated educational opportunities: Environcom stalls in CBD, homegrown markets worm farms, composting, talks and crop-swap - exchanging perishable goods
- Delivered Parkes Shire Garage Sale Trail, during November 2024

Water supply

- Water was effectively sourced - annual extractions: Bore one 3,909,140kL, bore two 502,950kL, bore three 3,543,790kL, bore four 2,398,950kL, bore five 4,239,350kL with a further 7,411,700kL drawn from Lachlan River
- Zero Critical Control Point breaches
- Annual cost to treat water rose $0.78 per ML. This increase rose due to higher pumping costs overall chemical and treatment costs remained stable
- Managed thirty-three (33) repairs to water mains, nine (9) resulting in unplanned supply interruptions
- Low-level fluoride levels were investigated and returned to guideline levels
- Coordinated 394 customer requests



03 Commercial enterprise



30 places per day through Central West Childcare Services



1 Council operated caravan park



72 commercial leases and licences in place



Facilitation of land development and sales

Overview

Council undertakes these activities as it recognises, they provide important outcomes for the community that may not occur if Council wasn't involved, and the community need was simply filled by private sector providers.

Council aims to undertake these activities on a commercial basis therefore, over-time these activities become self-funding and do not require general rates to subsidise the activities. As these activities become self-funding, enough revenue is generated for 'day-to-day' and long-term costs to be covered by the activities themselves

Central West Childcare Services

CE1: We will provide quality care for families within the Shire through the provision of varied early childhood settings

CE1.1: Council is committed to advocating, facilitating, and providing quality care for the community through provision of Family Day Care (in-home) services

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CE1.1.1	Approved provider of Central West Family Day Care	Family Day Care Coordinator	100%	Completed	Completed		Maintained	Maintained
					Annual comment	The approved provider of Central West Family Day Care was maintained by Parkes Shire Council		
CE1.1.2	Actively maintain Service staff ratio, to manage Family Day Care Educators and child waitlists	Family Day Care Coordinator	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year, we continued to source avenues for advertising to promote educator recruitments, which received some interest with potential educators who were proceeding through our induction process		40:160 ratio	Maintained
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year there was the continuation to source and retain educators. This is an ongoing challenge across the industry nationally. We continued to source avenues for advertising promoting for educator recruitments		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CE1.1.3	Number of play groups per year	Family Day Care Coordinator	100%	Completed	Playgroups continued to be facilitated, when the weather permitted, all average playgroups were completed	Twenty-four	24 per year	Achieved
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year, on average a minimum of four (4) play group sessions were facilitated within the Preschool setting per month. Along with out-of-town play group sessions and park locations		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CE1.1.4	Actively engage with the community and current educators to reduce the number of children on the Family Day Care waitlist	Family Day Care Coordinator	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year, we attended NAIDOC activities, incursions from local community members and a visit from Cudal Community Preschool. Both the preschool and numerous family day care educators in other towns attended the Library Simultaneous Storytime. The story was the Truck Cat and they presented a large cardboard truck and told the story	Four (4) engagement opportunities in 2024–25		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	We participated in many local events throughout the 2024/25-year including retirement home visits, library visits, fun days, attended kindi-gym, police and fire-fighter visits, Parkes Dish visits, local schools for grandparent days and their end of year graduations and presentations. NAIDOC festivities were held across Forbes, Narromine and Condobolin. All events provided a platform to engage with the community and to educate them on family day care, and childcare options available to families across the community			
CE1.1.5	Increase the number of Family Day Care educators throughout the Villages and small towns within the Parkes Shire	Family Day Care Coordinator	100%	Completed	The second half had success of four educators, Forbes will see three of these educators, who went through the induction process	Two (2) educators recruited for Villages and small towns		Achieved
					Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year period planning and commencement of advertising arrangements and marketing, including a new recruitment video with some success. During the first half of the year Eugowra saw the recruitment of one new educator. The second half had success of four educators, Forbes will see three of these educators, who went through the induction process, with the expectation that they will commence during the first quarter of next year			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CE1.1.6	Service Review recommendations and outcomes reviewed and developed	Family Day Care Coordinator	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year the key recommendations from the service review were actioned, with the majority either implemented or in the process of being integrated	Target: by 30 June 2025		Achieved
					Annual comment: The first half of the 2024/25-year had the childcare service review completed with the recommendations received. The second half commenced the engaging with stakeholders to work towards the review and development of actioning recommendations; this will continue into next year			

CE1.2: Council is committed to advocating, facilitating, and providing quality care for the community through provision of Bangala-la Preschool services

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CE1.2.1	Maintain a service that provides continuity of	Family Day Care Coordinator	100%	Completed	Strategic planning continued with a focus of expansion of the preschool services. Consultation with industry leaders supported the direction of the service	Maintained		Maintained

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	regulatory approval				Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year the Preschool NSW/Government requirements were completed, including the service policy and procedures updated, reflecting industry/regulatory changes, with a compliance "spot check" occurring early December, with a positive outcome. During second half of the year both services continued to maintain meeting the National Quality Standards (NQS). The service continued to advocate for early childhood within the community, with discussions about strategic planning moving forward		
CE1.2.2	Number of preschoolers within the setting	Family Day Care Coordinator	100%	Completed	The 2026 placements were being finalised during quarter four and will be available in the coming months. All placements were at capacity		Thirty (30) per day	Achieved
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year the placement numbers remained at waitlist levels. The preschool maintained 30 children per day. Inclusion support children were provided with support staff and Allied Health Service support staff all year round		
CE1.2.3	Number of transport services facilitated	Family Day Care Coordinator	100%	Completed	Bus transportation continued to support families/children to attend the service		400 transport services facilitated per term	Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	through Central West Childcare Services				Annual comment	Throughout the year the bus transportation was available to support the families and children to attend the preschool service. The bus on average supported twelve (12) families per week using the service		
CE1.2.4	Actively maintain Educator to Student Ratio to manage Bangala-la Preschool waitlist	Family Day Care Coordinator	100%	Completed	Completed		Maintain 2:30 ratio	Maintained
					Annual comment	Full-time staff members were employed to accommodate the three (3) full-time employees (FTE) to 30 children per day, was achieved throughout the 2024/25-year. The service actively advertised for a preschool teacher, with the 2025 preschool placements completed		

Caravan Parks

CE2: We will implement appropriate processes to ensure the caravan park is maintained and developed in accordance with the growing needs of tourists entering the Shire

CE2.1: Encourage the Shire's visitor economy through the continued provision of Park operations

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CE2.1.1	Number of visitors per annum	Manager Facilities	100%	Completed	During the third quarter the Shire monthly visitor numbers were a total of 2,051 which included 751 in January, 547 in February and 753 in March. During the fourth quarter the Shire monthly visitor numbers were a total of 2,965 which included 917 in April, 1,043 in May and 965 in June		Maintain	Maintained
					Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year the visitor numbers saw slight increase and decreases in numbers. During the winter months there was an increase in number of visitors, whilst the Spring season saw a slight decrease in number of visitors. The summer season had a 2,051 in number of visitors with the Autumn/year ending on 2,925		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CE2.1.2	Monitor feedback received by Spicer Caravan Park Management	Manager Facilities	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year, monthly reports were received, providing visitor feedback and ratings for their experience at the park. The location, service and feedback provided positive results. During quarter four feedback was provided regarding the landscape within the park, regarding the unlevel surface	Target: Monthly report provided		Provided
					Annual comment	The 2024/25-year received positive visitor feedback and rating scores. The ratings related to the location, the service and the feedback overall. Monthly reports were received all year and the feedback reviewed		

CE2.2: Continue encouraging the utilization of Spicer Caravan Park through regular maintenance activities

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CE2.2.1	Action a response to	Manager Facilities	100%	Completed	Actioned	100% of requests responded to within 10-days		Actioned

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	customer requests within 10-days				Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year the customer requests received were actioned promptly			

Rental and Leasing

CE3: We will develop and utilize suitable frameworks to ensure Council operated rentals are aligned with market expectations

CE3.1: Operations

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CE3.1.1	Occupancy rates of commercial buildings/properties provided rental at market rates with subsidies supported	Manager Facilities	100%	Completed	During the third quarter, eleven agreements were distributed with 100% occupancy for Council Commercial Properties	90% or increasing		100%
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year commercial buildings/properties were distributed with agreements, with 100% occupancy		
CE3.1.2	Issue formal lease or license agreements for community groups without a formal agreement in place	Manager Facilities	100%	Completed	Agreements were in place	Formal agreements in place		Achieved
					Annual comment	Agreements were in place throughout the 2024/25-year		

Land Development and Sales

CE4: We will zone, develop, and promote suitable land to ensure the community has access to appropriate spaces

CE4.1: Development and sale of land to provide opportunities for local business to generate income and revenue and increase economic prosperity

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CE4.1.1	Blocks developed conceptually to encourage industry and economic growth	Director Operations	100%	Completed	Completed		Blocks meet community demand		Ongoing
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-yerar Council proactively commenced and developed blocks of land. Commencing the tender process, engaging consultant, and the development of ready plans for 32-lot subdivision in Hazelbank Avenue. There was progression on the 29-lot subdivision at Rose Street with design layouts for stage one and two incorporating the development application process. Plans for commencement June 2025 for completion December 2025			

04 Council and Corporate


206 Council buildings


257 full-time equivalent ("FTE") staff


1,290 devices managed


$57.3M turnover


368 customer requests received monthly


164 fleet and depot assets managed


9 internal audits conducted in five years

Overview

The corporate function supports Council's delivery of efficient and effective services to the community. Regular monitoring and adjustments must be made to ensure Council can adapt to the changing needs of the organisation and community.

The council function covers the operation of Council itself as an organisation. The governing body of elected Councillors utilise community engagement and staff advice to set the strategic direction. Resources are then allocated to achieve objectives and Councillors are ultimately accountable to the community for the outcomes Council's organisation delivers.

CC: Council and Corporate

Information Communication and Technology

CC1: We will utilize appropriate ICT systems to support efficient and effective operations in accord with the ICT Strategic Plan

CC1.1: Implement and optimize ICT processes

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC1.1.1	Implementing the actions from the review of the ICT Strategic Plan	Business Support Analyst	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year the Strategic Plan was reviewed, returned and updated, followed by another review which was endorsed by the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) during the last quarter	Plan reviewed by 30 June 2025		Reviewed
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year the Strategic Plan was updated, reviewed and endorsed. The final stages for this plan will be the review by the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) into the next quarters			

CC1.2: Maximise mobility of access to corporate systems

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC1.2.1			100%	Completed	Completed	Program delivered		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Provide staff and contractors with access to the resources they need to work from anywhere through the mobile devices and laptop replacement program	Business Support Analyst			Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year the mobile devise and laptop replacement program commenced and was completed. Mobile devices became available during the second half of the year and were deployed in line with another project, that require contact with all Council devices			
CC1.2.2	Migrate Financials and Supply Chain Management products from Ci to CiAnywhere	Business Support Analyst	100%	Completed	Completed		Migration of products		Achieved
					Annual comment	The first half of the year saw the commencement and completion of the migration. The migration started in November, in the user acceptance phase, with no critical issues detected with the non-production environment. The migration was completed 11th November and live the following day			
CC1.2.3	Commence migration of Property and Rating and	Business Support Analyst	0%	Not due to start	November 2025 will be the expected start date, after consultation with Technology One		Migration commenced		Rollover to 2025/26

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Regulatory products from Ci to CiAnywhere				Annual comment	This action will roll over to the next financial year for delivery		

CI.3: Ensure an effective cyber security framework with robust risk controls is in place

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC1.3.1	Complete the Cyber Security audit actions	Business Support Analyst	100%	Completed	All remaining actions require budget input and subsequently will be rolled over to the next financial year. Two of the outstanding actions from last quarter require third party software with an associated subscription cost. During the phased out roll out of 3 of the outstanding actions of last quarter it was determined that the effectiveness of the controls are non-compliant without a change to the organisations Microsoft licensing	By 30 June 2025		Actions to roll over to 2025/26

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	During the first half of the 2024/25-year the Cyber Security Audit identified twenty-five (25) actions, broadly grouped into two (2) categories. One being policy improvements and the second being security improvements. During the second and third quarters actions were implemented and remaining actions throughout the remainder of the year took a staggered approach. Some achieved with Councils IT team and others required a third-party application, and financial support for subscriptions. These are requirements set by the Australian Cyber Security Centre			
C1.3.2	Achieve Maturity Level One in line with the Australian Cyber Security Centre's Essential Eight Maturity Model	Business Support Analyst	100%	Completed	All remaining three (3) remaining controls required budget input to comply fully with the Essential Eight standards. Currently partially compliant with the ICT systems available. Two (2) remaining controls required third party software. One was confirmed that a change in Microsoft Licensing which significantly increases the subscription cost will be required		Achieving Maturity Level One		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	During the first half of the 2024/25-year half of the controls were implemented, and the other half were included in the project with Councils IT Managed Service Provider, who provided the testing phase. Six Essential Eight controls were completed. Two of the remaining controls were confirmed as requiring third-party software to comply with the Essential Eight standards. The third quarter identified a potential change in Microsoft licenses will require additional funds			
CC1.3.3	Implement regular Cyber Security Awareness Training for all staff	Business Support Analyst	100%	Completed	During the third quarter, a platform for cyber security awareness training was configured and prepared for rollout across the next financial year. The online training sessions are approximately 5-minutes and occur monthly	100% by 30 June 2025		Achieved, roll over in 25/26

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	The year started as uses on Cyber Security NSW content manually uploaded into Ci Anywhere. Replacement commenced aligns with the renewal of spam filtering software Mimecast renewal. The Mimecast licensing was depreciated, and the equivalent tier, to continue receiving, the same amount of email protection, will also include cyber security awareness training. Training was configured and made ready for staff to use from the start of June 2025. The topics rotating across areas relevant to Parkes Shire Council. Training can be completed on any device with email access with a simple, user-friendly interface, suitable for both indoor workers and field staff		
CC1.3.4	Implement regular Cyber Security Health Checks	Business Support Analyst	100%	Completed	During testing it was determined maintenance schedules would not fit the requirements. An alternative using power automate was explored	100% by 30 June 2025		Investigated

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	across Council owned assets				Annual comment	During the first half of the 2024/25-year we actioned the cleanup of the IT Asset Register, which was commenced and completed. The preparation with the register should have allowed for maintenance schedules to be implemented to deliver Cyber Security Health Checks. During quarter two altering was configured for the device fleet using newly implemented software. Maintenance schedules were planned to be implemented after the asset register cleanup was completed. During testing it was identified that maintenance schedules would not fit the requirements, therefore an alternative using power automate was being explored			

Governance and Strategy

CC2: We will use appropriate governance and strategic frameworks to manage risk, provide assurance that legislative and other requirements can be met and provide clear strategic direction for Council's activities

CC2.1: Continually develop and implement Council's Governance Framework

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC2.1.1	Facilitate the effective operation of Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee	Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance	100%	Completed	During quarter 4 of the 2024/25 year, we effectively facilitated the operation of Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) with meeting support. There was one ARIC meeting held during the quarter in May 2025	Four (4) meetings held by 30 June 2025		Five (5) Meetings
					Annual comment	A total of five meetings of Council's Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee were held in the 2024/2025 year. Facilitation of the effective operation of the Committee included assisting with the review and reappointment of the membership of one committee member and confirmation and organisation of Committee meetings and reports throughout the year		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC2.1.2	Develop and implement an effective Internal Audit Program to provide assurance on critical systems, controls and processes	Procurement, Contracts and Insurance Coordinator	100%	Completed	In quarter four of the 2024/2025-year Lambourne Partners completed the Sundry Income and Cash Handling Audit in May which has been reported to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee and tasked to persons responsible. Lamborne Partners also commenced an Environmental Management Internal Audit which is due for completion in July. The Internal Auditor and the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee have also begun to discuss and finalise the audit plan for the 2025/2026 year	One (1) completed by 31 March 2024		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	The Internal Audit Program was developed at the beginning of the 2024/2025 year with four (4) internal audits completed throughout the year. These audits included the finalisation of the Contractors, Volunteer Management and Working with Children Audit, the Staff Attraction and Retention Audit, the Plant and Fleet Management Audit and the Sundry Income and Cash Handling Audit. All completed audits have been reported to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee and tasked to staff responsible and reports provided to management to provide improved visibility of audit tasks outstanding			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC2.1.3	Develop and implement an Enterprise Risk Management Framework to mitigate risks and maximize opportunities	Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance	60%	Progressing	During the previous quarter, Council successfully developed and endorsed the Risk Appetite Statement, establishing a clear foundation for risk-based decision-making. In Quarter 4, work has commenced on consolidating current risk assessments and compiling risk registers across Council teams. This process will provide a comprehensive view of organisational risks and opportunities. Additionally, Governance, Risk and Compliance (GRC) software solutions are being evaluated to ensure the selected platform aligns with Council's operational needs and supports effective risk management practices	Reviewed by 31 March 2025		Progressing

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	During the 2024/2025 year several initiatives were made to drive Council's development and implementation of its Enterprise Risk Management Framework, including consulting with Paladin Risk Management Services to draft risk related documents and to conduct risk training and the hiring of a Risk and Emergency Management Coordinator. This year saw the drafting of several key documents and the successful development and endorsement of Council's Risk Appetite Statement, establishing a clear foundation for risk-based decision-making moving forward. Work also commenced on consolidating current risk assessments and compiling risk registers across Council teams and the evaluation of possible Governance, Risk and Compliance (GRC) software solutions			
CC2.1.4	Maintain and review Council's Delegations Register	Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance	50%	Progressing	In Quarter four of the 2024/2025 year the Delegations register received edits from several key staff with some amendments still required before endorsement by Council		Reviewed by 31 December 2023		Progressing

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	The Delegation's register has undergone several updates throughout the 2024/2025 year, including a review of all current staff roles and responsibilities and shared with the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee. The Second half of the year focused on reviewing the delegations to ascertain if they were still suitable or required amendments. This is still ongoing with the finalised Delegations aiming to be reported by the September 2025 council meeting at the latest			

CC2.2: Continually develop, implement and improve Council's Business Excellence Program

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC2.2.1	Undertake service review of Council's core function services	Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance	100%	Completed	Completed	Matrix and framework for Council's core function services, to identify priority areas across the Organisation	Delivery by 30 June 2025	Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	The 2024/25-year saw the exit from the Childcare services reviewed from the previous financial year and commencement of the SSMP an internal holistic overall view of all core functions. This was built during the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework during the election year delivery program. It intention is to support the service review program for the new financial year		
CC2.2.3	Support Council staff with project management responsibilities to undertake Diploma in Project Management	Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance	100%	Completed	No staff were identified to require enrolment in the Diploma of Project Management during quarter 4 of the 2024-2025 year. The appraisal process for the 2024/2025 year commenced at the end of quarter 4 which includes identifying training and professional development requirements for each role	Complete by 30 June 2025		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	No staff were identified to require enrolment in the Diploma of Project Management throughout the 2024-2025 year. The appraisal process for the 2024/2025 year will include identifying training and professional development requirements for each role including Diploma in Project Management		
CC2.2.4	Incorporate sub-delegations pertaining to contract management into broader review of Delegations Register	Procurement, Contract and Insurance Coordinator	50%	Progressing	During the 2023/2024-year, in quarter four, it was noted when reviewing the Operational Plan, this action was a duplicate of CC2.5.3. This action was incorporated into the ongoing review of the Delegations Register due for completion in September 2025	Incorporated by 31 October 2025		Expected completion September 2025
					Annual comment	The review of the delegation's register was an ongoing project throughout the 2024/2025 year. The final register is expected for delivery in September 2025. Contract Management also was under-review, and updates will be incorporated into the overall delegation's review		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
C2.2.5	Review currently held Bank Guarantees to determine currency	Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance	20%	Progressing	During the fourth quarter of the 2024/2025 year began discussions with various stakeholders throughout the organisation to ensure a review of bank guarantees would have minimal impact on how they required to use bank guarantees. Will work with records to develop a plan for management and access of the physical and digital records of bank guarantees and add bank guarantee requirements to the Procurement Policy during the next review	Review currently held Bank Guarantees to determine currency		Progressing

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	During the 2024/2025 year the current process and storage of bank guarantees was determined, and various stakeholders were consulted. Work will continue into the 2025/2026 year including working with the records team to develop a plan for management and access of the physical and digital records of bank guarantees and adding bank guarantee requirements to the Procurement Policy during the next review		
CC2.2.6	Maintain and review Council's Government Information (Public Access) ("GIPA") Register	Information and Records Coordinator	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year the GIPA register was updated and maintained	GIPA Register updated by 31 December 2024		GIPA register continually updated
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year the formal GIPA register, was actively maintained and available on Councils website		
CC2.2.7	Maintain and review Council's	Procurement, Contract and Insurance Coordinator	100%	Completed	The Contracts Register was reviewed and monitored	Published to Council's website within 20-days of awarding		Not met, roll over to 2025/26

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Contracts Register				Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year the Contracts Register was reviewed and monitored ensuring contract details were accurately captured and corresponding folders were generated into ECM, supporting compliance and accessibility for the organisation. Additional works were planned for the next financial year, to enhance the internal system and improve efficiency, working towards streamline of the contract management automating key actions. The target was not met during this period, the related circumstances should be rectified during the next financial year		
CC2.2.8	Facilitate increased utilisation of VendorPanel to create efficiencies and improve transparency in our procurement processes	Procurement, Contract and Insurance Coordinator	100%	Completed	VendorPanel was used by several departments during both quarters three and four	Increased improvement		Increased
					Annual comment	VendorPanel requires additional work on the development of the reporting mechanism and/or usage metrics to enable adoption trends to identify opportunities for increased efficiencies. At this stage there is no current established method to track or quantify changes in usages for comparison to previous reporting. During the 2024/25-year VendorPanel was used by several departments, contributing to improved procurement transparency			

CC2.3: Continually develop Council's Work Health and Safety Management System (WHSMS)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC2.3.1	Maintain International Standard 45001 OH&S Management System accreditation	Work Health and Safety Coordinator	50%	Progressing	The re-certification was confirmed and scheduled in for 18th August 2025 and is expected to take approximately eleven (11) days – 2025 SAI Global Audit – ISO 45001	Maintained		Due August 2025
					Annual comment	During the first half of the 2024/25-year the accreditation was confirmed and completed. The recertification has been scheduled for August 2025		

CC2.4: Coordinate and manage Council's IP&R Framework

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC2.4.1	Undertake community consultation with Parkes Shire to inform development and review of IP&R Framework	Corporate Planning and Performance Coordinator	100%	Completed	Drop-in sessions were held at the libraries across the Shire, to present and engage with the community regarding IP&R documents presented out to the community for 28-day publication. The full suite of IP&R documents was completed, placed on the website and hard copies were made available across the libraries, childcare and the admin building	Completed by 30 June 2025		Achieved
					Annual comment: The year of community consultation was one of commencement and completion of surveys by both Place Score and Micromex businesses. They reached out to the community by way of surveys, collated and presented the data back in various formats. Council presented some of the collated data back to the community as a way to say thank you, and for them to see their results. Council participated in the annual show days, providing tools to engage and encourage conversation with the community members in fun interactive ways			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC2.4.2	Develop and adopt all IP&R documents within legislated timeframes	Corporate Planning and Performance Coordinator	100%	Completed	The second half of the year saw the completion of all legislative required IP&R documents	100% compliance		Achieved
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25 election year period, all thirteen documents commenced were delivered on time. The documents that required 28-day public exhibition, were delivered on time. This included the State of the Shire, Annual Report, Community Engagement Strategy, Disability Inclusion Action Plan, Operational Plan Progress Reports, Operational Plan and Budget, Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program, Long-Term Financial Plan, Workforce Management Plan, Strategic Asset Management Plan and we delivered the Councillors Journey, whilst not a legislative requirement is helped build the State of the Shire, and was gifted to each Councillor at the end of their term			
CC2.4.3	Report on our progress in achieving our Delivery Program and Operational Plan	Corporate Planning and Performance Coordinator	100%	Completed	The progress reports for July to December 2024 period was delivered in January 2025. The January to June 2025 period was prepared for ELT for the first quarter, and the fourth quarter was prepared for delivery during August 2025	Quarterly reports to ELT and six-monthly to Council		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	The Operational Plan progress reporting was delivered on time throughout the 2024/25-year. Each quarter presented to the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) and six-monthly to Councillors and placed on the website as per the legislative requirements		

CC2.5: Continually develop, implement and improve Council's Procurement Framework

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC2.5.1	Develop Contract Management Framework	Procurement, Contracts and Insurance Coordinator	100%	Completed	Developed		by 30 June 2024	Completed during quarter four 2025
					Annual comment	During the first half of the 2024/25-year fraud prevention workshops which were presented by ICAC. This helped form the framework and development of the contract management policy, during the second half of the year and was aligned to organisational best practice requirements. The policy was reviewed and approved by the Audit and Risk Improvement Committee (ARIC). The finalised policy has been made available in ECM		
CC2.5.2	Investigate options for a	Procurement, Contracts	0%	Not due to start	No progression was made	Investigation by 31 December 2023		No progression

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	centralized Contract Management system	and Insurance Coordinator			Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year this action had zero progression against it, and was rolled over to the 2025/26-year		
CC2.5.3	Incorporate sub-delegations pertaining to contract management into broader review of Delegations Register	Procurement, Contracts and Insurance Coordinator	50%	Progressing	This action was a duplicate of CC2.2.4 and was incorporated into the ongoing review of the delegations register		Incorporated by 31 October 2023	Expected completion September 2025
					Annual comment	The review of the delegation's register was an ongoing project throughout the 2024/2025 year. The final register is expected for delivery in September 2025. Contract Management also was under-review, and updates will be incorporated into the overall delegation's review		
CC2.5.4	Develop procedures for the review and approval of contract variations as part of the Contract Management Framework	Procurement, Contracts and Insurance Coordinator	0%	Not due to start	Zero progression was made against this action		Procedures developed by 30 June 2024	Not delivered
					Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year this action had zero progression against it, and was rolled over to the 2025/26-year		
CC2.5.5	Develop a Contractor	Procurement, Contracts	0%	Not due to start	Zero progression was made		Register developed by 31 December 2023	Rollover to 2025/26

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Insurances Register	and Insurance Coordinator			Annual comment	Whilst the development of the contract's insurance register in its official format was not delivered a temporary solution was obtained using internal software. In conjunction with the engineering teams an excel spreadsheet was generated. This action is rolled over to the next financial year		
CC2.5.6	Develop templates to document key performance criteria and compliance obligations based on the conditions of each contract	Procurement, Contracts and Insurance Coordinator	0%	Not due to start	Zero progression was made against this action	Developed by 30 June 2024		Rollover to 2025/26
					Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year there was no progression against this action, it will be rolled over to the next financial year		
CC2.5.7	Incorporate key performance criteria and compliance obligations of contracts into Council's Project Management Framework	Procurement, Contracts and Insurance Coordinator	0%	Not due to start	Zero progression was made against this action	Incorporated by 30 June 2024		Rollover to 2025/26
					Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year there was no progression against this action, it will be rolled over to the next financial year		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC2.5.8	Review currently held Bank Guarantees to determine currency	Procurement, Contracts and Insurance Coordinator	0%	Not due to start	Zero progression was made against this action	Reviewed by 30 September 2023		Rollover to 2025/26
					Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year there was no progression against this action, it will be rolled over to the next financial year		
CC2.6.1	Establishment of Records and Information Working Group	Manager Customer and Information Services	100%	Completed	Completed	Working group established by 30 June 2025		Achieved
					Annual comment	During the first half of the 2024/25-year the terms of reference was endorsed by Council, and the working group was established. The coordinator role was advertised and successfully filled		
CC2.6.2	Continued development of Council's Information Asset Register	Manager Customer and Information Services	40%	Progressing	The Council's IAR was still in the development stage, with work towards the implementation	Information Asset Register developed by 30 June 2025		Reviewed
					Annual comment	The Council's Information Asset Register project was under review for updates and will remain a focus to deliver		
CC2.6.3	Provide regular reports on the Current State Assessment Report to the	Manager Customer and Information Services	100%	Completed	Reports on Information Management, Records and Privacy were a standing agenda item on ARIC. Became a standard agenda item	Reports provided quarterly to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee				Annual comment	The reports on the Current State Assessment Report were a standing agenda item for the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) during the 2024/25-year. Presented in February 2025, the third quarter, containing progress on the actions from the Current State Assessment		
CC2.6.4	Ensure management of Council's physical records is in accordance with the State Records Act	Records and Information Coordinator	80%	Progressing	During the second half of the year both Phase One (1) and Phase Two (2) of the strong room audit were completed. Records that exceeded their retention period were securely destroyed. The Depot clean-out commenced on the archived materials	Increase in compliance with State Records Act		Compliance increased in consultation with State Records and NSW Museum of History

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year we continued to strengthen our records management practices by completing both Phase One (1) and Phase Two (2) of the strong room audit, with contract drawers remaining as the final step. Records that exceeded their retention period were securely destroyed and the commencement of the Depot clean-out of archived materials to improve compliance and storage efficiency. We worked closely with the NSW Museum of History to begin to facilitate the transfer of eligible state records. Consulted with State Records for enhancement, retention and disposal practices. There was the development of a formal Retention and Disposal Procedure which is scheduled for endorsement by our internal working group into the next quarter, during August 2025			
CC2.6.5	Develop procedures to support policies managed in	Records and Information Coordinator	80%	Progressing	The Information, Records Management and Privacy Strategic Plan was successfully developed and formally endorsed	Procedures developed by 30 June 2025		80% of procedures developed by target date

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	line with Council's Information and Records Management Framework				Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year the Information, Records Management and Privacy Strategic Plan commenced, and successfully developed and formally endorsed. During the first half of the year Council's Information and Records Management Framework was supported, The Operational Policy - Corporate Records and Document Management Standards was Endorsed. The Information and Records Management Governance working group was completed and set up, to guide the development of policies and procedures. We continued to update and create new policies and procedures in line with the Information and Records Management Framework and Strategic Plan		
CC2.6.6	Implement ongoing Records and Information	Records and Information Coordinator	95%	Progressing	Training programs were achieved	Training held with 50% of staff by 30 June 2025		Training held with 80% of all new starters

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Management training program to all work areas				Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year significant uplifts in training was delivered across Council in the areas of information and records management, privacy, and system usage. Some of the key initiatives included major updates to the induction training presentation to incorporate privacy content and align with the Strategic Plan. Optional all-staff training sessions were introduced bi-monthly for both ECM and CRM systems, with supported drop-in sessions. Onboarding training for new internal staff was enhanced. The mandatory training aligned with State Records requirements will be developed for rollout in the next financial year, consultation with the HR team			
CC2.6.7	Undertake State Records NSW "Records Management Assessment Tool" and report outcomes to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee	Records and Information Coordinator	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year the RMAT commenced and was completed with reporting to ARIC		Achievement of Level 2 maturity level		Achieved
					Annual comment	We completed the Records Management Assessment Tool (RMAT) internally assessing our compliance with records management standards. The 2024/25 results showed an improvement in our overall score, increasing from 2.1 to 2.3, indicating positive progress in our compliance and governance practices. The newly formed Information and Records Management Governance working group was tasked with progressing improvements further and updates were scheduled to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC)			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC2.6.8	Development of Records and Information Management Strategic Plan	Records and Information Coordinator	100%	Completed	The Information, Records Management and Privacy Strategic Plan was successfully developed and formally endorsed	Records and Information Management Strategic Plan by 30 June 2025		Achieved
					Annual comment	The Information Management, Records and Privacy Strategic Plan was drafted and successfully endorsed during the second half of the 2024/25-year. Through the Information Management and Records Working Group. Endorsed through the Connected Management Team (CMT), the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) and the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC)			
CC2.7.1	Reporting December	Records and Information Coordinator	100%	Completed	Completed	By December 2024		Achieved
					Annual comment	The GIPA report was submitted before the due target date, during the first half of the year. The 2023/24 financial year submitted reporting zero formal access applications were received for the reporting period		
CC2.7.2	Agency information guide updated every 12 months	Manager Customer and Information Services	100%	Completed	Completed	Target: Annual		Achieved
					Annual comment	The Agency Information Guide (AIG) during the 2024/25-year was reviewed, checked and endorsed. The Independent Privacy Commission reviewed and checked the Agency Information Guide (AIG). The Guide was endorsed by Council and was made available on Council website.		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC2.7.3	Work with teams across the Organisation to have accurate up to date information on Councils website in line with open access and proactive release guidelines	Records and Information Coordinator	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year, consultation began with both the Comms and Planning teams	Target: By 30 June 2025		Achieved
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year, the review was underway on Council's website, which will be an on-going review. The second half of the year, had consultation efforts continued with the focus on improving access to information via Council's website as part of the consultation and consolidation of the customer service areas and any informal GIPA requests. We will continue to work with teams across the organisation throughout the next financial year as part of the on-going review process			

Civic

CC3: We will manage civic operations in line with regulations to support decision-making and drive positive outcomes for the community

CC3.1: Manage Council's civic operations in line with regulations

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC3.1.1	Hold elections as required by regulatory standards	Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy	100%	Completed	Completed	100% compliance		Achieved
					Annual comment	During the first quarter of 2024/25-year Local Government Elections were held on 14 September 2024, with Council staff providing some assistance to the Electoral Officer. The second quarter saw the Local Government Elections Completed and Mayoral/Deputy Mayoral elections completed on 8 October 2024			
CC3.1.2	Provide training and support to elected officials in line with the Councilor Induction and	Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance	100%	Completed	In quarter 4 of the 2024/2025 year, Councillors continued to receive support with Professional Development and training with areas of interest or concern	Four (4) professional development activities held		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Professional Development Program				Annual comment	Due to the election during the 2024/2025-year Councillors received an extensive Councillor Induction in 2024. Throughout the year, Councillors were also given the opportunity to participate in online training webinars and provided support to attend several conferences which aligned with their individual areas of interest or concern		
CC3.1.3	Ordinary Council Meetings are held in line with Council's Code of Meeting Practice	Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance	100%	Completed	Three (3) Ordinary Council Meetings and two (2) Extraordinary Council Meetings were held during quarter four of the 2024/2025 year. These meetings were conducted in accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice	Ten (10) meetings held per year		Eleven (11) Ordinary Council Meetings and Four (4) Extraordinary Council Meetings
					Annual comment	A total of eleven (11) Ordinary Council Meetings and 4 Extraordinary Council Meetings were effectively organised and conducted in accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice		

CC3.2: Provide guidance and planning support for civic events

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC3.2.1	Hold 2024 Australia Day celebrations throughout the Parkes Shire	Events and Festival Specialist	100%	Completed	Australia Day 2025 was successfully delivered across the Parkes Shire, with a strong turnout and a diverse program of activities. The official ceremony in Cooke Park honoured award recipients and featured a moving address by Ambassador Tasman Cassim. Community-led events across Bogan Gate, Tullamore, Trundle and Parkes fostered local pride and participation, reinforcing the Shire's spirit of inclusion and celebration	Celebrations held		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	The 2024/25-year successfully planned, prepared and delivered the Australia Day 2025 events. This included contributions from the events team planning and organisation of the activities planned for the day. Assistance from the governance and civic teams during this period, in facilitating the awards program		
CC3.2.2	Recognize community heroes through the Australia Day Awards Scheme 2025	Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance	100%	Completed	Completed	Awards Scheme administered		Achieved
					Annual comment	Australia Day 2025 Awards were awarded to recipients at the Parkes Australia Day ceremony held at Cooke Park on 26 January 2025 and announced in official media releases on Council's website, Facebook page and reported on in the local newspaper		
CC3.2.3	Partner with RSL Sub-branches to hold 2025 ANZAC Day Commemoration Services throughout the Parkes Shire	Events and Festival Specialist	100%	Completed	ANZAC Day 2025 Commemoration Services were successfully delivered across the Parkes Shire in partnership with local RSL Sub-branches. Ceremonies were well attended and respectfully conducted, reflecting strong community participation and coordination	Commemoration Services held		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	The 2024/25-year successfully planned, prepared and delivered the ANZAC Day 2025 events. This included initial meetings with RSL representatives to ensure compliance with regulations and alignment with community expectations. Planning of logistics support and guidance in place to deliver the respectful and well-organized services that honor the significance of ANZAC Day while fostering positive outcomes for the community			
CC3.2.4	Citizenship ceremonies to be held within six months of application received	Executive and Councilor Support Coordinator	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year, one citizenship ceremony was held during quarter three		Two (2) per year	Three (3)
					Annual comment	Throughout the year 2024/25 we endeavored to accommodate the conferees across the year, by holding ceremonies within a couple of months of conferees waiting to become citizens in the Parkes Shire. We successfully held three citizenship ceremonies during the year, noting that the minimum requirement is two per year. Two were held during the first half of the year and one held in the second half of the year			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC3.2.5	Community Financial Assistant grants conducted	Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance	100%	Completed	Quarter four of the 2024/2025 involved the preparation of the Round 1 Community Financial Assistance Grants for 2025/2026. This included preparing materials and liaising with the grants team and communication to arrange for marketing in July		Two (2) rounds per year	Achieved
					Annual comment	Round one and two of the Community Financial Assistance Grants for 2024/2025 were finalized with the awarding of $8,045.38 in waiving of rates and charges and the awarding of $1,400.00 worth of grants for local community groups and initiatives. Licensing and Leasing grants also awarded the waiving of leasing for one property		

People, Safety and Culture

CC4: We will implement appropriate strategies as detailed in Council's Workforce Management Plan ("WMP") to develop a vibrant workforce equipped to deliver progress and value to our community. Undertake sustainable workforce planning and adapt to change through an innovative, smart, safe, and compliant workplace culture.

CC4.1: Enhance workforce planning procedures and tools to guide decision-making (WMP1.1)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC4.1.1	Workforce data provided to Executive Leadership Team ("ELT")	Manager People, Safety and Culture	100%	Completed	The dashboards for the relevant People, Safety and Culture metrics were created, refined and delivered during the first half and second half of the year to both the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) and the Connected Management Team (CMT)	Workforce data provided monthly to ELT		Achieved
					Annual comment: During the 2024/25-year the relevant People, Safety and Culture metrics were created, refined and completed. The workforce data was provided to the both the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) and the Connected Management Team (CMT). As part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework (IP&R) the workforce data was compiled and incorporated into the 2025/2029 Workforce Management Plan			

CC4.2: Promote the benefits of working at Parkes Shire Council (WMP1.2)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC4.2.1	Employee Value Proposition ("EVP") documented and promoted on Council's website and across our recruitment marketing collateral	Manager People, Safety and Culture	50%	Progressing	Progressed during this period through completing the audit actions which will inform and be incorporated into Employee Value Proposition (EVP)	EVP documented and promoted		Progressing
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year the recommendations considered and approved were implemented as required. There was continual progression to completing the audit actions. On completion this will inform and be incorporated into the Employee Value Proposition (EVP)			

CC4.3: Improve recruitment marketing and promotion (WMP 1.3)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC4.3.1	Recruitment Marketing Strategy and Guidelines	Manager People, Safety and Culture	100%	Completed	Completed	Strategy and Guidelines developed		Developed
					Annual comment: During the first half of the 2024/25-year the completed internal attraction and retention audit provided some suggested actions to assist with recruitment marketing and promotion. These actions have been incorporated as part of the audit process, and will be incorporated into the next Workforce Management Strategy			

CC4.4: Ensure a merit-based approach to recruitment across the organisation (WMP 1.4)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC4.4.1	Provide biennial merit-based recruitment training to all recruiting managers	Education, Capability and Wellbeing Coordinator	65%	Progressing	During the second half of the year the recruitment and Selection policy was reviewed. All supervisors and managers will undertake recruitment training, recruitment processed and procedures, which need to be finalised	Training delivered to all recruiting managers		Rollover to 2025/26
					Annual comment: During the 2024/25-year the Council's recruitment guidelines, processes and procedures were reviewed. The recruitment and Selection policy was reviewed during quarter three. On completion of the review, all managers, supervisors and the HR teams will be provided with training, which is scheduled for 2025/26			

CC4.5: Review and improve recruitment actions to ensure values – and behaviour-based recruitment (WMP 1.5)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC4.5.1	LGNSW Capability Framework implemented across position descriptions	Human Resources Advisor	75%	Progressing	The second half of the year had all position descriptions, including vacant and redesigned roles continued to be updated throughout the organisation structure to include the LGNSW capability framework	100% of all position descriptions reviewed and updated		Achieved
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year all position descriptions, including both vacant and redesigned roles were updated throughout the organisation structure to include the LGNSW capability framework			

CC4.6: Review and improve the Exit Interview process to maximise feedback to improve systems and reduce turnover (WMP 1.6)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC4.6.1	Talent Management Framework identified, and	Education, Capability and	25%	Progressing	Draft still to be completed and reviewed	Overarching framework identified and action plan to develop framework created		Audit completed and progressing

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	action plan developed	Wellbeing Coordinator			Annual comment	It is expected that the outcomes from the Internal Attraction and Retention Audit completed during 2024, would provide the assistance in the development of the Talent Management Framework to develop, commence and deliver the first draft. The draft has yet to be developed		

CC4.7: Develop and implement a "Grow Our Own" Cadetship, Apprenticeship and Traineeship ("CAT") Program (WMP 2.1)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC4.7.1	Employee reviews completed	Manager People, Safety and Culture	100%	Completed	During the first half of the 2024/25-year the employee reviews were completed	100% of employee reviews are completed		Achieved
					Annual comment	The 2024 Performance Appraisal were completed during the first half of the year		

CC4.8: Ensure employees have the capabilities required to perform their roles (WMP 2.3)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC4.8.1	Develop Attraction and Retention Policy	Human Resources Advisor	60%	Progressing	HR Policies and Guidelines were reviewed during the second half of the year. Face-to-face meetings for employee exit interviews have been beneficial to extract critical information from the exiting employee	Policy developed and adopted		On-going development
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year the HR Policies were reviewed, following on from the Internal Attraction and Retention Audit in June 2024. The face-to-face meetings were reintroduced for exiting employees, plans to extract critical beneficial information			

CC4.9: Potential successors are identified, confirmed and provided with tailored development opportunities (WMP 2.4)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC4.9.1	Review, monitor and refine Council's Business Continuity Plan ("BCP")	Manager Governance, Risk and Corporate Performance	80%	Progressing	During the final quarter of the 2024/2025-year Council's Business Continuity Plan (BCP) was updated to include amendments recommended by staff and consultants during the BCP training. This Draft BCP will be reported at the next Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee meeting in July then progress to endorsement at Council's August Ordinary Council Meeting	BCP sub-plans reviewed		Reviewed
					Annual comment: During the 2024/2025 year the Business Continuity Plan underwent a significant review. This included contracting Business Continuity consultant, InConsult, through a CivicRisk Mutual grant to conduct Business Continuity Plan (BCP) training and practice scenario to test the current effectiveness of the BCP. The Draft BCP which has been reviewed in response to feedback and learnings from the training and scenario is due to reported to the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee in July 2025 then progress to endorsement at Council's August Ordinary Council Meeting			
CC4.9.2		Manager Governance,	100%	Completed	Completed	One exercise conducted each year		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Conduct BCP exercises	Risk and Corporate Performance			Annual comment: In December 2024, Council organised and completed a Business Continuity Plan (BCP) training and exercise workshop focusing on a Cybersecurity incident which was facilitated by consultant, InConsult, through a CivicRisk Mutual grant			

CC4.10: Undertake regular reviews to recognise employees' capabilities and performance (WMP 3.1)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC4.10.1	Deliver biennial LEAN training	Education, Capability and Wellbeing Coordinator	50%	Progressing	LEAN Training was included into our training compliance delivery plan and is proposed to be undertaken in October 2025	LEAN training delivered to 100% of employee reviews are completed		Rollover to 2025/26
					Annual comment: The 2024/25-year focus was on employee training, for completion of all mandatory online compliance training and leadership development. The LEAN training plans are expected to be delivered into the next financial year during quarter two			

CC4.11: Adopt a contemporary approach to evaluating positions' salaries (WMP 3.2)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC4.11.1	Train and skill people leaders	Work Health and	0%		Plans for training is scheduled into the next quarters	Training delivered to all people leaders		Zero

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	on injury management role and process	Safety Coordinator		Not due to start	Annual comment	The Workforce Management Plan 2025/26 was developed and delivered as part of the 2024/25 election year of Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Framework. There was no training during the 2024/25-year		

CC4.12: Apply Attraction and Retention incentives (WMP 3.3)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC4.12.1	Review and promote Council's Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan	Manager People, Safety and Culture	25%	Progressing	The draft Equal Employment Opportunity Policy was completed	Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan reviewed and promoted		Reviewed
					Annual comment	The policy and plan will be adopted and implemented into the next financial year		

Finance

CC5: We will comply with financial policies and accounting standards, enabling us to operate as a financially sustainable organisation. We will continue to focus on cost containment to improve performance and to deliver enhanced cash reserves for the organisation

CC5.1: Financial Reporting

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC5.1.1	Annual financial statements submitted in line with statutory deadlines	Chief Financial Officer	100%	Completed	Completed		31 October 2025	17 October 2024
					Annual comment	The annual financial statements were submitted in line with statutory deadlines. Parkes Shire Council was the combined eighth Council to submit their Financial Statements in NSW		
CC5.1.2	Achieve a positive Operating performance ratio	Chief Financial Officer	100%	Completed	Achieved		≥0%	6.2
					Annual comment	The 'operating performance ratio' measures how well council contained operating expenditure within operating revenue (excluding capital grants and contributions, fair value adjustments, and reversal of revaluation decrements). The benchmark set by OLG is greater than zero per cent		
CC5.1.3			100%	Completed	Achieved		≥1.5x	3.5x

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Achieve an unrestricted ratio greater than the Office of Local Government ("OLG") benchmark	Chief Financial Officer			Annual comment	Council met the benchmark for the current reporting period. The 'unrestricted current ratio' is specific to local government and represents council's ability to meet its short-term obligations as they fall due. The benchmark set by OLG is greater than 1.5 times. Parkes Shire Councils ratio was 3.5 times		
CC5.1.4	Debt service cover ratio	Chief Financial Officer	100%	Completed	Achieved		≥2x	15.4x
					Annual comment	Council met the benchmark for the current reporting period. The 'debt service cover ratio' measures the operating cash to service debt including interest, principal and lease payments. The benchmark set by OLG is greater than two times		
CC5.1.5	Cash expense cover ratio	Chief Financial Officer	100%	Completed	Council met the benchmark for the current reporting period		≥ 3 months	9.3 months
					Annual comment	Council met the benchmark for the current reporting period. This liquidity ratio indicates the number of months the council can continue paying for its immediate expenses without additional cash inflow. The benchmark set by OLG is greater than three months. Parkes Shire Council was covered for 9.3 months		

CC5.2: Management Accounting

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC5.2.1	Monthly management reports are submitted to the Senior Leadership Team on time	Chief Financial Officer	100%	Completed	Achieved	By 14th of each month		Fourteen (14)
					Annual comment	Monthly tailored management reports were submitted to the Senior Leadership Team every month		
CC5.2.2	Quarterly Budget Review Statements are submitted on time	Chief Financial Officer	100%	Completed	The second Quarterly Budget Review Statements was submitted in May 2025	Within two (2) months of end of quarter		<2
					Annual comment	The required three Quarterly Budget Review Statements were submitted during the 2024/25 financial year		

CC5.3: Creditors and Purchasing

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC5.3.1	% of purchase orders raised	Procurement, Contracts and	100%	Completed	Analysing the percentage of purchase orders raised before invoice dates was unavailable	90%		Achieved (four-month period)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	before invoice date	Insurance Coordinator			Annual comment	During quarter two, October 2024, changes were made to the purchasing module. The reporting capabilities were impacted, and the necessary reports for analysing the percentage of purchase orders raised before invoice dates became unavailable. The IT team continued to work on a solution; however, reporting functionality was not restored. During a four-month period prior to the system changes, reporting was functional and provided valuable insights. Overall compliance improved steadily with the following results recorded: July: 85% August: 87% September: 88% October: 90%. Once the reporting capabilities are reinstated the analysis and monitoring will resume		

CC5.4: Debtors

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC5.4.1	% of rates and annual	Chief Financial Officer	100%	Completed	Council did not meet the benchmark for the current reporting period		Less than 10%	10.9%

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	charges outstanding				Annual comment	Council did not meet the benchmark for the current reporting period. The 'own source operating revenue ratio' measures council's fiscal flexibility and the degree to which it relies on external funding sources such as operating grants and contributions. The benchmark set by OLG is greater than 60 per cent and was not met due to large storm damage related grants that were received during the year		
CC5.4.2	Own source operating revenue ratio	Chief Financial Officer	100%	Completed	Council did not meet the benchmark for the current reporting period		≥60%	52%
					Annual comment	Council did not meet the benchmark for the current reporting period. The 'own source operating revenue ratio' measures council's fiscal flexibility and the degree to which it relies on external funding sources such as operating grants and contributions. The benchmark set by OLG is greater than 60 per cent and was not met due to large storm damage related grants that were received during the year		

CC5.5: Fixed Asset Accounting

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC5.5.1			100%	Completed	Achieved	By the 14th of each month		<14

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Monthly CAPEX reports are submitted to the Senior Leadership Team on time	Chief Financial Officer			Annual comment	Monthly CAPEX reports were submitted to the Senior Leadership Team on time up to and including June 2025		
CC5.5.2	Monitor current progress to prevent budget overruns by distributing and discussing reports monthly	Chief Financial Officer	100%	Completed	Reports were distributed to project managers during the second half of the year	Provide document by the 14th of each month		Fourteen (14)
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year progress reports were distributed and discussed with project managers by the 14th of each month		
CC5.5.3	Total Value / projects of work in progress account for council's general fund activities	Chief Financial Officer	100%	Completed	High value road projects created an increase in Councils General Fund activities	Declining		Increasing
					Annual comment	The total value of work in progress account for Council's General Fund activities increased due to high value road projects. The number of projects decreased to 85 active projects, 17 less than last year		

Fleet

CC6: We will maintain Council's heavy plant and equipment, plan and procure new assets and monitor regular plant safety inspections

CC6.1: Support Council operations with effective fleet procurement

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual

CC6.1.1	Plant uptime across fleets meets operational need within budgetary constraints	Fleet and Depot Coordinator	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year the road stabiliser, one of the largest across the fleet received a notable service, which included a tyre issue resolved. A loader with significant issues was sent off to a Dubbo dealership. The Isuzu recalls continued in quarter three and four. The alignment of plant replacement continued to align with staff RDOs to minimize disruption. In quarter four insurance incidents were reported due to kangaroo incidents causing some leaseback vehicles to be off the road. In addition, the Parks and Gardens team lost a truck involved in an incident and was able to use on old truck intended for sale, until the insurance funds are delivered. A loader was off the road for 8-weeks whilst being repaired at Westrac Dubbo	95%	Achieved
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year scheduled and reactive maintenance schedules continued. The Isuzu recalls continued,	

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					scheduled in consecutive days to minimise the travel time between Parkes and Forbes and staff downtime. We were not satisfied with the recall service, the additional wear and tear time to tyres lifetime. Direct communications to Isuzu Australia and requested a resolution due to the number of vehicles still requiring repair works. Plant replacements continued to align with RDOs minimising downtime for staff and scheduling the workshop workload. During the first half of the year RFS servicing for the year was completed, GPS buzzers were installed into two graders as they came into the workshop for servicing. The mowers were busy operating therefore additional serving completed after 4pm drop off and collected a.m			

CC6.2: Support Council operations with effective fleet management and maintenance

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC6.2.1	Maintenance of heavy plant, light vehicles and small plant and equipment to support Council services and programs	Fleet and Depot Coordinator	100%	Completed	Scheduled and reactive maintenance was executed daily across the workshop. The new apprenticeship, small engine mechanic has achieved a smooth transition into the team and his role. More outdoor staff were proactive with their small plant items and bought in for repairs. We shortlisted the candidates for a new apprentice mechanic position funded by an apprenticeship initiative. This means we can have additional staff in house, no additional cost to Council helping to 'future proof' our staffing. Plant pre-starts allowed for a reduction in downtime, due to issues responded to in a timely manner. Service work orders were generated weekly and booked accordingly	Maintenance	Achieved	Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Throughout 2024/25-year future proof staffing remained a priority, with a new apprentice joining our small engine mechanic, commencing during quarter four (4). A new generational younger employee, we will have improved digital literacy within the team to support further implementation of digitalising work scheduling and ordering of parts/stock against work orders. Both reactive and scheduled maintenance work was delivered, with the business improvement to increase uptime and less manual administrative responsibilities. The RFS monthly inspections/pink slips commenced and completed. With the upcoming retirement of our senior mechanic retirement, training for our heavy plant mechanic was planned to undergo training for pink slip inspections ensuring future registration renewals continue. Our fleet and depot support officer worked alongside the retiring senior mechanic ensuring record keeping and purchasing administrative tasks can continue and become more automative improving production. The outdoor staff were proactive with their small plant items, and bought in for repairs and services, as team members settled in over the twelve months. Whilst maintenance continued to be the core of our operations at the Depot, there were many ideas, innovative improvements, for both business processes and staffing for the future. Plans to digitalize and automate many day-to-day tasks, to minimize identified potential disruptions to operations			

CC6.2.2	Implement the 2024-25 Plant Replacement Program that aligns with service needs	Fleet and Depot Coordinator	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year, we replaced 16 plant, one refurb, and had on order two assets including both a loader and grader. Before the year end, we finalised several purchases to finish the year including a new Caterpillar CS19. The refurbishment of the street sweeper was quoted significantly less than anticipated, leaving some budget to redistribute over the planned fleet replacements. Although we replaced 16 plant, one (1) refurb, we did delay the replacement of nine (9) plant, one (1) earthmoving and eight (8) vehicles). The decision to replace our large plant first, we assume any reactionary maintenance accrued from a delayed replacement will be at a lesser cost to Council. For example, graders reactionary maintenance would cost far more than Utes. Despite having to work within budgetary limitations,	36 items of plant and equipment replaced Annual Plant Disposal report provided to the Plant Procurement Committee	Achieved 36 Achieved replacement and reported

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					we considered and took the best course of action for Council. During quarter four in addition to scheduled replacements, we completed the additional purchase requests with the alternative funding sourced a new quad axle float trailer rated at 50 ton. This plant will allow the road stabilisers to float to and from sites without contracting this out. Safer floating of graders, and better safety features on the new plant (the previous float was manufactured in 1997)			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	We successfully committed available funds to the replacement of all major plants due for replacement this year. We deferred four (4) purchases due to the unanticipated budget shortfall realized during the second half of the year due to the drastic increase in plant costs with inflation. Despite the deferred replacements we were satisfied with the results from the years procurement, especially now that all major plant due for replacement were actioned as these would be the costliest to Council to retain past their useful life. Replaced 16 plants, one refurb, and had in order two assets on order including both a loader and grader. Once the Councillor caretaker period ended, we prepared two (2) reports for the procurement committee, for the purchase of both a loader and grader, with purchase orders finalised. With budgetary setbacks withholding additional $600k in budget sale moneys, we sold older plant and used the funds to purchase more new plant. We obtained quotes for the refurbishment of the street sweeper, which was deferred, only replacing the roller. We deferred both a Toyota Hilux and loader due to its operational use and financial benefit to Council. Into the next financial year, after these major purchases, we have seven (7) light commercial/passenger vehicles to procure. We purchased two (2) new Utes for the water department and finished the year with four (4) deferred replacements		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC6.2.3	Prepare and adopt an Electric Vehicle Strategy	Fleet and Depot Coordinator	45%	Progressing	During the second half of the year, and as part of Council's preparation, we had workshop staff commence and complete training TAFE course in Statement of Attainment in Depower and Reinitialise Battery EV and Hybrid EV. Financial adjustment. Financial adjustments were identified and provided the opportunity to purchase, at the end of June, a Kia EV5, the first electrical vehicle in the fleet	Policy adopted by 30 June 2025		Did not make any formal progress with CNSWJO

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	The EV strategy did not make any formal progress with CNSWJO with Charge Works the independent body, engaged by CNSWJO to write the Strategy for us. As part of Council's preparation, at the end of June we finalised a purchase for a Kia EV5, our first fully electric vehicle in the fleet., a crucial first step. The vehicle replaced the carpool vehicle used by the administration building. The vehicle is used by the teams for community events, visit other sites, etc and will provide an opportunity for teams to familiarise themselves with driving a fully electric vehicle in a low-pressure environment. The diverse group of staff can test and give feedback, to provide better insight into what will work best for the business, as we plan. The vehicle will remain at the administration building and use the new charge stations. These are Council owned and powered by solar, the new vehicle will have no fuel cost throughout its life. Training was scheduled throughout the year, which included Electric Vehicle Drive Day in Bathurst, to test various models and networking with dealers, other Council groups, IPWEA and telematics suppliers. A two (2) day TAFE course in Statement of Attainment in Depower and Reinitialise Battery EV and Hybrid EV. Additional training will be in the next financial year		

CC6.3: Monitor efficiencies of Council's fleet to ensure a safe working environment that aligns with organisational needs

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual

CC6.3.1	Introduction of the new GPS system	Fleet and Depot Coordinator	100%	Completed	We made great progress during the second half of the year, with being able to monitor working time vs engine hours. With the installation of hydraulic monitoring in more machinery, we have customised the title of 'rules' in the software, so that dependent on what vehicle is working it will display the appropriate verb. For example, when a grader has its bull blade down and is actively grading, hovering over it on the map will display 'grading'. We have this set up for mowing (mowers and slashers/tractors), vibration rolling (rollers), sweeping (street sweeper), lifting >300kg (loaders) and spraying (weed sprayers). We also reviewed productive time after the fact, allowed us to make determinations about what time spent with the vehicle running is working, as opposed to idling. This can potentially assist HR in determining what roles could be combined into one, where currently we may	Installed in relevant Council-owned vehicles by 30 June 2025	Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					have one (1) water cart operator and one (1) roller operator that cannot both be working at the same time. This could be combined into a singular multi-skilled operator role, where we reduce the salary cost to Council but maintain the same project time, whilst increasing staff productivity and efficiency of resources. Overall, all vehicles we want to have GPS in was installed, we were fine tuning the system and determining how we can utilise the data from the GPSs to our advantage			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	We fully introduced the Geotab GPS system, but our work won't stop on continuous business improvements. Throughout the 2024/25-year we made leaps and bounds with Geotab, including rolled out of fobs to operators and established weekly reports to both management meetings, CMT and ELT. Whilst we had some technical issues along the way we learnt from them and have taken them in stride to further strengthen our system parameters and ensure incidents don't reoccur. We hosted teams' walkthroughs and in person meetings, assisting in the interpretation of the data from the reports. Safety discussions between staff and supervisors occurred and we saw a steady decline in the severity of speeding incidents and time spent idling. As new plant was delivered and other fleet arrived for major services, we continued to install hydraulic monitoring setups with one recent big breakthrough being our first vibration roller install. We continued to troubleshoot issues with buzzers, readers, and the GPS units themselves frequently. We worked with the WH&S team to complete a comprehensive risk assessment, considering situations that could go wrong with the use of Geotab. Procedures were written and distributed across the organisation; the driver fobs were activated. In terms of hardware, we completed the implementation of GPS units and were adjusting and improving on what we have. We had success with ten (10) buzzers installed specifically designed for loud engine plant and in another vehicle to support a staff member who is hard of hearing			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC6.3.2	Utilization of plant and equipment in accordance with Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia Limited ("IPWEA") plant and equipment benchmarks	Fleet and Depot Coordinator	100%	Completed	We presented Parkes' integration of comprehensive fleet management system at the IPWEA fleet conference held in Brisbane. Resulting in collaborative Teams group with attendees to lean and support ideas together. The Audit by Lambourne Partners completed during the first half of the year identified a concern raised, which was the procedures for staff to charge their time sheets to plant used, for costings back to support the Fleet Replacement Budget. This generated discrepancies between the charge times	Attending workshops one (1) per year		Achieved. Attended the IPWEA Fleet Conference in Brisbane

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	The Audit by Lambourne Partners commenced and completed during the 2024/25-year. Monthly reports were provided to the executive management teams. Providing departmental fleet expenses, maintenance, and utilisation to ensure business transparency and collaboration. This provided the areas identify problems, where reactive maintenance may be higher in some teams than others, and assist in the departments recognising expenses as they accrue throughout the year. We continued planning for disposal of fleet at the optimal period of age and utilisation for the best resale value and cost benefit to council. Ensuring the riskiest plant items were replaced first, whilst others did not make it through with limited budget. The newer fleet allowed adaption of newer technologies such as iStop, which cut the machine out after a period of idle time to limit idling and engine hours. Assisting in the long term with resale value being higher with lesser engine hours. The hydraulic monitoring allowed us to see how much time plant were running compared to working vs idling. Business improvements were achieved, with reporting improvements, engaged with Beyond Clarity to generate better reporting for plant engine hours, and completed the reporting based on kilometres. TechOne reporting supported both the hour and kilometre reports, providing accuracy for the operations, water and sewer teams. Both GeoTab GPS system and Appenate pre-starts supported the fleet successfully			

CC6.3.3	Implement asset protections at the Council depot	Fleet and Depot Coordinator	85%	Progressing	The depot refurb continued during the second half of the year, with infrastructure installed further down the depot yard to ensure CCTV coverage. The delivery of all shipping containers was received they will be the base of the dome shelters for parking up plant. We assisted Peak Hill in finances to cover the installation of an awning on the side of the depot, to provide protection from weather and sun damage. Using GeoTab we improved our battery drainage alerts, with notifications emailed to supervisors and the workshop when vehicles battery dropped below a certain threshold. This is designed in efforts to mitigate flat batteries and call outs in the field. The alerts are designed to come on before the battery goes flat. We ring operators and request they start the vehicle and recharge the battery. A recent vehicle accident, in one of our trucks, led investigation into why the	Implement by 30 June 2025	Implementation on-going Rollover to 2025/26

		duress button should be pressed in all incidents of emergencies. As the 'possible collision' data is run through an AI model that processes the data to determine if it was a legitimate accident or a false alert. This process takes about 10 minutes to run, leading to a delayed alert. The decision was for staff to use the duress button in all incidents as the notification will be conveyed instantaneously. The second half of the year saw a notable level of kangaroo collisions; bull bars have been made available to enable leaseback owners who live outside of Parkes to have additional protection on their vehicle without requiring them to wear the upfront fee. Bull bars will improve the resale value of said vehicles, meaning that despite the leaseback owners fee not covering the entire cost of the bulbar and installation, it will come to no cost to Council overall

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year the depot commenced and continued to be refurbished, whilst there were some delays, there is an expectation that this will be completed during the next financial year. The Geotab weekly reports were well received by both supervisors and managers, supporting start safety conversations and minimising speeding offences. Training and ad hoc support was provided across the organisation for system use and providing data			

Council Land and Buildings

CC7: We will comply with the statutory requirements of public land and buildings including planning for renewals and/or upgrades and environmental management of Council land

CC7.1: Ensure effective management of all Council-owned and Crown land parcels

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC7.1.1	Develop Plans for Management for Community Land	Manager Facilities	100%	Completed	Completed		Developed by 30 June 2025	Developed
					Annual comment	The 2024/25-year saw the completion of the Plans of Management for Community Land. During the first half a generic suite of Plans of Management was adopted for Parks, Sportsgrounds, Natural Areas and General Community use. Whilst specific Plans of Management for the Spicer Caravan Park and the Shrine of Remembrance Precinct at Memorial Hill was adopted as well		
CC7.1.2	Development of business model for Carrington Hotel	Manager Facilities	100%	Completed	Completed during quarter three		Delivered by 30 June 2025	Delivered
					Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year the Carrington Strategy was adopted by Council and actions from the strategy have been identified, and placed into the proposed future works listing, within the Operational Plan in the next financial year, if any funding internal or external becomes available		
CC7.1.3			100%	Completed	Completed		Delivered by 30 June 2025	Delivered

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Development of business model for Spicer Caravan Park	Manager Facilities			Annual comment	During the year 2024/25 the Spicer Caravan Park Strategy was adopted by Council and actions from the strategy were identified, and placed into the proposed future works listing, within the Operational Plan in the next financial year, if any internal or external funding becomes available		

CC7.2: Foster relationships between Council and user groups in a bid to provide opportunities for the community to be involved in a wide range of activities and recreational programs

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC7.2.1	Number of Park Bookings received	Manager Facilities	100%	Completed	During the fourth quarter there were 20 park bookings	Average five (5) per month		Six (6)
					Annual comment	The target was well overachieved during the 2024/25-year with a total of over 70 park bookings. During the first half of the year Parkes welcomed 41 visitor park bookings, and the second half welcomed 30 visitor park bookings		

Council Environmental Management

CC8: We will implement appropriate measures to ensure all environmental management activities progress. The potential impacts, environmental legislation and biosecurity will have been considered.

CC8.1: Sustainable environmental management of Council owned and managed land

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC8.1.1	Utilize Council's Crown Land Environmental Masterplan, to ensure biodiversity is considered, when undertaking activities at all Crown Land owned, Parkes Shire Council managed reserves	Water Quality and Sustainability Specialist	100%	Completed	Completed		Achieve	Achieved
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year period Council's environmental team worked with Council's property team, work and services teams, as necessary, to ensure biodiversity and biosecurity were considered when undertaking activities at all Council owned and managed reserves		

CC8.2: Sustainable environmental management system for Council operations

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC8.2.1			100%	Completed	Completed		Achieve	Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Operational activities are completed with environmental impacts taken into consideration in line with Council's Environment Management Plan and regulations	Water Quality and Sustainability Specialist			Annual comment	All Council Operational activities were completed with environmental impacts taken into consideration during the year 2024/2025, mainly through the development of a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) report. Projects with a likely higher impact on the environment are usually referred to a specialist consultant to undertake a REF, while smaller projects with likely negligible impact on the environment are assessed in house. Council's Environment and Sustainability Coordinator worked closely with Council's Operations Team and Infrastructure Team ensuring all works took into consideration the likely impact of the proposed works on the environment		

CC8.3: Develop, facilitate, and deliver environmental, sustainability and energy efficiency initiatives

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC8.3.1	Support and partner with Central West Lachlan Landcare to deliver	Environmental and Sustainability Co-Ordinator	100%	Completed	Council partnered with Central West Lachlan Landcare to deliver the Homegrown event held in Parkes during quarter four, in April 2025	Three (3) initiatives conducted		Four (4)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	environmental initiatives within the Parkes Shire				Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year Council partnered with Central West Lachlan Landcare to deliver events to the community. The National Tree Day was held at the Parkes Wetland site, planting 500 native trees and shrubs, joined by approximately 50 volunteers. The Kindy Enviro Day and the Schools Eco Day were delivered with high attendance from the students at local schools. The Homegrown markets were held in Parkes with approximately 1,500 visitors enjoying the event		
CC8.3.2	Support local schools to undertake environmental, sustainability and energy efficiency initiatives	Environmental and Sustainability Co-Ordinator	100%	Completed	Completed	Three activities supported		Three (3) Kindy Enviro Day, Schools Eco Day, Schools Tree Day
					Annual comment	The 2024/25-year started with planning, preparation and commencement of activities. Council supported numerous local schools as part of Schools Tree Day activities, with the supply of native tube stock to be planted. Council partnered with Central West Lachlan Landcare and delivered the annual Kindy Enviro Day and Schools Eco Day. with high attendance		

Customer Service

CC9: We will implement appropriate systems, processes, and technology to deliver high-quality, informative and responsive customer service

CC9.1: Provide customers with prompt responses to customer requests

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC9.1.1	Increase usage of customer requests received and processed via online Customer Request	Customer Experience Coordinator	100%	Completed	The second half of the year had CRM training sessions held, embedding best practice. Review of categories was ongoing, reviewed to align with specific customer requests. The CRM procedures were also updated	5% Increase		Overall greater than 5% uplift

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Management (CRM) portal				Annual comment	The uplifted stats for the CRM usage and responsiveness were 32% quarter one, 62% quarter two, 18% quarter three and 1.7% quarter four. During the first half of the 2024/25-year the stats available confirmed an increase of usage when compared to the same period of the previous year. Month by month reporting confirmed the increase in the customer requests received and processed using the online CRM portal. The CRM close off deadlines saw the volume and percentage requests increased quarter on quarter. The rates and water services continued the highest volume of customer requests submitted. Overall, the CRM system is working effectively, and Council is seeing an increase in usage by staff, customers, and the community. Customer Service throughout this period continued to support and educate the community on the opportunity to use Council's online services. Into the next quarters education to all staff, including customer service staff and outdoor staff, to ensure that everyone, can jointly understand the benefits of the CRM system. The CRM contributes to the overall functioning of Council services to embed best practice. In turn greater CRM submission's and ultimately a better customer experience		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC9.1.2	Promote and facilitate effective customer service for all areas of Council	Customer Experience Coordinator	100%	Completed	The second half of the year focused on CRM training sessions to all staff, embedding best practice	Customer requests are responded to within 10-days		Achieved - Four (4) drop-in sessions held and two (2) specific group sessions for Planning held
					Annual comment	The first half of the year the customer service charter developed and implemented, aligned with the customer service complaints policy. Hard copies were displayed in the admin building, the Parkes Library, the Council planning department, the Henry Parkes Centre and on the Council website and was available to the community. The customer service team undertook de-escalation training and occupational violence and aggression training. Reviews were underway to consider the customer service excellence course online content and modules for the customer service team			

CC9.2: Monitor and improve customer service across Council's organisation and operations

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC9.2.1	Provide updates on Customer Service Reform to Executive Leadership Team, Connected Management Team and Council	Customer Experience Coordinator	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year monthly reports were provided with up-to-date statistics and reporting	Target: Monthly updates provided		Achieved
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year the up-to-date reporting on the Customer Service Reform to Executive Leadership Team, Connected Management Team and Council were provided monthly, from the reporting manager. The up-to-date statistics and reporting statistics and the actions were implemented and ongoing during the year from the customer service review completed in 2023 as part of the Integrated Planning and Performance (IP&R) framework			
CC9.2.2	Complete the Customer Service Centre foyer refurbishment	Director Customer, Corporate Services and Economy	20%	Progressing	The second half of the 2024/25-year saw the closure of the planning counter completed, contributing towards a single, one-stop-shop service implemented through the main counter	Completed by 30 June 2024		No funds available to deliver

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	During the first half of the year both the Council Chambers and the committee rooms had their carpet replaced. Planning was underway for the upgrades of the public toilets within the reception/administration building. With the planning counter closure, contributing towards a single, one-stop-shop service implemented through the main counter, led to plans to install a path through the courtyard linking the planning area to customer services. Leading towards a single, one-stop-shop service implemented through the main counter. The refurbishment of the Customer Service Centre overall will be rolled over into the new financial year, due to no funds available for completion during this financial year		
CC9.2.3	Initiate professional Customer Service training for all customer service staff	Education, Capability and Wellbeing Coordinator	100%	Completed	Customer services eLearning modules, Customer Services Excellence was reviewed and rolled electronically out to both administrative and operational staff. All employees are required to complete this online course by the 30th of July 2025	Training initiated by 30 June 2025		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	During the first half of the year the customer service team undertook de-escalation training and occupational violence and aggression training. Including the planning stages for customer service excellence course online with the content and modules reviewed		
CC9.2.4	Convene regular Customer Experience Coordinator meetings with all Directors and key personnel	Customer Experience Coordinator	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year meetings were held with key directors involved in collaborative transitions across customer service. The Director of Planning regarding the closing of the entry door at the planning department. The Director of Engineering regarding the transitioning of the phone call diversion to customer service	Meetings held every two (2) months		Achieved
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year regular meetings were convened with key personal and directors regarding customer services transitional stages. The phone consolidation project commencement stages were ongoing from quarter one, with planning, development and delivery this year and into the next financial year		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC9.2.5	Increase capacity of Customer Service staff to manage routine planning inquiries and move to either an appointment model for complex planning matters or limited hours access to duty planners	Customer Experience Coordinator	100%	Completed	Completed, all planning enquiries were managed through the Councils main customer service area	New model implemented by 30 June 2025		Implemented
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year the customer service transitional changes were part of Council's commitment to improving service delivery and ensuring a more streamlined experience for customers through a centralised point of contact. This saw both stages one and two developed and delivered, training practices and departmental team support provided to the completion and ongoing. The Planning Departments phone calls were diverted to the customer service			
CC9.2.6	Implement improved workflows and internal protocols for the management of common	Customer Experience Coordinator	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year the implementation of improved workflows and benefits to the community with the improvements were made	Implemented by 30 June 2025		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	customer inquiries involving one or more department				Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year the teams worked towards the Implemented improved workflows and internal protocols for managing common customer inquiries. The planning department saw the completion of stage one the planning phone consolidation and stage two the closing of the front entry doors, diverting the foot traffic to the customer service reception area. Departments shared knowledge and upskilling was delivered and ongoing in customer service team		
CC9.2.7	Update and promote Council's website as the first port-of-call for up-to-date Council information	Corporate Communications and Media Specialist	100%	Completed	During the second half additional updates were completed to the website including new pages created for projects and community information, and an updated events page as a one stop shop for events happening in the shire. Policies were updated across the website	Website updated and promoted		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	The Corporate Communications Team inbox was promoted across the organisation, as part of business improvement. All teams were requested to email of items for action including website updates as a review during the first half of the year identified gaps, and inconsistencies and there was a need for a single channel for documentation. Work commenced with our website management platform, OpenCities, to update page owners, approvers for each page, this was to improve accountability and streamline processes with the efforts on this task to continue on-going			
CC9.2.8	Develop a plain English Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document that is accessible for all staff on the most common customer service enquiries	Customer Experience Coordinator	100%	Completed	The document "Frequently Asked Questions" was reviewed by the Customer Service Team	FAQ document developed by 31 December 2025		Achieved
					Annual comment	The development of the plain English Frequently Asked Questions document (FAQ) was completed during the first half of the 2024/25-year. The FAQ document was made accessible for all teams to use and to those who contributed to the development. This document reviewed, and updated as learning gaps are identified, this will be ongoing		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC9.2.9	Establish processes to prepare customer service performance reports with agreed outcomes and measures for review by the Executive and Council	Customer Experience Coordinator	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year monthly reports were provided with up-to-date statistics and reporting	Quarterly reports prepared		Achieved
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year the up-to-date reporting on the Customer Service Reform to Executive Leadership Team, Connected Management Team and Council were provided monthly, from the reporting manager. The up-to-date statistics and reporting statistics and the actions were implemented and ongoing during the year from the customer service review completed in 2023 as part of the Integrated Planning and Performance (IP&R) framework			

Community Services and Wellbeing

CC10: We will implement appropriate frameworks and strategies, as outlined in Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan ("DIAP"), to ensure residents of the Shire have access to services, groups and activities that have a positive impact on community wellbeing.

CC10.1: Review Council induction materials, to incorporate the topic of disability inclusion, to ensure staff have the knowledge to communicate with people respectfully, confidentiality and effectively with a disability (DIAP 1.1.3)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC10.1.1	Customer service training was held with the inclusion of disability awareness and person-centered communication	Education, Capability and Wellbeing Coordinator	100%	Completed	Online training modules include content around inclusion of disability awareness and person-centred communication in the Customer services eLearning modules, Customer Services Excellence training	Training completed by 30 June 2025		Available to complete
					Annual comment: Customer services eLearning modules, Customer Services Excellence was reviewed and rolled electronically out to both administrative and operational staff. All employees are required to complete this online course by the 30th of July 2025			

CC10.2: Ensure that all relevant staff have knowledge of accessibility features of venues and buildings (DIAP 1.3.3)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC10.2.1	Resources developed highlighting accessibility features of Council venues and buildings	Manager Facilities	100%	Completed	Any redevelopment of facilities, includes accessibility features as a high consideration		Developed by 30 June 2025	Developed
					Annual comment	During the 2025/26-year the Disability Inclusion Action Plan was developed and delivered as part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) development and made available to all staff		

CC10.3: Prepare a self-assessment checklist for local businesses and tourist attractions to encourage them to meet accessibility needs (DIAP 2.1.2)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC10.3.1	Review Parkes Shire Visitor Guide to ensure the details of access	Tourism and Visitor Services Coordinator	20%	Progressing	There was zero progression against this action during this period	Self-assessment prepared and distributed via Council's public communication channels and industry groups	Prepared and distributed by 30 June 2024	Zero

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	features of places and interest in the Parkes Shire are included				Annual comment	Throughout the year the focus on the new destination branding and a review of the content on the website “visitparkes” on enhancing accessibility information for the local attractions and places. During the second half of the year funding was secured for development of a refreshed brand identity. The design and development of the visitor guide and website will roll over to the new financial year		

CC10.4 and inclusion of Council operated public recreation, learning and leisure facilities (DIAP 2.2.2): Improve accessibility

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC10.4.1	Council website updated to promote representation of employees with disability	Corporate Communications and Media Specialist	100%	Complete	Progressing		Review by 30 June 2025	Reviewed
					Annual comment	During the first half of the 2024/25-year the Council website was reviewed to ensure the appropriate location for this information can be provided. In the second quarter the review highlighted the limitations within the OpenCities platform, which restrict how pages can be edited and how photos can be included while adhering to the platform specifications. We also identified our suite of professional corporate images did in fact have a gap of images, limiting the capacity to showcase diversity. To address these challenges, a collaborative approach will be required, along with further discussions with OpenCities representatives. These efforts will focus on identifying solutions to enhance website content and representation effectively		

CC10.5: Improve access to Council Administration Centre and Visitor Information Centre (VIC), including way finding (DIAP 2.3.1)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC10.5.1	Review undertaken at the Council's Administration Centre to determine if VIC buildings are accessible and fitted with advanced technologies to meet the varied needs of users	Director Planning and Environment	100%	Completed	Completed	Review by 30 June 2025		Reviewed
					Annual comment	During quarter one of the 2024/25-year advice was provided, regarding the accessibility to the alterations and additions expected to the Administration Building, for the customer service area alterations			

CC10.6: Promote representation of people with disability in Council's workforce to the public (DIAP 3.1.2)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC10.6.1	Services and systems identified and improved/implemented	Manager People, Safety and Culture	25%	Progressing	The staff attraction and retention audit were completed	Implemented by 30 June 2025		Progressing

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	As part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework (IP&R) the 2025-2029 Workforce Management Plan was completed. This identified some key areas Council can focus on, to support people with a disability in Council. The staff attraction and retention audit were completed		

CC10.7: Identify and implement services and systems that support people with disability being retrained within the workforce (DIAP 3.1.3)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC10.7.1	Flexible working arrangements policy reviewed	Manager People, Safety and Culture	100%	Completed	The Flexible Working Policy was reviewed and updated	Policy reviewed by 30 September 2024		Reviewed
					Annual comment	During the first half of the 2024/25-year the policy was reviewed and updated. There will be an ongoing review of the policy, undertaken to ensuring specific mention of support for people with a disability who can utilise Council's flexible working arrangements. Scheduling on from the review the policy will need to be promoted to internal stakeholders and present on Council's website		

CC10.8: Develop and promote flexible working arrangements and in-house support to recruit and retain people with disability in Council's workforce (DIAP 3.1.4)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC10.8.1	Council website updated to include information for people with disability on how to volunteer and access work experience	Corporate Communications and Media Specialist	45%	Progressing	Progressing	Website update by 30 June 2025		
					Annual comment	During the first half of the 2024/25-year the Council website was reviewed to ensure the appropriate location for this information can be provided. The review did identify an appropriate location to promote information for people with disability on how to volunteer and access work experience. This can be included in our "Working at Council" section with a dedicated page outlining what we offer and how people can apply. This information for the website will need to be a collaboration, over the next quarters to identify what can be offered and promoted on our website		

CC10.9: Promote information for people with disability on how to volunteer and access work experience (DIAP 3.2.1)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC10.9.1	Programs delivered to early childhood children with disability	Central West Childcare Services Manager	100%	Completed	All-inclusion support children continued to be supported during the second half of the year, within the service. Enrolments for the 2026 placements were locked in	Number of programs delivered		Four (4)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year programs were facilitated and delivered to early childhood children with disability. The all-inclusion children continued to be supported, under NDIS, progressing within the service, and with support from Allied Health workers. Programs for early intervention included the Sprouts program, completed development assessment on all children at the Preschool, with individual children support plans developed with staff. The Aruma program which is a disability services for early intervention. Hearing Australia delivering the Happee Ears program and the Steps program, which is the NSW Government program, for eyesight checks. The Service Strategic Inclusion Plan, funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Skills and Employed, was updated during first half of the 2024/25-year for Family Day Care		

CC10.10: Advocate for improved health services within the Shire

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC10.10.1	Participation in regular meetings with the Local Health District	Director Planning and Environment	100%	Completed	Completed	Four meetings attended per year		Advocation
					Annual comment	During the first half of the 2023/24-year period the Disability Inclusion Action Plan was reviewed by the Liveability Committee for implementation and adopted as a Corporate Plan		
CC10.10.2			100%	Completed	Completed	Increasing		Advocation

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Percentage of Incentive applications processed for medical services within the Parkes Shire	Director Planning and Environment			Annual comment	Advocating for improved health services within the Shire was on-going		

Communication and Engagement

CC11: We will promote Parkes Shire as a place to live, work, invest and visit, and ensure our brand and our communication is inclusive and assists in connecting Council with our vibrant community.

CC11.1: Development of a multi-faceted Communications Strategy to improve communications with our community

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC11.1.1	Developing a Communications and Engagement Strategy	Corporate Communications and Media Specialist	100%	Completed	The Communication and Engagement Strategy was adopted in February 2025 and uploaded to the Council website	Strategy adopted by 30 June 2025		Achieved
					Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year the Community Engagement Strategy was developed and delivered on time in line with the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework (IP&R) and placed onto the Council website, and hard copies provided to the libraries, admin building and depot for review by staff and community members		

CC11.2.1: Increase the profile of Parkes Shire through effective brand management and public relations activities

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
CC11.2.1	Maintain current performance (google analytics and social media insights)	Corporate Communications and Media Specialist	100%	Completed	In the second half of the year, Meltwater continued to provide the overview and reports of Council's social media channels via dashboards and continued to monitor social media channels and online presence	Maintain		Maintained
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year Council's social media management platform, Meltwater, provided the overview and reports of Council's social media channels. Meltwater provided dashboards for easy review and maintained monitoring the social media channels and online presence. Council's Google analytics account provided reports on performance levels and engagement for Council's corporate website			

05 Economy and activation



$68.4M Grant funding secured since 2016



$13M generated per annum from Parkes Elvis Festival



$66M visitor economy

Overview

Council performs activities to ensure the Parkes Shire is home to a diverse, thriving economy which supports traditional and new industries, accommodates continued population growth, and provides quality employment, education and training opportunities. Council performs four principal activities to ensure the Shire's economy can continue to grow, these being Economic Development, Grants, Events and Festivals and Tourism and Destination Marketing.

Council recognises the potential commercial benefit that activities within this function can deliver to the community and the inability for private sector providers to lead these services and opportunities. As a result, Council fulfils the responsibility of these activities for the Shire when possible. There is also potential for these activities to provide a commercial benefit to the Council through continued investment within the local economy. Council aims for these functions to be as self-sufficient as possible over time, enabling both operational and long-term costs to be largely generated by the activities themselves.

EE: Economy and activation

Economic Development

EE1: We will provide support to businesses through the facilitation of various business support, growth and investment opportunities

EE1.1: Deliver the Economic Development Strategy to plan for future jobs and growth

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
EE1.1.1	Review of the Economic Development Strategy	Economic Development Specialist	25%	Progressing	No further progress was made on the development of the Economic Development Strategy during the quarter. The project remains an important priority and will need to be re-scoped and progressed in the new financial year	Strategy adopted by 30 June 2025		25%, further development in the new financial year
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25 financial year, foundational research was undertaken to support the future development of a new Economic Development Strategy. This included a review of the existing 2012 strategy, a local business survey, and the preparation of an Economic Development Listening Report to help inform future engagement. While progress on the strategy itself was limited, the work completed provides a starting point for further development in the new financial year			

EE1.2: Advocate for increased Government funding and support for economic development within the Parkes Shire

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
EE1.2.1	Provide businesses with relevant information and opportunities through an e-newsletter and other engagements and activities where relevant	Economic Development Specialist	75%	Progressing	During the quarter, Council continued its commitment to providing businesses with relevant information and opportunities. The local business e-newsletter was distributed in line with the revised quarterly schedule. Face-to-face engagement with businesses also commenced, with initial visits focused on the Parkes main street area as part of a broader plan to meet with businesses across the Shire. Additionally, the Economy, Destination and Events Advisory Committee met again in June, continuing its role in providing local industry insight and support	One newsletter and/or engagement opportunity per quarter		75%, Five (5) sent within the time period, only quarter one was not delivered

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Over the 2024/25 financial year, Council maintained its commitment to supporting local businesses through a combination of digital and in-person engagement. While the business e-newsletter was not consistently distributed each quarter, its format was revised to a quarterly edition to better align with resource planning and reporting expectations. Face-to-face business visits were also introduced during the year, improving direct engagement and supporting long-term relationship building across the Shire. In addition, the establishment of the Economy, Destination and Events Advisory Committee, formed through the consolidation of existing groups, has ensured continued input from industry stakeholders and strengthened strategic alignment across Council activities			

EE1.3: Support businesses and industry groups within the Shire

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
EE1.3.1	Elevate the profile of local business through inclusion on Parkes Industrial Park entry signage for relevant businesses	Economic Development Specialist	50%	Progressing	No changes were made to the Parkes Industrial Estate signage during the quarter. A preliminary review of the signage project was undertaken, with the need identified for a more strategic assessment of its purpose, design, and ongoing management. This work will inform future planning and integration into the broader economic development program	Conduct a quarterly review and update		50%
					Annual comment: While sporadic physical updates were made to the Parkes Industrial Estate signage during the 2024/25 financial year, a review of the project was undertaken. Through this review, it became clear that a more comprehensive assessment is required to determine the signage's future role, update process, and alignment with Council's economic development goals. This work will be considered as part of future program planning			

EE1.4: Promote growth in smart and sustainable businesses and industries

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
EE1.4.1	Collaborate with Regional Growth NSW Development Corporation (RDGC) to support interested investors through investor enquiry process	Executive Manager Economy and Engagement	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year, we engaged and collaborated with RGDC bringing together a meeting between Council and the proponents of the Parkes Energy Recovery facility, during March. Council was further involved in communicating with RGDC regarding the proposed Parkes Energy Recovery facility, including facilitating provision of relevant information for the community. The new Parkes Shire Council webpage was launched	100% of meetings attended		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year collaboration and monthly meetings continued with the Regional Growth NSW Development Corporation (RGDC). The meetings during the first half of the year were related to investor attraction; we attended the Special Activation Precinct (Parkes SAP) Investor Attraction meetings. The Registration of Interest (ROI) process for the initial Parkes SAP land release, and the Land Release of 1A, (south of) Brolgan Road was in communications, and we supported RGDC through this process. We supported and attended the December business and community event RGDC hosted. During the second half of the year, we engaged and collaborated with RGDC bringing together a meeting between Council and the proponents of the Parkes Energy Recovery facility, during March. Council was further involved in communicating with RGDC regarding the proposed Parkes Energy Recovery facility, including facilitating provision of relevant information for the community. The new Parkes Shire Council webpage was launched		

EE1.5: Facilitate investment projects that match our economic development priorities

EE1.5.1	Support the vibrancy of the Parkes CBD with street banners and special activations	Economic Development Specialist	80%	Progressing	During the second half of the year street banners were displayed in accordance with the banner and billboard signage plan. The Parkes Elvis Festival banners were changed to Who Is Parkes during the third quarter. No new banner installations occurred during the fourth quarter. Council undertook a review of banner and signage requirements at the Newell Highway bypass roundabout, with the aim of reducing ongoing maintenance costs. This review included both physical and digital design considerations. Further discussions were held regarding main street signage, focusing on opportunities to streamline maintenance expenditure and redirect savings toward enhanced CBD activation	Ensure street banners are vibrant and well-maintained and coordinate activation of the main street for the 2024 Christmas period	80%

	Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25 financial year, Parkes Shire Council progressed implementation of the approved street banner schedule, with key installations including “Who is Parkes,” Christmas, and Parkes Elvis Festival banners. In the latter part of the year, attention shifted toward reviewing the long-term sustainability of the banner program, including signage at the Newell Highway bypass roundabout and within the CBD. This work explored opportunities to reduce maintenance costs while maintaining high-impact visual messaging, with the intent of supporting more targeted investment in activation and presentation across the Shire

Grants

EE2: We will provide support to businesses and individuals, meet the community's needs, build skills and resilience, and develop and maintain community infrastructure and services through the facilitation of Council's Grants Program.

EE2.1: Promote and support grant opportunities within the Shire

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
EE2.1.1	Number of Council grant applications submitted	Corporate Grants Specialist	100%	Completed	Sixteen (16) grants submitted		Twenty (20) per year	Thirty-eight (38)
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year there were a total of 38 Council grants submitted. This included 12 during the first half and 26 during the second half		
EE2.1.2	Number of Community grant applications submitted	Corporate Grants Specialist	100%	Completed	18 Community applications were lodged, this included Alectown two (2), Bogan Gate zero (0), Parkes four (4), Peak Hill four (4), Trundle two (2), Tullamore two (2) and four (4) Shire wide		Twenty (20) per year	Forty-nine (49)
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year there were a total of 49 Community grants submitted. This included 16 during the first half and 33 during the second half		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
EE2.1.3	Success rate of Community grants applied for	Corporate Grants Specialist	100%	Completed	Quarter three: 35 applications lodged; 22 successful, 15 unsuccessful and 12 pending. Quarter four: 36 applications lodged; 38 successful; 13 unsuccessful and 9 pending		50%	65%
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year community grants were applied for with a total of 99 submitted. This included 89 successful, 31 unsuccessful and 14 pending. All four (4) quarters were well above the target of 50%			
EE2.1.4	Success rate of Council grants applied for	Corporate Grants Specialist	0%		Quarter three: 10 grants lodged for Council; four (4) successful, four (4) unsuccessful, eighteen (18) pending. Quarter four: 16 grants lodged for Council; one (1) successful; four (4) unsuccessful; eleven (11) pending		50%	63% Q4 and 66%-year average
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year there was a total of 18 successful Council grants applied for. This included 13 during the first half and 5 during the second half. This also included 42 lodged, 18 successful, 11 unsuccessful and 29 pending. The year ended on a 66% average rate			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
EE2.1.5	Number of successful grant applications in each township	Corporate Grants Specialist	100%	Completed	Quarter three: Parkes thirteen (13) Peak Hill/Alectown two (2); Tullamore one (1) Shire wide four (4) Quarter four: Parkes twenty-one (21) Peak Hill/Alectown seven (7) Trundle two (2) Tullamore two (2) Bogan Gate zero (0)	Two per year per township		Achieved, excluding Bogan Gate
					Annual comment: Targets were exceeded during the 2024/25-year with the townships exceeding their target, excluding Bogan Gate who did not meet the target. The year closed with Parkes twenty-six (26) Peak Hill five (5) Alectown three (3) Trundle six (6) Tullamore four (4) Bogan Gate zero (0)			
EE2.1.6	Number of community grant newsletters published	Corporate Grants Specialist	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year six (6) community newsletters were published	Six (6) newsletters published		Twelve (12)
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year there was a total of twelve (12) community newsletters published, one-per month			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
EE2.1.7	Number of community groups and businesses that accessed Council's grant preparation activities	Corporate Grants Specialist	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year, we held grant information sessions and community grant workshops which were well received an attended. During the third quarter we had three (3) presentations completed and an attendee at the March session. During quarter four we consulted with 35 representatives of community groups face-to-face, phone and email communications. The May workshop worked with 16 attendees	Thirty (30) per year		Seventy-eight (78)
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year community groups and businesses accessed grant preparation activities, reaching above target each quarter, closing the year off with 78. This included 42 during the first half of the year and 36 during the second half			
EE2.1.8	Presentation of Grants Update tabled	Corporate Grants Specialist	100%	Completed	Quarterly updates were presented each quarter, excluding quarter four	One (1) per quarter		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	at the Councillors Workshop				Annual comment	Throughout the year the grants update table was presented quarterly except for quarter four, which will be delivered during August 2025. During quarter three we commenced presenting the quarterly grant stats on social media		

Events and Festivals

EE3: We will work with our community to deliver a financially sustainable Events and Festivals program including the annual Elvis Festival and Trundle ABBA Festival.

EE3.1: Develop funding, corporate partnerships and sponsorships to ensure the Parkes Elvis Festival is financially sustainable

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
EE3.1.1	Attract and retain sponsors to deliver the 2025 Parkes Elvis Festival	Events and Festival Specialist	100%	Completed	Completed		$180,000	$220,600
					Annual comment	The year 2024/25 successfully secured a total of $220,600 (excluding GST) in sponsorship for the 2025 Parkes Elvis Festival, contributing to the festival's financial sustainability and supporting its ongoing success		
EE3.1.2	Maintain funding from Destination NSW to deliver Parkes Elvis Festival	Events and Festival Specialist	100%	Completed	The funding agreement with Destination NSW for the 2025 Parkes Elvis Festival remained in effect, with instalments received during each quarter	Funding maintained		Maintained

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Council maintained funding support from Destination NSW for the Parkes Elvis Festival. For the 2025 event, four (4) out of five (5) milestones were assessed and funding received, totalling $88,000 to date. The final milestone was currently under review by the funding body. In addition, the Offer Letter from Destination NSW was signed, securing funding for the Parkes Elvis Festival 2026 and 2027. The long-term agreement is pending finalisation, with funding details to remain confidential until executed. This represents a major achievement, providing multi-year investment certainty to support the festival's ongoing delivery and strategic growth			

EE3.2: Deliver the Parkes Elvis Festival and Trundle ABBA Festival

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
EE3.2.1	Trundle ABBA Festival 2024 is delivered on	Events and Festival Specialist	100%	Completed	Completed	Target: ($186,578) net operating result in line with event delivery 19 October 2024		($278,913)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	budget and in accordance with the endorsed Event Management Plan				Annual comment	The Trundle ABBA Festival 2024 was delivered during October 2024. Council have made the decision to cease direct delivery of the festival as the delivery of the event resulted in an operating loss of $278,913. Responsibility for future delivery was returned back to the community. Council will review how to best support the event moving forward. A reimagined approach may be required to restore viability and community benefit			
EE3.2.2	Deliver the 2025 Parkes Elvis Festival in accordance with endorsed Event Management Plan	Events and Festivals Specialist	100%	Completed	The Parkes Elvis Festival 2025 was successfully delivered during January, demonstrating strong community engagement, high attendance, and broad regional impact		($566,700) net operating result in line with event delivery 8-12 January 2025		($660,866)
					Annual comment	Whilst the Parkes Elvis Festival 2025 was successfully delivered, and the event met its operational and cultural objectives; it was not delivered within budget. The cost pressures were primarily experienced across operations and logistics; therefore, a financial review was and is currently underway to identify opportunities for improved cost control and support for long-term sustainability. The review and on-going development of the Event Management Plan will provide a platform for operations and logistics for successful delivery and budget expectations into the next financial years			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
EE3.2.3	Develop a detailed Event Management Plan for the Trundle ABBA Festival 2025	Events and Festivals Specialist	20%	Not progressing	Development of the Event Management Plan for the Trundle ABBA Festival 2025 did not progress. Council confirmed it will not deliver the event in 2025 due to financial constraints	Developed by 31 March 2025		Not progressing
					Annual comment: Council considered the financial sustainability of the event and returned the event back to the community. Discussions were ongoing with the Trundle community regarding alternative delivery models, with the possibility of a return in the future. The future will be subject to grant funding or community led coordination supported by Council			
EE3.2.4	Develop a detailed Event Management Plan for the Parkes Elvis Festival 2026	Events and Festivals Specialist	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year the Event Management Plan started development, focusing on incorporating operational and logistic delivery streams, budget forecasts and project management. The plan remains on track for formal approval by 30 September 2025 and distribution to stakeholders in October	Developed by 31 March 2025		Developed, formal approval in 25/26

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	The Parkes Elvis Festival 2025 was successfully delivered during January, demonstrating strong community engagement, high attendance, and broad regional impact		

EE3.3: Improve the planning, delivery and evaluation of Council's Events and Festivals program

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
EE3.3.1	Implement improvement opportunities identified via Event Management	Events and Festivals Specialist	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year, we attended monthly Major Projects (Steerco) meetings as part of business improvement	All High-Priority actions implemented by 30 June 2025		Implemented

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Service Review				Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year has progress made with implementing the improvements outlined in the event management service review. Some of the key achievements delivered during the first half of the year included the commencement of the Major Events and Festivals Strategy to provide key KPIs for planning, delivery and investigations into festival management software options. We improved in the records and information management spaces; reviewed and improved financial management processes; and the relocated the events and festivals team to the admin building. Experts across the organisation supported critical tasks for example regulatory approvals, traffic planning, governance and risk management. These improvements aligned with Council's strategic objective to deliver financially sustainable events. The Major Events and Festival Strategy was developed and adopted. Structured project management practices continued improvements identified during the service review			
EE3.3.2	Develop and adopt an Events and Festivals Strategy	Events and Festivals Specialist	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year the Events and Festivals Strategy was endorsed		Strategy endorsed by 30 October 2024		Endorsed April 2025
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year the Events and Festivals Strategy was initiated, developed and delivered. The strategy outlined our long-term priorities to guide event investment, delivery, and evaluation, with a focus on economic return, community impact, and external collaboration			

EE3.4: Promote Parkes Shire as a preferred location for targeted tourism and business events

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
EE3.4.1	Develop marketing collateral to promote Parkes as a preferred location for events	Events and Festivals Specialist	0%	Not progressing	There was zero progression during the second half of the year	Developed by 31 December 2025		Zero
					Annual comment: There were no progressions throughout this 2024/25-year against this action. The responsibility for this action was under review, with future resourcing and priorities to be confirmed as part of ongoing team realignment			
EE3.4.2	Attract new business events to the Shire	Events and Festivals Specialist	20%	Progressing	During the third quarter preliminary works commenced to attract new business events to the Shire	One new event per year		Zero
					Annual comment: During the third quarter preliminary work commenced to attract new business events to the Shire, with the new Festival Producer exploring opportunities to activate Council-owned venues. This approach supports the long-term growth in the local visitor economy and will be further developed in future quarters. During the first half of the year, and the fourth quarter due to internal conditions there was not the opportunity to provide preliminary works			

EE3.5: Develop and implement a balanced program to support business and tourism events throughout the year

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
EE3.5.1	Develop 2025/26 Events Calendar containing all Council-run, community and destination events	Events and Festivals Specialist	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year the events calendar was developed and finalised	Develop 2025/26 Events Calendar containing all Council-run, community and destination events	Developed by 30 June 2025	Achieved
					Annual comment: The role of the event calendar will be to provide the overview of planned activities throughout the year. This will work alongside the coordinated planning, resourcing allocations, and the promotional opportunities. During the year, any changes or new events identified will be updated into the calendar to ensure accuracy			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
EE3.5.2	Deliver Community Events Financial Assistance Grant Program	Events and Festivals Specialist	100%	Completed	Completed		$100,000 funding allocated		$124,997
					Annual comment	During the first half of the year Council delivered the second round of the Community Events Financial Assistance Grant Program. Funding was allocated to support nine community and destination events across the shire. This initiative reflected Council's commitment to fostering financial sustainable events and festival programs This continued support helps sustain a diverse and vibrant calendar of events across the region. The funding provided will contribute to regional economic growth, strengthen community engagement, and ensure the continued success of events that align with Council's strategic objectives. $42,772 was allocated to eight (8) community events, $29,000 allocated to three (3) destination events the remainder for round two (2) was $53,225. Attention was shifted to the 2025/26-year program, with the applications for round one (1) closed during quarter four (4)			

Tourism and Destination Marketing

EE4: We will grow our vibrant visitor economy through the support of new tourism product development, delivery of quality visitor information services, and the implementation of a renewed Destination Management Plan

EE4.1: Promote and engage Parkes Shire tourism opportunities with targeted visitor market segments

EE4.1.2	Foster development of new tourism products	Executive Manager Economy and Engagement	100%	Completed	The second half of the year saw Council representatives attend the NSW Destination and Visitor Economy Conference to support learning and industry best practice in tourism development. The Transport for NSW Western Region Bike Forum, and there was participation in a destination cycling family tour: Northern Rivers Rail Trail E-Bike Experience, which provided valuable insight. The tourism and visitor services team will provide support for the Parkes Court Street Motel redevelopment, now that Council approved a development proposal. During quarter four, there was work on supporting the traffic switch over to the new Parkes Newell Highway Bypass. This included coordination with Transport for NSW regarding appropriate signage and wayfinding infrastructure, both permanent and temporary whilst needed.	One (1) new experience developed	Achieved, cycling trails ready for market and hosting Goodness Gravel event in November 2025

	During quarter three the Henry Parkes Centre Masterplan, last reviewed in 2016, saw some work commence to update. To inform this project, engagement was undertaken with a range of stakeholders with an interest in the precinct, including Parkes Antique Motor Club, Central West Car Club and Parkes Historical Society	
	Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year on-going fostering new tourism development, focusing on growing experiences in the region. The Gates of Graceland saw completion. The Visitor Information Centre saw the installation of the new Parkes Elvis Festival story wall, referencing the Destination Management Plan. Our foundational pillar of "Celebrity Events and Aligned Experiences" and the associated vision to curate year-round Elvis experiences in and around the Parkes CBD. Development projects, identified within the Destination Management Plan will commence focus of planning and delivery

EE4.1.2	Regular liaison with tourism bodies including Central NSW Joint Organisation, Destination NSW and Department of Regional NSW	Executive Manager Economy and Engagement	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year, we attended the Central NSW Joint Organisation Tourism Managers meeting's including the group's new tourism marketing sub-committee. Coordinated the delivery of the Destination Network Central West Councillor held in quarter four. This was to support Councillor understanding of and engagement with tourism industry initiatives. The team submitted an Event Investment EOI with Destination NSW for funding for the Parkes Elvis Festival in the third quarter, which was accepted. This has progressed to the next stage for a full funding submission team, ongoing	100% of meetings attended	100% of meetings attended	Achieved
					Annual comment	The 2024/25-year saw a continuation of collaboration with Central NSW Joint Organisation (CNSWJO), the Destination Network Central West and Destination NSW		

EE4.2: Develop and grow regional tourism partnerships to support increased visitation

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
EE4.2.1	Maintain Level two Visitor Information Centre Accreditation	Tourism and Visitor Services Coordinator	100%	Completed	Completed	Level two VIS accreditation	Maintained	Maintained
					Annual comment	The year-maintained accreditation throughout the 2024/25-year period. The accreditation level is now one only across the standards		
EE4.2.2	Visitor Information available in each township	Tourism and Visitor Services Coordinator	100%	Completed	Completed	Maintain Visitor Information availability		Achieved
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year the bi-monthly visits to our tourism partners in the villages were successfully maintained. Partners included accommodation, cafes, clubs and pubs. During the second half of the year the Peak Hill Visitor Guide was finalised and launched at the end of quarter four. Engagement to produce the new village loop map commenced and currently in design phase. The weekly gig-guides were maintained. Parkes visitor centre provided the latest updates, activities, itinerary options, travel routes, entertainment and accommodation across the shire			

06 Emergency services



Management of 30 emergency services buildings



Provision of $125k to fund Rural Fire Service facilities



Payment of $644k for Emergency Services Levy



Provision or facilities for State Emergency Services

Overview

To ensure urgent action can be taken when required, Council provides continued support for emergency services within the Shire. Council provides various forms of support to the Rural Fire Service, NSW Fire Brigades, State Emergency Services, and the Local Emergency Management Committee. Through the provision of funding, compensation, facilities and support in other capacities, these organisations continue to provide emergency responses to members of the community when needed.

EM: Emergency Services

Emergency Services Support

EM1: We will provide appropriate support for emergency service providers, ensuring their ongoing involvement within the community remains, to ensure urgent action can be taken when required.

EM1.1: Local Emergency Management Committee

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
EM1.1.1	Number of Local Emergency Management Committee meetings attended	Director Infrastructure	100%	Completed	The second half of the year held Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) meeting, this was held at the Parkes Regional Airport with an airport familiarisation, for all emergency services attending. An additional meeting, held during the third term, was held to discuss urgent matters relating to the Parkes Bypass. Administrative assistance was provided, with the ongoing updating of the CMGs and training for the LEMC committee		Four (4) per year	Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year administrative assistance was provided, with the commencement and ongoing updating of the CMGs and the EMPLAN. During the first half of the year the Elvis Festival Emergency plan was updated and presented to the LEMC		
EM1.1.2	Local Emergency Operations Centre maintained in a state of readiness	Director Infrastructure	100%	Completed	Completed		Maintained	Maintained
					Annual comment	Throughout 2024/25 years the Local Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) was maintained in a state of readiness. The EOC identified as the Community Centre at Rose Street Parkes, was available all year with regular assessments completed. The Regional Emergency Management Officer (REMO) noted that during the year the EOC will require additional resources. This list will be submitted for review by Council to act upon		
EM1.1.3	DISPLAN (Local Disaster Plan) reviewed	Director Infrastructure	100%	Completed	Completed		Reviewed by 30 June 2025	Reviewed, The Plan is being assisted in completion
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year planning, preparation and commencement of the updates of the key regulatory emergency plans included the EMPLAN, Consequence Management Guides (CMGs) and the Pre-event Recovery Plan (developed by NSW Reconstruction Authority). During the November 2024 LEMC meeting the new template was provided, for the Consequence Management Guides (CMGs)		

EM1.2: Provision of facilities for State Emergency Services

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
EM1.2.1	Facilities maintained as per agreement with State Emergency Services	Director Operations	100%	Completed	Completed		Maintained	Achieved
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year Council continued to maintain facilities, as per existing agreement with State Emergency Services. Maintenance requests were actioned and resolved within the appropriate service level arrangements with no outstanding issues		
EM1.2.2	Investigate suitable locations for proposed new State Emergency Services facility	Director Operations	100%	Completed	Completed		Facility identified	Investigated
					Annual comment	During the first half of the 2024/25-year there were advancements in the development of the new SES building for construction, 30 Boyd Circuit Parkes. This will replace the existing facility in Alluvial Street. Construction plans submitted for approval to complete the Development Application process with construction planned		

EM1.3: Provision of support for Rural Fire Service

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
EM1.3.1	Councilor's representation at Rural Fire	Director Operations	100%	Completed	Completed		Twelve per year	Attended meetings held

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Service Committee Meetings				Annual comment	Council actively engaged with the Rural Fire Service (RFS) during the 2024/25-year. through the District Liaison Committee (DLC) during a meeting held December 2024. Attendance at the Bush Fire Management Committee meeting held October 2024. Councillor George Pratt attended DLC meetings and continued working collaboratively with RFS supporting delivery of its services. Ensuring effective appliance maintenance, implementing fire risk reduction measures, and strengthening the working relationship between Council and RFS		
EM1.3.2	Service Level Agreement maintained with Rural Fire Service	Director Operations	100%	Completed	Completed		Maintained	Achieved
					Annual comment	Service Level Agreement maintained with Rural Fire Service during the 2024/25-year with both organisations fostering open collaboration, provided timely resolution as issues raised. Council continued to meet its obligations under the Act and service level targets in the agreement		
EM1.3.3			100%	Completed	Completed		80 items maintained per year	Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Maintenance of Rural Fire Service "Red Fleet"	Fleet and Depot Coordinator			Annual comment	Red fleet reactive and ad hoc works were completed throughout the 2024/25-year. with scheduled maintenance completed during the winter period to ensure the immediate availability of emergency services during fire season. May saw the commencement of this season, 12-month servicing and pink slip inspections of the RFS fleet. We continued to work with Lachlan RFS team to achieve their maintenance requirements for service renewals. As part of our 'future proof' program ensuring a smooth transition with our teams and retiring senior mechanic departs, with training and transitioning staff to the tasks associated with the red fleet maintenance		
EM1.3.4	Deliver the Coobang RFS Shed project	Manager Facilities	0%	Not due to start	Not due to start		Delivered by 30 June 2025	No funding
					Annual comment	This project did not proceed during the 2024/25-year due to funding not available to deliver		
EM1.3.5	Deliver the Cookamidgera RFS Shed project	Manager Facilities	100%	Completed	Completed in 2024		Delivered by 30 June 2025	Completed
					Annual comment	The Cookamidgera RFS Shed project was delivered in 2024		

EM1.4: Provision of financial support for Emergency Services

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
EM1.4.1			100%	Completed	Completed		Maintained	Maintained

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Financial support provided as per regulatory obligations	Director Operations			Annual comment	Financial support was on-going throughout 2024/25-year supporting emergency services. Operations supported through the emergency services levy		

07

Library, culture and social justice



4 library services



Arts and cultural programs and activities



Community wellbeing and social justice program and activities

Overview

The council provides services, activities and facilities that provide outlets for the creation and appreciation of art, culture, and social justice within the community. The Council continues to support and facilitate these activities as it recognises their positive impact on the community.

L: Library, Culture and Social Justice

Library Services

L1: We will ensure the community has access to services, facilities and resources that are inclusive, high quality and contemporary in nature. Support social interaction and encourage lifelong learning. Facilitate and support engaging programs at Shire libraries.

L1.1: Enable the continued provision of library services to residents of the Shire

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
L1.1.1	Increase in the number of in-person visits (UN SDG 16.10)	Manager Cultural, Education and Library Services	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year the total number of in-person visits was 22,672 at the Parkes Shire Library, this included 10,796 during quarter three and 11,876 in quarter four with additional numbers utilising the 24-hour services in both Tullamore and Trundle	Increase 1%		7%
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year over 40,000 (in-person) people entered the doors of the libraries across the Shire. The first half of the year 19,965 and the second half of the year 22,672 with additional in person's utilising the 24-hour service in Tullamore and Trundle. These numbers represent a 7% increase in visitors entering the library. The in-person figures for the Makerspace, Coventry Room and meeting room bookings are reported separately			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
L1.1.2	Number of all loaned materials (UN SDG 16.10)	Manager Cultural, Education and Library Services	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year the Parkes Shire Library loaned a total of 18,559 items. This included 9,000 during quarter three and 9,559 in quarter four. During this period 15,265 physical items were loaned, which included 7,481 during quarter three and 7,784 in quarter four. Digital loans were a total of 3,294, which included 1,519 during quarter three and 1,775 in quarter four. Physical loans were physical items included books, DVDs, talking books, magazines, CDs, board games and kits. Digital items included eBooks, eAudiobooks, ePress (magazines and newspapers) and Beamafilms	Increase 1%		-9. During Q1 of the reporting period the Parkes Shire Library loaned out the most items from across the year with 10,524 items loaned out to members. The number of items loaned increased by 2.5% between Q2 and Q3 and then a further 6% between Q3 and Q4

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year the Parkes Shire community embraced library services, with both physical and digital loans out on loan, just under 40,000 in total. Each quarter the numbers were itemised as follows, noting the items loaned increased by 2.5% between quarters two and three, and then a further 5% between quarters three and four Physical loans / Digital loans / Total loans Q1 9,115 1,409 10,524 Q2 7,356 1,422 8,778 Q3 7,481 1,519 9,000 Q4 7,784 1,775 9,559 Totals 31,736 6,125 37,861			
L1.1.3	Increase in Library members (UN SDG 16.10)	Manager Cultural, Education and Library Services	100%	Completed	**The Parkes Shire Library welcomed members during the second half of the 2024/25-year. This included 162 new members during the third quarter, this involved 109 adult members, 49 junior members, and 4 online members, Welcomed 152 new members during quarter four, with a current total membership of 5,009**	Increase in Library members	Increase 1%	Nine (9)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	In total Parkes Shire Library saw membership increase by 9% during the 2024/25-year period. During the first half of the year the Parkes Shire Library undertook a system purge of inactive users. Inactive users referred to those members who hadn't borrowed from the library in either physical or digital items over the past 4-years. This resulted in welcoming of new memberships resulting a total from 4,587 to 4,719 before ending the year off with a total of 5,009		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
L1.1.4	Number of Meeting Room bookings (UN SDG 11.7)	Manager Cultural, Education and Library Services	100%	Completed	The second half of the year had a total of 369 meeting room bookings, which included 150 rooms in quarter three equalling 376.5 hours and during quarter four 219 rooms booked, equalling 313 hours. The Marramarra Makerspace had a total of 45 bookings for a total of 142 hours, which included 21 bookings equal to 76 hours during quarter three and during quarter four 24 bookings equal to 66 hours. The Coventry Room held a total of 4 exhibitions during this period, which involved two per quarter, and totalling 11 weeks overall	52 bookings per year		245

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	The Parkes Shire Library and Cultural Centre Rooms were embraced by the community, both members and groups, local businesses, government organisations and Council. 940 Bookings in total across all facilities during the 2024/25-year. The library meeting rooms were used for study purposes, exams, interviews, events and many meetings. This included a total of 553 bookings over 1,092 hours. The Marramarra Makerspace held various STEAM based workshops and supported local artists holding creating workshops. This included a total of 67 bookings over 197.5 hours. The Coventry Room Gallery hosted a total of 6 exhibitions, totalling over 18-weeks throughout the period. This space was booked for a period of seven (7) weeks holding the Local Council Elections			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
L1.1.5	Number of people accessing Marramarra Makerspace Studio (UN SDG 4)	Manager Cultural, Education and Library Services	100%	Completed	During the second half of the 2024/25-year the Marramarra Makerspace held activities and events. These events attracted a total of 806 people of all ages, this included 474 in the first quarter and 332 in the second quarter. In addition the Makerspace during the fourth quarter the Marramarra Makerspace partnered with the Western Enrichment Learning Lab to host Robotics workshops for both the junior and youth age groups. The open Makerdays attracted a total of 357 people of all ages, this included 174 in the first quarter and 183 in the second quarter. The STEAM based workshops attracted a total of 449 participants, including 300 during the first quarter and 149 in the second quarter, over a total of 46 workshops		250 per year	1,640

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year the Marramarra Makerspace, which is an inclusive space and aimed to promote intergenerational learning, engaged through the Makerdays and STEAM based workshops. These events combined attracted a total of 1,639 people of all ages. The open Makerdays attracted a total of 905 people of all ages. The STEAM based workshops attracted a total of 651 participants and additional events attracted another 80 people of all ages			

L1.2: Facilitate and support engaging Programs at Shire Libraries

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
L1.2.1	Attendees at Story Time and Rhyme Time (UN SDG 4.2)	Manager Cultural, Education and Library Services	100%	Completed	Throughout the second half of the year, Story Time and Rhyme Time sessions were held. There was a total of 87 sessions held attracting 1,694 attendees. This quarter delivered some amazing community events, like the annual National Simultaneous Storytime featuring the book “The Truck Cat” which attracted 212 participants across Parkes and Peak Hill, and the event was also live streamed. The Trundle library held a reading day, Paint the town REaD, the day attracted 89 participants, an amazing effort all round!	Fifteen (15) per session		Twenty-two (22)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Parkes, Peak Hill, Trundle and Tullamore libraries continued to provide high quality early literacy experiences through their Story Time and Rymetime sessions throughout the second half of the year. Trundle library introduced Baby Rhyme time, which proved to be popular and successful for the community. This year's National Simultaneous Storytime event saw 212 people attending, one of the most successful to date, and everyone embraced the large truck, built from cardboard as back drop, and everyone was so engaged with the truck, the cat and the story "The Truck Cat"			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
L1.2.2	Number of Author visits (UN SDG 4.6)	Manager Cultural, Education and Library Services	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year author visits were held as well as live streamed authors across the Shire. During the third quarter one author visit was hosted for writer Nicole Alexander with an audience of 19 people. The fourth quarter two author talks were planned and live streaming authors from the Sydney Writers Festival held during May. The positive feedback from all who attended the live streamed author talks from the festival enjoyed the opportunity with many return attendees. During June author Maya Linnell presented with 11 people attending. Both Trundle and Peak Hill library branches held a live streamed author talk. Unfortunately, we did have one cancellation Matta Murphey who was unable to attend	Two (2) visits per year		Eight (8) Seven (7) author talks were live streamed from the Sydney Writer's Festival

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year author visits were hosted by a variety of authors, with a total of ten (10) author talks. Some highlights included the documentary screening of “Her Name is Nanny Nellie” with a Question-and-Answer session coinciding with NAIDOC week, this truth telling event was attended by 50 people with a standing ovation. A panel was held with film director Daniel King (first person films) and Irene Ridgeway (leading actress). Author visit was hosted with prolific writer Nicole Alexander addressing an audience of 18 people. During quarter four, the Parkes Shire Library live-streamed the Sydney Writer's Festival at Parkes, Peak Hill and Trundle branches. A highlight of this was seeing the attendees at Gina Chick's author talk sing along with her on screen! The live streamed author talks were successful with positive feedback		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
L1.2.3	Number of reading and writing activities held (UN SDG 4.6)	Manager Cultural, Education and Library Services	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year Parkes Shire Library facilitated the indyreads Summer Book Club, an online book club. The live streaming of the Sydney Writer's Festival in Parkes, Peak Hill and Trundle branches was a highlight. Quarter three held six (6) book clubs across three (3) branches and there were four (4) writing groups held across both Parkes and Peak Hill libraries. Quarter four held a total of 24 book club and writing events with 186 people attending	Twelve (12) per year		Fifty-nine (59)
					Annual comment: Throughout the year reading and writing activities were well attended across the branches. There was a total of 59 activities and events delivered, with 481 adults attending. The opportunity to provide live streaming services during the year was well received and considered successful events for the community			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
L1.2.4	Number of activities targeting primary, and youth held (UN SDG 4)	Manager Cultural, Education and Library Services	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year there were 20 activities/events held to support the primary and youth age groups. Over 330 attendees attended a variety of creative workshops, STEM based workshops, and Library Ambassador events. The school visits and school holiday activities were well attended		Fifteen (15) per year	Fifty-eight (58)
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year several activities targeting both primary and youth were held across the Parkes Shire Library. All events were well attended and positive for the community with a total of 58 events and over 1,000 attendees			
L1.2.5	Number of activities targeting adults held (UN SDG 4)	Manager Cultural, Education and Library Services	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year, various events were held for adults, which included a total of 60 events and 723 attending a combination of workshops, author talks, Friday Flicks, new Mothers group, Writing groups, book clubs, Peak Hill Seniors Cup, AUSLAN classes and Crop Swap and community group information and social events		Twenty-four (24) per year	105

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year the Parkes Shire Library held 105 events specifically targeted toward adults with 1,254 people attending. These events included various workshops, artist and author talks, morning teas and social events, book clubs, writers' groups, movie screenings, social AUSLAN classes, Crop Swaps and the Sydney Writer's Festival live streamed to Parkes Peak Hill and Trundle branches which was received well and positive feedback received			

Arts and Culture

L2: We will enable all members of the community to participate, including to provide accessible facilities, resources and services, enhancing the opportunities for creative arts and cultural activities within the community.

L2.1: Support the continued operations of cultural spaces

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
L2.1.2	Deliver Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math ("STEAM") programs in Marramarra Makerspace (UN SDG 4 and 4.7)	Manager Cultural, Education and Library Services	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year, STEAM programs were delivered with 35 workshops provided with a total of 348 attendees. This included a broad range of creative workshops, a series of robotics workshops were held for adults, youth and primary aged students in partnerships with the Western Enrichment Learning Lab. Workshops linked to the Waste 2 Art exhibition were held and well attended. Makerday sessions were held over 36 sessions with 183 attendees	Deliver twelve (12) programs		Fourteen (14)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year the Marramarra Makerspace continued to be well utilised by the community. There was a total of 52 STEAM based workshops and 132 Open Makerdays delivered to 1,500 people of all age groups. The variety of workshops delivered throughout the year included the Robotics workshops for both the primary and youth ages, as well as workshops linked to the Waste 2 Art exhibition were embraced			

L2.2: Enable all members of the community to participate in Council led and supported cultural programs

L2.2.1	Implementation of annual Arts Advisory Plan (UN SDG 4.7)	Manager Cultural, Education and Library Services	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year The Parkes Shire Arts Advisory Council met during both February and May. Reports to the committee were provided by PSC Cultural Centre, Parkes Community Arts, Parkes Painting Group, Parkes Potters and Parkes Shire Concert Band. The Terms of Reference of the Committee were updated. The planning for the community consultation sessions were underway with Arts OutWest to develop a new arts advisory plan prior to the end of 2025. The provision of a series of a Stiched Brooch/Landscape workshops with Pippita Bennett was delivered and funded through a CASP grant. Two (2) exhibitions were held supporting local artists, included the Fibre Arts Exhibition which supported approximately 80 fibre artists and the second was the Layers exhibition showcasing the work of six (6) local ceramicists. The “What’s on guide” continued to be mailed and handed out to the community	Five (5) initiatives implement	Achieved

	Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year the Annual Arts Advisory Plan held meetings and updated the Terms of Reference of the Committee. There was a lot of planning and delivering of workshops, exhibitions and events to the community. There was the continuation of support to the Arts Advisory Plan, by supporting two art exhibitions in the Coventry Room, including our annual Waste-2-Art Regional Showcase. Two CASP funded art workshops, held for the Parkes Multicultural Art Group and held in the Marramarra Makerspace 13 creative workshops during quarter one. The second quarter held art exhibitions and regional showcases. The Marramarra Makerspace held creative workshops, and Council supported the Homegrown Parkes event. The Music Development Grant of $14,000 was awarded to the Parkes Shire Band. The Parkes Pottery Group, the Parkes Painters Group and the Parkes Shire Concert Band all received assistance support for the use of Council facilities. The 2025 Cultural Grants were awarded to Parkes Community Arts and the Peak Hill Pastoral Agricultural and Horticultural Association to deliver arts and cultural activities and events in the Parkes Shire

L2.2.2	Provide support for community arts and cultural groups (UN SDG 4.7)	Manager Cultural, Education and Library Services	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year, we continued support for community arts and cultural groups. In quarter three support was provided to the Parkes Community Arts, Parkes Multicultural Art Group, College of Seniors, Crop Swap, Social AUSLAN, and National Trust. The Community Fibre Arts Exhibition was held in the Coventry Room Gallery with over 100 entries from community members of all age groups. In addition, during quarter four support was provided to the Aboriginal Working Party, NAIDOC week planning group, and Parkes Community Arts. Cultural Grants were awarded to Parkes Community Arts and Peak Hill Pastoral Agricultural and Horticultural Association to support cultural events and activities across the Parkes Shire	Five (5) meetings supported	Twelve (12)

	Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year the Parkes Library and Cultural Centre supported fifteen (15) local cultural and art groups in the Parkes Shire. This support was through provision of facilities, spaces for meetings, morning teas and social events, specialist advice and access to the Arts OutWest representatives. Cultural grants were awarded to local community groups to deliver arts and cultural activities and events across the Shire. During the third and fourth quarters the Community Fibre Arts exhibition was held, hosting over 100 entries from community members and artists of all age groups. The Manager of Culture, Education and Library Services participated in the NAIDOC Week Planning Committee, which supported the planning and delivery of Parkes NAIDOC Week events. Parkes Shire Library hosted the screening of the documentary Her Name Is Nanny Nellie at the Parkes Library during NAIDOC Week. Support was provided during quarter two to groups and events which included the Homegrown markets Parkes; the Seniors Expo; the Netwaste Regional Forum; the Arts Out West "Peak in Focus"; the Bushman's Hill Planning Group; the Multicultural Arts Group; and the Community, Liveability and Access Committee

L2.2.3	Events held for community and cultural groups (UN SDG 4.7)	Manager Cultural, Education and Library Services	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year a total of 24 events were held supporting the community and cultural groups. This included Parkes Multicultural Art Group, Parkes Community Arts, social AUSLAN group, Crop Swap, New mothers' group and Seniors groups like Southern Cross Seniors with a total of 161 people attending the various activities	Three (3) events held	Forty-five (45)
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year community and cultural groups used the Library and Cultural Centre facility to host their meetings, provided as free access to hold them. There was a total of 45 events held across the year. The following groups embraced the support provided: the Multicultural Art Group, the College of Seniors Knitting Group, the Social AUSLAN group, the NAIDOC Week planning committee, the Crop Swap, a new Mother's Group, Paint the Town REaD annual event, the Parkes Community Arts, and Seniors groups, the Netwaste and the Parkes Community Arts	

L2.3: Support and facilitate arts and cultural programs for community engagement

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
L2.3.1	Host local exhibitions (UN SDG 4.7)	Manager Cultural, Education and Library Services	100%	Completed	During this quarter the Coventry Room hosted 2 exhibitions: the Community Fibre Arts Exhibition (15 March - 12 April) and the Layers Exhibition (9-31st May). The total attendance for the Fibre Arts Exhibition was 1299 visitors and attendance at the Layers exhibition was 1260 visitors	Three (3) exhibitions hosted		Five (5)
					Annual comment	The Coventry Room Gallery with almost 5,000 visitors, has become a popular cultural venue in Parkes, catering for both residents across the Parkes Shire and for visitors to the shire. Throughout the 2024/25-year local exhibitions were hosted in the Coventry Room Gallery with a total of five (5) hosted, with a total of 4,994 visitors. These exhibitions included the Jocelyn Moles A Retrospective from a local artist. Spanning 20 years, the exhibition was a look at not only Jocelyn Moles artistic practice, but her lived experiences. The Jac Clarke Solo Exhibition with 100 attendees and an overall attendance of 659 people. The 2025 ELVIS Festival Photography Exhibition and Community Fibre Arts Exhibition		
L2.3.2			100%	Completed	Completed	One (1) exhibition hosted		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Host travelling and non-local exhibitions (UN SDG 4.7)	Manager Cultural, Education and Library Services			Annual comment	During the first half of the 2024/25-year the Regional Waste-2-Art Showcase was held in the Coventry Room. The exhibition was hosted by Parkes Shire Library and showcased the 120-winning works from each of the 14 Regional Councils who were celebrating sustainable creativity and highlighting the waste reduction message of packaging. With 1,019 people in total visiting the exhibition over the 3-week period		
L2.3.3	Attendees at arts and cultural events (UN SDG 4.7)	Manager Cultural, Education and Library Services	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year, we held various arts and cultural events and activities which included art exhibitions, art and creative workshops, Crop Swap, social Auslan classes and a community sewing bee hosted by Parkes Shire Library and Cultural Centre. A total of over 6,000 attending the events and activities. Exhibition attendees during this period totalled 2,963	30 attendees per event		Maintained for certain events

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year the Parkes Shire Library and Cultural Centre engaged more than 7,800 people in arts and cultural activities, events and programs. Some of the events included the documentary screening of Her Name is Nanny Nellie with a Q&A session, visitors attending the Wiradjuri Ngurambang Exhibition, art exhibitions. Many creative workshops, crop swaps, art exhibitions, art and creative workshops and social Auslan classes doing the year			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
L2.3.4	Implementation of the art collection policy (UN SDG 4.7)	Manager Cultural, Education and Library Services	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year, as part of the Art Collection Policy, new shelving was installed into the Coventry Room Gallery storeroom to ensure safe storage of the Council's art collection and deaccessioning process of the Council Collection was also undertaken. Council purchased artwork Layers from Pol Cruz which was added to the Council Collection. The artwork was a featured piece in the Layers Ceramic exhibition held in the fourth quarter	Establishing processes by 30 June 2025		Completed
					Annual comment: During the 2024/25-year the Council's Art Collection Policy processes were implemented, including acquisition (both by donation and by acquisition), deaccessioning and storage requirements of the policy. Two pieces of artwork were added to the collection: Yalgu (Jumper Ants) by Dan Bundadhaany Clegg and Layers by Pol Cruz			

Social Justice

L3: We will advocate for, and facilitate, services and activities that have the capacity to enhance Community Wellbeing and Social Justice.

L3.1: Promote Social Justice principles of equity, access, participate and rights within our community

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
L3.1.1	Initiatives Council supported to promote social justice within the community (women, youth, Indigenous, seniors, people with disabilities)	Director Planning and Environment	100%	Completed	Completed	Five (5) events supported		Achieved
					Annual comment	Council supported programs throughout the 2024/25-year which included activities like Parkes Aboriginal Community working party, the Bushmans Hill Master Plan working party and school holiday programs. In addition, NAIDOC Week celebrations were supported which included a document screening of "her name is Nanny Nellie"		
L3.1.2	Provide a report to the Councillors Workshop on attendance for the five targeted events	Director Planning and Environment	100%	Completed	Reports provided	Report provided by 30 June 2025		Achieved
					Annual comment	Delivered reports to the Councillors workshops regarding the working group's Bushmans Hill Masterplan during quarter one including NAIDOC Week Celebrations		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
L3.1.3	Develop a Youth Strategy	Director Planning and Environment	0%	Not due to start	No youth position in workforce plan		Strategy adopted by 30 June 2025		Zero
					Annual comment	During this financial year there was no youth position within the workforce plans. The Operational Plan 25/26 has provided a location for the youth strategy into the proposed future works listing, if funds were to become available			

08 Open space and recreation


30 parks and gardens


15 Sportsgrounds


77 Open space facilities


6 cemeteries


4 swimming pools


Wetland restoration activities

Overview

The Council values the Shire's natural and built environments and effectively plans for a growing community. Council performs the planning, maintenance and development of open spaces and recreation areas across the Shire. By completing these activities, the natural environments within the Shire remain protected and preserved whilst also benefiting the community through the opportunity to utilise and enjoy public spaces.

To ensure the Shire's natural environment is effectively managed, open space and recreation is separated into 6 principal activities. The division of activities ensures, parks and gardens, sport fields, open space facilities, amenities and public toilets, cemeteries, swimming pools and wetlands are managed in accordance with regulatory standards and independent Council requirements.

OS: Open Space and Recreation

Parks and Gardens

OS1: To ensure the Shire's natural environment remains protected and preserved the council will continue implementing appropriate planning and maintenance strategies. The Shire is maintained and upgraded to meet community needs.

OS1.1: Maintain play spaces to meet the communities needs

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
OS1.1.1	Engage with the community regarding current and upcoming play space developments via various communication channels	Shire Presentation Coordinator	100%	Completed	Council continued to engage with the community, and community committees, sporting groups and school groups, we also monitored and engaged with social media posts	Four (4) engagements per year		Achieved
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year Council continued strong engagement, including monitor of social media posts with the community, community committees, sporting and school groups for all current and upcoming play space developments		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
OS1.1.2	Play equipment is inspected in accordance with regulatory standard and guidelines	Shire Presentation Coordinator	100%	Completed	The Parks and Gardens Team identified the need for additional staff to hold their Cert III qualifications to perform the operational checks required. Currently seven (7) staff are completing their studies. By increasing the number of multiskilled employees this will provide a better platform to share the workload across the teams. Completing routine inspections during routine maintenance schedules, creating a business-as-usual opportunity more efficiently	Six (6) inspections per year		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Play equipment was inspected with regulatory standards and guidelines throughout the 2024/25-year. These inspections were scheduled and ranged from weekly, monthly, and quarterly checks. The scheduled inspections identified if any play equipment works were required for any service and/or repairs. These inspections included the maintenance wear and tear of the overall grounds and equipment including furniture, BBQs, and infrastructure		
OS1.1.3	Action a response to customer requests within 10-days	Shire Presentation Coordinator	100%	Completed	Completed	100% of requests are actioned within 10-days		Achieved
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year, weekly supervisor meetings continued to provide clear platforms for reviewing and identifying all customer requests. The weekly meetings allowed for supervisors to enable any actions required, for the works with planning, timing and priorities levels		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
OS1.1.4	Provide support to Council's Major Events and Visitor Economy team through the provision of pre-event and post-event logistical assistance through the management of Council assets	Shire Presentation Coordinator	100%	Completed	The second half of the year had the teams supporting the events and visitor economy with the Homegrown Markets and Anzac Day events. Teams also supported the sporting community with two (2) hockey tournaments and the Parkes Jockey Club with their Parkes Cup Day. Teams supported the community events which included the local business event Inkredible Ink Tattoo for mental health, the Healthy Harold's Colour Run promoting health and well-being. Supported the Peak Hill Arts and Craft weekend event and supported the Fire & Rescue open day	Support provided as needed		Achieved, logistical supported provided all year

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year there were many events supported by Council's Operational Teams including major events, local community events, sporting events and special events. Ensuring the overall grounds were prepared for the high traffic/heavily used areas across parks. The sails in Cooke Park went up and down, stalls and markets were bumped in and bumped out. The year was a busy logistic year, and one with memorial events across various locations across the community			

Sports Fields

OS2: We will ensure sporting fields continue to be utilized across the Shire through suitable upgrading, maintenance and development of facilities.

OS2.1: Develop sporting facilities to meet community needs

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
OS2.1.1	Deliver the final stage of rehabilitation works at Cheney Park	Shire Presentation Coordinator	100%	Completed	Cheney Park received its final stages of the rehabilitation works for the 2024/25-year. Since the completion two (2) fields have been marked out across the park and the installation of goal posts were completed. The Junior League teams are using the fields for their training, and the field holds a night competition each Wednesday. Council supported the Junior League team, who were successful in applying for a grant, for a LED lighting to be installed. This installation will be at the northern end of the field in the next financial year	Delivered by 30 June 2025		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Cheney Park throughout the 2024/25-year saw the construction commence and completion of all subsoil drainage, new irrigation and earthworks and turf. Fencing was removed. The final stages were completed and since completion fields were marked and goal posted installed. The fields are now being well used by the junior league team		

OS2.2: Maintain sporting fields to ensure they continue meeting community needs, regulatory standards and align

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
OS2.2.1	Sporting fields are inspected in accordance with the Inspection Schedule and meet regulatory Australian Sporting Codes	Shire Presentation Coordinator	100%	Completed	Cheney Park after the turf went down, Council completed a major renovation with 120-tonnes of top dressing spread over the southern fields. All athletic carnivals were marked out (100m and 400m tracks) for Peak Hill, Trundle, Tullamore and Parkes tracks	100% compliance		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	All sporting fields were inspected in accordance with Council inspection schedule and met the regulatory Australian Sporting Codes. Throughout the 2024/25-year Council continued the scheduled weekly inspections and maintenance programs implemented. Recommendations for the fields and turf improvements were undertaken, one of them was the fertilizer program, which was completed, improving the grounds after soil testing identified the out-of-balance results. All sporting groups were supported with sporting fields, maintained and marked out			
OS2.2.2	Action a response to customer requests within 10-days	Shire Presentation Coordinator	100%	Completed	Actioned	100% of requests are actioned within 10-days	Actioned	
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year, weekly supervisor meetings continued, provided clear platforms for reviewing and identifying all customer requests. Supervisors at these meetings enabled any actions required, with works considered by planning, timing and priorities levels		

Open Space Facilities, Amenities and Public Toilets

OS3: We will implement appropriate strategies and plans to ensure open space facilities and amenities are maintained and developed, enabling the community to better utilize the Shire's open spaces.

OS3.1: Enhance open spaces through the expansion and upgrading of facilities, amenities and public toilets

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
OS3.1.1	Facilities, amenities and public toilets are inspected in accordance with Inspection Schedule and meet standards	Shire Presentation Coordinator	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year all facilities, amenities and public toilets were inspected in accordance with Inspection Schedule and met standards	100% compliance		Achieved
					Annual comment: The 2024/25-year schedules and standards were met with strong communication between the Building Services and Outdoor Teams. The teams ensured the high standards of hygiene, maintenance and repairs were completed, with processes in place, the on-site operations team, maintain and visiting the facilities across the Shire, provided their feedback to the Building Services Team. This team allocated the required tools of trade for repairs/maintenance works, with the weekly report to supervisors for review and delivery. Facilities, amenities and public toilets had morning inspection schedules, and random routine inspections occurred. Council supported the sporting events, and outdoor events, ensuring on-site, in advance had facilities ready prior and during the events			
OS3.1.2	Action a response to		100%	Completed	Actioned	100% of requests are actioned within 10-days		Actioned

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	customer requests within 10-days	Shire Presentation Coordinator			Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year weekly supervisor meetings were held, which continued to provide the clear platform for the review and identifying of the customer requests. The supervisors actioned the works with planning, timing and priorities levels			
OS3.1.3	Deliver upgrades of infrastructure at Memorial Park, Tullamore	Shire Presentation Coordinator	100%	Completed	Finished the project off with a new BBQ and pathwork leading to the BBQ. This provided completion of this project		Delivered by 30 June 2024		Achieved
					Annual comment	Memorial Park, Tullamore throughout the 2024/25-year saw the construction commence and completion of upgrades of infrastructure. Shared footpaths, were installed, including a new accessible footpath, linking the school to the CBD and the multipurpose centre through to the pool and learn to ride bike paths. The public toilets received upgrades, and a new accessible toilet built. Concreting works were completed a new barbeque was installed			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
OS3.1.4	Delivery upgrades of infrastructure at Berryman Park, Trundle	Shire Presentation Coordinator	100%	Completed	Completed the new long jump area including the runway and pit, and seating. Concludes the project. The successful grant funding money will see work upgrading of tennis courts which will include 2 courts and a multi-court. Upgrading in carparks and works at the pool		Delivered by 30 June 2025	Achieved
					Annual comment: Berryman Park, Trundle throughout the 2024/25-year saw the construction commence and completion of upgrades of infrastructure. This included perimeter fencing with solar lighting, concrete access foot paths from Parkes Street to the BBQ area and play equipment. The last quarter included a new long jump area including the runway and pit, and seating. There will be further upgrades to continue into the new financial year, due to a successful grant funding application. This will contribute to the upgrades of the tennis courts which will include two (2) courts and a multi-court			
OS3.1.5			100%	Completed	Project completed		Delivered by 30 June 2025	Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Deliver upgrades of infrastructure at Burrawang Park, Bogan Gate	Shire Presentation Coordinator			Annual comment	Burrawang Park, Bogan Gate throughout the 2024/25-year saw the construction commence and completion of upgrades of infrastructure. This included the installation of the repurposed play-equipment from Kelly Park and new concrete furniture and electric barbeques. The access pathway was completed		
OS3.1.6	Delivery upgrades of infrastructure at Kelly Reserve, Parkes	Shire Presentation Coordinator	100%	Completed	Planning continued during this quarter, and will continue be the focus into the next financial year, for the scope of works	Delivered by 30 June 2025		Achieved
					Annual comment	Kelly Reserve, Parkes throughout the 2024/25-year saw the construction commence and completion of upgrades of infrastructure including the Splash Pad and Ninja Park. The planning will continue to be the focus into the next financial year, for the scope of works for further upgrades available due to successful grant funding, flooding program, allowing for future planning		

OS3.2: Support the use of open spaces through the maintenance of facilities, amenities, and public toilets

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
OS3.2.1	Audits carried out on facilities, amenities and public toilets	Manager Facilities	100%	Completed	Facilities, amenities and public toilet inspections are scheduled and carried out to identify areas of improvement and maintenance requirements		Three audits per quarter	Achieved
					Annual comment	During 2024/25-year all facilities, amenities and public toilet inspections were scheduled and carried out to identify areas of improvement and maintenance requirements		
OS3.2.2	Action a response to customer requests within 10-days	Manager Facilities	100%	Completed	Completed		100% of requests are actioned within 10-days	Actioned
					Annual comment	All customer requests were responded to as levels of priorities were identified		

Cemeteries

OS4: We will utilise appropriate management practices for all cemeteries across the Shire, ensuring ongoing maintenance and planning for future development.

OS4.1: Administration of Shire Cemeteries is aligned with regulatory guidelines

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
OS4.1.1	Number of Burials in Shire Cemeteries	Manager Regulation and Compliance	100%	Completed	There were 62 burials within the reporting period		Ongoing	Ongoing 144 overall total
					Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year there was a total number of 144 burials across the Shire cemeteries. This included quarter one 27 quarter two 55 quarter three 34 quarter four 28		
OS4.1.2	Action a response to customer requests within 10-days	Manager Regulation and Compliance	100%	Completed	Actioned	100% of requests actioned within 10-days		Achieved
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year 100% of customer requests were actioned within 10 days		

Swimming Pools

OS5: We will continue implementing suitable frameworks for swimming pools across the Shire. Ensuring the standards of regulatory bodies and the needs of the community through ongoing upkeep and developments. Operate sustainably and safely, implementing suitable frameworks.

OS5.1: Operate Shire swimming pools sustainably and safely

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
OS5.1.1	Swimming Pool Contractor undertakes daily water tests, ensuring results are compliant with the Department of Health Pool Operations standards	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	During the third quarter of the year Belgravia continued to effectively manage the Shire's swimming pools, ensuring operations aligned with community expectations and regulatory standards. Council maintained strong oversight of the contract through a structured inspection regime– conducting weekly inspections at the Parkes Pool and rotating weekly inspections at one of the village pools. The pool was not open during quarter four, it was closed for the winter months	100% compliance		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	The pools across the shire were closed during quarters one and four. During quarter two and three the contractors Belgravia continued to manage the Shire's swimming pools operations, and adhered to undertake daily water tests, ensuring compliant. Council oversees the contract with regular weekly inspections, maintaining ongoing compliance and addressing any issues proactively		
OS5.1.2	Swimming Pool Contractor to undertake monthly water samples to ensure results are compliant with Department of Health Pool Operations standards	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	During the third quarter of the year Belgravia continued to effectively manage the Shire's swimming pools, ensuring operations aligned with community expectations and regulatory standards. Council maintained strong oversight of the contract through a structured inspection regime– conducting monthly inspections at the Parkes Pool and rotating weekly inspections at one of the village pools. The pool was not open during quarter four, it was closed for the winter months	100% compliance		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	The pools across the shire were closed during quarters one and four. During quarters two and three the contractors Belgravia continued to manage Shire's swimming pools operations, and adhered to undertake monthly water tests, ensuring compliance. Council oversees the contract with regular inspections, maintaining ongoing compliance and addressing any issues proactively		

OS5.2: Continued provision of high quality Learn to Swim Programs

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
OS5.2.1	Advocate the community to participate in learning to swim classes	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	During the third quarter of the year Belgravia continued to effectively manage the Shire's swimming pools, ensuring operations aligned with community expectations and regulatory standards. The pool was not open during quarter four, it was closed for the winter months	Increase in participation		Achieved, promotion and outreach to families to lift enrolments

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Council continued throughout the 2024/25-year to implement suitable frameworks for swimming pools across the Shire by working closely with Belgravia to ensure facilities operate safely, sustainably, and in line with regulatory standards. Recent developments included the expansion of Learn to Swim Programs through their targeted promotion and direct engagement with past participants, during quarter two. These efforts drove an increase in community participation and reflected an ongoing commitment to maintaining high-quality, accessible aquatic services that meet both compliance requirements and community needs		
OS5.2.2	All Instructors hold a current AUSTSWIM accreditation	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	Belgravia reported during the second half of the year, that all instructors held their accreditation	100% of instructors hold accreditation		Achieved
					Annual comment	Council elected to run the pools by external contract throughout the 2024/25-year, and contract included this as one of the requirements, and regulations that all instructors have AUSTSWIM accreditation. Council reviews and enforces		
OS5.2.3			100%	Completed	Reported	Monthly report received		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Report provided by Swimming Pool Contractor detailing the number of instructors holding AUSTSWIM accreditation	Executive Manager Operations			Annual comment	Reports were provided from Belgravia, detailing the number of instructors holding their accreditation throughout the 2024/25 swimming pool season		
OS5.2.4	Swimming Pool Contractor to provide feedback and action a response to customer requests within 10-days	Executive Manager Operations	1000%	Completed	Actioned	Executive Manager Operations 10-days		Achieved
					Annual comment	Council and Belgravia were committed to the response to and the resolving of customer requests within 10 days. Council closely monitored customer concerns, addressing them promptly as they were submitted through the customer request system. Most concerns were followed up with a phone call or addressed based on the preferred method of contact indicated by the customer		

Wetlands Restoration

OS6: We will conduct appropriate established preservation activities, to ensure the ongoing protection and development of natural reserves, to preserve and maintain.

OS6.1: Facilitate the restoration of Akuna Wetlands project

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
OS6.1.1	Provision of progress updates on the Akuna Wetlands Restoration project	Environmental and Sustainability Coordinator	100%	Completed	Completed		Update provided	Achieved
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year the project updates were reported monthly and presented at the Council's Steerco (projects) meeting. The executive senior staff were provided with all updates		
OS6.1.2	Provide community updates of project through various communication channels	Environmental and Sustainability Coordinator	100%	Completed	Completed	Two (2) communication channels used to provide community updates		Achieved, both website and social media posts
					Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year community updates were available on Councils website providing up to date information. During quarter four, one social media post was published, and a media released prepared for publication, however, this was published in July 2025		

09 Planning, certification and compliance



Development assessments



Local strategic land use planning



Ranger services and companion animals



Environmental health and food safety compliance



Facilitation of planning for affordable housing within the Shire

Overview

Parkes Shire Council values the natural and built environments and effectively plans for a growing community. The council performs activities regarding local strategic land use planning, development assessment, building certification, environmental health and ranger services and noxious weed management. By performing these activities, the Council best ensures the built and physical environment of the Shire correlates with the changing needs of the community. Council is responsible for monitoring and enforcing statutory requirements, to ensure the built environment continues to safely accommodate residents and visitors of the Shire.

P: Planning, Certification and Compliance

Local Strategic Land Use Planning

P1: We will develop Strategic land use plans, enabling the Parkes Shire to meet growth and demand for housing, jobs, and services

P1.1: Continue implementing land use projects in accordance with the LSPS

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
P1.1.1	Planning decisions and preparation of development controls continue to align with the Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) 2020	Land Use Planning Specialist	100%	Completed	Development controls continue to align with the Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) 2020		Ongoing	Achieved
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year strategic planning decisions and development matters were assessed, consistent with the objectives and provisions of the Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) 2020			
P1.1.2	Review existing strategic land use plans and polices in line	Land Use Planning Specialist	100%	Completed	The second half of the year ting strategic land use plans and polices were reviewed as required	Conduct one (1) review		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	with Council standards and statutory regulation				Annual comment	Throughout the year the review of existing strategic land use plans and polices were ongoing, for example Parkes Local Environmental Plan 2012. Council's planning strategies, documents and statutory plans were continually reviewed. This ensures that strategic documents remained flexible and reflect the nature of the growth of Parkes Shire		

Development Assessment

P2: We will achieve quality land use outcomes and assist people to understand the development process

P2.1: Provide timely, accurate and professional advice and development assessment in line with Local Environment Plan (LEP) and relevant legislation

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
P2.1.1	Development Applications (DA) are determined in a timely manner whilst maintaining quality land use outcomes	Land Use Planning Specialist	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year, we provided timely, accurate and professional advice to the community	90% of DA determined within a 40-day processing time		Timely advice
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year Council's development assessment team continued to work towards providing timely, accurate and professional advice, including comprehensive and responsible Development Assessments consistent with State Environmental Planning Policies, Parkes Local Environmental Plan 2012, and Parkes Development Control Plan 2021			

P2.2: Promote and support heritage values within the Shire

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
P2.2.1			100%	Completed	Completed		Ongoing	Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Work with the Grants Team to source funding through the NSW Heritage Office and Local Heritage Assistance Funding Program	Land Use Planning Specialist			Annual comment	During the first quarter of the 2024/25-year, the local heritage funding was allocated. During quarter three (3) funding for both the 2025/26 and 2026/27 financial years was successfully secured from the Local Heritage Grant, up to $25,000		

Building Certification

P3: We will control and regulate the built environment to achieve compliant buildings

P3.1: Provide timely and accurate building certification

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
P3.1.1	Number of Complying Development Certificates approved within regulatory timeframe	Manager Building Certification	100%	Completed	During quarter three, there were three (3) Complying Development Certificate (CDC) from a Private Certifier and three (3) received and approved within 10-business days. There was no reporting provided for quarter four	Approved within 10 days or another timeframe as agreed with applicant		Achieved
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year complying development certificates were approved within regulatory timeframes			

P3.2: Support council's role and obligations under the Swimming Pools Act 1992

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
P3.2.1	Investigate complaints and enforcement of Swimming Pools Act within regulatory timeframe	Manager Building Certification	1000%	Completed	There were two (2) complaints received during quarter three, which were investigated within the regulatory timeframes. There was no reporting provided for quarter four	100% of complaints are investigated within three days		Achieved
					Annual comment	Any complaints and enforcements were investigated as part of the Swimming Pools Act within regulatory timeframe		
P3.2.2	Number of residential swimming pool barrier requests actioned within 10-days	Manager Building Certification	100%	Completed	Actioned	100% actioned within 10-days		Achieved
					Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year there were periods where access to the property was not available, generating delays in timeframes. Therefore, only delivering 13-20% over the quarters during the year. There was no reporting provided for quarter four		
P3.2.3	Number of compliant swimming	Manager Building Certification	100%	Completed	During the third quarter seven certificates were issued	Issued within three days		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	pool barrier inspection certificates issued				Annual comment	During the first quarter, ten (10) Certificates of Compliance were issued, each were issued within three (3) days. 80% of inspections were conducted within ten (10) business days, whilst 50% inspections were conducted within five (5) business days. The second quarter, nine (9) Certificates of Compliance were issued within three (3) days. 86% of inspections were conducted within ten (10) business days, whilst 14% inspections were conducted within five (5) business days. During quarter three seven (7) Certificates of Compliance were issued. There was no reporting for quarter for provided. The expectation for swimming pool barriers, is for the inspection to completed within ten 10-days of the application, and the Certificate of Compliance registered within 3-days on the swimming pool website		
P3.2.4	Number of non-compliant Swimming Pool Barrier Inspection certificates issued	Manager Building Certification	100%	Completed	During third quarter four (4) non-compliance certificates were issued	Issued within seven days	Achieved	
					Annual comment	During the first half of the 2024/25-year a total of thirteen (13) non-compliance certificates were issued. This included seven (7) in quarter one and six (6) in quarter two, all of which were inspected within 10-days. During third quarter four (4) non-compliance certificates were issued. No reporting was provided for the fourth quarter. The certificates, within 7-business days were on the swimming pool website			
P3.2.5	Number of compulsory inspections	Manager Building Certification	100%	Completed	Eleven (11) compulsory inspections were carried out during quarter three	100% of inspections carried out	Achieved	

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	carried out as per Council's Swimming Pool Inspection Program				Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year period compulsory inspections were carried out. This included nineteen (19) in quarter one, sixteen (16) in quarter two, eleven (11) in quarter three. There was no reporting provided for quarter four		

Environmental Health and Ranger Services

P4: We will support public health and environmental safety through education, inspection and enforcement of government rules and regulations

P4.1: Provide Food Safety and Public Health monitoring to the Shire

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
P4.1.1	Undertake annual inspections of registered businesses and report to the Food Authority	Manager Regulation and Compliance	90%	Progressing	Inspections were carried out during the second half of the year, with 71 inspections completed in the third quarter	100% of registered premises inspected		Achieved
					Annual comment: The reporting to the NSW Food Authority was completed on time with the due date of 28 July 2025. The inspections were carried out during the second half of the year, with 71 inspections completed in the third quarter			

P4.2: Provide ranger services to Shire

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
P4.2.1	Action a response to customer requests within 10-days	Manager Regulation and Compliance	100%	Completed	Completed	100% of requests actioned within 10-days		Actioned
					Annual comment: All customer requests were actioned within 10 days			
P4.2.2			100%	Completed	Completed		Declining	64 in total

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Number of notices and orders issued	Manager Regulation and Compliance			Annual comment	There were a total of fourteen (14) Notices or Orders issued during quarters three and four		
P4.2.3	Number of Companion Animal registrations	Manager Regulation and Compliance	100%	Completed	There were 56 companion animal registrations during quarters three and four		Ongoing	Achieved
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year there was a total of 116 companion animal registrations. This included quarter one was thirteen (13), quarter two 47, quarter three thirty (30) and quarter four twenty-six (26)		
P4.2.4	Develop a Rehoming Companion Animals Plan	Manager Regulation and Compliance	100%	Completed	Completed	Plan developed by 30 June 2024		Developed
					Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year all required actions, under the Companion Animals Act were completed. The advertising of animals on Council's website were carried out. As part of the amendments to the Companion Animals Act, we were required to do the following: (1) Give written notice to at least 2 rehoming organisations advising that the animal is available for rehoming for a period of 7 days from the date of notice; and (2) Take reasonable steps to advertise on a webpage or through social media that the animal is available for rehoming; and (3) Record keeping requirements in relation to the identification of animals either rehomed or destroyed and in the case the animal is destroyed, the actions Council took to rehome the animal		

Noxious Weed Management

P5: We will utilise appropriate biosecurity controls within the Parkes Shire in accordance with regulatory obligations

P5.1: Monitor the control of priority weeds on public and private land under the Biosecurity Act

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
P5.1.1	Private property inspections per month	Environmental and Sustainability Co-Ordinator	100%	Completed	78 private property inspections (rural and urban) were undertaken in quarter four. The target for the 2024/25 year is 130 inspections	Twelve (12) inspections per month		Achieved
					Annual comment: A total of 141 rural and urban private property inspections were undertaken in the 2024/2025 year, exceeding our target of 130 inspections			
P5.1.2	Monitor and inspect Council owned and managed public land	Environmental and Sustainability Co-Ordinator	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year fourteen (14) inspections were undertaken on Council owned/managed land. Included ten (10) during the third quarter and four (4) during the fourth quarter	Thirty (30) land parcels inspected per year		Thirty-two (32)

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year there was a total of thirty-two (32) inspections completed on Council owned and managed public land. These inspected and monitored land included Council land in Peak Hill, Trundle, Bogan Gate, Alectown and Tullamore. Lake Endeavour and Bumberry Dam and the Industrial Estate. The water and sewage treatment plants including the surrounding land/associated infrastructure			
P5.1.3	Monitor and inspect Council owned and managed roadsides	Environmental and Sustainability Co-Ordinator	100%	Completed	Council owned and managed roadsides were inspected and monitored throughout quarter four with a total of 100% of roadsides inspected at least once	100% of roadsides inspected		Achieved
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year the Council owned and managed roadsides were inspected and monitored through stages across each quarter, ranging from quarter one at 45% following into quarter two 75%, headed into quarter three at 90% and finishing the year off in quarter four at 100%		
P5.1.4	Percentage of known infestations inspected and actioned and/or controlled	Environmental and Sustainability Co-Ordinator	100%	Completed	Completed	100% inspected and actioned		Achieved
					Annual comment	The Council's Biosecurity Team's register of priority infestations was monitored regularly and controlled where needed. During the 2024/2025-year, 100% of the known infestations were inspected, and control work was completed each quarter		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
P5.1.5	Action a response to customer requests within 10-days	Environmental and Sustainability Co-Ordinator	100%	Completed	Achieved	100% of requests actioned within 10-days		Actioned
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year all customer requests related to biosecurity were acknowledged within 10 days, and responded to in a timely manner based on the nature of the request		

P5.2: Provide the Shire with educational opportunities and resources on Noxious weed management

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
P5.2.1	Provide educational material and engagement opportunities during private property inspections	Environmental and Sustainability Co-Ordinator	100%	Completed	During quarter four Council engaged with private landholders and the community on both environment and biosecurity issues	90% of property owners provided with education		Achieved
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year education and engagement opportunities were taken to the community on both environmental and biosecurity needs. During the engagement Council provided both formal and informal conversations, handouts of informative brochures, information packs. All other requests were supplied electronically, postage or hand delivered		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
P5.2.2	Number of Shire shows, and local/regional field days attended	Environmental and Sustainability Co-Ordinator	100%	Completed	Completed		Four (4) Shire shows, and local/regional field days attended	Achieved
					Annual comment	During 2024/25-year Council attend all four shows across the Shire. The Parkes, Peak Hill, Trundle and Tullamore show. The Biosecurity Team completed planning, preparation and delivery of the on-site informational weeds trailer. The trailer was provided by the Macquarie and Lachlan Valley Weeds Association and contained education materials, plants and knowledge from on-site staff. The trailer contained pamphlets, brochures, and biosecurity information packs provided to the community. The Biosecurity Team on-site engaged directly with the community, friendly and positive stories and education outcomes			
P5.2.3	Engagement with the community through social and traditional media	Environmental and Sustainability Co-Ordinator	100%	Completed	Council presented two (2) media releases within the reporting period, with accompanying social media posts, focusing on Green Cestrum and African Boxthorn		Three (3) media releases Three (3) social media posts per year	Two (2) media releases and four (4) social media posts

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year we presented a total of four (4) social media posts and two (2) media releases. In quarter one our social media post highlighted the role Council's Biosecurity Team provide to the community and promoting the services we offer. In quarter two our social media post highlighted Silverleaf Nightshade and Blue Heliotrope as weeds to look out for and report to Council in spring. In quarter four two media releases focused on Green Cestrum and African Boxthorn (and these has accompanying social media posts)			

10 Sewerage



4 sewerage systems in Parkes, Peak Hill, Trundle and Tullamore

Overview

Parkes is serviced by a network of gravity pipelines. A new Sewage Treatment Plant was built in 2017 at a cost of $28M. The Plant is highly automated and energy efficient (energy consumption is further reduced by a 107kW solar array). It produces a high standard of effluent used for the Recycled Water Supply Scheme (discussed under the Water Supply function). It has a capacity of 15,000 equivalent persons (EP) and can be upgraded to 20,000 EP to accommodate population growth.

Peak Hill is also serviced by gravity pipelines. The Sewage Treatment Plant, built in the 1960s, was upgraded to address safety issues in 2000. Effluent from the plant is evaporated (not released from the site).

Trundle and Tullamore are serviced by a network of low pressure sewers constructed in 2010 and 2008 respectively. Both have simple Treatment Plants with no discharge to the environment.

S: Sewerage

Sewerage System

S1: We will utilize effective systems and frameworks to ensure our safe and sustainable sewerage systems are maintained

S1.1: Safely collect wastewater from the community

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
S1.1.1	Percentage of trade waste agreement coverage	Water Quality and Sustainability Specialist	75%	Progressing	During the second half of the year Council engaged an external consultant to undertake a review of current gaps in Council's Trade Waste application/approval process		50%	100%
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year 100% of new applications, or new enquiries for new applications were assessed and actioned accordingly. During the second half of the year Council engaged an external consultant to undertake a review of current gaps in Council's trade waste application/approval process to assist Council in formalising and streamlining the trade waste processes. The results will be reviewed in the next financial year		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
S1.1.2	Number of sewers chokes per 100km	Executive Manager Water Engineering	100%	Completed	Teams responded to twenty-nine (29) chokes in sewers during quarter four, and sixteen (16) during quarter three		Twenty (20)	Forty-two (42)
					Annual comment	During 2024/25-year Councils' sewer crews cleared seventy (70) chokes across Parkes sewers: forty-two (42) chokes per 100km of mains, which was above NSW benchmark of twenty (20)		
S1.1.3	Action a response to customer requests within 10-days	Executive Manager Water Engineering	100%	Completed	Council responded to a total of 253 customer requests involving the sewer network, 124 - blockages in the sewer network, 102 - low pressure systems, 16 - manholes and 11 - odours complaints. Infrastructure is working with the Customer department on Councils reporting system to improve the reporting system	100% of requests actioned within 10-days		Actioned requests, working towards accuracy of data, currently not available

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year Council responded to 253 customer requests in total. Involving the sewer network: 124 blockages in sewer network; 102 low pressure systems; 16 manholes and 11 odours issues. Ensuring better practice, and improving reporting systems, the infrastructure team worked with customer servicer teams		
S1.1.4	Percentage of customer complaints responded to in accordance with standards	Executive Manager Water Engineering	100%	Completed	There were zero customer complaints during quarter four, with the third quarter received 65 customer requests: 29 related to low-pressure system in Trundle and Tullamore. 36 in the Parkes/Peak Hill system which 16 blockages in main and 20 in customers sewer	100%		Achieved
					Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year there was total of 190 customer complaints: quarter one 75; quarter two 50; quarter three 65 and zero in quarter four. The percentage number of complaints is not something the infrastructure team can currently obtain		

S1.2: Sustainably treat wastewater

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
S1.2.1	Number of EPA License breaches	Executive Manager Water Engineering	100%	Completed	Zero license breaches occurred during the second half of the year		Zero	One (1)
					Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year there was one minor license breach recorded and reported accordingly in Council's Environmental Protection License Annual Return, the remainder of the year saw zero breaches		
S1.2.2	Cost of treatment per kL inflow	Executive Manager Water Engineering	100%	Completed	During quarters three and four the annual servicing occurred, resulting in the cost to treat effluent reducing from $0.86/kL to $0.60/kL		Maintained	$0.60/kL
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year costs continued with increases in power and chemical costs. The cost of treating effluent rose over the year to $0.69/kL up $0.03/kL from the 1st quarter. The chemical increase was 8% during the first quarter, and during this period delivered SCADA upgrade, which resulted in no flow reports. The first three-month period also had an increase in operational costs due to several annual servicing of integral plant items		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
S1.2.3	To reduce breakdown maintenance work, scheduled planned preventative maintenance work	Executive Manager Water Engineering	80%	Progressing	During the second half Council remained proactive with scheduled inspections, renewal was programmed at regular intervals and various internal audit. Scheduled inspections included manhole inspections, sewer mains and manholes relining. The third quarter saw the completion of replacement of band screens at the sewer treatment plant		Zero	Scheduled inspections maintained

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year Council was proactive with Asset Management this included, scheduled inspections, renewal was programmed at regular intervals and various internal audit. Scheduled inspections included manhole inspections, sewer mains and manholes relining. The third quarter saw the completion of replacement of band screens at the sewer treatment plant. The methodology to prioritise assets for rehabilitation was formulated. The annual capital programs were in place to replace watermains, reline sewer assets. Regular maintenance was in place for electrical and mechanical assets. Inspection and maintenance plan were being developed			

SI.3: Responsibly manage waste by-products of treatment

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
SI.3.1	Percentage of effluent reused	Manager Infrastructure Operations	100%	Completed	Council produced 110,291L of treated effluent in the last quarter which was 52% of total effluent received	100%		52% during quarters three and four

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year effluent was reused. The repairs to the Advanced Water Recycled Facility (AWRF) were completed by quarter three, producing150,000kL recycled water. 72% of effluent was received at the Sewer Treatment Plant (STP) reused in the Recycled Water System and the STP during quarter three. 33% of effluent received at the STP was reused in the recycled system during quarter two and 17% of the total volume pumped to the recycled system was sourced from bore water. Developed a dashboard for recording flows within the STP and the AWRF. The percentage data was not available during this reporting period			
S1.3.2	Percentage of bio-solids diverted from landfill	Manager Infrastructure Operations	100%	Completed	There were no biosolids removed from the Sewerage Treatment Plant during quarters three and four		100%	Ongoing
					Annual comment	During the first quarter of the 2024/25-year period 76 T of biosolids were transported to Northparkes Mine, and discussions around an additional 90 T. Throughout the remainder of the year meetings were held with Evolution Mines regarding taking additional biosolids to be transported into the new financial year		

S1.4: Safely and sustainably treat and distribute recycled water

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
S1.4.1	Number of samples not complying with operational Recycled Water Management System	Water Quality and Sustainability Specialist	100%	Completed	Complied		Zero	Achieved
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year all of the water samples complied with the Recycled Water Management System (RWMS)		
S1.4.2	Number of Critical Control Point exceedances	Water Quality and Sustainability Specialist	100%	Completed	Zero CPP exceedances were recorded during quarter's three and four		One	Zero
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year there were zero Critical Control Point (CPP) exceedances recorded		
S1.4.3	Recycled water supplied as a percentage of total demand	Water Quality and Sustainability Specialist	100%	Completed	Some minor disruptions to supply from the AWRF during the reporting period, but overall supply continued to meet demand		90%	Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment: The Advanced Water Recycling Facility (AWRF) was offline during most of quarter one, and for some time during quarter two. The AWRF encountered some supply issues during the 2024/2025 year. Once operational again, Council provided recycled water to all end users meeting the summer high demand. Some additional issues arose in quarter three and quarter four that caused minor disruptions, but overall supply continued to meet demand			
S1.4.4	Provide up to date stakeholder reporting	Water Quality and Sustainability Specialist	100%	Completed	Completed	Achieve		Achieved
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year up to date stakeholder reporting was delivered			
S1.4.5	Number of end user complaints	Water Quality and Sustainability Specialist	100%	Completed	There were no end user complaints received	Zero		Achieved
					Annual comment: During the 2024/25-year there were no complaints received from end users			

S1.5: Effectively capture and contain wastewater, whilst managing improvements in the system relating to wet weather and critical events

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
S1.5.1	Number of sewer system wet weather overflow events	Manager Infrastructure Operations	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year sewer teams responded to 9 requests in quarter three, resulting in overflow in the system. 3.8 ML of extra effluent flow was received at STP. The sewer team responded to 14 requests in quarter four relating to manhole overflows. None of these related to wet weather events	Zero overflow for 20% annual exceedance probability events and smaller		Two (2) events over the 12-months
					Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year the sewer teams responded: 36 manhole overflows, two (2) wet weather events. 111Ml inflow STP in December, an overall Rainfall Derived Infiltration and Inflow value of 20%, above the WSAA guideline of 8%		
S1.5.2	Increasing containment of sewer system wet weather	Executive Manager Water Engineering	100%	Completed	Council was developing a fully calibrated model which will be used as tool to analyse system capacity and make strategic decisions	10% containment		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	overflow events				Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year Council worked through some major augmentation project and relining programs. The annual lid replacement, sewer relining and manhole relining programs were used to reduce inflow and infiltration into the sewer network. The identified choke points and strategic plans were in place for augmentation works to accommodate flows. We have modelled the sewer network to identify the sections within the network that don't have capacity. We were and are working towards reliving pressure from the choked sections of the network			

11 Transport and drainage



800km of sealed and 1300km of unsealed roads



215 bridges



47km of footpaths and cycleways



65km of kerb and gutter



45km of urban stormwater drainage pipes



1 airport
3 landing strips



315 rural drainage culverts

Overview

Council is a key facilitator in projects and programs that ensure the transport and drainage of the Shire is appropriate for residents and visitors.

Grants or Council finances provide funding for roads within the Shire. Council receives several ongoing grants to help fund the Shire's road network generally and for specific regional roads. Beyond its road network, Council completes work under the Road Maintenance Council Contract on national and state highways with Transport for NSW. Parkes, Forbes and Lachlan Shire have shared resources to develop and implement suitable Road Safety Campaigns to maximise road safety. Council also manages alternative transport, continually expanding and maintaining transport options such as footpaths and cycleways.

Continued collaboration with Regional Express enables the Parkes Regional Airport to continue as a gateway to the region.

Council conducts numerous activities to ensure the infrastructure and management for Urban stormwater is sufficient during times of unexpected and high rainfall.

T: Transport and Drainage

Sealed Roads

T1: We will maintain and expand Shire's sealed road network with safety and efficiency in mind through the planning and construction of the roads

T1.1: Ensure effective maintenance of Council's sealed Road Network through the Roads and Maintenance Program

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
T1.1.1	Maintain compliance of sealed roads in line with Council's Condition Assessment Inspection Schedule and Strategic Asset Management Plan	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	Completed	100% compliance		Achieved
					Annual comment	The 2024/25-year saw the commencement and completion of an extensive condition assessment across the seal road network, through revaluation. The teams completed condition assessments and inspections aligning with Councils Strategic Asset Management Plan, ensuring informed decision-making for future maintenance and renewal activities		
T1.1.2	Length of table drains to be		100%	Completed	Completed	20km per annum		Cleared

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	cleared per kilometer, per annum	Executive Manager Operations			Annual comment	Throughout the year 2024/25, Council continued its maintenance of the sealed road network through the Roads and Maintenance Program. As part of the ongoing upgrades, table drains were cleaned to maintain proper drainage, which is vital for the long-term performance of the road network. Table drain clearing was undertaken in isolated areas in response to storm water management and recent flash flooding events. Larger scale table drain clearing was undertaken alongside the emergency works period under the AGRN1925 natural disaster claim. By ensuring the drains remain clear, Council is helping to protect the road pavement, thereby increasing its durability and extending its lifespan		
T1.1.3	Action a response to Customer Requests within 10-days regarding sealed roads	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	Actioned	100% of requests actioned within 10-days		Achieved
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year customer requests regarding sealed roads were actioned within the 10-day target timeframe. Requests were evaluated for urgency using the Asset Management System in conjunction with site inspections to ensure safety and efficient use of resources. Urgent repairs were carried out promptly, while non-urgent issues were scheduled within the broader planned maintenance and construction program. This approach supported the ongoing maintenance and strategic expansion of the Shire's sealed road network with a strong focus on safety and efficiency			

T1.2: Ensure effective upgrade and renewals of Council's sealed Road Network through the Capital Works Program

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
T1.2.1	Length of sealed road reseals per kilometer, per annum	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	Completed		20km per annum	Completed
					Annual comment	The operational team were committed to the maintenance in the expanding Shire's sealed road network with safety and efficiency in mind throughout the 2024/25-year, with key upgrades and renewal works were delivered through the Capital Works Program. During the second quarter with the support of capital funding, we were successful in the completion of 7km of reseals on Sunnyside Lane and Yarrabandi Road as part of our road maintenance efforts. The grant funded project that has made headway during the second half of the year were the upgrades to the Bogan Road and Alagala		
T1.2.2	Length of pavement rehabilitation per kilometer per annum	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year Council continued to upgrade the sealed road network with a total of 4.5km completed on The Bogan Way and Alalaga		3.5 km per annum	4.5km

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Council continued to upgrade the sealed road network throughout the 2024/25-year. During the second quarter, in the warmer weather, pavement rehabilitation was completed on the identified sections of road throughout the Shire. Areas targeted were approved under the flood damaged claim, in combination with Councils Asset Management System, and visual inspections. We continued to target sections of the sealed network that were approved under the flood damaged claim, in combination with Councils Asset Management System, and visual inspections A total of 4.5km was completed on The Bogan Way and Alalaga			

T2.1: Ensure effective maintenance of Council's unsealed Road Network through the Roads and Maintenance Program

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
T2.1.1	Maintain compliance of unsealed roads in line with Council's Condition	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	The targets for maintaining the unsealed road network through ongoing effective maintenance efforts were delivered	100% compliance		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Assessment Inspection Schedule and Strategic Asset Management Plan				Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year Council successfully achieved the required output for maintaining the unsealed road network through the ongoing effective maintenance conducted during the year. The Roads and Maintenance Program was implemented, ensuring that unsealed roads remained compliant with the Council's Condition Assessment Inspection Schedule and Strategic Asset Management Plan. This effort was further supported with additional resources, by the AGRN1034 flood funding		
T2.1.2	Action a response to Customer Requests within 10-days regarding unsealed roads	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	Completed		100% of requests actioned within 10-days	Achieved
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year customer requests related to unsealed roads were acknowledged within the 10-day target timeframe. The requests were evaluated based on urgency, using both the Asset Management System and onsite inspections to guide prioritization. Urgent issues were addressed promptly, while non-urgent matters were scheduled as part of planned maintenance. This proactive and responsive approach ensured the community continued to have access to a safe and effective unsealed road network		

Unsealed Roads

T2: We will provide the community with access to safe and effective roads through the appropriate planning, construction, and maintenance of the unsealed road network.

T2.2: Ensure effective upgrade and renewals of Council's unsealed Road Network through the Capital Works Program

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
T2.2.1	Length of road resheeted	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	This second half of the year saw 18 kilometres of resheeting completed during quarter three, and further resheeting into quarter four, as part of our ongoing infrastructure development, from the Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund (RERRF)	20 km per annum		Over 50km
					Annual comment	Council continued to ensure the community had access to safe and effective roads through the planning, construction, and maintenance of the unsealed road network. During the quarters kilometres of resheeting were completed as part of our ongoing infrastructure development, utilising the Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund (RERRF). Resheeting included roads like Coopers Road, Lake Endeavour Road, Worrigal Road, Dwyers Road, Rogers Lane and Wattle Bank as part of the planned road program. The first half of the year included resheeting of 20km. It is expected with the next financial year being unfunded that gravel patching may be required		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
T2.2.2	Length of table drains to be cleared per kilometre per annum	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	The operational team continued to meet its objectives during the second half of the year		20 km per annum	Achieved
					Annual comment	The funding from the RERRF and AGRN1034 grants, supplemented by Council's operational funds, were utilised to maintain the effectiveness of the unsealed road network with the implementation of planned upgrades and maintenance works. Delivering measurable improvements through the Capital Works Program. The additional 10km plus of table drain cleaning was completed during the year, demonstrating our commitment to maintaining and enhancing the unsealed road network. This output ensures better drainage efficiency, reducing road deterioration and improving safety for all users		
T2.2.3	Grant funded upgrade and renewal projects are completed before funding deadlines	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	Achieved and continued to make significant progress in upgrading and renewing the unsealed road network through the Capital Works Program during the second half of the year. The Bogan Road project saw commencement and completion of the resheeting of 16km		100%	Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	The Council focused on the effective upgrade and renewal of its unsealed road network through the Capital Works Program. This initiative was made possible through a strategic combination of funding sources, including the Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund (RERRF) and the AGRN1034 Restorative Works Claim, both of which continue to support the Capital Works Program. Projects were managed in alignment with grant funding guidelines to ensure that upgrades and renewals of the unsealed network are completed on schedule with funding deadlines			

Regional Roads

T3: We will ensure our regional roads are well maintained and developed through the utilization of appropriate construction, maintenance, and planning processes.

T3.1: Ensure effective maintenance of regional roads through the Roads Maintenance Program

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
T3.1.1	Action a response to customer requests within 10 days regarding regional roads	Executive Manager Operations	1000%	Completed	During the fourth quarter completion of the MR354, MR57, and MR350	100% of requests actioned within 10-days		Achieved
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year Council continued to commence and deliver the upgrades of Regional Road network, with the targeted resealing works successfully completed on the MR354, the MR57, and the MR350. Due to the winter weather approaching at the end of quarter four, further resealing works were scheduled for the next financial year, aligned with available funding and optimal weather conditions			

T3.2: Ensure effective upgrade and renewals of regional roads through the Capital Works Program

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
T3.2.1	Length of sealed road reseals per	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	During the fourth quarter completion of the MR354, MR57, and MR350	7.5 km		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	kilometer, per annum				Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year Council continued to commence and deliver the upgrades of Regional Road network, with the targeted resealing works successfully completed on the MR354, the MR57, and the MR350. Due to the winter weather approaching at the end of quarter four, further resealing works were scheduled for the next financial year, aligned with available funding and optimal weather conditions		
T3.2.2	Length of pavement rehabilitation per kilometer, per annum	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year a total of 2km of rehabilitation works were completed on MR348 Tullamore – Peak Hill Road, aligning with the objectives of the Capital Works Program	1.5 km per annum		Achieved
					Annual comment	Council during the 2024/25-year maintained the sealed road network through the delivery of the Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund (RERRF) program in accordance with Transport for NSW guidelines and road hierarchy. The works were coupled with the AGRN1034 claim to extend the value and efficiency of works. Rehabilitation completed on MR350, Bogan Road, north Bogan Gate and MR348 Tullamore Peak Hill		
T3.2.3	Length of unsealed roads re-sheeted per	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	The MR348 Tullamore-Peak Hill Road was successfully re-sheeted	2km per annum		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	kilometer per annum				Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year the Capital Works Program had notable progress made in the upgrade and renewal of the regional roads. The MR348 Tullamore-Peak Hill Road was successfully re-sheeted in required areas, further advancing our goal of improving the condition of the unsealed road network. Ongoing planning efforts are focused on securing further funding to upgrade unsealed sections of the road to a sealed surface. This initiative is driven by the growing presence of heavy vehicles, ensuring the road network can accommodate increased traffic loads while improving safety and long-term durability		
T3.2.4	Delivery upgrades to the Bogan Way (North and South)	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed			Delivered by 30 May 2025	Delivered
					Annual comment	Significant progression and completion occurred on the MR350 project this 2024/25-year all seven (7) projects completed. The final component of this capital grant involved surface works, heavy patching and resurfacing was completed		
T3.2.5			90%	Progressing	Achieved		Delivered by 30 June 2024	Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Deliver upgrades to Regional Roads in line with Block Grant funding	Executive Manager Operations			Annual comment	Council effectively delivered upgrades and renewals to the regional road network through the Capital Works Program throughout the 2024/25-year. During the first half using block grant funding and targeted areas were identified within the capital works program like the MR348 Tullamore Peak Hill Road rehabilitation. The MR354 McGrane Way and MR57 also had rehabilitation of 2km. During the second half of the year 4km of rehabilitation works on MR348 Tullamore–Peak Hill Road, along with resealing works on MR350 The Bogan Way and MR57 The Bogan Way		

Other Transport and Overheads

T4: We will develop and maintain alternative transport options to suit the needs of the Shire

T4.1: Other Transport Maintenance Program

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
T4.1.1	Action a response to customer requests within 10-days	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	Actioned	100% of requests actioned within 10-days		Achieved
					Annual comment	Customer requests were acknowledged within the 10-day target timeframe and integrated into maintenance schedules to optimise productivity. High-risk defects were assessed and prioritised based on their risk level, with temporary signage installed where necessary to ensure safety until permanent repairs could be carried out		

T4.2: Ensure Gravel Pits are responsibly managed and utilised

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
T4.2.1	Ensure compliance with relevant legislation relating to the	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	Council ensured responsible management, securing the necessary gravel from quarries for required works and utilisation of gravel pits	Zero breaches		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	operations of gravel and pits with no breaches recorded				Annual comment: During the first half of the 2024/25-year, full compliance with achieved. The gravel pit operations recorded no breaches. A competitive procurement process was undertaken to secure the best value-for-money, resulting in the contract for gravel crushing being awarded to Denrith Pty Ltd. As part of the procurement and assessment process, mine safety management plans were thoroughly reviewed to ensure compliance with industry standards. Council continued to monitor the contract through ongoing performance management, ensuring that all safety requirements were met and operational standards were maintained			
T4.2.2	Responsibly, manage contractors to ensure legislative compliance is utilized to ensure no breaches are recorded	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	The second half of the year saw regular site inspections completed, the use of a communications register, and adherence to detailed management plans enabled Council to oversee contractor operations in line with the terms of the current contract	Zero breaches		Achieved
					Annual comment: The Council remained dedicated to conducting all gravel pit operations responsibly, with a strong focus on safety, compliance, and sustainability. Regular site inspections, the use of a communications register, and adherence to detailed management plans enabled Council to oversee contractor operations in line with the terms of the current contract			

T4.3: Ensure all Council roadsides are managed in accordance with Council's Roadside Vegetation Management Plan

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
T4.3.1	Council's Roadside Vegetation Management Plan is consulted for all roadworks and is kept up-to-date and accessible	Environmental and Sustainability Co-Ordinator	100%	Completed	Council's Roadside Vegetation Management Plan (RVMP) continued to be consulted throughout both quarters three and four		Achieve	Achieved
					Annual comment: Council's Roadside Vegetation Management Plan (RVMP) was consulted throughout the 2024/2025-year. Minor changes to roadside conservation area ratings were noted since the report was updated in 2019. The existing mapping available in IntraMaps remained current. All roadwork projects included an environmental assessment, which considered the impact of the proposed works on native vegetation within the project footprint			

T4.4: We will develop and maintain alternative transport options to suit the needs of the Shire

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
T4.4.1			100%	Completed	Achieved		3.5km per annum	Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Length of pavement rehabilitation	Executive Manager Operations			Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year footpath rehabilitation provided significant improvement connectivity across towns and Parkes. Council remained dedicated to enhancing the footpath accessibility and actively planning further upgrades throughout the region. The first half of this year Tullamore footpath was initiated enhancing 700 meters of pathways. Church and Clarinda Streets in Parkes had additional renewals works completed. Council took the opportunity to co-fund improvements, this initiative eliminated grade changes caused by utility lids and enhanced pavement treatment in the CBD. The East Street Road upgrades saw completion of 800 metres of footpath. The second half of the year saw the completion of footpath renewals and the construction of a new footpath as part of the Bogan Gate upgrade		
T4.4.2	Number of footpaths/shared paths per lineal metre constructed	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	Completed		2,500 square metres		Achieved
					Annual comment	The 2024/25-year saw the commencement and completion of projects with 2,135m2 during the first half and 2,500m2 expected delivery in the second half. Projects included the East Street bridge, and the Tullamore Get New South Wales active programs and other footpath projects			

Urban Stormwater

T5: We will effectively manage stormwater across the Shire through effective planning and development strategies

T5.1: Conduct maintenance activities to ensure stormwater is effectively managed within the Shire

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
T5.1.1	Action a response to customer requests within 10-days	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	Achieved		100% of requests actioned within 10-days	Actioned
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year customer requests were acknowledged within the 10-day target		

T5.2: Undertake capital works to ensure the stormwater management system continues to meet the needs of the community

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
T5.2.1	Deliver Parkes CBD Flood Mitigation Works project	Manager Infrastructure Operations	100%	Completed	On going planning works were completed with the flood mitigation of Parkes		Delivered by 30 June 2025	Extension to December 2025
					Annual comment	The 2024/25-year saw the commencement and completion of detail designs and the relocation of services. Council was granted permission to commence construction starting in spring for delivery by December 2025		

Regional Airport

T6: We will ensure the Parkes Regional Airport can continue serving as a gateway to the Shire by aligning development and maintenance strategies with regulatory guidelines and community needs.

T6.1: Ensure effective maintenance and operation of the Parkes Regional Airport

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
T6.1.1	Compliance with Civil Aviation Safety Authority surveillance activities	Manager Facilities	100%	Completed	Completed	100% compliance		Achieved
					Annual comment	During 2024/25-year all inspections required to maintain Council's Certification for the Parkes Regional Airport were undertaken		
T6.1.2	Maintain Parkes Regional Airport Certification	Manager Facilities	100%	Completed	Completed	100% compliance		100%
					Annual comment	100% compliance during the 2024/25-year as Parkes Regional Airport continued to provide a high quality compliant aviation facility for the Parkes community		

Road Council Contract

T7: We will maintain our partnership with Transport NSW, enabling the ongoing development and maintenance of state and national highways within the Shire

T7.1: Ensure development and maintenance of State and National Highways within the Shire

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
T7.1.1	Compliance with the Road Maintenance Council Contract	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	Council continued with Transport approved work order for works as well as general maintenance on the approved network	100% compliance		Achieved
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year works were planned and scheduled, and Council collaborated closely with TfNSW to deliver all services under the Road Maintenance Council Contract (RMCC) in full compliance with their standards and regulations. Monthly meetings were held to ensure clear communication between Transport and Council			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
T7.1.2	Obtaining a Contractor Performance Report (CPR)	Executive Manager Operations	100%	Completed	Council continued its role in the development and maintenance of State and National Highways within the Shire. While the current contractor performance rating stands at 66%, closer liaison with the contract representative will be essential to gain approval and set clear expectations. This will support Council in improving performance outcomes and achieving a higher contractor performance rating moving forward	Achieve 80% with CPR		65%
					Annual comment: Council continued its role in the development and maintenance of State and National Highways within the Shire. The year ended with a contractor performance rating stand at 65%, closer liaison with the contract representative will be essential to gain approval and set clear expectations. This will support Council in improving performance outcomes and achieving a higher contractor performance rating moving forward			

Road Safety

T8: We will continue developing appropriate road safety programs in partnership with Transport for NSW to align with the road safety plan

T8.1: Road Safety Plan

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
T8.1.1	Deliver the 'NOT A STATISTIC! Youth Driver Education Program' as part of the Parkes, Forbes and Lachlan Shire Councils' Road Safety Action Plan 2024–2025	Road Safety and Injury Prevention Officer	100%	Completed	Auditions for youth actors to play the role of the driver and passengers in the mock crash demonstration have been held and the cast have been selected. Filming the establishing scenes and victim impact statements has been completed. The mock crash demonstration day is locked in with the seven local high schools participating and buses booked. Pre and post lesson dates/times have been scheduled	Delivered in August 2024		Achieved
					Annual comment	The first half of the year saw the closure of the 2024-program with the annual mock crash demonstration delivered to approximately 400 year-10 students with positive feedback from the event. The second half of the year planning commenced during quarter four, making the preparations for the 2025-program		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
T8.1.2	Deliver the 'Free Cuppa for the Driver Scheme' project as part of the Parkes, Forbes and Lachlan Shire Councils' Road Safety Action Plan 2023–2024	Road Safety and Injury Prevention Officer	0%	Not Progressing	This project remained on hold this half of the year	Delivered between March and May 2025		Project on hold
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year this project remained on hold. TfNSW requested a strategic review which has remained in the planning phase		
T8.1.3	Deliver 'Helping Learner Drivers Become Safer Drivers' workshops as part of the Parkes, Forbes and Lachlan Shire Councils' Road Safety Action Plan 2024–2025	Road Safety and Injury Prevention Officer	0%	Not progressing	This project did not proceed	Two rounds delivered		Not progressing
					Annual comment	This project did not proceed this 2024/25-year due to the withdrawal from the 2024/2025 Road Safety Action Plan		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
T8.1.4	Deliver the 'I'm Counting on You' project as part of the Parkes, Forbes and Lachlan Shire Councils' Road Safety Action Plan 2024–2025	Road Safety and Injury Prevention Officer	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year preparations commenced for the May online workshops, confirming dates for Parkes, Forbes and Condobolin. RSIPO attended a new mum's group in Forbes during quarter three in February, presenting the types of child restraints, national laws, accessories, correct fitting and FAQs. A total of 21 child restrains were inspected with 79% needing adjustments. Two child car seat safety workshops were held, with positive feedback received with a 5-star rating and net promotor score of 100	Delivered during 2024-25		Achieved
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year child car seat safety workshops were held both face-to-face and online. The RSIPO delivering information sessions to the new mum's group, a teddy bears picnic and several workshops delivering information on child restraints, national laws, accessories, correct fitting and FAQs			
T8.1.5			100%	Completed	Completed	Delivered in December 2024		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Deliver the 'Plan B' project as part of the Parkes, Forbes and Lachlan Shire Councils' Road Safety Action Plan 2024–2025	Road Safety and Injury Prevention Officer			Annual comment	The 2024/25-year commenced with planning and preparations for the 'Plan B' project. RSIPO connected with local licensed venues regarding their merchandise orders for the 2024 campaign. All 54 participating venues received a total of 54 swags and merchandise. The project was successfully delivered and feedback provided, planning now for the 2025/2026 promotion		
T8.1.6	Deliver the 'Heavy Vehicle Safety' project as part of the Parkes, Forbes and Lachlan Shire Councils' Road Safety Action Plan 2024–2025	Road Safety and Injury Prevention Officer	100%	Completed	The final component of this project was delivered	Delivered during 2024-25		Acheived
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year the 'Be Road Ready for Harvest' field day had planning, preparation and delivery during the first quarter. The annual event was held at the Forbes Saleyards with 60 people attending. The event covered conditional registration, auxiliary plates, fresnal lenses, fatigue, heavy vehicle access, NHVR compliance approach, mobile phone rules, load restraint, last mile access to silos and the relevant notices and travel requirements. Council staff, government agencies and associations were joined by farmers, contract harvesters, truck drivers, transport companies. There were interactive activities outside which included, measuring agricultural equipment and working out the travel requirements as well as a weighing display		
T8.1.7	Deliver the 'Observation	Road Safety and Injury	0%	Not progressing	This project was withdrawn	Delivered before October 2024 and April 2025		Not progressing

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Surveys' project as part of the Parkes, Forbes and Lachlan Shire Councils' Road Safety Action Plan 2024–2025	Prevention Officer			Annual comment	This project was withdrawn from the 2024/2025 Road Safety Action Plan			

12 Water supply



3 Water supply schemes

Overview

The Parkes-Peak Hill scheme draws from a combination of surface water from the Lachlan River, 15km east of Forbes and the Lake Endeavour and Beargamil dams as well as groundwater from bores located on the Escort Way associated with the Lachlan River through to the Parkes Water Treatment Plant. It is then treated at the Parkes Water Treatment Plant before being supplied to consumers at Parkes, Peak Hill, Alectown, Cookamidgera and Trewilga. The scheme also supplies raw water to Northparkes Mine. A major project for the next Delivery Program involves increasing the security of supply – largely to cater for increased demand associated with the Special Activation Precinct – by constructing additional bores and a new pipeline from the river and bore supplies at the Lachlan River through to the Parkes Water Treatment Plant.

The Forbes Tottenham scheme supplies towns on the western side of the Shire. This is also known as the B section of pipeline. Water is purchased from Forbes Shire Council, who draws it from the Lachlan River and treats it (for its own supply as well) before it is piped to the towns of Bogan Gate, Gunningbland, Trundle, and Tullamore. Parkes Shire Council then sells it to Lachlan Shire Council to supply Tottenham.

The Recycled Water Scheme draws treated effluent from the Parkes Recycled Water Plant and supplies it to a number of parks and sportsgrounds around Parkes, as well as commercial users. It is an important means of reducing the demand on potable water resources. A major project for the next Delivery Program involves connecting a number of third-party users to the scheme. This could include a number of low risk, high water use business and not-for-profit organisations to provide a lower cost non-potable water option.

WS: Water Supply

Water Supply

WS1: We will provide appropriate maintenance, development, infrastructure and ongoing operational activities that align with community needs, regulatory guidelines and long-term sustainability concerns

WS1.1: Water sources effectively are managed to meet the Shire's needs

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
WS1.1.1	Audits of critical infrastructure	Executive Manager Water Engineering	100%	Completed	Routine inspections were carried out during this period. The asset teams actively, involved the operations team with asset inspections and audits of critical infrastructure like the water treatment plant, reservoirs and pump stations	Ten (10)		Achieved
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year routine inspections were carried out. Document improvement initiatives were undertaken with documentation. Identifying the results and process for actions, with plans to progress to using Tech one EAM for this purpose moving forward			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
WS1.1.2	Water is effectively sourced from bore, river, dam and supernatant supplies	Executive Manager Water Engineering	100%	Completed	During the third quarter bore two was commissioned producing over 26,000 kL whilst bores three and five continued as favoured water sources. Quarter three: bore one 440,180 bore two 26,690 bore three 487,110 bore four 296,500 bore five 521,730. Quarter four: bore three and five 1,461,710 and 1,924,490kL; bores one, two and four 1,357,150, 476,260 and 1,039,150		Achieve	Water achieved sourced evenly across bore fields
					Annual comment: During the first half of the 2024/25-year water was sourced predominantly from both bores three and four, as bore two was offline following issues with power supply. Whilst during this period the river was not used, and Lake Endeavour remained offline due to damage from the 2022 floods. During the second quarter water was drawn from bores one and five. Annual extractions: Bore one 3,909,140kL, bore two 502,950kL, bore three 3,543,790kL, bore four 2,398,950kL, bore five 4,239,350kL with a further 7,411,700kL drawn from Lachlan River			

WS1.2: Ensure the integrity and performance of our water supply network

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
WS1.2.1	Maintain Council's Water Conservation and Drought Management Program	Executive Manager Water Engineering	80%	Progressing	Council assets and operations team managed the infrastructure, ensuring community needs are catered for along with compliance with the regulatory guidelines. Including water main and valves replacements		Maintained	Maintained
					Annual comment	A Raw Water storage lagoon constructed providing extra storage. The Regional drought resilience plan is in place. There were programs in place reducing leakages and non-revenue water including pressure management. Watermain replacement, valve and hydrant replacement was in place to ensure assets were maintained and optimised. Council monitored daily water operations including flows, reservoir levels and demand which is used to forecast different scenarios. Major projects were underway to provide water resilience. During the year m major projects were underway to provide water resilience			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
WS1.2.2	Volume of non-revenue water	Executive Manager Water Engineering	80%	Progressing	Council partnered with state body and joint organisation to build a knowledge hub on how to tackle non-revenue water. This included doing water balance tests to quantify the non-revenue water. Based on previous calculations and current experience, the volume of non-revenue water is either consistent or declining		Declining	Investigations
					Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year period Council installed 416 smart meters in Peak Hill. This will provide real time data on water consumption. As a part of the pressure management program to reduce non-revenue water, pressure reducing valves were installed at Peak Hill. Council developed a non-revenue water dashboard, with support from the State Government which will be ongoing. Council installed pressure sensors and acoustic sensors at various locations to detect leaks. Council started replacing old water meters to account for apparent losses			

WS1.3: Ensure the Drinking Water Quality Management System is effectively utilized

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
WS1.3.1	Number of Critical Control Point exceedances	Manager Infrastructure Operations	100%	Completed	Zero Critical Control Point breaches this reporting period		Zero	Achieved
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year there were zero CCP breaches at the plant			
WS1.3.2	Number of non-compliant samples	Infrastructure Operations Manager	100%	Completed	During quarter three the Water Treatment Plant had three (3) non-compliant samples due to low-fluoride levels as of a power supply. Quarter four saw a sample returned a coliform defect, the investigations identified a sample error. Chlorine improvement levels were seen in water level changes in the Peak Hill reservoir. During June fluoride levels were returned within guideline levels		Declining	Nineteen (19)
					Annual comment: During the 2024/25-year 19 samples were not within the health guidelines. A breakdown with the fluoride dosing unit caused 16 low-levels in drinking water. Low chlorine residuals were returned within guideline levels			

WS1.4: Efficiently operate the water supply system

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
WS1.4.1	Cost of production per kL	Manager Infrastructure Operations	100%	Completed	During the third quarter the cost of production was down despite a 19% increase in the total volume of water treated. The timing of the chemical deliveries contributed to this increase with no coagulant chemical ordered during a three-month period and pumping cost per kL was down slightly due to better efficiencies with higher flow rates. The fourth quarter costs to treat a ML increased, due to the chemical delivery $0.73/ML		Maintain	$0.78 annual costs to treat per ML
					Annual comment	During 2024/25-year annual cost to treat water rose $0.78 per ML. This increase rose due to higher pumping costs, but overall chemical and treatment costs remained stable		

WS1.5: Provide the Shire with sufficient water supplies through effective water distribution

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
WS1.5.1	Number of water quality complaints	Manager Infrastructure Operations	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year four customer complaints were received. Two in each quarter: Dirty water due to main break; Odour was tested and returned to normal results and pressure. Mains were flushed; all tests returned within guidelines values		Declining	Fifteen (15)
					Annual comment	During the 2024/25-year teams responded to 15 customer requests. Five (5) related to issues following a water main break in their area. Council also received requests on the hardness of towns water. The Water Treatment Plant provided safe drinking water within Australian Drinking Water Guidelines		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
WS1.5.2	Number of unplanned supply interruptions	Manager Infrastructure Operations	100%	Completed	During this second half of the year Council responded to 23 water main breaks, with only three interruptions to the water supply to Parkes shire residents. Out of the 23 this included: 11 water main breaks with the mains shut off to complete repair and six repaired under reduced pressure. Nine repaired without turning off water and only the three interruptions		Maintain	Nine (9)
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year the water teams repaired a total of thirty-three (33) water mains, with a total of nine (9) resulting in the number of unplanned supply interruptions			

WS1.6: Recycled Water is safe for municipal irrigation

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
WS1.6.1	Number of samples not complying with Australian Drinking Water Guide (ADWG)	Manager Infrastructure Operations	100%	Completed	During quarter three the Water Treatment Plant had three (3) non-compliant samples due to low-fluoride levels as of a power supply. Quarter four saw a sample returned a coliform defect, the investigations identified a sample error. Chlorine improvement levels were seen in water level changes in the Peak Hill reservoir. During June fluoride levels were returned within guideline levels		Zero	Nineteen (19)
					Annual comment: During the 2024/25-year 19 samples were not within the health guidelines. A breakdown with the fluoride dosing unit caused 16 low-levels in drinking water. Low chlorine residuals were returned within guideline levels			
WS1.6.2	Action a response to customer requests	Manager Infrastructure Operations	100%	Completed	The third quarter there were zero customer requests, whilst 64 were received during quarter four	100% of customer requests actioned within 10-days		Actioned

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	within 10-days				Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year a total of 394 customer requests were received. These requests were actioned by water crews within set timelines. During the year implementation measures were used to collect the data to work towards response improvements and tangible data collections		

Water Security Project

WS2: We will ensure the Water Security Project has been appropriately designed, constructed, and commissioned for the needs of the community

WS2.1: Design the water security project to meet the changing needs of the community

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
WS2.1.1	Complete detailed design of the Drought Relief Program Project (refurbishment of Bore 1, 3, 4 and 5 and replacement of Bore 2)	Executive Manager Water Engineering	100%	Completed	Completed detailed design	Complete detailed design by 30 June 2024		Achieved
					Annual comment	Completed during the 2024/25-year the detailed design of the Drought Relief Program Project (refurbishment of Bore 1, 3, 4 and 5 and replacement of Bore 2)		
WS2.1.2	Finalize the Integrated Water Cycle Management study	Executive Manager Water Engineering	100%	Completed	Study completed	Study finalized by 30 June 2025		Achieved
					Annual comment	Completed during the 2024/25-year the Integrated Water Cycle Management study		

WS2.2: Ensure the Water Security Project can meet community needs through effective construction

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
WS2.2.1	Construction of the Drought Relief Program project (refurbishment of Bore 1, 3, 4 and 5 and replacement of Bore 2) commenced	Executive Manager Water Engineering	100%	Completed	Commenced	Construction commenced by 30 June 2025		Achieved
					Annual comment	Project commenced		
WS2.2.2	Construction of the Building	Executive Manager	80%	Progressing	Construction commenced	Construction commenced by 30 June 2025		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	Better Regions Fund Project (Lachlan River Pump Station, Eugowra Road/Lachlan River Pre-treatment Plant and Solar, Lachlan River Additional Bore and Parkes Water Treatment Plant Raw Water Dam) commenced	Water Engineering			Annual comment	Council completed construction of all works under the Building Better regions Fund. ERPS (Eugowra Rd Pump St) and ARPS (Eugowra Rd Pump St) design progressed, and target is for procurement by end August 2025. Bore two license was rejected by the approval body. Council was pushing to apply for the new license based on advice from industry partners. Lachlan River Pre-treatment Plant was put on hold (design is ready) as Council was seeking funding to build in future. Solar at the same facility was completed		

13 Waste management



Domestic waste management



Commercial waste and recycling facilities



Waste education and sustainability

Overview

As the traditional means of landfilling increases in cost, Parkes Shire Council has adapted to prioritise recycling and resource recovery. Council complies with all regulatory requirements, when transitioning to newer methods of waste management. An example of this compliance is ensuring domestic waste management activities are 'self-funded', complying with the NSW Local Government Act (section 504).

To ensure Council activities are efficiently run, Council maintains a contract with JR Richards to service the collection of residential and commercial waste at eligible properties across the Shire, operating a three-bin collection service. For additional waste that cannot be collected with JR Richards, Council operates 8 waste depots within the Shire.

Council collaborates with various organisations to enhance waste outcomes within the Shire. Collaboration continues with NetWaste, enabling cooperative projects to improve planning and delivery of waste management services across the region. While Visy Australia processes recyclable materials collected within the shire, ensuring items are correctly categorised and sold to reprocessing companies.

W: Waste Management

Domestic Waste Management

W1: We will provide effective domestic waste collection, minimize waste to landfill and promote widespread adoption of recycling and waste reduction.

W1.1: Provide effective domestic waste collection services to deliver positive public health, environmental and economic outcomes for the community

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
W1.1.1	Action a response to customer requests within 10-days	Waste Management Coordinator	100%	Completed	Actioned		100%	Actioned
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year customer requests were actioned within 10-days, and some actions progressed within 3-days		
W1.1.2	Review of the Parkes Waste Strategy, including the effective management	Waste Management Coordinator	100%	Completed	The second half of the year saw an increase in bin theft since the cash-a-can was installed at the RSL Club. Streets impacted were Grenfell/Cecile/May/Goobang Streets	Reviewed completed		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	of the 3-bin service contract				Annual comment	The Parkes Waste Strategy was reviewed including the 3-bin service contract. Contractor JR Richards is coming into its ninth year. Considerations were given regarding green waste collection moving from Forbes instead of Blayney for possible a quicker turnaround. Encouragement to residential owners to consider painting their bins with their address, to deter the high theft of bins in the areas located near the cash-a-can. JR Richards were quick to replace bins ageing and damaged bins, which were provided free as part of their contract. Ongoing customer reviews continued throughout the year		
W1.1.3	Liaise with the NSW Environment Protection Authority	Waste Management Coordinator	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year training was completed, applied to EPA for two grants, one to close landfills and educational use on FOGO bins	Active involvement in investigation of new technologies		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	("NSW EPA") and Regional Growth Development Corporation ("RGDC") to investigate new technologies waste management				Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year we worked closely with both RGDC and EPA. Opportunities commenced and completed with Sircel regarding e-waste recycling. Shared agreement was successfully completed. Attended all EPA workshops and online training sessions. We are a member of the kerbside collection workgroup and the asbestos group. Participated in integrate waste tracking for asbestos and other hazardous substances (EPA). Netwaste completed a group application for scrap together for education tools on FOGO bins, highlights on other waste improvements. DrumMaster training was completed for four (4) staff, and monthly reporting was completed. Both Parkes and Peak Hill had inspections and containment monitored for compliance actions by staff at the manned sites. Over the last 6-months over 33,500 chemical drums were removed from the Shire landfills			
W1.1.4	Conduct annual audits on general recycling and green bins	Waste Management Coordinator	100%	Completed	During this second half Envirocom Staff were on-site, completing an audit and provided tipping needs for locals at Parkes waste facility. Successful results with positive feedback on high level of organisation, tip attendants' assistance and agreeable to the charged fees. The bulky waste collection was successfully commenced and completed	Minimum of one audit per year		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year audits were completed. Inspections were planned and delivered. The first half of the year saw yellow and green residential bins inspected. Broken bins were replaced and contaminated bins were identified and residents received educational support. Envirocoms audit on yellow bins gave 78% to Parkes. JR Richards completed an audit across green bins, non-compliant bins received stickers notifying the residents. The bulky waste kerbside collection was successfully delivered, with compliance for kerbside presentation vs laneways. Diverted from landfill included metal/whitegoods/e-waste/mattress piles for recycling and household furniture going to piles for construction and demolition			
W1.1.5	Reporting all illegally dumped waste to RIDonline	Waste Management Coordinator	100%	Completed	This quarter saw a reduction in dumped waste; this could be in line with the bulky waste collection. The reported twelve dump spots included items of household waste like mattresses and whitegoods		Each quarter upload CRM data to RID		Achieved
					Annual comment	Throughout the 2024/25-year illegally dumped waste was reported to RIDonline with photos and pin drop locations provided. Councils ranges, work and services teams removed the illegal dumping's			

W1.2: Council provides facilities for residents to dispose of waste were public health, environmental and economic outcomes are considered

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
W1.2.1	Percentage of waste diverted from landfill utilizing resource recovery at transfer station and waste management facilities	Waste Management Coordinator	100%	Completed	During the second half additional recycling bins were provided to Bogan Gate as requested by the community. With the use of the popular free camping area an additional three mixed waste bins were supplied. Both Bogan Gate and Trundle sites saw improved access to metal and green waste piles. JR Richards completed regular bin empties for residential recycling bins	3% increase		Achieved
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year waste facilities continued to divert waste from landfill. Parkes CRC saw continual uptake by the community. Removal of recycling, regular metal and drums achieved. Concrete crushing at Parkes site allowed for use on-site. Success with the chemical cleanout project with 786kg of hazardous waste removed. Collections of tyres, mattresses, e-waste, metal, green waste, used motor oil and concrete recycled			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
W1.2.2	Continued operation and maintenance of waste facilities across the Parkes Shire	Waste Management Coordinator	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year Bogan Gate and Trundle saw major improvements to the landfill sites. Parkes facility commenced and completed landfill extension, improved internal roadway with the recycled concrete crush. The stormwater dam also completed as required by EPL licence conditions	Maintain and review rural tip operations		Achieved
					Annual comment: Throughout the 2024/25-year general maintenance and rehabilitation occurred at all sites. The financial audits were successful. The evacuation drill held at Parkes testing the PIRMP was successful. Focused on recording and completing DrumMuster activities were completed, all activities were identified as important to reduce stockpiles to provide capacity for incoming drums			
W1.2.3	Deliver the Bogan Gate and Alectown Tip Cell projects	Waste Management Coordinator	100%	Completed	Bogan Gate works were completed. Great improvements for useability, safety and resource recovery. Alectown continued to be pushed in, with a grant application made for landfill closure with establishment of a transfer station on site	Delivered by 30 June 2025		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Bogan Gate Landfill improvements were completed mid-year. Alectown tip cell completed at the recycle bin bank area. The landfill improvement grant was won from the EPA, which will allow Alectown landfill to undergo a partial closure and build a transfer station to provide the avenue for disposal of household waste for residents			

Commercial Waste

W2: We will develop processes to ensure commercial properties have access to a disposal service and the opportunity to participate with waste diversion strategies

W2.1: Provide effective landfill management to deliver positive public health, environmental and economic outcomes for the community

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
W2.1.1	Increase the percentage of commercial waste diverted from landfill	Waste Management Coordinator	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year education for weighbridge operators continued for diversion and correct category/pricing on commercial waste	2% increase		Increasing
					Annual comment	Focus on commercial waste remained a focus throughout the 2024/25-year period. Joint project between Sircel and on behalf of Parkes High School, an opportunity for e-waste and solar panels removal options. Sircel provided cages for collection and removal. Weighbridge operators and tip attendants continued education with the community. Chemical drum removal of over 5,000 units. Education will continue into the next financial year encouraging large local businesses to deliver e-waste direct to Sircel, removing Parkes Waste facilities reducing labour and storage costs			

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
W2.1.2	Continued provision of a commercial waste collection service in Parkes	Waste Management Coordinator	100%	Completed	Completed. During the second half of the year the CBD bins were audited in laneways, completed by JR Richards. Bins were either issued, replaced or repaired on site. The bin allocation numbers were checked against each business. JR Richards complete x3 weekly bin collections in the laneways only, as part of the change in advice	Service maintained		Achieved
					Annual comment: The commercial waste collection service in Parkes continued and was maintained throughout the 2024/25-year. Businesses received reminders of the 3xweekly empty of the commercial waste. The reminders assisted with removal, reduced split bins and odour reduction. During the Elvis major event in January additional services were provided to cope with the additional visitors across the location			
W2.1.3	Action a response to		100%	Completed	Customer requests were actioned promptly	100% of customer requests actioned within 10-days		Actioned

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	customer requests within 10-days	Waste Management Coordinator			Annual comment	During the second half of the year a customer request was raised over the fullness of the yellow bins at the Alectown tip. Improvements were made with the recycling bin bank area emptied, cleared, and gravel dropped which improved access for both garbage trucks and residents. Further works will be incorporated into this location with unapproved excess waste identified. Some of these included used oil, glass, furniture, mattresses, tyres and large bulky items that should have been disposed at Parkes Waste Facility		

W2.2: Ensure commercial waste collection services are maintained and manage the current and emerging impacts of external change

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
W2.2.1	Maintain contracts for		100%	Completed	Contracts maintained	Five (5) to eight (8) external services contracts per annum		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
	external services for recycling and diversion from landfill	Waste Management Coordinator			Annual comment	The external services contracts were maintained throughout the 2024/25-year. Contractor NetWaste maintained agreement for metal, chemicals, tyres and mattresses. Contractor Drummuster maintained agreement for mulching and shredding of green waste, mattress and tyre collection and concrete crushing. Sams Waste Dubbo won the used motor oil collection contract, after the previous contractor closed. The JR Richards contract will end in 2026 (currently involved in Project Management Group) to consider new contract. JR Richards maintained their contract for domestic and commercial bin collection		

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
W2.2.2	Maintain the number of educational opportunities provided to both residential and business customers	Waste Management Coordinator	100%	Completed	During this period the commercial customers received education opportunities regarding their red/yellow bin collections. The textile exhibition held at the Parkes library makerspace included short workshops, evolving recycle, rethink, reinvent and revamp goals. Parkes Public School were visited by Envirocom as part of the JR Richards contract to deliver waste education to 60 kindergarten students in June. This was a great introduction to bigger waste issues, following on from their schoolyard "Clean Up Australia Day" activities	Two educational opportunities per annum		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Throughout the year education opportunities were taken up, which included Environcom stalls in the CBD, homegrown markets provided worm farm, composting, talks for the public and the crop-swap offering exchanges of perishable goods. Recycling workshops, for example cardboard workshops, leading into the Waste-2-Art exhibition displayed in the Coventry Room. The Parkes Show provided the opportunity for highlighting waste education and improvements, and a workshop regarding cloth nappies			

W2.3: Ensure recycling services are maintained and manage the current and emerging impacts of external change

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
W2.3.1	Council representatives participate in educational programs	Waste Management Coordinator	100%	Completed	Training commencement and completion of courses were delivered in the second half of the year. The SWMS and SOP for both the Peak Hill and Parkes waste facilities were updated. This will be communicated with all staff both current and new into the next quarters. The PRIMP for emergency use was updated	Participation in one program		Achieved

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments		Performance Measure	Target	Actual
					Annual comment	Training course Waste Management Cert IV (6-months) was completed by the Waste Management Coordinator. Who also attended Homegrown events sharing recycling options and introduced the new garage sale trail. The trail was successfully delivered across the community during November. The weighbridge operators and staff took opportunities to educate the community on the benefits on recycling. Local groups received flyers of information and CRC was well used. Council continued to be educated and became aware of the opportunity to purchase cardboard disposal at Parkes waste facility as an educational tool. This will roll into the next financial year, as the benefits identified in separating material prior to disposal, diverting recyclables from landfill			

Waste Education

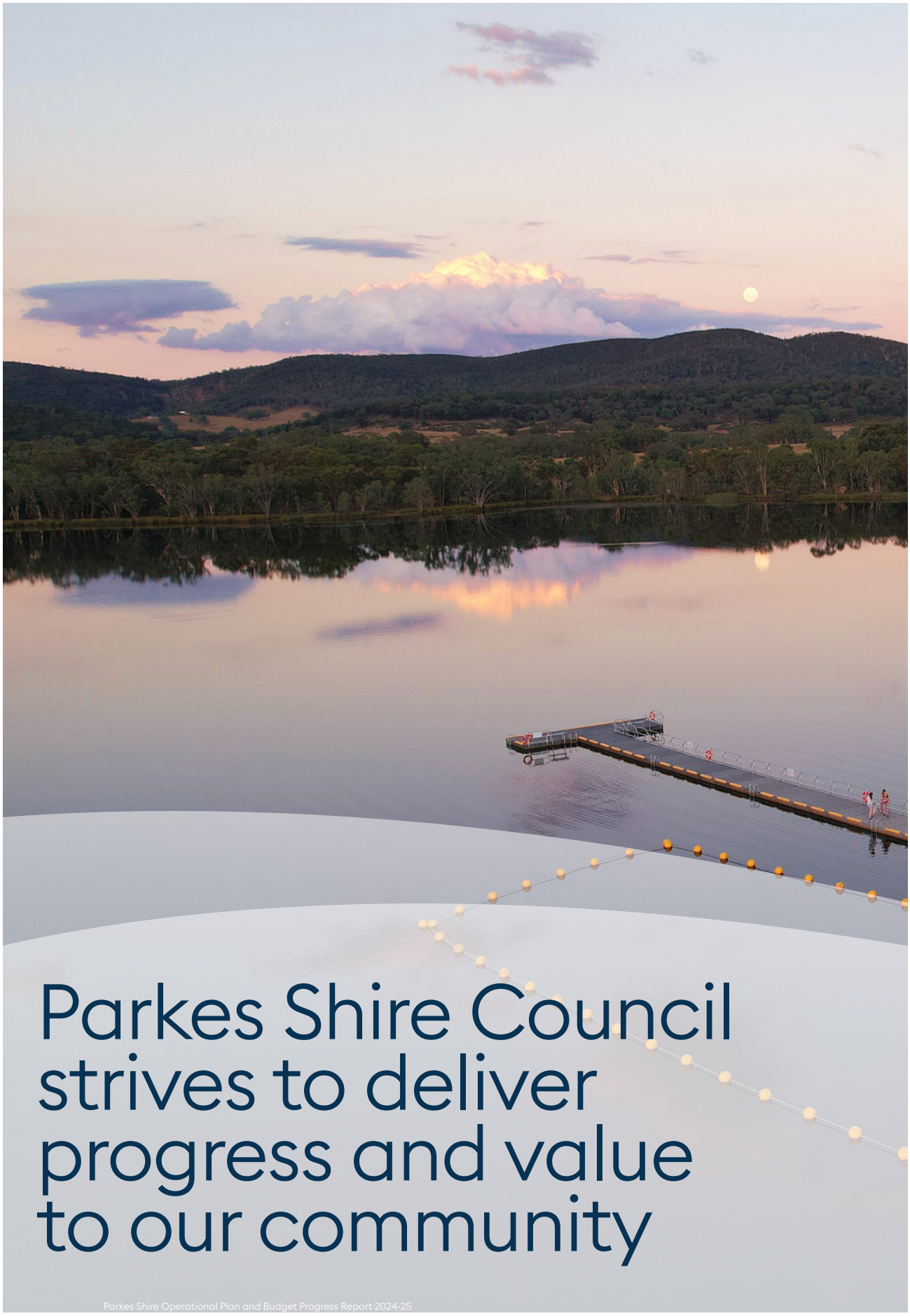
W3: We will provide appropriate educational opportunities to the community, aiding residents to improve their knowledge of waste management

W3.1: Provide educational opportunities for residents and businesses across the Shire to aid their understanding of waste management practices within the Shire

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
W3.1.1	Attend NetWaste Forums to promote waste education	Waste Management Coordinator	100%	Completed	Completed		Four (4) NetWaste forums attended per annum	Three (3)
					Annual comment	During the first half of the 2024/25-year Netwaste forums were attended by staff, which also included meeting and training with the NetWaste Coordinator. The forums were held across Forbes, Orange and Bathurst. The forum held in May was not attended due to the travel time and distance from Parkes to Burke		

W3.2: Strengthen waste management practices through Council's engagement with external education opportunities

Action Code	Action Name	Responsible Officer Position	Progress	Status	Comments	Performance Measure	Target	Actual
W3.2.1	Implement a suggested strategy, program, process, or activity from a NetWaste forum	Waste Management Coordinator	100%	Completed	During the second half of the year investigations into considering installing a textile recycling bin into Parkes waste facility. This would be free to residents. The current option is a "milk-run" type business to collect the textiles; they commence from Byron Bay which passes through to Dubbo and Forbes. They will also take materials like uniforms with logos, PPE gear, work boots, etc., which will be of use to the local business community and PSC	One education program implemented		Achieved
					Annual comment: The first half of the year saw the attendance of the NetWaste forum held in Gilgandra, the introduction, commencement and delivery of the garage sale trail. This trail was successfully delivered and over 100 garage sales held over two weekends. The community embraced the opportunity to divert waste from landfill, in a fun way			



Parkes Shire Council strives to deliver progress and value to our community

Parkes Shire Operational Plan and Budget Progress Report 2024-25


Parkes Shire Operational Plan and Budget Progress Report 2024-25

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27 NOVEMBER 2024

CURRAJONG
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planning proposal

Bogan Gate Explosives Reserve

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CURRAJONG
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Currajong has been engaged by Solar Mining Services to prepare a Planning Proposal to permit heavy industries on Lot 2 DP 1064474, 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate.

Solar Mining Services lease buildings from Lexa Enterprises Pty Ltd towards the central portion of Lot 2 DP 1064474 for the operation of an Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion Facility. Also leasing space on Lot 2 DP 1064474 is Johnex Pty Ltd for explosives manufacturing and storage, Howards and Sons for fireworks storage. Lexa Enterprises also has several other agreements with other parties for use of buildings located at the former army camp complex for non-explosives purposes.

The Solar Mining Services Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion Facility is fully operational in accordance with Development Consent No. DA2020/0073 granted by Parkes Shire Council on 18 November 2020 and a Manufacture Explosives Licence No. XMNF200034 issued by WorkSafe NSW on 19 January 2023.

This Planning Proposal has been prepared to facilitate the processing of a new Development Application that has been prepared by Currajong for an increase in annual production of Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion at the Solar Mining Services facility from 960 tonnes per annum to 20,000 tonnes per annum.

On 18 April 2024 Solar Mining Services and Parkes Shire Council staff met to agree on the process for the finalisation of the Development Application for the proposed alterations and additions to the Solar Mining Services Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion Facility. At this meeting it was agreed that Currajong would prepare a Planning Proposal to permit heavy industries on Lot 2 DP 1064474 under the Parkes Local Environmental Plan 2012.

The Planning Proposal seeks to amend the Parkes Local Environmental Plan 2012 by inserting Item 3 in Schedule 1 Additional Permitted Uses, as follows:

> (3) Development for the purposes of heavy industries is permitted on Lot 2 DP 1064474, 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate with development consent.

The subject land has been used for heavy industry type activities since WWII when the Australian Defence Forces established the Bogan Gate Explosives Reserve and Army Camp. Since the sale of Lot 2 DP 1064474 in 2004, the site has been used Johnex Pty Ltd for explosives manufacturing and Howards and Sons for fireworks storage. More recently, Solar Mining Services has established an Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion facility at the site.

The Planning Proposal is not seeking to permit new land-uses onto the subject land. Instead, the proposal is aimed at formalising the location of existing heavy industries located on Lot 2 DP 1064474.

The need for the Planning Proposal is a result of the finalisation of a Development Application for an increase in annual production of Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion at the Solar Mining Services facility from 960 tonnes per annum to 20,000 tonnes per annum. To provide greater certainty of the permissibility of the proposed development beyond that proven under existing use rights, Parkes Shire Council has requested Solar Mining Services to submit a Planning Proposal to Council for changes to the Parkes Local Environmental Plan 2012.

A summary of the primary assessment findings of the Planning Proposal is as follows:

- Heavy industries are already established on Lot 2 DP 1064474 in the form of the Johnex Pty Ltd explosives manufacturing and storage facility, Howards and Sons fireworks storage sheds and the Solar Mining Services Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion Facility. Safe separation distances and other safety, operational and environmental controls are in force at the site, as administered by WorkSafe NSW. An Environment Protection Licence is also administered over part of the site in relation to Johnex operations.
- The continued use of the land for heavy industries is not inconsistent with the Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2041 or the Parkes Shire Local Strategic Planning Statement 2020 or any applicable State Environmental Planning Policies or Ministerial Directions.
- Necessary infrastructure and services are already connected to the site.
- Site constraints and opportunities are well understood and regulated on Lot 2 DP 1064474, as per development consent conditions, environment protection licence conditions and explosives licences in force at the site.
- The likely environmental, social and economic impacts of the proposal are acceptable, and positive in the majority.
- The Planning Proposal is not determined to be of significance to State and Federal governments.

The Planning Proposal is presented for assessment by Parkes Shire Council in a form that is consistent with the recommendations of the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure Local Environmental Plan Making Guidelines. It provides the necessary reporting basis for Parkes Shire Council to progress an amendment to the Parkes Local Environmental Plan 2012.

Parkes Shire Council resolved to request a Gateway Determination from DPHI on 19 August 2024. A Gateway Determination was issued on 27 September 2024, determining that the Planning Proposal be placed on exhibition subject to conditions.

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CURRAJONG
PLANNING, PROPERTY + PROJECT MANAGEMENT

01

PROJECT INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Overview

Currajong has been engaged by Solar Mining Services Pty Ltd (SMS) to prepare a Planning Proposal relating to the Bogan Gate Explosives Reserve (BGER) operating on Lot 2 DP 1064474, 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate.

The Planning Proposal seeks to amend the Parkes Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2012 by inserting Item 3 in Schedule 1 Additional Permitted Uses, as follows:

> (3) Development for the purposes of heavy industries is permitted on Lot 2 DP 1064474, 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate with development consent.

The Planning Proposal has been prepared in accordance with the NSW Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) Local Environmental Plan Guideline, dated August 2023.

The Planning Proposal aims to rationalise the location of existing heavy industries located at the BGER, which includes Johnex Pty Ltd (for explosives manufacturing and storage), Howards and Sons (fireworks storage) and SMS for Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion (ANE) manufacturing and storage. These businesses are some of the largest employers in the Bogan Gate district and provide vital explosives and explosive precursor products to the mining, quarrying and civil engineering sectors in NSW.

The proposed changes to the Parkes LEP 2012 will provide greater certainty of the permissibility of proposed new development at the BGER beyond that proven under existing use rights. It will also provide existing businesses operating on Lot 2 DP 1064474 with greater confidence on the long term-viability of the BGER for their business operations and future development plans. It will also provide surrounding landholders and residents at Bogan Gate with more information about existing operations being conducted at the site.

1.2 Project Background

Lot 2 DP 1064474, 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate was first used as an explosive storage and testing facility by the Australian Military during WWII and subsequently acquired by the Commonwealth of Australia for defence purposes on 9 June 1960.

A Masterplan and Masterplan User Requirement Report was prepared by the Australian Military Forces in August 1962. The Masterplan User Requirement Report stated the explosives reserve was designed to store and process between 12,000 and 22,000 tons of explosives, with a range of activities described as 'inspection, repair, modification, maintenance and destruction of ammunition stocks as directed by AHQ.'

The explosives reserve continued to be owned by the Commonwealth until 8 April 2004 when Lots 2 and 4 DP 1064474 were transferred to Timber Creek Holdings Pty Ltd. At this time the improvements on the subject land included the old Bogan Gate Army Camp (comprising of communal army barracks, free-standing dwellings, depot and storage sheds, mess hall and other administration / community style facilities) as well as multiple explosives storage sheds with earthen mounds, roads and drainage infrastructure.

From 2004 onwards, explosives storage and manufacturing was conducted from the existing buildings located on Lots 2 and 4 DP 1064474, including leases to Nowra Brickworks NSW Pty Ltd, Yallawadgera (T/A Bogan Gate Explosives Reserve), Johnex Explosives Pty Ltd and Howards and Sons Pty Ltd and more recently SMS.

On 9 February 2022 Timber Creek Pty Ltd transferred Lot 2 DP 1064474 to the current owner, Lexa Enterprises Pty Ltd. Lexa Enterprises Pty Ltd rents exclusively to the BGER who have granted various leases for existing land-use activities on the site, including a lease to Johnex for explosives manufacturing and storage operations, Howards and Sons for explosives storage and more recently a lease to SMS for an ANE facility.

The SMS ANE Facility is established on Lot 2 DP 1064474 in accordance with Development Consent No. DA2020/0073 granted on 18 November 2022. A Manufacture Explosives Licence No. XMNF200034 has also been granted by SafeWork NSW on 19 January 2023. The Pro Cert Group issued an Occupation Certificate for the SMS ANE Facility, dated 7 December 2022. The facility is fully functional and has commenced manufacturing and storage of limited supplies of ANE.

In August 2023, SMS submitted Pre-DA documentation to Parkes Shire Council seeking feedback in relation to a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) proposing an increase in production of ANE at their SMS ANE Facility up to 20,000 tonnes per annum. In this documentation was written advice generated from Maddison Marcus dated 1 November 2022 that established the use of Lot 2 DP 1064474 for explosives manufacturing and storage was a lawful existing use under Section 109(1) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (EP&A Act) 1979.

On 18 April 2024, SMS and Parkes Shire Council staff met to agree on the process for the finalisation of the Development Application for the proposed alterations and additions to the SMS ANE Facility. At this meeting it was agreed that Currajong would prepare a Planning Proposal to permit heavy industries on Lot 2 DP 1064474, 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate under the Parkes LEP 2012.

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1.3 Structure and Form

The Planning Proposal has been prepared in accordance with the NSW DPHI Local Environmental Plan Guideline, dated August 2023.

Section 2 of the DPHI Local Environmental Plan Guideline includes detailed guidance on what content needs to be included in a Planning Proposal.

Table 1 includes a checklist of all of the information required by the DPHI Local Environmental Plan Guideline and a reference on where the information can be found within this Planning Proposal. The Guideline requires that the Planning Proposal must be prepared to a high standard and complying generally with the requirements detailed in Table 1.

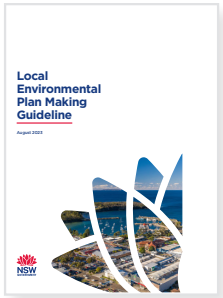


Table 1 - Format of the document

Section No	Section Heading	Description
Section 1	Project Introduction	Section 1 includes introductory information relating to the project, including a project overview and relevant background information.
Section 2	The Existing Environment	Section 2 includes a detailed description of the project, including location, land title and land-use descriptions as well as an assessment of the existing environmental conditions applying to the land.
Section 3	Existing Planning Framework	Section 3 includes a description of the existing planning framework applying to the subject land including provisions under the Parkes LEP 2012.
Section 4	Description of the Proposal	Section 4 includes a detailed description of the existing heavy industries operating at the BGER. This section also describes the scope of the proposed changes to the Parkes LEP 2012.
Section 5	Strategic Alignment	Section 5 includes detailed information describing how the proposed development aligns with the strategic planning framework applying to the subject land.
Section 6	Planning Proposal - Part 1	Section 6 addresses the Part 1 matters for consideration under the DPHI Local Environmental Plan Guideline.
Section 7	Planning Proposal - Part 2	Section 7 addresses the Part 2 matters for consideration under the DPHI Local Environmental Plan Guideline.
Section 8	Planning Proposal - Part 3	Section 8 addresses the Part 3 matters for consideration under the DPHI Local Environmental Plan Guideline.
Section 9	Planning Proposal - Part 4	Section 9 addresses the Part 4 matters for consideration under the DPHI Local Environmental Plan Guideline.
Section 10	Planning Proposal - Part 5	Section 10 addresses the Part 5 matters for consideration under the DPHI Local Environmental Plan Guideline.
Section 11	Planning Proposal - Part 6	Section 10 addresses the Part 6 matters for consideration under the DPHI Local Environmental Plan Guideline.

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1.4 Supporting Documentation

The Planning Proposal is supported by a number of specialist reports, studies and design details that have been developed to support the DA for proposed alterations and additions to the SMS ANE Facility. These documents have been included as Appendices to the Planning Proposal as a means of demonstrating that existing heavy industries already operate at the BGER and the site is capable of accommodating heavy industry operations. A description of these documents is included as follows:

Appendix A

Bogan Gate Masterplan and User Requirement Report

A Masterplan was prepared by the Australian Military Forces in August 1962. A Masterplan User Requirement Report was also prepared which stated the explosives reserve was designed to store and process between 12,000 and 22,000 tons of explosives, with a range of activities described as 'inspection, repair, modification, maintenance and destruction of ammunition stocks as directed by AHQ.'

Appendix B

Parkes Shire Council Existing Use Rights Letter

Parkes Shire Council provided a letter on 23 May 2013 that advised it was satisfied that the existing use of the BGER on Lot 2 DP 1064474 is an existing use pursuant to the EP&A Act 1979.

Appendix C

SMS Statement of Environmental Effects

A Statement of Environmental Effects for the original SMS ANE Facility was approved by Parkes Shire Council in accordance with Development Consent No. DA2020/0073 on dated 18 November 2020, along with an SMS Design Brief and other DA documentation.

Appendix D

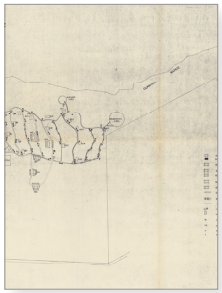
Development Consent No. DA2020/0073

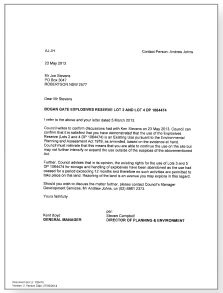
DA2020/0073 for the SMS ANE Facility was approved by Parkes Shire Council on dated 18 November 2020 for the manufacturing of 960 tonnes of ANE and associated storage of ANE and other chemicals.

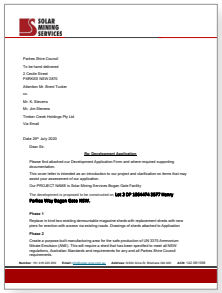
Appendix E

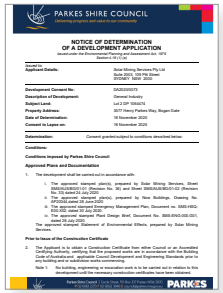
Madison Marcus Existing Use Rights Letter

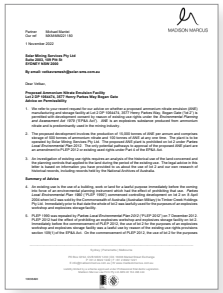
Environmental Law Specialists Madison Marcus provided a letter to SMS dated 1 November 2022 that advised of their research / investigation of the BGER and that, in their opinion, the site has existing use rights as defined under the EP&A Act 1979 and the proposed alterations and additions to the SMS ANE Facility is permitted with development consent under Part 4 of the Act.











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Appendix F

Environmental Assessment Requirements (EAR 1753), issued by the NSW DPE, dated 24 January 2023

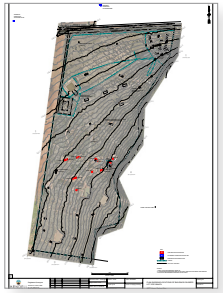
On 24 January 2023 DPHI provided their Environmental Assessment Requirements (EAR 1753) for proposed alterations and additions to the SMS ANE Facility on Lot 2 DP 1064474. The SEARs are included in the Planning Proposal as they provide an indication of the scope of investigations required for new developments at the BGER.



Appendix G

Arndell Surveying Detail Survey

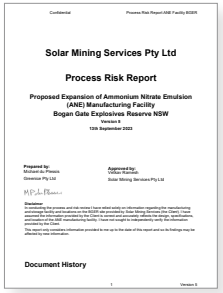
A Site Detail and Contour Survey has been completed by Arndell Surveyors, dated 15 August 2023 that shows the location of existing features of the natural and built environment at the BGER.



Appendix H

Greenice Process and Risk Report

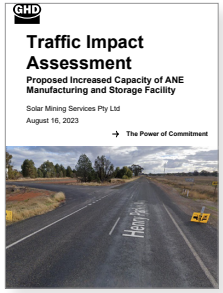
A process and risk at the SMS ANE Facility has been prepared by Greenice Pty Ltd, dated 13 September 2023. The report has been included in the Planning Proposal as it provides an indication of the suitability of the BGER for heavy industry operations, including proposed alterations and additions to the SMS ANE Facility.



Appendix I

GHD Traffic Impact Assessment

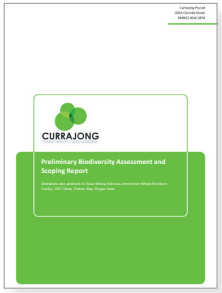
A TIA prepared by GHD on 16 August 2023 for the proposed alterations and additions to the SMS ANE Facility has been included in the Planning Proposal to provide details on traffic conditions at the BGER and the suitability of the site for continued heavy industry land-use. The TIA findings have been noted by TfNSW and Parkes Shire Council as part of Pre-DA consultation.



Appendix J

Currajong Preliminary Biodiversity Assessment and Scoping Report 24 February 2023

The PBASR prepared by Curraong has been included in the Planning Proposal to describe flora and fauna conditions at the BGER and the suitability of the site for continued heavy industry land-use.

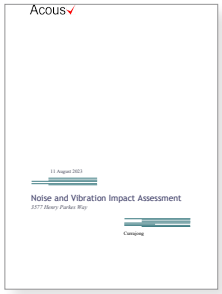


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Appendix K

Acoustick Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment, prepared by Acoustik, dated 10 August 2023

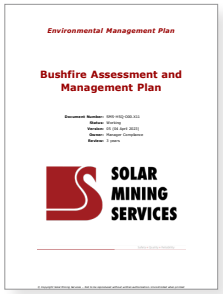
A Noise and Vibration assessment prepared by Acoustik, dated 10 August 2023 has been included int eh Planning Proposal showing noise conditions in and around the BGER and the buffer distances provided between existing heavy industries and nearby sensitive land-use. Technical findings of assessment work demonstrates compliance with the relevant noise criteria established under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.



Appendix L

SMS Bushfire Management Plan, prepared by SMS, dated 4 April 2023

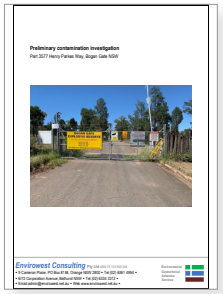
The SMS Bushfire Management Plan, dated 4 April 2023 is included in the Planning Proposal to show existing conditions and potential hazard areas at the SMS ANE Facility and wider BGER. NSW RFS and other emergency responders have reviewed the plan and are generally accepting of emergency response procedures in the plan.



Appendix M

Envirowest Preliminary Contamination Investigation

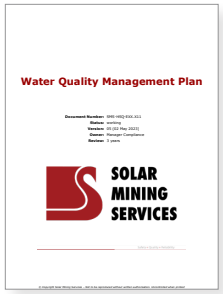
A Preliminary Contamination Investigation was carried out by Envirowest, dated 4 February 2021 that identified no evidence of contamination at the SMS ANE Facility. Whilst not an exhaustive study of the whole of the BGER that report provides information about past use and the recommendations for alterations and additions to existing heavy industry operations at the BGER, with the site generally being regarded as suitable for continued heavy industry use.



Appendix N

Water Quality Management Plan, prepared by SMS, dated 2 May 2023

The SMS Water Quality Management Plan dated 2 May 2023 has been included to provide extra detail on stormwater management at the BGER, which is considered to be robust and suitable for heavy industry operations.



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02

THE EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

2.1 Location and Title

The land which is the subject of this Planning Proposal is comprised of Lot 2 DP 1064474, 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate.

The site is located approximately 500m east of Bogan Gate and approximately 35km west of Parkes.

The total area of Lot 2 DP 1064474 is calculated to be approximately 227 hectares.

Figure 1 shows the site and it's location within the Parkes Local Government Area.

Figure 1 - Site Location Map



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2.2 Land-use

Lot 2 DP 1064474 was used by the Australian Military as an explosive storage and testing facility during WWII. The site was formerly acquired by the Commonwealth of Australia for defence purposes on 9 June 1960. A Masterplan and Masterplan User Requirement Report was prepared by the Australian Military Forces in August 1962.

The explosives reserve continued to be owned by the Commonwealth until 8 April 2004 when Lots 2 and 4 DP 1064474 were transferred to Timber Creek Holdings Pty Ltd. At this time the improvements on the subject land included the old Bogan Gate Army Camp (comprising of communal army barracks, free-standing dwellings, depot and storage sheds, mess hall and other administration / community style facilities) as well as multiple explosives storage sheds with earthen mounds, roads and drainage infrastructure.

From 2004 onwards, explosives storage and manufacturing was conducted from the existing buildings located on Lot 2 DP 1064474. Current land-uses on the site are as follows:

- Johnex - has a manufacturing and storage plant located on the central part Lot 2 DP 1064474. The Johnex facility is involved in the manufacture and storage of ANFO, packaged explosives, ANE and other high explosives and initiating systems.
- Howards and Sons - uses explosives storage buildings located towards the southern part of Lot 2 DP 1064474, with fireworks stored in several sheds.
- SMS ANE Facility - a relatively new facility constructed in accordance with DA2020/0073 located towards the centre of Lot 2 DP 1064474.
- Rental Accommodation - several dwellings and sheds associated with the old Bogan Gate Army Camp are leased to private parties.

Figure 2 shows the land-use activities currently being undertaken on Lot 2 DP 1064474.

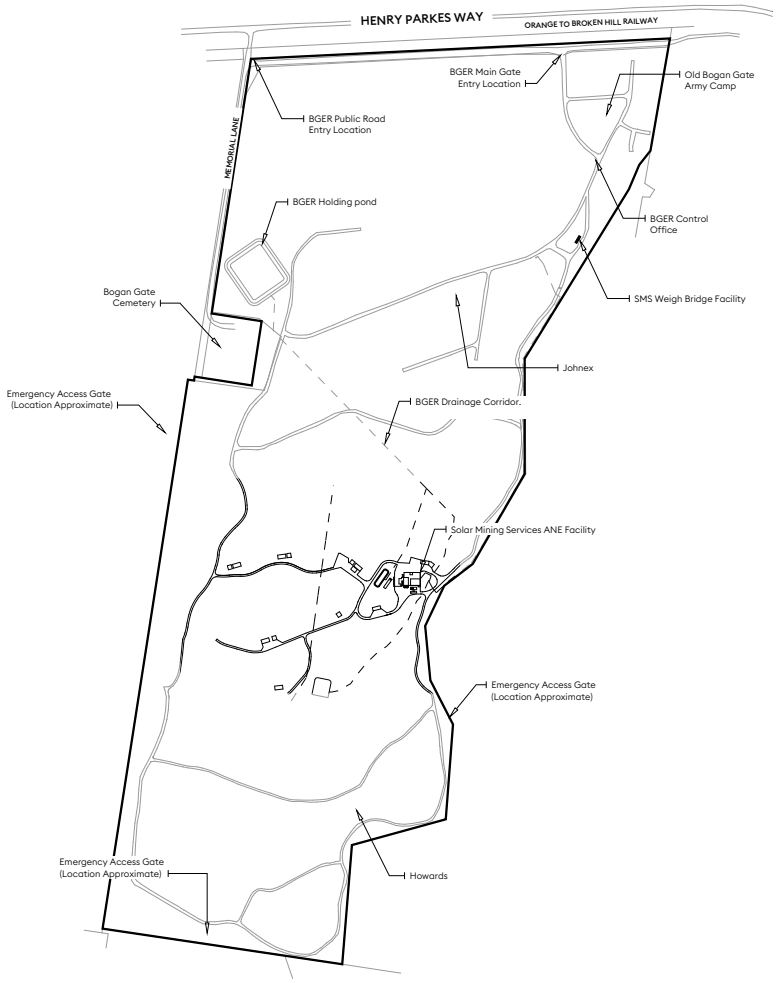


Figure 2 - Land-use Activities Map

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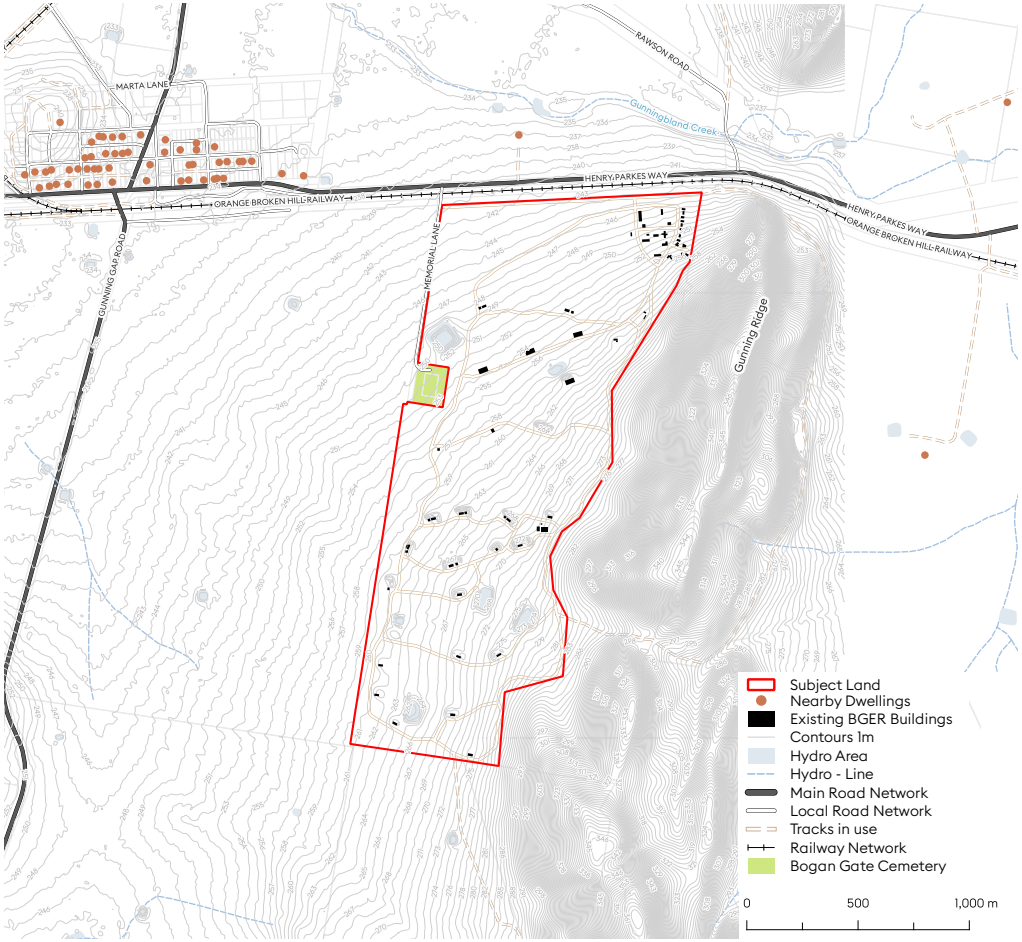
2.3 Surrounding Land-use

An analysis of the surrounding environment has been completed and the following observations are made:

- Lot 2 DP 1064474 site is located on the eastern edge of Bogan Gate.
- The site has frontage to the Henry Parkes Way and Memorial Lane.
- The Bogan Gate Cemetery is located on the western boundary of Lot 2 DP 1064474.
- The land surrounding Lot 2 DP 1064474 is zoned RU1 Primary Production and used for broad-acre agriculture purposes, with ancillary isolated dwellings. Vegetation on farms has been modified and consists mostly of vegetation corridors and isolated paddock trees with a grassy / weedy / cropped ground-cover. The nearest dwelling is located approximately 250m north of Lot 2 DP 1064474 on the northern side of the Henry Parkes Way.
- Other notable land-use activities in the area includes the Gunning Ridge to the east, which holds the largest remnant of native vegetation in the locality.

Figure 3 shows the land-use pattern within the surrounding area.

Figure 3 - Land-use Map



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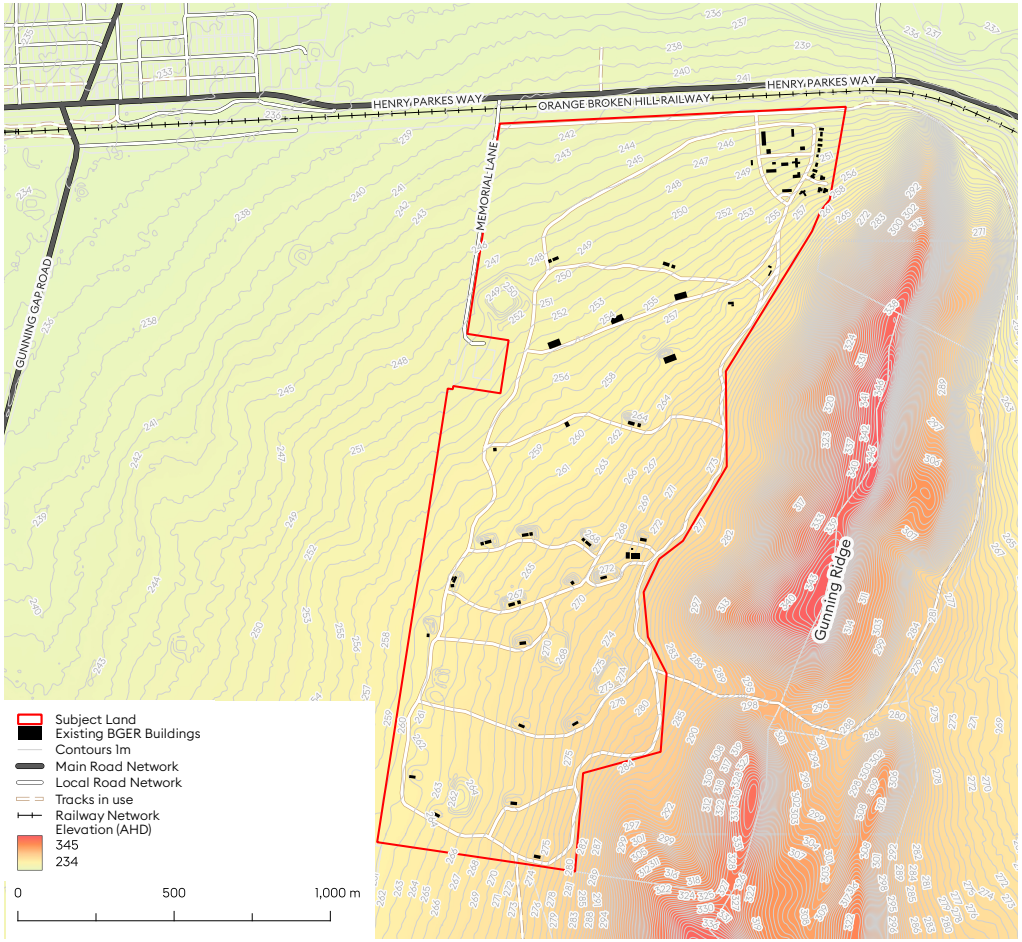
2.4 Topography, Slope and Landform

Lot 2 DP 1064474 is located on the lower slope of the western side of the Gunning Ridge which has an elevation of RL 360, some 120 metres higher than the surrounding landscape around Bogan Gate.

The site forms part of the Jemalong Range and Slopes, with prominent strike ridges of upper Devonian quartz sandstone, with general elevation between 250m to 400m above sea level. Elevated areas have prominent asymmetry with steeper eastern faces of stepped cliffs and narrow benches. Lower colluvial slopes of coalescing alluvial fans on small streams. Thin very stony soils on ridges with abundant currawang (Acacia doratoxylon), red stringybark (Eucalyptus macrorhyncha), red ironbark (Eucalyptus sideroxylon), Dwyer's red gum (Eucalyptus dwyeri) and black cypress pine (Callitris endlicheri).

The site generally has a gentle slope to the west, as shown in Figure 4.

Figure 4 - Topography and Landform Map



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2.5 Water Resources

The subject land is not mapped in the Parkes LEP 2012 as containing vulnerable groundwater resources or being flood affected.

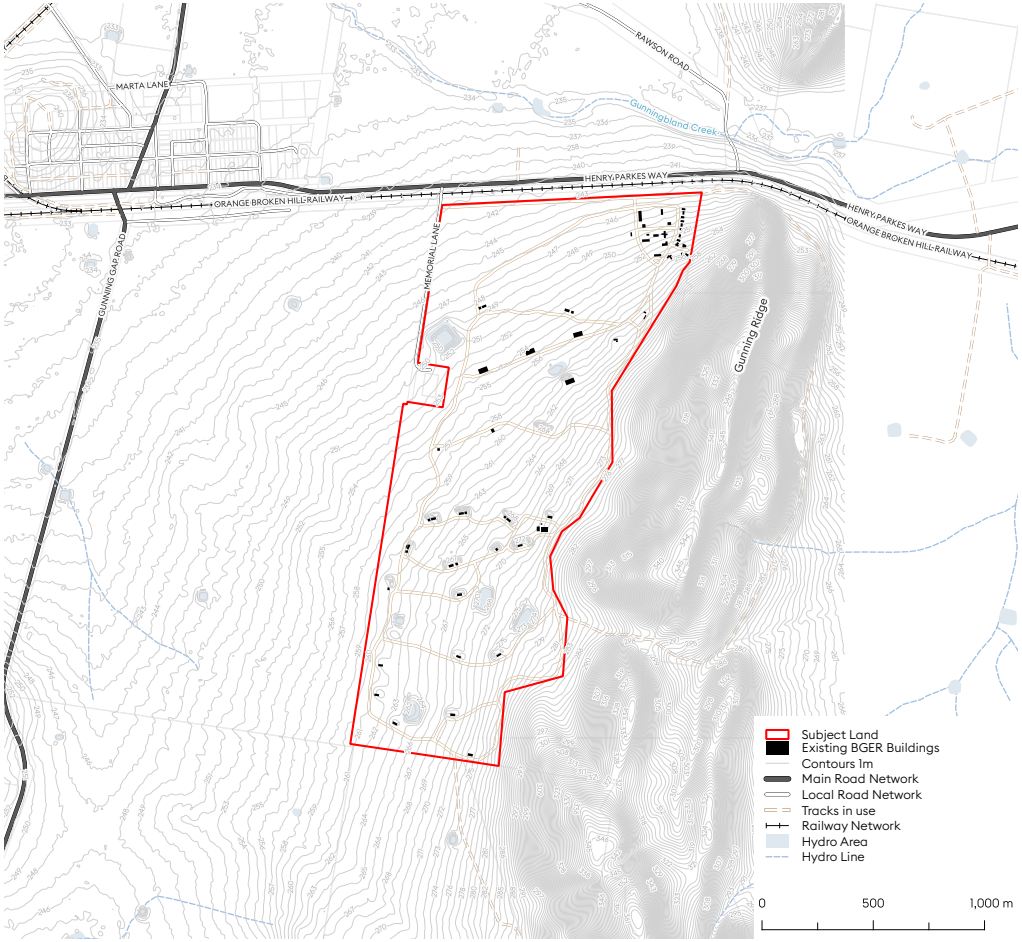
The nearest natural water body is the Gunningbland Creek located approximately 1km north of the BGER. The are no permanent water courses on the land or high value riparian areas / wetlands observed to be located on the land.

A robust system of stormwater management devices is established at the BGER, including road table drains, contour banks, swales and catch dams.

The likelihood of a flood inundating the BGER is low. Water quality impacts are also assessed to be low.

Figure 5 shows the topography and general water course features of the BGER and surrounding land.

Figure 5 - Water Resources and Features Map



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2.6 Biodiversity

The site is largely influenced by historic settlement in and around Bogan Gate and the BGER.

The BGER comprises a number of fixed buildings, roads and drainage improvements. Areas that are cleared of built improvements are generally sown down to exotic grasses, with patches of native and regrowth vegetation generally along the perimeter of the site and along drainage corridors.

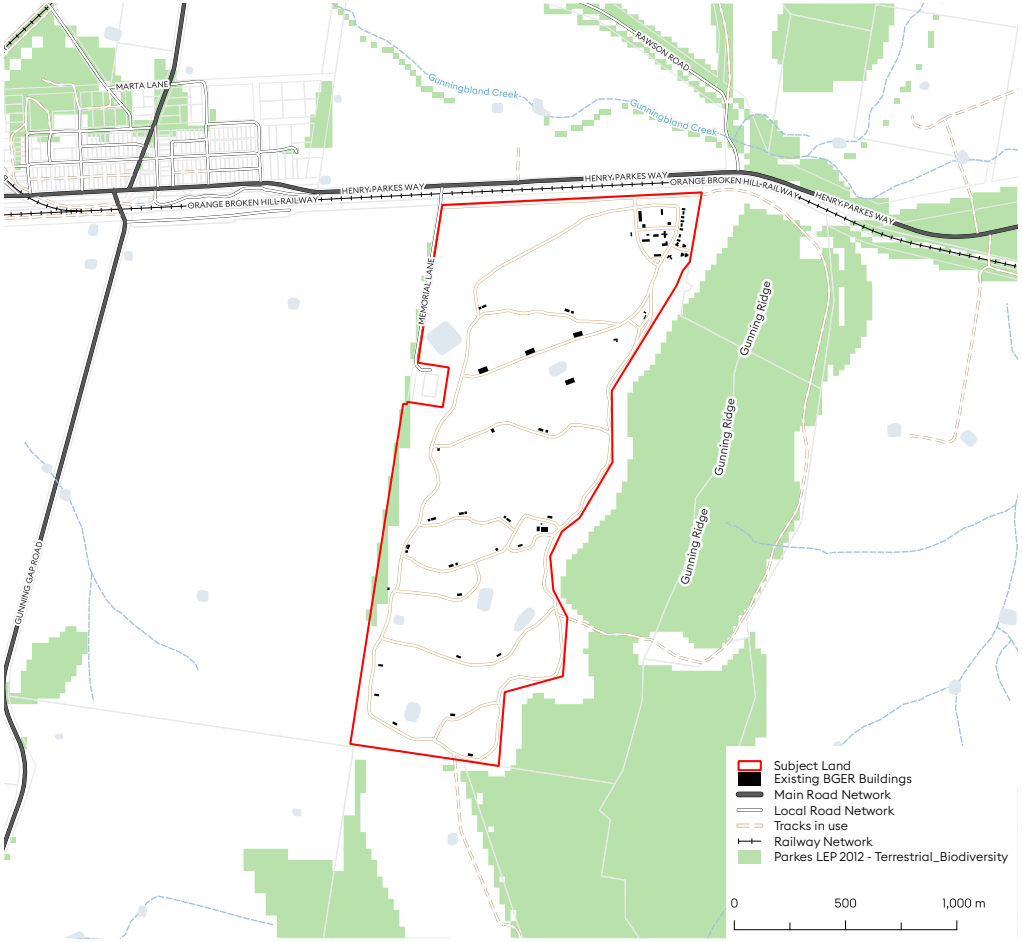
A review of the Parkes LEP 2012 Terrestrial Biodiversity Map confirms a small section of the western perimeter of the site is mapped as biodiversity. This remnant vegetation comprises Inland Grey Box Woodland and Red Ironbark (Eucalyptus sideroxylon) with White Cypress Pine (Callitris columellaris) and Black Cypress Pine (Callitris endlicheri) and a grassy / weedy understorey). The habitat value on Lot 2 DP 1064474 is assessed as low.

The Gunning Ridge to the east of Lot 2 DP 1064474 comprises a large remnant of native vegetation, which is mapped as Terrestrial Biodiversity on Parkes LEP 2012 mapping.

No clearing of native vegetation as defined under Local Land Services Act 2013 (LLS Act 2013) is proposed under this Planning Proposal and there are no significant impacts on threatened species or habitats.

Figure 6 shows the location of native vegetation in and around the subject land.

Figure 6 - Biodiversity Resources Map



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2.7 Heritage

The site is largely influenced by historic settlement in and around Bogan Gate and the BGER.

European Heritage

A review of Schedule 5 of the Parkes LEP 2012 confirms the subject land is not listed as a heritage item. There are no listed heritage items within Bogan Gate or within a close proximity to the BGER.

Built heritage aspects associated with the Australian Military use during and post WWII have been considered. The whole site (collectively) is considered to have historical significance. No building / structure on Lot 2 DP 1064474has been identified as being particularly rare or having significant heritage values.

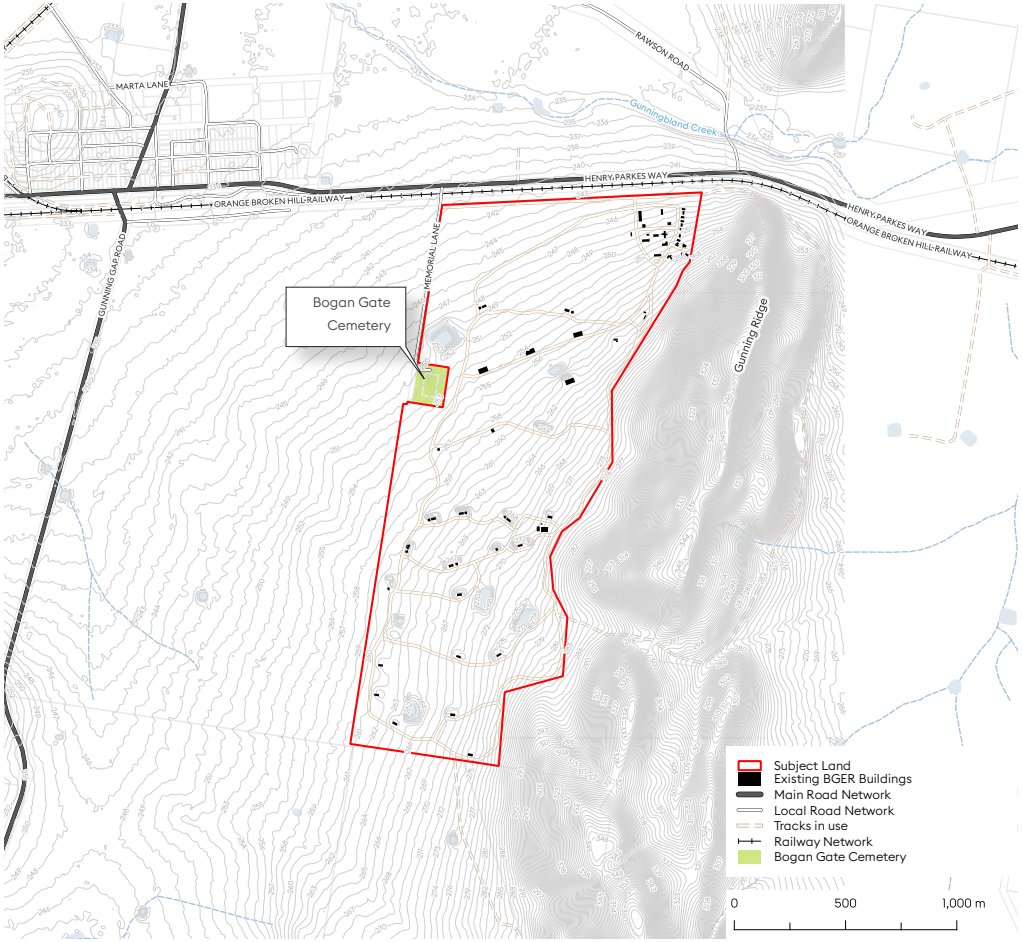
The Bogan Gate Cemetery to the west of the site is identified to be the only site with potential local heritage significance. The continued uses at the BGER are not incompatible with the heritage significance of the Bogan Gate Cemetery.

Aboriginal Heritage

A search of the Aboriginal Heritage Management System (AHIMS) has been completed to determine whether there are any known items, places or relics of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance located on the site, or within 200m of Lot 2 DP 1064474. The results did not identify any Aboriginal sites or places within the search area.

Figure 7 shows the BGER and adjoining Bogan Gate Cemetery, and confirms there are no properties listed under Schedule 5 of the Parkes LEP 2012.

Figure 7 - Heritage Map



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2.8 Access, Transport and Traffic

Vehicular access to the BGER is already provided via internal roads that connect to Memorial Lane and then onto the Henry Parkes Way.

The Orange to Broken Hill Railway is located on the southern side of the Henry Parkes Way, including a level crossing of Memorial Lane with signage.

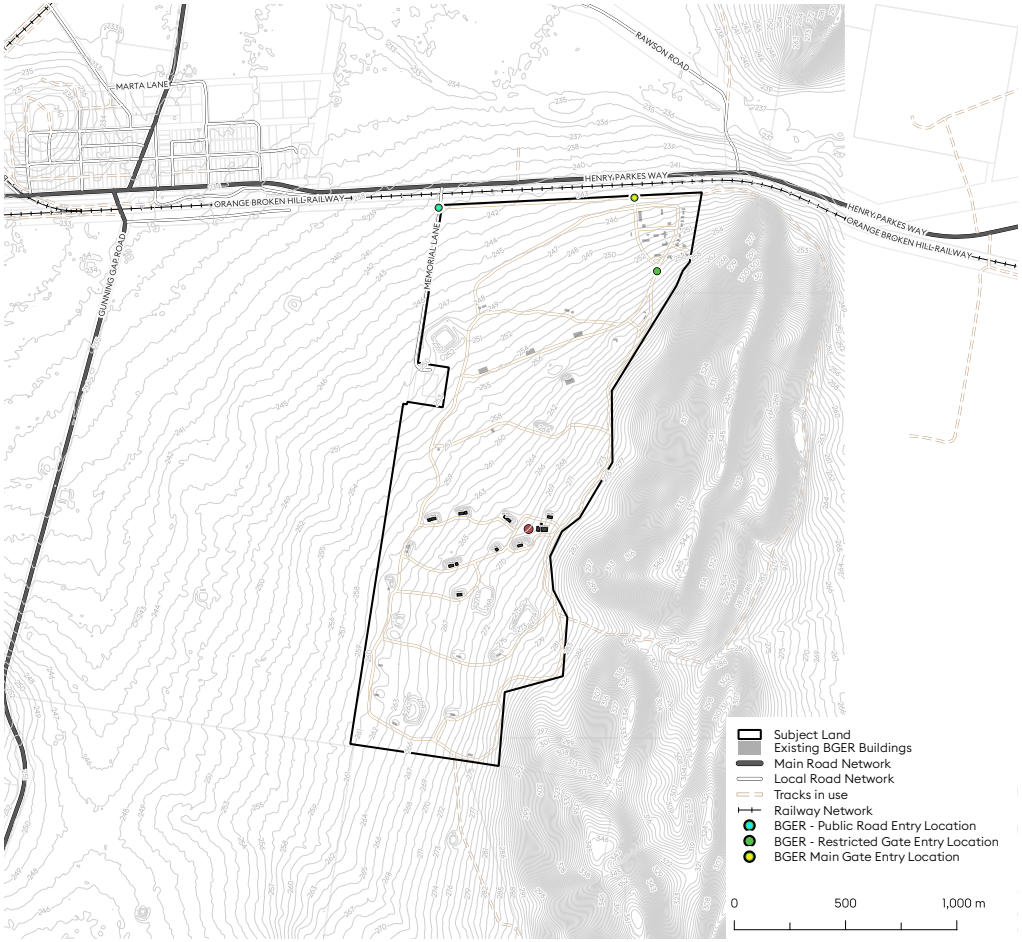
Access to the BGER would continue via Memorial Lane and then onto the Henry Parkes Way. Review of the geometry of the existing intersection of Memorial Lane and the Henry Parkes Way has been undertaken by GHD to determine whether the design vehicles accessing the BGER can be accommodated at the intersection. Swept path analysis confirms that left in and out auxiliary lanes will be required at the intersection to accommodate an A-Double tanker.

A review of the road crash history of the local area does not highlight any specific locations with a significant cluster of crashes that may suggest an inherent safety issue with the intersection of the Henry Parkes Way and Memorial Lane. There have been no crashes on the Henry Parkes Way within 350m of the intersection with Memorial Lane and Henry Parkes Way. There was one crash in 2018 resulting in serious injury at the intersection of Rawson Road and Henry Parkes Way (approximately 1.3km east of the intersection of Memorial Lane and Henry Parkes Way).

There are currently no public transport facilities (bus stops etc) or pedestrian footpaths or cycleways connecting immediately to the subject land.

A map showing the existing road and railway network is included in Figure 8.

Figure 8 - Roads Map



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2.9 Environmental Hazards

Bushfire

The BGER has established emergency procedures and an emergency response plan that must be complied with by Johnex, Howards and SMS. Land along the eastern boundary of Lot 2 DP 1064474 is identified as Bushfire Prone Land. Regular consultation with NSW RFS, Fire and Rescue NSW and other emergency responders is undertaken by the landowner and individual leaseholders at the BGER. SMS has developed a Bushfire Management Plan, dated 4 April 2023 that complies with Chapter 8 of the RFS Guideline, Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019.

Flooding

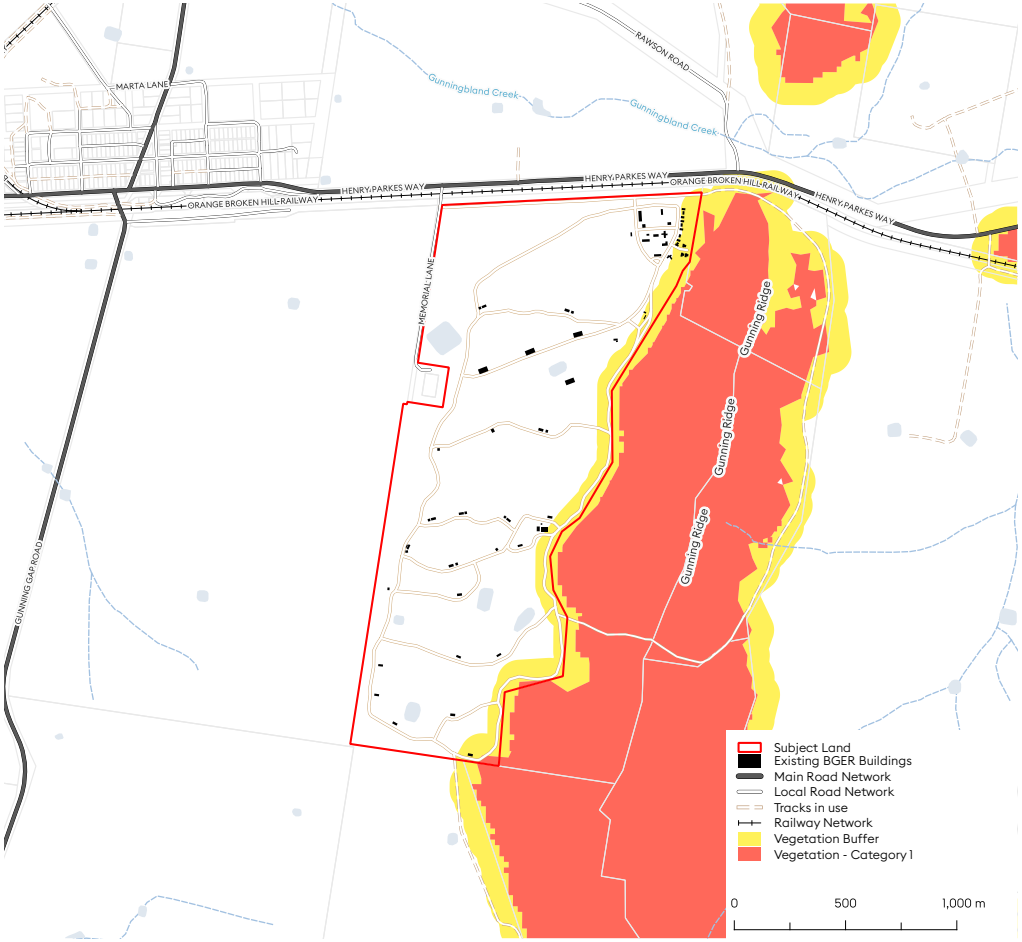
The subject land is not mapped in the Parkes LEP 2012 as being impacted by flooding. The nearest natural water body is the Gunningbland Creek located approximately 1km north of the BGER. A robust system of stormwater management is already established at the BGER, including road table drains, contour banks, swales and catch dams.

Contamination

The subject land does not feature in any database pertaining to the management / regulation of contaminated land. A preliminary contamination investigation was undertaken on part of Lot 2 DP 1064474 by Envirowest, dated 4 February 2021. The Envirowest investigations revealed no evidence of contamination. No physical evidence of contamination is visible from inspection of the site. The site is considered suitable for heavy industry land-use as proposed in the Planning Proposal.

Figure 9 shows the current bushfire prone areas to the east of the BGER, with no other hazards identified in any known database.

Figure 9 - Environmental Hazards Map



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2.10 Operational Hazards

The Work Health and Safety Act (WHS) 2011 and WHS Regulation 2017 provides the framework for the management and handling of hazardous substances and dangerous goods in NSW.

Chapter 9 of the WHS Regulation 2017 prescribes the provisions for major hazard facilities, with Table 15.1 of Schedule 15 detailing the threshold quantities where chemical industry operations are deemed to be major hazard facilities.

The Johnex operations at the BGER are deemed to comprise a major hazards facility under the WHS Regulation 2017. As such, the Johnex site operations by an Explosives Licence administered by WorksSafe NSW under the WHS Act 2011 and an Environment Protection Licence administered by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) under the POEO Act 1997.

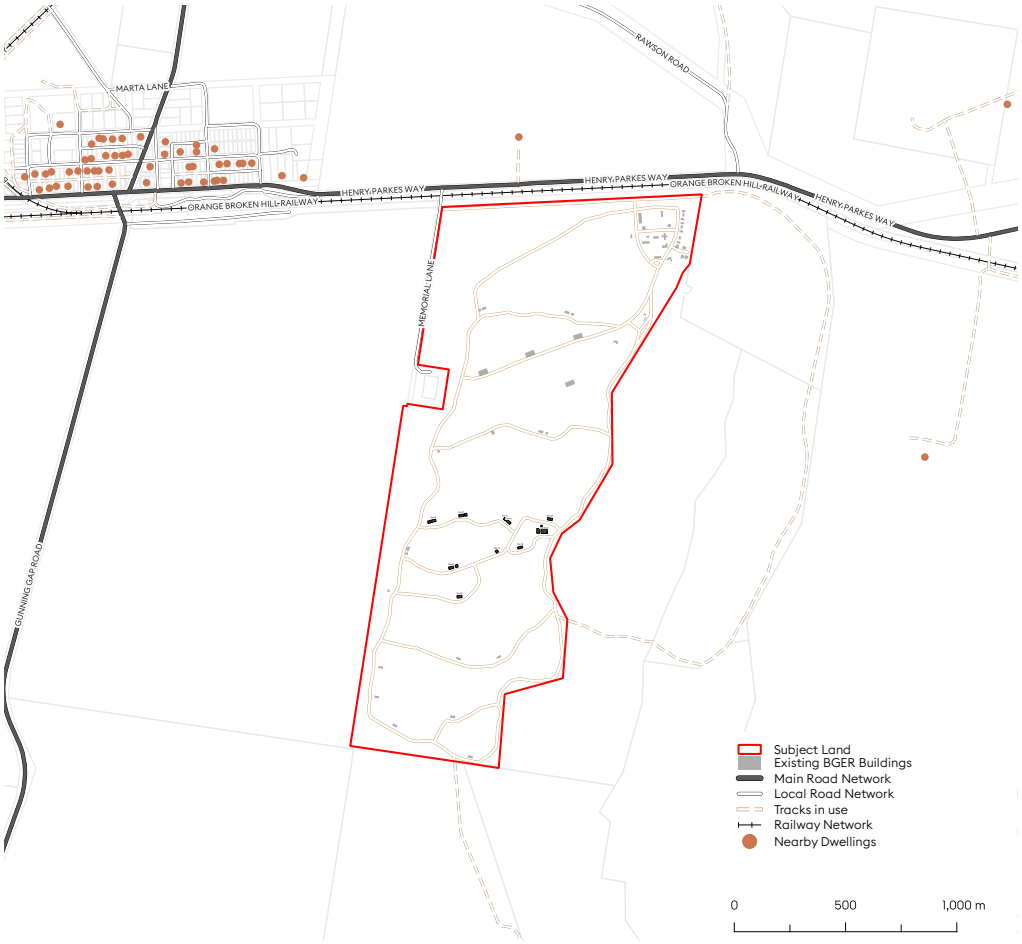
Howards and Sons and SMS operations involve manufacturing / storage of chemicals well below the threshold triggers listed in Table 15.1 of the WHS Regulation 2017 and the POEO Act 1997.

The BGER has established emergency procedures and an emergency response plan that must be complied with by Johnex, Howards and SMS.

Any new development(s) at the site are subject to rigorous risk assessment, such as the Process and Risk Report prepared by Greenice, dated 13 September 2023 for proposed SMS ANE Facility Alterations and Additions.

Figure 10 shows the BGER and nearby sensitive land-uses.

Figure 10 - Operational Hazards Map



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2.11 Infrastructure and Services

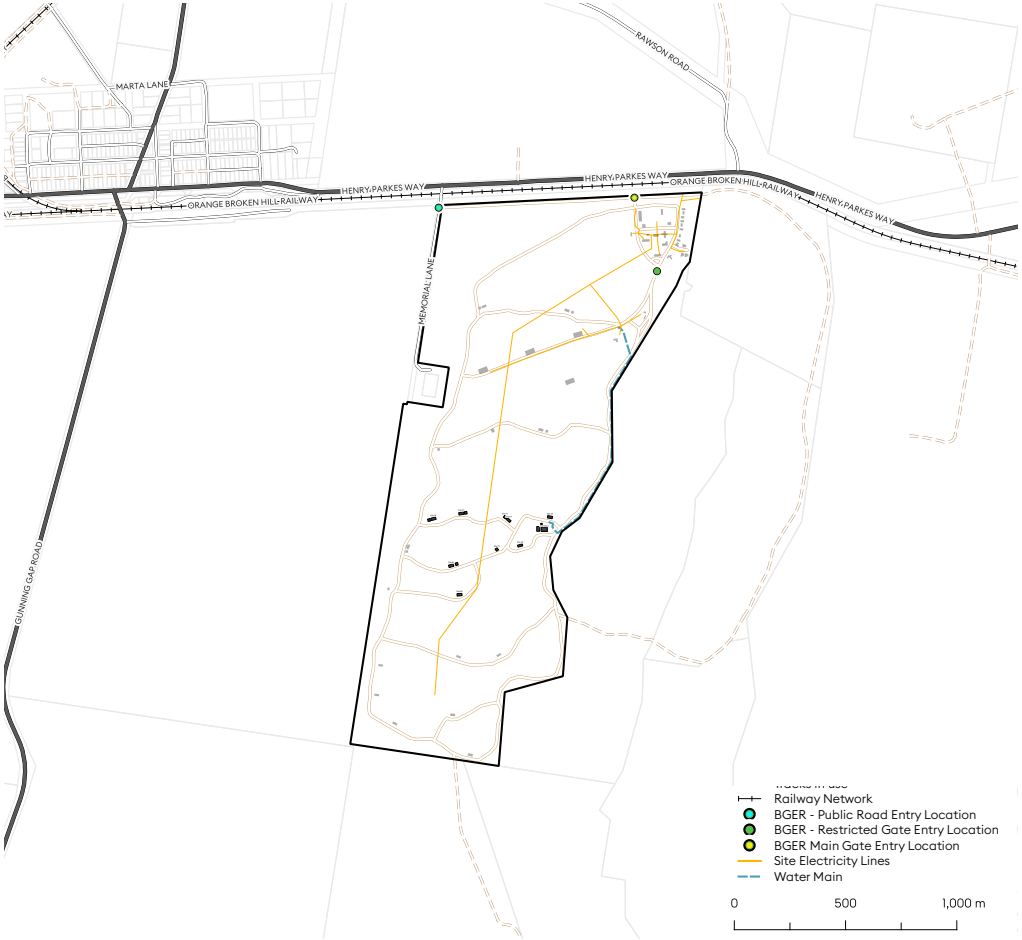
The BGER has an existing connection to the reticulated water supply system servicing Bogan Gate as well as existing road connections, electricity supply and telecommunications. Waste and wastewater management is generally managed at individual premises via on-site wastewater management systems.

No upgrades to utilities is required as part of the Planning Proposal.

To provide for safe movement of long vehicles onto the Henry Parkes Way, the intersection of Memorial Lane and Henry Parkes Way is proposed to be upgraded to provide auxiliary left turn lanes to accommodate the design vehicle for left-in and left-out truck movements only.

Figure 11 shows the location of existing infrastructure available at the BGER.

Figure 11 - Infrastructure and Servicing Map



03

EXISTING PLANNING FRAMEWORK

3.1 Parkes Local Environmental Plan 2012

The Parkes LEP 2012 is the principal environmental planning instrument applying to the subject land.

The Parkes LEP 2012 provides the statutory framework for planning, development and building within the Parkes Shire through zoning controls, development standards and other planning provisions.

The BGER is currently zoned RU1 Primary Production under the Parkes LEP 2012. Heavy Industries are currently not permitted on land zoned RU1 Primary Production under the Parkes LEP 2012.

Schedule 1 of the Parkes LEP 2012 provides for the inclusion of additional permitted uses on certain prescribed land, notwithstanding Land Use Table prohibitions.

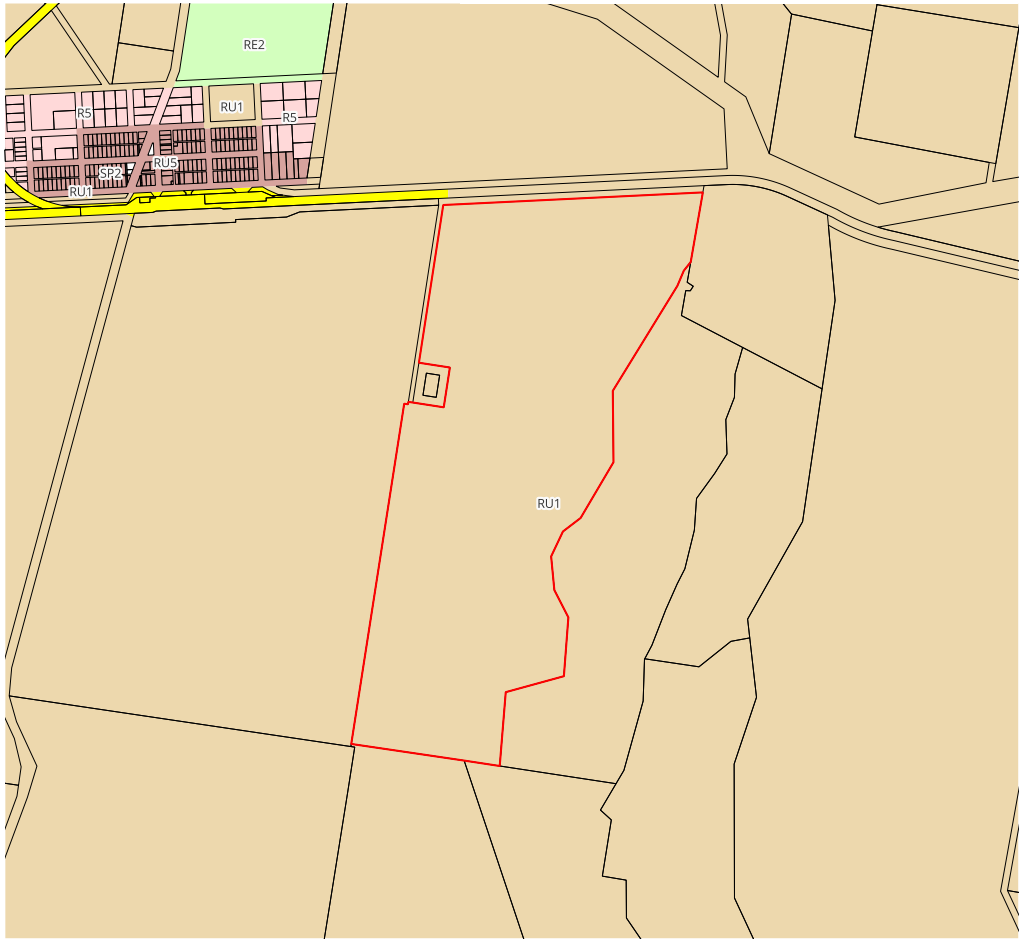
It is proposed to include a new additional permitted use in Schedule 1 of the Parkes LEP 2012 to permit heavy industries on Lot 2 DP 1064474 with development consent.

Figure 12 shows the existing zoning framework applying to the subject land under the Parkes LEP 2012.

LEGEND - LAND USE ZONES

E1	E1 Local Centre	RE1	Public Recreation
E3	E3 Productivity Support	RE2	Private Recreation
C1	C1 National Parks and Nature Reserves	RU1	Primary Production
C2	C2 Environmental Conservation	RU3	Forestry
C3	C3 Environmental Management	RU4	Primary Production Small Lots
E4	E4 General Industrial	RU5	Village
R1	R1 General Residential	SP2	Infrastructure
R2	R2 Low Density Residential	SP3	Tourist
R5	R5 Large Lot Residential	W2	Recreational Waterways

Figure 12 - Parkes LEP 2012 Existing Zoning Map



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3.1 Parkes Shire Development Control Plan 2021

The Parkes Shire Development Control Plan (DCP) 2021 applies to the whole of the Parkes Shire and provides detailed planning and design guidelines to support the Parkes LEP 2012.

The Parkes DCP 2021 provides development controls relating to residential, commercial, industrial and associated infrastructure development. There are also a number of site-specific chapters to be considered in the assessment of development applications lodged with Council for particular development types and at particular locations.

The following parts of the Parkes DCP 2021 contain provisions which are likely to be relevant to any future development of the subject land.

- Part A - Introduction
- Part D - Rural Development
- Part F - Industrial Development



3.2 Parkes Section 94A Contributions 2016

The Parkes Section 94A (now Section 7.12) Contributions Plan 2016 provides the framework for the provision of public infrastructure as a result of new development in the Parkes Shire.

The payment of a Section 7.12 Contribution Levee would likely be a requirement of any future development of the BGER to which this Planning Proposal relates.

According to the plan, the contributions received will be used towards the maintenance and improved of open space and community facilities.



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04

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSAL

4.1 Description of the Development Proposal

SMS have engaged Currajong to prepare a DA for proposed alterations and additions to the SMS ANE Facility. The principal objective of this development proposal is to increase the processing capacity of the SMS ANE Facility beyond its approved 960 tonnes of ANE per annum to up to 20,000 tonnes of ANE per annum. Other objectives for the development proposal are to:

- Provide for the growing demand for ANE from the mining, quarrying and civil construction sectors in NSW from the SMS ANE Facility at the BGER.
- Provide ANE to NSW customers by road, thereby avoiding excessive storage and transport.
- Minimise to the greatest extent possible, impacts to the local environment, Bogan Gate community and other stakeholders in the Parkes Shire.
- Ensure the operation of the SMS ANE Facility at the BGER is safe, reliable and cost effective, contributing to the delivery of mining and civil projects and the economy of the region.

The proposed manufacturing increases can be undertaken within the existing manufacturing plant, served by five (5) outlying chemical storage sheds that will feed the plant with the raw materials required to make ANE. Three (3) of these sheds are proposed new sheds to be constructed for AN storage. Two (2) new horizontal tanks are also required for ANE storage as well as two additional water storage tanks. Existing internal roads are to be used to link the SMS ANE Facility at the BGER to Memorial Lane and the Henry Parkes Way.

It is intended the DA would be lodged with Parkes Shire Council on or around the same time as the Planning Proposal.

The main aspects of the proposed alterations and additions to the SMS ANE Facility are shown in Figure 2.

4.2 Description of the Planning Proposal

The Planning Proposal seeks to amend the Parkes LEP 2012 by inserting Item 3 in Schedule 1 Additional Permitted Uses, as follows:

> (3) Development for the purposes of heavy industries is permitted on Lot 2 DP 1064474, 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate with development consent.

Heavy industries are already established on Lot 2 DP 1064474 in the form of the Johnex Pty Ltd Explosives Facility, Howards and Sons fireworks storage operations and the Solar Mining Services Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion Facility.

The heavy industry land-uses established at the BGER are shown in Figure 2.

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05

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

The existing landform and building configurations at the BGER are ideally suited for the manufacture and storage of explosives and other precursor products such as ANE.

The existing BGER has been designed to ensure maximum protection and separation from surrounding land-uses in the unlikely event of fire or explosion at the facility.

The Planning Proposal to formalise existing use of the land for heavy industries is considered to be an appropriate response, given there are three operational heavy industry businesses at the site and demand for products remains consistently high.

In particular, the BGER has the following advantages:

- The site has a history of explosives storage and manufacturing.
- The site is suitably separated from sensitive land-uses and infrastructure.
- Manufacturing and storage operations can be continued through utilisation of existing buildings, plant, infrastructure and safety / security systems already established at the site.
- All potential environmental and amenity impacts associated with the proposal are able to be suitably mitigated within the site, as demonstrated in previous approvals and licences granted over the site for existing heavy industry uses.
- The proximity to robust transport networks, delivering connectivity to nearby mines and quarries, with potential for dispatch of products to interstate destinations via the main road and railways network.
- The employment-generating opportunities for Bogan Gate and the wider Parkes Shire, with over 20 FTE jobs being generated from heavy industry activities at the BGER.
- The proposal aligning with the strategic vision for the Parkes Shire and the Central West and Orana Region by supporting mining, quarrying and civil construction industries, which are important industry sectors for the economy.
- The strengths of the BGER to provide smart, efficient and reliable explosives manufacturing and storage solutions to NSW customers.

If the Planning Proposal did not proceed, there would be less certainty about whether new heavy industry development proposals would be able to proceed under existing zoning. This uncertainty could influence the appetite of the landowner / leaseholders to maintain facilities at the BGER to the high standards required. It could also lead to less investment and employment at Bogan Gate and the wider Parkes Shire in this particular industry sector. Additionally, the BGER's contribution to the economy would be limited to current processing limits, which are estimated to not meet current and future demands in NSW.

The Planning Proposal is justified on the basis that it is a long-standing precinct of heavy industry development that generally complies with all safety separation distances required, has good connections to main roads and rail networks, and will create long-term employment opportunities in the region.

06

PLANNING PROPOSAL PART 1

Plan Making Guidance - Part 1

The NSW DPHI Local Environmental Plan Making Guidelines require Part 1 of the Planning Proposal to:

- Provide a clear and concise description of the Planning Proposal and be written in plain English, so it is easily understood by the community.
- Provide a description of the objectives and intended outcomes of the planning proposal so that they are specific enough to reflect the objective of the proposal yet flexible enough to allow for alternatives.

6.1 Objectives and Intended Outcomes

Section 3.33(2)(a) of the EP&A Act 1979 requires a Planning Proposal to include a statement of the objectives or intended outcomes of the proposed amendments.

Objective

To amend the Parkes LEP 2012 to permit heavy industries at the existing BGER on Lot 2 DP 1064474, 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate with development consent.

Intended Outcomes

- Rationalise the existing heavy industry uses currently being carried out on Lot 2 DP 1064474.
- Ensure the existing and future use of Lot 2 DP 1064474 delivers an equitable balance between heavy industry production and storage, transport and public safety and amenity.
- Provide opportunity for alterations and additions to existing heavy industries, subject to all consent conditions, approvals and licences being granted.

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PLANNING PROPOSAL PART 2

Plan Making Guidance - Part 2

The NSW DPHI Local Environmental Plan Making Guidelines require Part 2 of the Planning Proposal to:

- Provide a detailed statement of how the objectives or intended outcomes will be achieved by amending the LEP.
- Provide an explanation of provisions, clearly stated and containing enough information on the proposal to assist legal drafting of the LEP.
- Provide information relating to the proposed zones and / or development standards if known at this stage in the Planning Proposal.

7.1 Explanation of Provisions

Section 3.33(2)(b) of the EP&A Act 1979 requires the Planning Proposal to include an explanation of the provisions that are to be included in the proposed amending instrument.

Intended Provisions

The Planning Proposal seeks to amend the Parkes LEP 2012 by inserting Item 3 in Schedule 1 Additional Permitted Uses, as follows:

> (3) Development for the purposes of heavy industries is permitted on Lot 2 DP 1064474, 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate with development consent.

No other changes to the Parkes LEP 2012 are proposed.

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08

PLANNING PROPOSAL PART 3

Plan Making Guidance - Part 3

The NSW DPHI Local Environmental Plan Making Guidelines require Part 3 of the Planning Proposal to:

- Provide a detailed assessment of the proposal's strategic and site-specific merit to determine whether the Planning Proposal should be supported.
- Integrate findings from supporting studies and investigations.
- Provide justification for the proposed amendments to the LEP.
- Consider the interaction between these findings and whether the proposal will align with the strategic planning framework.
- Consider whether the proposal will have any environmental, social or economic impacts.

The assessment criteria for strategic merit includes:

- Whether the proposal gives affect to the relevant Regional Plan.
- Whether the proposal demonstrates consistency with the relevant LSPS or endorsed Strategy.
- Whether the proposal responds to a change in circumstances that has not been recognised by the existing planning framework.

The LEP should include site-specific merit assessment of:

- The natural environment on the site and other affected land.
- Existing, approved and likely future uses of the land.
- Services and infrastructure requirements of the proposal.

8.1 Need for the Planning Proposal

8.1.1 Is the Planning Proposal a result of any strategic study or report?

The need for the Planning Proposal is not a direct result of any strategic study or report prepared by Parkes Shire Council. The land is already largely zoned for Primary Production purposes and heavy industry activities and infrastructure are already established at the site. It intended to formalise existing heavy industry uses on Lot 2 DP 1064474 to reflect long-standing existing business activities being carried out at the BGER, including existing explosives manufacturing and storage operations currently being carried out by Johnex, Howards and Sons and SMS.

The need for the Planning Proposal is a result of the findings of engagement and consultation with Parkes Shire Council regarding the requirements for future development of the land. Justification for the Planning Proposal has been provided generally throughout this report, however the following key reasons underpin the proposed changes to the Parkes LEP 2012:

- The use of the BGER for explosives manufacturing and storage is long-established.
- The BGER has been generally designed to ensure maximum protection and separation from other land-uses in the unlikely event of fire or explosion at the facility.
- The BGER is already zoned RU1 Primary Production, however the Parkes LEP 2012 does not permit heavy industries requiring separation from other development due to the nature of the processes involved. The Standard LEP Instrument makes provision for the inclusion of heavy industries in the RU1 Primary Production zone, with nearby LEPs administered by Forbes and Narromine Councils permitting heavy industries in their RU1 Primary Production zones.
- Heavy industries are already established on Lot 2 DP 1064474 in the form of the Johnex Pty Ltd Explosives Facility, Howards and Sons fireworks storage operations and the SMS ANE Facility.
- Positive outcomes are expected to result in terms of greater certainty for businesses established at the BGER and for the mining, quarrying and civil construction industries that are reliant on products delivered from the BGER for their operations.

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8.1.2 Is the Planning Proposal the best means of achieving the objectives or intended outcomes, or is there a better way?

The most efficient and effective means of achieving the objectives and intended outcomes of the Planning Proposal is to include heavy industries as an additional permitted use on Lot 2 DP 1064474 in the Parkes LEP 2012.

Consultation has been ongoing with Parkes Shire Council where they have advised the processing of a Planning Proposal to permit heavy industries on Lot 2 DP 1064474 is the best means of achieving the intended outcomes for SMS, the BGER and wider Bogan Gate district.

The following alternatives have been considered in consultation with Parkes Shire Council, but do not provide an appropriate pathway to formalise existing uses being conducted at the BGER as described in this Planning Proposal:

- Continued reliance on existing use rights provisions to permit new development and alterations and additions to existing development at the BGER.
- Change of zoning from RU1 Primary Production to E4 General Industrial.

8.2 Relationship to the strategic planning framework

8.2.1 Will the planning proposal give effect to the objectives and actions of the applicable regional plan?

The Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2041 establishes a strategic framework, vision and direction for land use, addressing future needs for housing, jobs, infrastructure, a healthy environment, access to green spaces and connected communities. It leverages the region's central location and builds on it's strengths to provide smart, efficient and reliable connections that bring residents and visitors closer to jobs, centres, education and the natural environment.

The Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2041 is structured around 23 objectives, which belong to the following themes:

- Region-shaping investment.
- A sustainable and resilient place.
- People, centres, housing and communities.
- Prosperity, productivity and innovation.

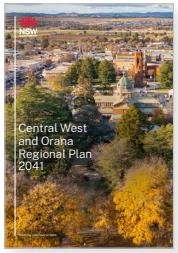
The following objectives are particularly relevant in the context of the Planning Proposal:

- Objective 1 - Deliver the Parkes Special Activation Precinct and share its benefits across the region.
- Objective 3 - Sustainably manage extractive resource land and grow the critical minerals sector.
- Objective 4 - Leverage inter-regional transport connections.
- Objective 7 - Plan for resilient places and communities.
- Objective 12 - Sustain a network of healthy and prosperous centres.
- Objective 18 - Leverage existing industries and employment areas and support new and innovative economic enterprises.
- Objective 19 - Protect agricultural production values and promote agricultural innovation, sustainability and value-add opportunities the existing and future road, rail and air transport networks and infrastructure.

Table 2 includes a brief assessment of the Planning Proposal against the relevant objectives and priorities in the Regional Plan.

Table 2 - Planning Proposal Assessment - Regional Plan

Objective	Preliminary Assessment
1	Implementation of the changes in the Planning Proposal will allow for continued operation of existing heavy industries established at the BGER. Planning and development of the site for heavy industry type industries has been long-running, with a Masterplan and Masterplan User Requirement Report first being prepared by the Australian Military Forces in August 1962. The BGER is well suited to the manufacture and storage of explosives and other explosive precursor products such as ANE, as the site consists of natural undulating landforms as well as constructed formations that are well protected and separated from nearby sensitive land-users and infrastructure. Existing operations are regulated by a number of government agencies, including WorkSafe NSW, EPA, NSW Fire and Rescue, NSW Rural Fire Service and Parkes Shire Council. The site is ideally located in close proximity to main roads and railways and the Parkes Special Activation Precinct. The industries at the BGER provide important products for the mining, quarrying and civil engineering as well as fireworks events. The Planning Proposal is of a scale that is of local planning significance. Notwithstanding, the proposal is demonstrated to provide vital services to larger scale mining, industry and tourism sectors, which align with the relevant key objectives of the Regional Plan.
3	
4	
7	
12	
18	
19	



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8.2.2 Is the planning proposal consistent with a council LSPS that has been endorsed by the Planning Secretary or another endorsed local strategy or strategic plan?

The Parkes Shire Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS) 2020 contains planning priorities and actions for a 20-year vision for the Parkes Shire outlining how growth and change will be managed into the future. The planning themes / priorities include:

- Connecting the Central West to the World.
- Supporting Our Needs.
- Preserving What's Important.
- Accommodating Residential Growth and Development.
- Growing the Economy.

Table 3 includes an assessment of the Planning themes / priorities in the LSPS that are considered to be of particular relevance to the Planning Proposal.

Table 3 - Planning Proposal Assessment - Parkes LSPS

Direction	Preliminary Assessment
Connecting the Central West to the World	The existing heavy industries established at the BGER provide important products to the mining, quarrying and civil engineering sectors in the Parkes Shire. The employment generated at the BGER is of vital support to the Bogan Gate community and wider Parkes Shire. The existing landform and building configurations at the BGER are ideally suited for the manufacture and storage of explosives and other precursor products such as ANE, as the site consists of natural undulating landforms as well as constructed formations that are well protected and separated from nearby sensitive land-users and infrastructure. The existing businesses operating at the BGER have been designed to ensure maximum protection and separation from other land-uses in the unlikely event of fire or explosion at the facility. Existing / future development would be able to avoid environmentally sensitivity areas, such as native vegetation, drainage contours and bushfire prone land. The changes proposed to the Parkes LEP 2012 are generally considered to be of significance only to the site and immediate surrounds, and do not create any inconsistencies with the planning priorities and actions contained in the Parkes LSPS 2020.
Supporting Our Needs	
Growing the Economy	



8.2.3 Is the planning proposal consistent with any other applicable State or regional studies or strategies?

The following strategies / studies have been considered in the preparation of the Planning Proposal:

- Future Transport Strategy 2056.
- Net Zero Plan.
- State Infrastructure Strategy, a 20 year Economic Vision for Regional NSW.
- Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2041.
- NSW State Planning Policy (Resilience and Hazards) 2021.
- NSW RFS Guideline: Planning for Bush Fire Protection, 2019.
- NSW DPIE Major Projects. Key Guidance. Hazards and Risks, including various guidelines such as the Hazardous Industry Risk Assessment Guidelines, 2011.

8.2.4 Is the planning proposal consistent with applicable State Environmental Planning Policies?

Table 4 shows a list of the State Environmental Planning Policies that have applicability to land within the Parkes LGA.

Table 4 includes an assessment on whether there are provisions within the each SEPP that need to be considered in relation to the Planning Proposal.

Where it is identified that further assessment is required, this work is presented in the following pages.

Table 4 - Preliminary SEPP Assessment

Name of SEPP	Applicability	Further Assessment Warranted?
SEPP (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021	Applicable	Yes
SEPP (Sustainable Buildings) 2022	Not applicable	No
SEPP (Exempt and Complying Development Codes) 2008	Not applicable	No
SEPP (Housing) 2021	Not applicable	No
SEPP (Industry and Employment) 2021	Not applicable	Yes
SEPP (Planning Systems) 2021	Applicable	Yes
SEPP (Primary Production) 2021	Not applicable	No
SEPP (Precincts - Central River City) 2021	Not applicable	No
SEPP (Precincts - Eastern Harbour City) 2021	Not applicable	No
SEPP (Precincts - Western Parkland City) 2021	Not applicable	No
SEPP (Precincts - Regional) 2021	Not applicable	No
SEPP (Resilience and Hazards) 2021	Applicable	Yes
SEPP (Resources and Energy) 2021	Not applicable	No
SEPP (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021	Applicable	Yes

SEPP (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021

The Biodiversity and Conservation SEPP 2021 aims to protect the biodiversity values of trees and other vegetation in non-rural areas of the State and preserve the amenity of non-rural areas of the State through the preservation of trees and other vegetation. Provisions protecting bushland, trees, heritage items, waterways, wetlands and koalas are also included in the SEPP.

The site is largely influenced by historic settlement in and around Bogan Gate and the Bogan Gate Army Camp and explosives reserve. The BGER comprises a large number of fixed buildings, roads and drainage improvements within a cleared area sown down to exotic grasses, surrounded by patches of native and regrowth vegetation. As a result, the site is predominately cleared of native vegetation, with native vegetation generally limited along the perimeter of the site. Habitat value on Lot 2 DP 1064474 is generally assessed as low.

The SEPP is applicable to the assessment of the Planning Proposal as it has potential to facilitate a land-use / development outcome that could result in the clearing of native vegetation, should native vegetation exist over the site to the extent that clearing would trigger the Biodiversity Offset Scheme Threshold (BOST) established under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016.

No clearing of native vegetation as defined under Local Land Services Act 2013 and at levels triggering the BOS is required as part of the Planning Proposal. A Currajong PBASR dated 24 February 2023 has been undertaken to assess biodiversity impacts under Section 1.7 of the EP&A Act 1979 (which takes into consideration Part 7 of the BC Act 2016) reveals no significant affects on threatened species or their habitats.

A small section of the western perimeter of the site is mapped as biodiversity under the Terrestrial Biodiversity Map in the Parkes LEP 2012. This area comprises Inland Grey Box Woodland and Red Ironbark (Eucalyptus sideroxylon) with White Cypress Pine (Callitris columellaris) and Black Cypress Pine (Callitris endlicheri) and a grassy / weedy under storey).

Having regard to the above, the Planning Proposal does not create any inconsistencies with the provisions contained in this SEPP.

SEPP (Planning Systems) 2021

The Planning Systems SEPP 2021 provides the framework to determine whether a proposed development is:

- State Significant Development.
- State Significant Infrastructure.
- Regionally Significant Development.

The Johnex operations at the BGER are deemed to comprise a major hazards facility under the WHS Regulation 2017 which would be a trigger for new development potentially being considered as State significant development. The Johnex site is also covered by an EPL administered by EPA under the POEO 1997.

Howards and SMS operations involve manufacturing / storage of chemicals well below the threshold triggers listed in Table 15.1 of the WHS Regulation 2017 and the POEO Act 1997.

The SMS DA for proposed alterations and additions does not propose to exceed the limits of AN storage as per Table 15.1 of Schedule 15 of the WHS Regulation 2017, and is therefore not trigger State Significant Development. The proposal is also not Designated Development of a kind that makes it Regionally Significant Development. Accordingly, the proposed SMS ANE Facility alterations and additions is Local Development, as defined under the Planning Systems SEPP 2021.

The site is considered suitable for existing / proposed heavy industry land-use as outlined in the Planning Proposal. As such, the Planning Proposal does not create any inconsistencies with the provisions contained in this SEPP.

SEPP (Resilience and Hazards) 2021

The subject land does not feature in any of the databases maintained by the Office of Environment and Heritage or EPA pertaining to the management / regulation of contaminated sites.

A preliminary contamination investigation has been undertaken on the site where SMS is established by Envirowest, dated 4 February 2021, which revealed no evidence of contamination.

The Johnex operations at the BGER are deemed to comprise a major hazards facility under the WHS Regulation 2017, with Johnex facility operations being controlled under an EPL administered by the EPA under the POEO Act 1997.

Howards and SMS operations involve manufacturing / storage of chemicals well below the threshold triggers listed in Table 15.1 of the WHS Regulation 2017 and the POEO Act 1997.

As such, the Planning Proposal does not create any inconsistencies with the provisions contained in this SEPP.

SEPP (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021

The Transport and Infrastructure SEPP 2021 aims to facilitate the effective delivery of infrastructure across NSW by providing a consistent planning framework for infrastructure provision, and identifying where a more detailed assessment or consultation response may be required for specific types of infrastructure development.

Existing heavy industries at the BGER (combined) would not qualify as traffic generating development as per Schedule 3 of the Transport and Infrastructure SEPP 2021. Access to the BGER will continue via Memorial Lane and then onto the Henry Parkes Way, which is a classified road.

Consultation has been initiated with TfNSW about the proposed alterations and additions to the SMS ANE Facility and the proposed upgrades to the intersection of Henry Parkes Way and Memorial Lane. Preliminary feedback from TfNSW and Parkes Shire Council has not indicated any objections to proposed road upgrades under controlled conditions.

Having regard to the above, the Planning Proposal does not create any inconsistencies with the provisions contained in this SEPP.

8.2.5 Is the planning proposal consistent with applicable Ministerial Directions (section 9.1 Directions)?

An assessment of the Planning Proposal against each Section 9.1 Ministerial Direction is included as follows:

Focus Area 1 - Planning Systems

Direction 1.1 - Implementation of Regional Plans

The Direction applies to the Planning Proposal as it relates to land to which the Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2041 applies. The Direction requires the Planning Proposal to be consistent with the requirements of the Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2041. An assessment against the Regional Plan is included in this Planning Proposal. No inconsistencies have been identified. The Planning Proposal is assessed to be consistent with Ministerial Direction 1.1.

Direction 1.2 - Development of Aboriginal Land Council Land

The Direction does not apply to the Planning Proposal as it does not relate to any land that is shown on the Land Application Map of Chapter 3 of the State Environmental Planning Policy (Planning Systems) 2021.

Direction 1.3 - Approval and Referral Requirements

The Direction generally requires the Planning Proposal not to include provisions requiring concurrence, consultation or referral of a DA to a Minister of a public authority without prior approval. The Planning Proposal seeks only to make changes to Schedule 1 of the Parkes LEP 2012 dealing with additional permitted use. The changes proposed to the Parkes LEP 2012 will not alter existing consultation or concurrence obligations prescribed in legislation for new development. The Planning Proposal is assessed to be consistent with Ministerial Direction 1.3.

Direction 1.4 - Site Specific Provisions

The Direction applies when a Planning Proposal will allow a particular development to be carried out. Direction 1.4(1) applies because the Planning Proposal involves an additional permitted use on Lot 2 DP 1064474 with consent. Direction 1.4(2) requires that a Planning Proposal must contain or refer to drawings that show details of the proposed development. In this particular Planning Proposal, plans have been shown of general site conditions and surrounds. No changes to mapping in the Parkes LEP 2012 is required. The Planning Proposal is assessed to be consistent with Ministerial Direction 1.4.

Focus Area 2 - Planning Systems - Place Based

Ministerial Directions 1.5 to 1.22 are not applicable to the subject land. Further consideration is not considered to be necessary.

Focus Area 2 - Design and Place

This Focus Area was blank when the Directions were made.

Focus Area 3 - Biodiversity and Conservation

Direction 3.1 - Conservation Zones

Direction 3.1(1) requires that a Planning Proposal must include provisions that facilitate the protection and conservation of environmentally sensitive areas. Direction 3.1(2) requires that the Planning Proposal must not reduce the conservation standards that apply to the land. The Planning Proposal does not propose any changes of zoning or development on land that is identified as an environmentally sensitive area. The Planning Proposal is consistent with the terms of Ministerial Direction 3.1.

Direction 3.2 - Heritage Conservation

Direction 3.2(1) requires that a Planning Proposal must contain provisions that facilitate the conservation of any environmental heritage items identified in a study of the environmental heritage of the area, Aboriginal objects or places protected under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 or identified by an Aboriginal heritage survey prepared by or on behalf an Aboriginal Land Council, Aboriginal body or public authority.

The planning proposal is assessed to be consistent with this Ministerial Direction for the following reasons:

- The Planning Proposal does not impact on any known items of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance.
- The subject land is not mapped in the Parkes LEP 2012 as a heritage item.
- Built heritage aspects associated with the Australian Military use during and post WWII have been considered, with no building / structure being identified as particularly rare or having significant heritage values.
- The Bogan Gate Cemetery to the west of the site is identified to be the only site with potential local heritage significance. The continued uses at the BGER are not incompatible with the heritage significance of the Bogan Gate Cemetery.
- The suitability of the land for heavy industry land-use has already been established by the existing buildings and improvements at the BGER.
- The Planning Proposal does not change, alter or reduce any of the existing provisions in Parkes LEP 2012 which facilitate the protection and conservation of heritage areas.

Clause 5.10 would continue to apply to any future development on the land, and provides an appropriate regulatory framework for the assessment of heritage issues and matters as part of a DA to Parkes Shire Council.

Direction 3.3 - Sydney Drinking Water Catchments

The Direction does not apply to the Planning Proposal as it does not affect land in any of the Local Government Areas located within the Sydney Drinking Water Catchment.

Direction 3.4 - Application of C2 and C3 zones and Environmental Overlays in Far North Coast LEPs.

The Direction does not apply to the Planning Proposal as it does not affect land on the New South Wales Far North Coast.

Direction 3.5 - Recreation Vehicle Areas

Direction 3.5(1) requires that a Planning Proposal must not enable land to be developed for the purposes of a recreation vehicle area where:

+ The land is within a conservation zone.
+ Where the land comprises a beach or a dune adjacent to or adjoining a beach.
+ Where the land is not within an area or zone referred to in paragraphs (a) or (b) unless the relevant planning authority has taken into consideration the provisions of the guidelines entitled Guidelines for Selection, Establishment and Maintenance of Recreation Vehicle Areas, Soil Conservation Service of NSW, September, 1985.
+ The provisions of the guidelines entitled Recreation Vehicles Act 1983, Guidelines for Selection, Design, and Operation of Recreation Vehicle Areas, State Pollution Control Commission, September 1985.

The Planning Proposal is assessed to be consistent with this Ministerial Direction for the following reasons:

+ The proposal does not involve land within a C3 Environmental Management zone.
+ The proposal is to allow the land to be developed for primary production and heavy industry land-uses only.

Direction 3.6 - Strategic Conservation Planning

This Direction does not apply to the Planning Proposal as it does not relate to land that is identified as 'avoided land' or a 'strategic conservation area' under State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021.

Direction 3.7 - Public Bushland

This Direction does not apply to the Planning Proposal as it does not relate to land in a prescribed LGA.

Direction 3.8 - Willandra Lakes Region

This Direction does not apply to the Planning Proposal as it does not relate to land identified as the Willandra Lakes World Heritage Property.

Direction 3.9 - Sydney Harbour Foreshores and Waterways area

This Direction does not apply to the Planning Proposal as it does not relate to land within the Foreshores and Waterways Area.

Direction 3.10 - Water Catchment Protection

This Direction does not apply to the Planning Proposal as it does not relate to land within a regulated catchment.

Focus Area 4 - Resilience and Hazards

Direction 4.1 - Flooding

Direction 4.1 requires that a Planning Proposal must include provisions that give effect to and are consistent with:

+ The NSW Flood Prone Land Policy.
+ The principles of the Floodplain Development Manual 2005.
+ The Considering flooding in land use planning guideline 2021.
+ Any adopted flood study and/or floodplain risk management plan prepared in accordance with the principles of the Floodplain Development Manual 2005 and adopted by the relevant council.

The Planning Proposal is assessed to be consistent with the requirements of Direction 4.1 for the following reasons:

+ The subject land is not located within the Flood Planning Area defined by the Parkes LEP 2012.
+ The Planning Proposal does not seek to enable hazardous industries or hazardous storage establishments on flood affected land.
+ Robust stormwater drainage structures are established at the BGER, with no recorded issues related to stormwater flooding or the like.
+ No flood related issues are assessed to apply to the safe occupation / efficient evacuation of the BGER.
+ The proposal is unlikely to result in a significantly increased requirement for government spending on emergency management services, and flood mitigation and emergency response measures, including road infrastructure, flood mitigation infrastructure and utilities.

Direction 4.2 - Coastal Management

The Direction does not apply to the Planning Proposal as it does not affect land within the coastal zone, as defined under the Coastal Management Act 2016.

Direction 4.3 - Planning for Bushfire Protection

The Direction applies to the Planning Proposal as parts of the BGER are mapped as bushfire prone land. The BGER has an emergency response plan dealing with bushfires. Individual businesses operating at the BGER also have their own plans and procedures dealing with fire, such as the SMS Bushfire Management Plan, dated 4 April wo23 which deals with the management of fires and emergency evacuation procedures, asset protection zones between buildings and potential bushfire fuel sources. NSW RFS and NSW Fire and Rescue conduct regular inspections at the BGER to ensure adequate fire protection systems are in place at the site.

Direction 4.4 - Remediation of contaminated land

The Direction applies to the Planning Proposal as it relates to land, a part of which is known to contain an area of potential land contamination.

Direction 4.4(1) requires that a Planning Proposal authority must not include in a particular zone (within the meaning of the local environmental plan) any land to which this direction applies if the inclusion of the land in that zone would permit a change of use of the land, unless:

+ The Planning Proposal Authority has considered whether the land is contaminated, and

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- If the land is contaminated, the planning proposal authority is satisfied that the land is suitable in its contaminated state (or will be suitable, after remediation) for all the purposes for which land in the zone concerned is permitted to be used, and
- If the land requires remediation to be made suitable for any purpose for which land in that zone is permitted to be used, the planning proposal authority is satisfied that the land will be so remediated before the land is used for that purpose.

Direction 4.4(2) requires, before including any land to which this direction applies in a particular zone, the Planning Proposal Authority is to obtain and have regard to a report specifying the findings of a preliminary investigation of the land carried out in accordance with the contaminated land planning guidelines.

The subject land does not feature in any database pertaining to the management / regulation of contaminated land. A preliminary contamination investigation was undertaken on part of the BGER by Envirowest, dated 4 February 2021, which revealed no evidence of contamination. No physical evidence of contamination is visible from inspection of the site.

The site is considered suitable for heavy industry land-use as proposed in the Planning Proposal. As such, the Planning Proposal does not create any inconsistencies with the provisions contained in this SEPP.

Direction 4.5 - Acid Sulphate Soils

The Direction does not apply to the Planning Proposal as it does not affect land having a probability of containing acid sulfate soils.

Direction 4.6 - Mine Subsidence and Unstable Land

The Direction does not apply to the Planning Proposal as it does not affect land that is within a declared mine subsidence district.

Focus Area 5 - Transport and Infrastructure

Direction 5.1 - Transport and Infrastructure

Direction 5.1(1) requires that a Planning Proposal must locate zones for urban purposes and include provisions that give effect to and are consistent with the aims, objectives and principles of:

- Improving Transport Choice – Guidelines for planning and development (DUAP 2001).
- The Right Place for Business and Services – Planning Policy (DUAP 2001).

The Planning Proposal does not create, alter and remove a zoning provision relating to urban land. The development scenario that is to be facilitated by this Planning Proposal is not be expected to compromise the safety or function of the surrounding road network.

Direction 5.2 - Reserving land for public purposes

Direction 5.2(1) requires that a Planning Proposal must not create, alter or reduce existing zonings or reservations of land for public purposes without the approval of the relevant public authority and the Planning Secretary (or an officer of the Department nominated by the Secretary).

The Planning Proposal is consistent with Direction 5.2(1) as it does not seek any changes to alter the extent of public land.

Direction 5.3 - Development Near Regulated Airports and Defence Airfields

The Direction does not apply to the Planning Proposal as it does not create, alter or remove a zone or provision relating to land near a regulated airport.

Direction 5.4 - Shooting Ranges

The Direction does not apply to the Planning Proposal as it does not create, alter or remove a zone or provision relating to land adjacent to and / or adjoining an existing shooting range.

Focus Area 6 - Housing

Direction 6.1 - Residential Zones

The Direction does not apply as the Planning Proposal as it does not involve residential development.

Direction 6.2 - Caravan Parks and Manufactured Home Estates

The Planning Proposal does not seek to identify suitable zones, locations and provisions for caravan parks or manufactured home estates. The permissibility of these land-use types in any existing zone under the Parkes LEP 2012 will not be changed as a result of this Planning Proposal. The Planning Proposal is not inconsistent with the requirements of the Direction.

Focus Area 7 - Industry and Employment

Direction 7.1 - Business and Industrial Zones

The Direction does not apply to the Planning Proposal as it does not affect land within an existing or proposed business or industrial zone.

Direction 7.2 - Reduction in non-hosted short-term rental accommodation period

The Direction does not apply to the Planning Proposal as it does not affect land within the Byron LGA.

Direction 7.3 - Commercial and Retail Development along the Pacific Highway, North Coast

The Direction does not apply to the Planning Proposal as it does not affect land within those council areas on the North Coast that the Pacific Highway traverses.

Focus Area 8 - Resources and Energy

Direction 8.1 - Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries

The Direction does not apply to the Planning Proposal as it does not have the effect of:

+ Prohibiting the mining of coal or other minerals, production of petroleum, or winning or obtaining of extractive materials.
+ Restricting the potential development of resources of coal, other minerals, petroleum or extractive materials which are of State or regional significance by permitting a land use that is likely to be incompatible with such development.

Focus Area 9 - Primary Production

Direction 9.1 - Primary Production

The Direction does not apply to the Planning Proposal as it does not rezone land from a rural zone to a residential, business, industrial, village or tourist zone.

Direction 9.2 - Rural Lands

The Planning Proposal affects land within an existing or proposed rural or conservation zone. It does not proposes changes to the existing minimum lot size on land within a rural or conservation zone.

Direction 9.3 - Oyster Aquaculture

This Direction does not apply to the Planning Proposal as it does not affect land within a 'Priority Oyster Aquaculture Area'.

Direction 9.4 - Farmland of State and Regional Significance on the NSW Far North Cost

This Direction does not apply to the Planning Proposal as it does not affect land within a Far North Coast LGA.

8.3 Environmental, Social and Economic Impact

8.3.1 Is there any likelihood that critical habitat or threatened species, populations or ecological communities, or their habitats, will be adversely affected because of the proposal?

The historic agricultural, explosive storage and manufacturing, army camp and heavy industry uses on the property have resulted in a landscape that is highly disturbed and largely cleared of native vegetation, with the predominate landform cover being buildings, hardstands, roads and pasture grass.

A review of the Terrestrial Biodiversity Map in the Parkes Local Environmental Plan 2012 confirms a small section of the western perimeter of the site is mapped as biodiversity. Figure 6 shows the location of native vegetation in and around the subject land.

Site inspection confirms remnant vegetation comprising Inland Grey Box Woodland and Red Ironbark (Eucalyptus sideroxylon) with White Cypress Pine (Callitris columellaris) and Black Cypress Pine (Callitris endlicheri) and a grassy / weedy under storey). The habitat value of these isolated pockets of vegetation on Lot 2 DP 1064474 is assessed as low.

No clearing of native vegetation as defined under Local Land Services Act 2013 at levels triggering the BOST is required as part of the Planning Proposal.

A Currajong PBASR dated 24 February 2023 has been undertaken to assess biodiversity impacts under Section 1.7 of the EP&A Act 1979 (which takes into consideration Part 7 of the BC Act 2016) reveals no significant affects on threatened species or their habitats.

8.3.2 Are there any other likely environmental effects of the planning proposal and how are they proposed to be managed?

Operational Safety

The BGER has established its own emergency procedures that must be complied with by all leasees at the site, including Johnex, Howards and SMS.

There are three existing businesses operating at the BGER that are also regulated by WorkSafe NSW to store / manufacture produce explosives and other precursor explosive products at the site.

To obtain a WorkSafe licence, certain risk assessments must be undertaken demonstrating compliance with the WHS Regulation 2017 and other relevant standards and guidelines.

The Johnex operations at the BGER are deemed to comprise a major hazards facility under the WHS Regulation 2017. The Johnex site is also covered by an EPL administered by the EPA under the POEO Act 1997.

Howards and SMS operations involve manufacturing / storage of chemicals well below the threshold triggers listed in Table 15.1 of the WHS Regulation 2017 and the POEO Act 1997.

Figure 10 shows the buffers established at the BGER from nearby sensitive land-uses.

Bushfire

The BGER has established emergency procedures and an emergency response plan that must be complied with by Johnex, Howards and SMS. Land along the eastern boundary of Lot 2 DP 1064474 is identified as Bushfire Prone Land. Consultation with the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) and NSW Fire and Rescue NSW has been undertaken. For example, the SMS Bushfire Management Plan, dated 4 April 2023 has been reviewed by NSW RFS to ensure compliance with Chapter 8 of the RFS Guideline, Planning for Bushfire Protection 2019.

Flooding

The subject land is not mapped in the Parkes LEP 2012 as being impacted by flooding. The nearest natural water body is the Gunningbland Creek located approximately 1km north of the SMS ANE Facility. A robust system of stormwater management is established at the BGER, including road table drains, contour banks, swales and catch dams.

Contamination

The subject land does not feature in any of the databases maintained by the Office of Environment and Heritage pertaining to the management / regulation of contaminated sites. A preliminary contamination investigation has been undertaken on the site where SMS is established by Envirowest, dated 4 February 2021, which revealed no evidence of contamination. The site is considered suitable for heavy industry land-use as proposed in the Planning Proposal.

8.3.3 Has the planning proposal adequately addressed any social and economic effects

Social Impact Assessment

An assessment of potential impacts of the Planning Proposal and the resultant SMS proposed alterations and additions has been undertaken with regards to scoping methodology outlined in the DPHI Social Impact Assessment Guideline 2017 (SIA Guideline). Table 5 provides an assessment of the Planning Proposal against the criteria in the SIA Guideline.

Table 5 - SIA Guideline - Social Impact Assessment

Matters	Key links to social impacts	Risk of impact without mitigation	Nature of Impact	Explanation
Amenity				
Acoustic	Way of life	Unlikely	Negative	The Planning Proposal is unlikely to generate impacts
Visual	Surroundings	Likely	Negative	The Planning Proposal is unlikely to generate impacts
Odour	Surroundings	Unlikely	Negative	The Planning Proposal is unlikely to generate impacts
Micro climate	Surroundings	Unlikely	Negative	The Planning Proposal is unlikely to generate impacts
Access				
Access to property	Way of life	N/A	Nil	The Planning Proposal is unlikely to generate impacts
Utilities and public transport	Access to infrastructure, services and facilities	Unlikely	Negative	Existing connections to reticulated water supply, electricity supply and telecommunications are established
Road and rail	Personal and property rights	Likely	Negative	Roads are connected to the BGER via Memorial Lane and then onto the Henry Parkes Way. A TIA has been developed outlining proposed road upgrades
Built Environment				
Public domain	Community	Likely	Nil	The Planning Proposal does not alter land zoned for public purposes
Public infrastructure	Access to infrastructure, services and facilities	Unlikely	Negative	The BGER is located close to Bogan Gate and Parkes, where public infrastructure and services are available for workers at the site
Other built assets	Surroundings; Personal and property rights	Unlikely	Nil	The Planning Proposal is unlikely to generate impacts
Heritage				
Natural	Way of life	Unlikely	Nil	The Planning Proposal is unlikely to generate impacts
Cultural	Community	Unlikely	Nil	The Planning Proposal is unlikely to generate impacts

Table 5 - SIA Guideline - Social Impact Assessment

Matters	Key links to social impacts	Risk of impact without mitigation	Nature of Impact	Explanation
Aboriginal culture	Culture	Unlikely	Negative	The Planning Proposal is unlikely to generate impacts
Built	Surroundings	Unlikely	Negative	The Planning Proposal is unlikely to generate impacts
Community				
Health	Health and wellbeing	Unlikely	Negative	The Planning Proposal is unlikely to generate impacts
Safety	Surroundings	Likely	Negative	Existing operations at the BGER are already regulated under the WHS Act 2011 and the POEO Act 1997. New development(s) are also required to address the relevant matters for consideration under the EP&A Act 1979. The Planning Proposal has addressed identified safety risks related to environmental / operational hazards
Services and facilities	Way of life, Access to infrastructure, services and facilities	Unlikely	Nil	The BGER is located close to Bogan Gate and Parkes, where public infrastructure and services are available for workers at the site
Cohesion	Way of life; Community; Culture	Likely	Positive	Existing operations at the BGER are already regulated under the WHS Act 2011 and the POEO Act 1997. New development(s) are also required to address the relevant matters for consideration under the EP&A Act 1979. The Planning Proposal has addressed identified safety risks related to environmental / operational hazards. The BGER is associated with a number of businesses that employ staff that live in the local area. Continued use of the site for heavy industries will maintain jobs and lead to positive economic impacts
Housing	Way of life, Personal and property rights	Unlikely	Negative	Existing operations at the BGER are already regulated under the WHS Act 2011 and the POEO Act 1997. New development(s) are also required to address the relevant matters for consideration under the EP&A Act 1979. The Planning Proposal has addressed identified safety risks related to environmental / operational hazards
Economic				

Matters	Key links to social impacts	Risk of impact without mitigation	Nature of Impact	Explanation
Natural resource area	Way of life	Unlikely	Negative	Existing operations at the BGER are already regulated under the WHS Act 2011 and the POEO Act 1997. New development(s) are also required to address the relevant matters for consideration under the EP&A Act 1979. The Planning Proposal has addressed identified safety risks related to environmental / operational hazards. The BGER is associated with a number of businesses that employ staff that live in the local area. Continued use of the site for heavy industries will maintain jobs and lead to positive economic impacts
Livelihood	Surroundings	Unlikely	Negative	Existing operations at the BGER are already regulated under the WHS Act 2011 and the POEO Act 1997. New development(s) are also required to address the relevant matters for consideration under the EP&A Act 1979. The Planning Proposal has addressed identified safety risks related to environmental / operational hazards
Opportunity cost	Personal and property rights	Unlikely	Negative	Existing operations at the BGER are already regulated under the WHS Act 2011 and the POEO Act 1997. New development(s) are also required to address the relevant matters for consideration under the EP&A Act 1979. The Planning Proposal has addressed identified safety risks related to environmental / operational hazards
Air				
Air emissions.	Surroundings	Unlikely	Negative	The Planning Proposal is unlikely to generate impacts
Biodiversity				
Native vegetation and fauna	Surroundings	Unlikely	Negative	The Planning Proposal is unlikely to generate impacts
Land				
Land capability, topography	Surroundings	Unlikely	Negative	The Planning Proposal is unlikely to generate impacts
Water				
Quality, availability, hydrological flows	Surroundings	Unlikely	Negative	The Planning Proposal is unlikely to generate impacts

Having regard to the findings of the Social Impact Assessment presented in Table 5, it is generally concluded that the proposed changes to Parkes LEP 2012 are unlikely to be adverse. Only positive changes are expected for the following reasons:

- The site has a history of explosives storage and manufacturing and is suitably separated from sensitive land-uses and infrastructure.
- Manufacturing and storage operations can be continued through utilisation of existing buildings, plant, infrastructure and safety / security systems already established at the site.
- All potential environmental and amenity impacts associated with the proposal are able to be suitably mitigated within the site, as demonstrated in previous approvals and licences granted over the site for existing heavy industry uses.
- The proximity to robust transport networks, means that products can be distributed efficiently and safely to customers via main roads and rail networks.
- The ongoing employment-generating opportunities for Bogan Gate and the wider Parkes Shire, with over 20 FTE jobs currently being generated from heavy industry activities at the BGER.
- The proposal aligning with the strategic vision for the Parkes Shire and Central West and Orana Region by supporting mining, quarrying and civil construction industries and tourism through fireworks events, which contribute strongly to the NSW economy.
- The strengths of the BGER to provide smart, efficient and reliable explosives manufacturing and storage solutions to NSW customers.

Economic Impact Assessment

Due to the nature and scale of the Planning Proposal, a detailed Economic Impact Assessment has not been requested by Parkes Shire Council to be prepared for the Planning Proposal.

The Planning Proposal is not seeking changes to the Parkes LEP 2012 which are likely to create adverse economic consequences.

The BGER provides important products for the mining, quarrying and civil engineering sectors and employs over 20 FTE.

There would be significant economic impacts should the Planning Proposal not proceed, including:

- There would be less certainty about whether new heavy industry development proposals would be able to proceed under existing zoning.
- There could be less appetite of the landowner / leaseholders to maintain facilities at the BGER to the high standards required.
- There could be less investment and employment at Bogan Gate and the wider Parkes Shire in this particular industry sector.
- The BGER's contribution to the economy could be limited to current processing limits, which are estimated to not meet current and future demands in NSW.

The Planning Proposal is justified on the basis that it is a long-standing precinct of heavy industry development that generally complies with all safety separation distances required, has good connections to main roads and rail networks, and will create long-term employment opportunities in the region.

8.4 Infrastructure (Local, State and Commonwealth)

8.4.1 Is there adequate public infrastructure for the Planning Proposal?

The Planning Proposal seeks to amend the Parkes LEP 2012 by permitting heavy industries on Lot 2 DP 1064474. The Planning Proposal is to formalise existing heavy industries being carried out on the subject land.

Existing services and infrastructure are available at the site, including bitumen sealed roads, reticulated water supply electricity supply and telecommunications.

The Planning Proposal does not create an increased demand for public infrastructure and services.

8.5 State and Commonwealth Interests

8.5.1 What are the views of state and Federal public authorities and government agencies consulted in order to inform the Gateway determination

State Government Interests

The specific changes that are requested to the Parkes LEP 2012 are likely to have interest to NSW DPHI, Department of Primary Industries (DPI), WorkSafe NSW, the EPA, NSW RFS, NSW Fire and Rescue, TfNSW and NSW Police Force. Preliminary consultation has been carried out with all these agencies as part of the preparation of the DA for alterations and additions to the SMS ANE Facility as well as Parkes Shire Council.

Federal Government Interests

The Planning Proposal is unlikely to be of any particular interest to the Federal Government.

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PLANNING PROPOSAL PART 4

Plan Making Guidance - Part 4

The NSW DPHI Local Environmental Plan Making Guidelines provides the following guidance:

- Mapping must be consistent with the Department's Standard Technical Requirements for Spatial Datasets and Maps, using the same format, symbology, labeling and appropriate scale.
- All existing and proposed mapping submitted to the Department as part of a Planning Proposal should be accompanied by GIS data. All LEP mapping should commence as early as possible in GIS, particularly with complex planning proposals or Principal LEPs.
- Mapping may include the subject site and immediate surrounds, current zoning, current development standards and any alternative zones if a change is proposed.
- Other relevant maps or figures may include maps illustrating changes of development standards, extent of heritage conservations areas, location of specific heritage items, extent of native vegetation, extent of environmental conservation areas and areas to which a local provision will apply.
- Additional material such as aerial photographs clearly identifying the subject site should also be included where appropriate.

9.1 Project Mapping

The Planning Proposal has been prepared to include a number of different plans and visuals that aim to assist Parkes Shire Council's understanding of the scope of the changes that are requested to the Parkes LEP 2012.

These plans show the location of the subject land, existing environmental conditions and connections to roads and infrastructure as well as the location of land-uses / businesses at the BGER.

Given the Planning Proposal involves changes to Schedule 1 of the Parkes LEP 2012, no mapping changes to the Parkes LEP 2012 are required.

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PLANNING PROPOSAL PART 5

Plan Making Guidance - Part 5

The NSW DPHI Local Environmental Plan Making Guidelines provides that Part 5 of the Planning should describe:

- Consultation and outcomes undertaken with council, state agencies or authorities during the pre-lodgement stage.
- Any community consultation undertaken, or consultation with other key stakeholders
- The extent of consultation having regard for the public exhibition requirements in Section 1 of the guideline.
- The required public exhibition period based on the different planning proposal categories.
- Community consultation will be considered at the Gateway stage, with the Gateway determination confirming the requirements.
- The Gateway determination may also specify additional information or studies to be finalised before any consultation commences, often to make sure that everyone can make an informed opinion. In some cases, the Gateway determination may require the PPA to submit studies to the Department for review prior to public exhibition.

10.1 Consultation - Pre-lodgement Stage

Consultation has been undertaken with NSW DPHI, Department of Primary Industries (DPI), WorkSafe NSW, the EPA, NSW RFS, NSW Fire and Rescue, TfNSW and NSW Police Force. Preliminary consultation has been carried out with all these agencies as part of the preparation of the DA for alterations and additions to the SMS ANE Facility as well as Parkes Shire Council.

Engagement with adjoining landowners has been undertaken to ensure all neighbours are aware of the proposed alterations and additions to the SMS ANE Facility as well as Parkes Shire Council.

Feedback has been considered, as necessary, during the preparation of the Planning Proposal.

10.2 Community Consultation

Parkes Community Participation Plan 2022

In accordance with the Parkes Community Participation Plan 2022, the Planning Proposal will require public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days, or any other period as might be specified in a Gateway Determination issued by DPHI.

The Planning Proposal will be referred to the relevant agencies as specified in a Gateway Determination issued by DPHI.

Parkes Shire Council has advised it would organise all tasks involved in the public exhibition of the Planning Proposal.

10.3 Government Agency Consultation

Gateway Determination Requirements

Under the terms of the Gateway Determination issued on 27 September 2024, the following government agencies will be consulted:

- Transport for New South Wales.
- Environmental Protection Authority.
- Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water.

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PLANNING PROPOSAL PART 6

Plan Making Guidance - Part 6

The NSW DPHI Local Environmental Plan Making Guidelines provides that Part 6 of the Planning Proposal should describe the project timeline as a tool for the Planning Proposal Authority, DPHI and the Parliamentary Counsel's Office to monitor the project through the LEP making process and manage resources accordingly.

As a minimum, the project timeline should describe:

- Anticipated commencement date (of Gateway determination).
- Anticipated time frame to finalise the infrastructure studies/plan.
- Anticipated time frame for completion of any additional technical studies, not completed prior to Gateway.
- Time frame for public agency consultation.
- Anticipated dates of public exhibition and, if required, a public hearing.
- Time frame for submissions to be considered.
- Time frame for the consideration of a proposal after the exhibition.
- Date the plan will be made (where council is the LPMA) or date of submission to the Department to finalise the LEP.
- Date of notification.

11.1 Project Timeline

The Planning Proposal is deemed to fall into the Standard Planning Proposal Category.

An anticipated timeline has been developed for the project and is based on the maximum time frame recommendations provided in the NSW DPHI Local Environmental Plan Making Guidelines for a standard category Planning Proposal.

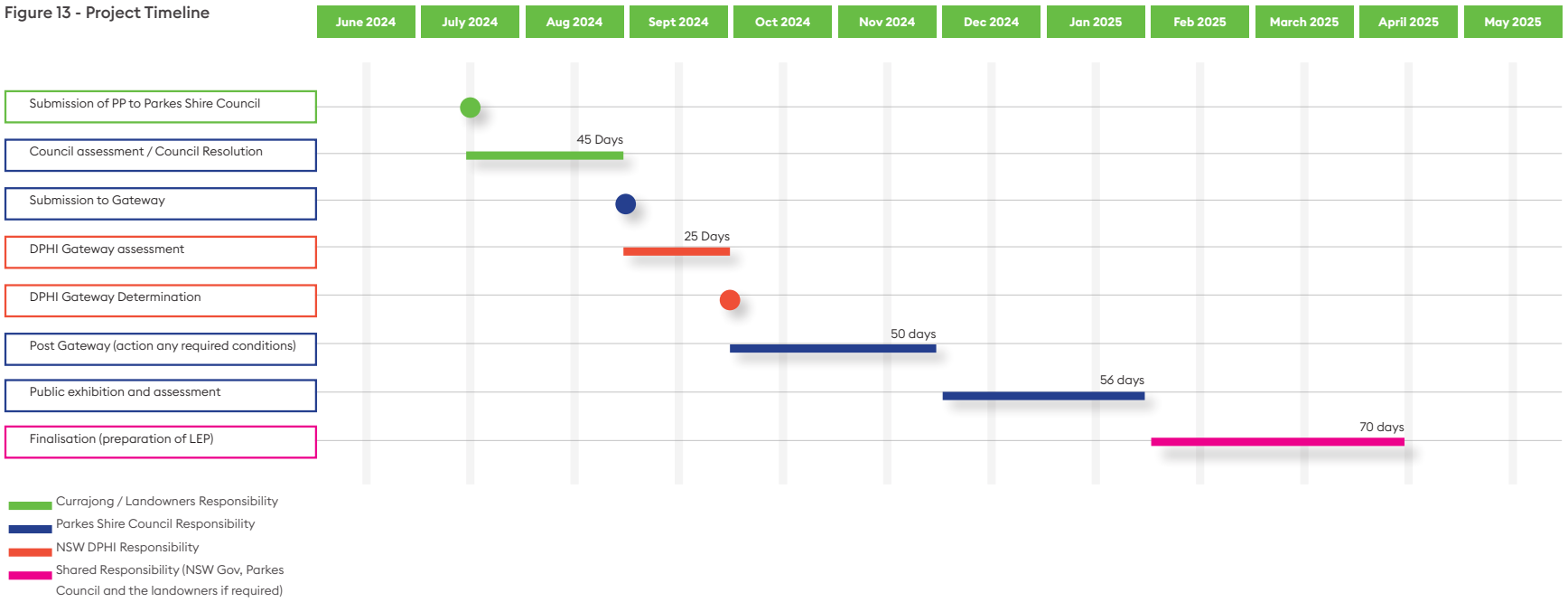
The timeline is shown in Figure 13.

It may be the Planning Proposal is process quicker than the timeline shown.

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Figure 13 - Project Timeline



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NSW GOVERNMENT

Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Gateway Determination

***Planning proposal (Department Ref: PP-2004-1667)**:* proposed additional permitted uses at 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate.

I, the Acting Director at the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure, as delegate of the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, have determined under section 3.34(2) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (the Act) that an amendment to the Parkes Local Environmental Plan 2012 to add an additional permitted use Schedule 1 should proceed subject to the following:

Gateway Conditions

1. Prior to community consultation, consultation is required with the Rural Fire Service in relation to section 9.1 Direction 4.3 Planning for Bushfire Protection and any comments addressed in the planning proposal.

2. Public exhibition is required under section 3.34(2)(c) and clause 4 of Schedule 1 to the Act as follows:

   (a) the planning proposal is categorised as standard as described in the *Local Environmental Plan Making Guideline* (Department of Planning and Environment, August 2023) and must be made publicly available for a minimum of 20 working days; and

   (b) the planning proposal authority must comply with the notice requirements for public exhibition of planning proposals and the specifications for material that must be made publicly available along with planning proposals as identified in *Local Environmental Plan Making Guideline* (Department of Planning and Environment, August 2023).

3. Consultation is required with the following public authorities under section 3.34(2)(d) of the Act:

   - Transport for NSW
   - Environmental Protection Authority
   - Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

4. A public hearing is not required to be held into the matter by any person or body under section 3.34(2)(e) of the Act. This does not discharge Council from any obligation it may otherwise have to conduct a public hearing (for example, in response to a submission or if reclassifying land).

5. The Council as planning proposal authority is authorised to exercise the functions of the local plan-making authority under section 3.36(2) of the Act subject to the following:

   (a) the planning proposal authority has satisfied all the conditions of the gateway determination;

(b) the planning proposal is consistent with applicable directions of the Minister under section 9.1 of the Act or the Secretary has agreed that any inconsistencies are justified; and

(c) there are no outstanding written objections from public authorities.

6. The LEP should be completed on or before 24 June 2025.

Dated 27 September 2024

[redacted]

Chantelle Chow
Acting Director, Southern, Western and Macarthur Region
Local Planning and Council Support
Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

Delegate of the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces

PP-2024-1667 (IRF24/2087)

RFS

NSW GOVERNMENT

Parkes Shire Council
PO Box 337
PARKES NSW 2870

Your reference: (REF-3203) PP-2024-1667
Our reference: SPI20241005000212

ATTENTION: Grahame Fry

Date: Wednesday 6 November 2024

Dear Sir/Madam,

Strategic Planning Instrument
LEP Amendment – Planning Proposal
The Planning Proposal is to permit heavy industries on Lot 2 DP 1064474, 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate.

I refer to your correspondence dated 02/10/2024 inviting the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) to comment on the above Strategic Planning document.

The NSW RFS has considered the information submitted and provides the following comments.

A review of documentation submitted for the Planning Proposal to rationalise the location of existing heavy industries located at the Bogan Gate Explosives Reserve (BGER) on Lot 2 DP 1064474, seeking to amend the *Parkes LEP 2012* for Additional Permitted Uses permitting development for the purposes of heavy industries on the lot with development consent has been undertaken by the NSW RFS.

It is noted that Heavy industries are already established on Lot 2 DP 1064474 in the form of the Johnex Pty Ltd Explosives Facility, Howards and Sons fireworks storage operations and the Solar Mining Services Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion Facility.

Considering that the site is currently used for the purpose, the Planning Proposal is supported subject to the Bushfire Management Procedure and Bushfire Protection Measures recommended in the Bushfire Assessment and Management Plan- Document Number: SMS-HSQ-O00.X11, Version: 05 (04 April 2023), prepared by Solar Mining Services (SMS).

For any queries regarding this correspondence, please contact Rohini Belapurkar on 1300 NSW RFS.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Calandra
Supervisor Development Assessment & Plan
Built & Natural Environment

Postal address

NSW Rural Fire Service
Locked Bag 17
GRANVILLE NSW 2142

Street address

NSW Rural Fire Service
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Transport for NSW

NSW GOVERNMENT

12 February 2025

TfNSW reference: WST24/00428/001 | SF2024/224530
Your reference: PP-2024-1667 | Ref-3356

General Manager
Parkes Shire Council
By Email: council@parkes.nsw.gov.au

Attention: Grahame Fry

PP-2024-1667 – Bogan Gate Explosives Reserve Planning Proposal – Lot: 2 DP1064474, 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate

Dear Grahame,

Transport for NSW (TfNSW) is responding to Council's request for comments as part of agency consultation for the *Bogan Gate Explosives Reserve* (BGER) Planning Proposal received via the NSW e-Planning Portal on 5 December 2024. The request coincides with the public exhibition period.

Following review of the information submitted and assessment of the impact on the existing transport network, TfNSW submits comments for Council's consideration prior to the finalisation of the proposal documents. These comments can be found in **Attachment 1** of this letter.

TfNSW welcomes the opportunity for further consultation if any changes to the Planning Proposal are made that would impact the function and operation of the classified road network.

If you have any questions, please contact Brendan Croft, Development Services Case Officer, on 1300 019 680 or email development.west@transport.nsw.gov.au.

Yours faithfully,

[redacted]

Kylie-Anne Pont
Team Leader Development Services (West)
Transport Planning
Planning, Integration and Passenger

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Transport for NSW

NSW GOVERNMENT

Attachment 1

PP-2024-1667 – Bogan Gate Explosives Reserve (BGER) Planning Proposal – Lot: 2 DP1064474, 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate

This attachment relates to TfNSW's response dated 12 February 2025 reference WST24/00428/001.

Context

TfNSW has reviewed the information submitted and provides the following context:

- The subject site is located approximately 35km from Parkes town centre and less than 1km west of the Bogan Gate village centre. TfNSW understands the subject lot has a size of approximately 227 hectares and has been utilised for various land uses including (but not limited to) explosives manufacture, fireworks storage and residential accommodation. It is noted that the site was transferred from Commonwealth to private ownership in 2004.
- The site is located directly south of the Orange-Broken Hill Railway, with an active level crossing located in the immediate proximity to the access road intersection with Henry Parkes Way (MR61), a classified (State) road.
- The site is served by three separate operators, including explosives manufacturing and storage (i.e. Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion) and fireworks storage.
- The Planning Proposal seeks to amend the *Parkes Local Environmental Plan 2012* (PLEP) by amending Schedule 1 to include Item 3, '*Development for the purposes of heavy industries permitted on Lot 2 DP106447 with development consent*'. The Additional Permitted Use amendment is designated to authorise existing operations on the site as well as provide development opportunity for future intensification of the site.
- The supporting documentation details that future development of the site will result in up to 20,000 tonnes of Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion (ANE) per annum and additional storage of ANE.
- The proposal has received gateway determination from the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) on 27 September 2024. Consultation is required with TfNSW as a government agency under s.3.34(2)(d) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.*

TfNSW comments

TfNSW primary interests relate to the classified road network, traffic impacts and broader transport issues. In particular, the efficiency and safety of the classified road network, the security of property assets and the integration of land use and transport.

Following a review of the information provided, TfNSW is generally satisfied that the Planning Proposal will not adversely affect TfNSW interests, subject to the following matters being addressed in a future Development Application:

1. Any future development application seeking approval for the intensification of land use will require an intersection upgrade of Henry Parkes Way (MR61) / Memorial Lane, as referenced in the Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA). The intersection upgrade will need to ensure that the design vehicle identified in the TIA (A-Double) can undertake safe and efficient movements to and from the classified (State) road and be assessed in accordance with Section 3.3 of Part 6: *Intersections, Interchanges and Crossings Management* within *Austroads Guide to Traffic Management.* The need

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Transport for NSW

for higher order treatments should be considered in this assessment specifically to mitigate inbound and outbound stacking at the level crossing and to accommodate the design vehicle, development traffic and background traffic.

2. In addition to a TIA, a strategic design of the intersection treatment, prepared based on the above Point 1, to further confirm scope, allow consideration of the full range of impacts and outcomes including during construction, and identify any further issues, such as, inability to achieve any TfNSW design standards, property acquisition requirements, spatial allocation with respect to rail and road corridor, and other potential environmental impacts or management requirements, etc.

   The following aspects are to be considered and incorporated within the strategic designs:

   a) Identification of any environmental constraints e.g. drainage channels, vegetation.

   b) Identification of any impacts on the Henry Parkes Way (MR61) such as excavation, fill, drainage changes, changes to utilities etc.

   c) Identification of the available Safe Intersection Sight Distance, Safe Stopping Distance and Approach Sight Distance.

   d) Swept path diagrams (developed in AutoTurn Pro 10.2) are to be provided demonstrating the design vehicles can:

      i. Enter and exit the intersection consistent with traffic control road markings and road signage, and

      ii. Ensure opposing vehicle movements to and from Memorial Lane are not in conflict.

3. Prior to any further development or intensification of the site, further details should be provided in an amended TIA confirming if the design vehicle (A-Double) will be used to transport explosives to and from the site. An assessment on the volume of inbound and outbound (laden and unladen with explosives) heavy vehicles should be included and identify how the frequency of movements will address the concern for short stacking both inbound and outbound. This must include identification of peak periods for both background traffic and turning traffic and consider future train volumes in comparison with existing train volumes.

4. The identified 'U-turn' point at Henry Parkes Way (MR61) / Leafy Tank Road intersection located approximately 5km west of the entry to the subject site is not considered an appropriate solution for heavy vehicles aiming to head eastbound after exiting the subject site. The intersection currently experiences a high volume of heavy vehicle movements due to the nearby grain terminal, with increased movements during peak harvest season. Accordingly, introducing further heavy vehicle movements presents an increased safety risk to existing and future road users. The applicant should consider alternative measures to re-direct east-bound traffic along Henry Parkes Way (MR61). The following should be noted:

   a) TfNSW would not support the installation of a concrete median barrier in a high-speed rural setting to prevent right turns from Memorial Lane onto Henry Parkes Way (MR61).

   b) Any new U-turn facility proposed will need to achieve sight distance requirements for the design speed in accordance with *Part 4a: Unsignalised and signalised intersections* within *Austroads Guide to Road Design* and be designed to cater for the indicated design vehicle (A-Double).

5. Any future development at the site that proposes to increase traffic volumes at the Henry Parkes Way (MR61) / Memorial Lane intersection is likely to impact the nearby existing level crossing.

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Further detailed analysis of these impacts should be provided, including a safety assessment, using ALCAM as well as other guides and tools including: Austroads Guides, *Australian Standard 1742.7* and *Railway Crossing Safety Series 2011*, *Plan: Establishing a Railway Crossing Safety Management Plan* (NSW Roads and Traffic Authority, 2011) and a Safe System Assessment is to be carried out by the proponent.

The safety assessment is to consider the operation of each level crossing on the transport routes for the development and ensure compliance with *Australian Standards 1742.7* and *TfNSW Establishing a Railway Crossing Safety Management Plan* https://roads-waterways.transport.nsw.gov.au/business-industry/partners-suppliers/traffic-management/railway-crossing-safety/the-documents.

Note: Council should engage with the rail asset manager (ARTC) for additional comments relating to the impacts on the existing level crossing due to future development or intensification of the subject site, in accordance with the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021.*

6. Any future upgrades to road infrastructure required are to be identified by the applicant and undertaken in accordance with *Austroads Guide to Road Design,* and at no cost to TfNSW.

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Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Your ref: Ref-3355
Our ref: DOC24/1039487

Grahame Fry
Land Use Planning Specialist
Parkes Shire Council
grahame.fry@parkes.nsw.gov.au

Dear Grahame

Re: Planning Proposal – Bogan Gate Explosives Reserve

Thank you for your request via the NSW Planning Portal dated 5 December 2024 to the Biodiversity, Conservation and Science Group (BCS) of the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (NSW DCCEEW) inviting comments on the planning proposal at Bogan Gate Explosives Reserve, 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate (Lot 2 DP 1064474).

We understand that the planning proposal seeks to amend the Parkes Local Environmental Plan 2012 by inserting a site-specific provision in Item 3 of Schedule 1 Additional Permitted Uses, allowing 'heavy industry' at the subject site.

In summary we do not object to the proposal, based on the documents submitted.

Should the planning proposal be approved, the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (BC Act) and Biodiversity Conservation Regulation 2017 (BC Reg) (section 7.1) will apply to any future development application. When assessing development applications, the consent authority must consider the clearing of native vegetation required, or likely to be required.

BCS notes that the existing ammonium nitrate emulsion facility is proposed to be utilised to increase production from 960 to 20,000 tonnes per annum. Appendix J of the planning proposal outlines potential clearing to occur at the subject site for the following activities associated with the future increase in production.

- Establishing and maintaining asset protection zones. Appendix J of the planning proposal states this to be 1500 m^2 (0.15 ha) of native vegetation.
- Construction of three new sheds and associated concrete loading areas.
- Installation of two new storage tanks of 25 tonne capacity.
- Demolition of an existing building – shed 78.

When calculating the Biodiversity Offsets Scheme (BOS) thresholds, clearing of all native vegetation associated with ancillary infrastructure must be taken into consideration. Native vegetation includes trees, understorey plants, groundcover and plants occurring in a wetland that are native to New South Wales (including planted native vegetation), not just trees.

If, in the opinion of Council, any clearing associated with the proposed development is likely to exceed the thresholds in Part 7 of the BC Reg or otherwise result in a significant impact, a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) will be required. Any BDAR must adhere to the 'avoid, minimise and offset' hierarchy of the BC Act, assess residual impacts on biodiversity and calculate the biodiversity offset credit requirement. Biodiversity offsets are calculated and secured in accordance with the BC Act. Once this is

done, no further offsets are required for subsequent development of the land that is within the approved development consent.

BCS notes the presence of scattered trees across the subject site and recommends avoidance wherever possible. The Biodiversity Assessment Method (BAM) requires proponents to demonstrate that biodiversity impacts have been avoided and minimised as far as possible, with residual impacts offset. Both the complexity of assessments, and the costs to the proponent associated with complying with the BOS, are lower where impacts on biodiversity are avoided and/or concentrated in areas of lower vegetation integrity.

If you require any further information regarding this matter, please contact Prakriti Mukherjee, Conservation Planning Officer, via prakriti.mukherjee@environment.nsw.gov.au or 6883 5343.

Regards



Samantha Wynn
Senior Team Leader, Planning North-West
Biodiversity, Conservation and Science Group

17 December 2024

DOC24/1003734-4

Mr Grahame Fry
Parkes Shire Council

By email: grahame.fry@parkes.nsw.gov.au

31 January 2025

EPA Response – Exhibition – Proposed rezoning
Bogan Gate Explosives Reserve – Planning Proposal

Dear Grahame

Thank you for providing the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) with the opportunity to comment on the Planning Proposal for Bogan Gate Explosives Reserve (BGER) in the Parkes Shire Council area prepared by Currajong Pty Ltd 22 July 2024 (Proposal).

The EPA has reviewed the Proposal and understands Lot 2 DP 1064471 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate will be zoned as RU1 Primary Production with an amendment in Schedule 1 Additional Permitted Uses of Parkes Local Environmental Plan 2012 (PLEP). The amendment will enable the land to be used for heavy industrial uses. The EPA understands the intent of this amendment is to provide greater certainty for the permissibility of new or modified developments beyond existing use rights.

The EPA acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Bogan Gate, the Wiradjuri people. We encourage meaningful engagement with the Aboriginal community in developing and implementing the Proposal.

The EPA considers that:

- The site is located adjacent to residential land zoned as RU1 and within 600 metres of Bogan Gate town.
- The Proposal will enable the expansion of existing explosives manufacturing and storage facilities, which have the potential to emit air and noise emissions.
- The Preliminary Site Investigation submitted to support the Proposal is not adequate and key information and assessment was not provided. A revised PSI should be completed.

The EPA's detailed comments are provided in **Attachment A**. If you have any further questions about this submission, please contact Chris Marsh via environmentprotection.planning@epa.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

Patrick Andrade
A/Unit Head – Environment Protection Planning
NSW Environment Protection Authority

NSW Environment Protection Authority
As the environmental steward and regulator of our State we are committed to a sustainable future. Join us on our mission to protect tomorrow together.

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NSW GOVERNMENT

Attachment A

Land use conflict

Within the proposal area, there are existing facilities undertaking scheduled activities, as defined under section 5 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997,* and non-scheduled activities. These facilities include:

- Solar Mining Services (SMS) facility;
- Johnex Pty Ltd for the purpose of manufacture of explosives with an Environment Protection Licence (EPL) 20481;
- Howards and Sons for the purpose of manufacture and store of fireworks.

Interactions between these facilities and human sensitive receivers may cause land use conflict in the form of noise and air quality impacts.

The EPA has produced guidance material that may assist Council apply strategic planning initiatives to this proposal, including:

- *Noise Guide for Local Government* (EPA, 2023) – section 5 provides information on strategic planning and examples of how it can be used by councils to promote better noise outcomes.
- Local Government Air Quality Toolkit (EPA) – provides information and guidance on common air quality issues managed by council officers. Section 6 of module 2: land use planning and appropriate site selection of the toolkit outlines how planning can be used to improve and protect air quality.

The EPA recommends that Council reviews noise and air impacts cumulatively, as there are currently three facilities in the BGER.

Future environment protection licence application or variation

The EPA understands that if the Proposal is approved, it could enable the existing SMS facility and other facilities, such as Johnex Pty Ltd and Howards and Sons, to expand and operate in the BGER. The EPA is responsible for regulating:

- premises-based scheduled activities, being one or more activities listed in Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (POEO Act); 'scheduled development work', being work that enables any premises-based scheduled activities as listed in Part 1 of Scheduled 1 of the POEO Act (e.g. the construction of a facility that will need an EPL to operate);
- scheduled activities that are not premises-based as listed in Part 2 of Schedule 1 of the POEO Act; and
- non-scheduled activities that result in water pollution.

A chemical production facility capable of processing more than 20,000 tonnes of ammonium nitrate per year or explosives production in any capacity is deemed a 'premises-based scheduled activity' under Part 1 of Schedule 1 of the POEO Act. Additionally, chemical storage with a capacity to store more than 20 tonnes (pressurised gases), 200 tonnes (liquefied gases) or 2,000 tonnes (chemicals in any other form) is considered a scheduled activity. Therefore, based on the information available, it is likely the facility would need to hold an EPL issued by the EPA for its construction and operation.

Before issuing an EPL for a facility to be constructed or become operational, the EPA may require the completion of impact assessment/s to determine environmental and human health impact including:

- Air quality including dust, chemical particulate discharge and offensive odour;

- Noise emissions;
- Blasting including ground vibration and overpressure; and
- Surface and ground water pollution and potential discharge locations and limits.

The EPA would require consideration of the land uses surrounding the site and the mixed land uses within the boundary of BGER. If assessments for an EPL application show that impacts on the environment and human health are not below EPA policy and guideline limits, an EPL may not be granted.

Further information on what the EPA considers for licensing can be found on our website and *EPA's Guide to Licensing (2022).*

The EPA recommends Council note the EPA's regulatory role and requirements for licensing.

Dangerous Goods

The EPA, alongside SafeWork NSW and other state regulators, regulates the transport of dangerous goods in NSW through the *Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) Act 2008* (DG Act) and *Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) Regulation 2022*. The EPA may require an EPL for dangerous goods under the DG Act that are not premises-based. Meanwhile, SafeWork NSW regulates activities prior to transport, including correct classification, packaging and labelling.

Furthermore, the Memorandum of Understanding between the NSW EPA and SafeWork NSW, dated May 2024, under 6.2 (g) states the EPA will inform SafeWork of issues involving security sensitive ammonium nitrate (SSAN) as defined in the *Explosives Regulation 2013.*

The EPA recommends Council contact SafeWork regarding SSAN and the transport of dangerous goods.

Noise Impact

The Proposal includes alterations to permitted land use at the site. Therefore the potential for cumulative noise impacts from activities across all activities and potential future activities at the BEGR should be addressed in the assessment, in addition to any changes made to an individual activity at the premises.

The EPA notes that operations are currently occurring at the Solar Mining Services facility. However, the assessment of noise emissions does not appear to be based on measurements of activities actually occurring on site, instead it appears to rely on theoretical or reference noise levels. To increase the confidence and robustness of the assessment, measurements of the actual activities on site should be used to inform noise emission calculations. If theoretical noise levels are used it should be demonstrated that they are representative of noise from the actual operations.

The EPA recommends:

a) Cumulative impact assessment of the Proposal be undertaken on noise amenity at the surrounding receivers, as a result of the LEP amendments.

b) Measurements of noise sources on the site should inform noise emission calculations, or a demonstration that theoretical levels used are representative.

Air Impact

The EPA notes that an air quality assessment has not been provided with the proposal.

The EPA recommends an air quality impact assessment is prepared in accordance with the *Approved Methods for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in New South Wales* (EPA 2022). The air quality impact assessments should include:

- air and/or odour dispersion modelling to predict any potential air quality and odour impacts.
- Where relevant, odour surveys to evaluate and ground truth the results of the air and odour modelling while considering different meteorological conditions.
- the results of the odour surveys and air and odour modelling to identify air quality mitigation measures that can be applied to prevent and manage air and odour-related land-use conflicts.

Contaminated land

The EPA reviewed the Preliminary Contamination Investigation (Envirowest Consulting, dated 4 February 2021). The EPA considers that the assessment is not adequate and does not contain sufficient information or assessment to support the conclusions contained within the assessment.

The EPA currently recognises two schemes for the certification of contaminated land consultants administered by the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand, and Soil Science Australia. The EPA has also produced guidance on engaging a contaminated land consultant. Further information can be found on the EPA's website - Engaging a consultant.

The Preliminary Site Investigation's (PSI) desktop assessment is not adequate

The PSI did not appear to be meet the requirements of the NSW EPA's *Consultants reporting on contaminated land guidelines*, and the NEPM *Site Characterisation field checklist*. The key areas of concern are as follows:

- *investigation area uncertainty*: PSI Section 1 notes that the investigation pertains to *'a parcel of land within Lot 2 DP 1064474'*, however does not specifically mention where. Figure 2 of the PSI details an investigation boundary, however this is not referenced within the PSI and therefore it is not clear which areas and activities the PSI specifically relates to. This is critical to understanding the site and how potential contaminants may affect the proposed site users.
- *Historical aerial photography*: There are substantial data gaps in the site history information. PSI Section 5.5 notes that aerial photography was reviewed, however copies of these aerials were not provided. The review notes that 'no significant changes were evident since the 1960s', however does not explain what the site conditions were prior to this period. This is important as Section 5.6 states the site was utilised from 1940 until 1980 as an explosives storage facility by the Department of Defence, and its likely that changes on-site occurred during this period.
- *Section 10.7 Planning Certificate & Dangerous Goods Search*: PSI Section 5.2 notes that the consultant requested information from Parkes Shire Council, however no response was received. The assessment of council records did not include the receipt and review of a Section 10.7 Planning Certificate. This information should have been formally requested/purchased. Separately, due to the licenced activities on-site, a dangerous goods search should have also been completed to identify any inventories and locations of chemical stores on-site.
- *Adjacent land-use*: PSI Section 5.11 lists the neighbouring land-uses in all directions as 'explosives reserve'. Specific detail of the activities occurring adjacent to the boundary should be included in additional to the adjacent land-uses for the overall site boundary such as the cemetery (west), bushland/RAAF depot (east), Bogan Gate town centre (north-west) and farmland (north, south & west). Although not directly adjacent the investigation boundary, they are still potential contamination sources and/or receptors which may influence the PSI.

The EPA recommends a re-assessment of desktop information including:

a) Clarification of the investigation area
b) Clarification of the intended activities and development within the investigation area.

c) Review of historical aerial photography prior to the 1960s, assessment of the implications on the contamination assessment. All reviewed photographs should be included in the assessment.

d) Provision of the searches relating to the Section 10.7 Planning Certificate and Dangerous Goods register

e) Additional desktop review of adjacent land uses and demonstration that all adjacent land uses have been considered.

Contaminant sources and contaminants of potential concern have not been fully explored

Contaminant sources were identified in PSI Section 5.12 which states *'it is unlikely but possible that explosives were used and residue exists on the site. Explosives were stored on the site and some spillage of materials may have occurred over time.'*

The EPA also identified the following additional potential sources that have not been explored within the PSI. These include:

- *On-site soil mounds:* PSI Section 5.7 reports the presence of fill soil mounds surrounding storage sheds identified during the site inspection. The source of this fill material is not known and presents a potential source of contamination. The site has a long history and based on the information supplied it appears that multiple historical structures had been demolished. The fate of this demolition rubble is unknown and not discussed in the PSI. The mounds are directly adjacent the investigation area and could contain demolition rubble with contaminants such as lead and asbestos.
- *Historical use:* The site master plan figure at Appendix A of the Planning Proposal notes a 'burning area' and 'demolition area' were located on-site. The burning area appears to be close to the PSI investigation area. Neither of these potential sources have been identified or discussed in the PSI. PSI Section 5.6 also states that historical local knowledge suggests a rifle range was located at the south of the broader site. The EPA also understands that there may be/have been above-ground tanks on-site containing chemicals associated with explosives manufacture including diesel and fuel oils. These items are not discussed in the PSI and the reasoning for excluding these potential contamination sources was not discussed.
- *Off-site sources:* Potential off-site contamination sources adjacent the site (e.g. farming, RAAF base, cemetery) were not mentioned and ruled out as part of the desktop assessment.

PSI Section 5.13 notes the contaminants of potential concern (CoPC) as heavy metals and explosives but does not link these with the potential sources. Based on the above, the EPA considers not all potential contaminated sources were assessed in the PSI. There are a number of additional CoPC which do not appear to have been considered including ammonia, nitrates, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH), total recoverable hydrocarbons (TRH), emulsifiers, asbestos, pesticides, herbicides and Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

The EPA considers that the assessment should have also specifically considered the type of explosives manufactured on-site (ANE) to help inform decision-making in addition to the broad explosives residue soil testing suite that was undertaken.

The EPA recommends that potential contaminant sources are re-assessed. Contaminant sources do not appear to have been adequately explored and assessed/ruled out in the assessment including:

- Soil mounds directly adjacent the investigation area
- Historical site use
- Potential off-site sources
- Historical and current explosive types

If the consultant does not consider that additional potential contaminant sources exist in the investigation area, clear statements and justification must be provided to support this position.

The conceptual site model inadequately informs requirements for limited soil testing

The integrity of the conceptual site model (CSM) provided at PSI Section 7 requires clarification given it does not appear to consider all potential sources of contamination.

The CSM has identified soil as the media which may potentially be impacted by contaminants with the exposure pathways being direct contact. PSI Section 7.5 states that groundwater was not identified as a potential receptor to contamination and also states that the CoPC's are non-volatile and therefore this isn't considered a pathway for exposure. However, chemicals associated with explosives manufacturing may be volatile in nature and potentially create a vapour intrusion risk. On this basis, the EPA considers the CSM is not adequate and should consider the additional potential contaminant sources.

The EPA recommends that the conceptual site model is re-assessed to consider the EPA's comments and determine if all sources, pathways and receptors have been appropriately considered and amended/revised accordingly.

Limited soil sampling has not been justified appropriately

Limited soil testing for the identified CoPC's (heavy metals and explosives residue) was completed at four sample locations across the site. PSI Section 8.7 notes that *'Soil samples were collected from the site on judgemental pattern from areas where the potential for contamination was identified.'*

PSI Section 9.1.1 briefly explains that sampling was completed around the proposed facility/sheds and in downgradient areas that were expected to receive water flow from upslope sources. A 'sludge' sample (BG4) was collected from a water discharge dam to determine historical baseline levels. Upon review of the sample locations at Figure 2 of the PSI, BG1 & BG2 were collected from along the boundaries of the investigation area and BG3 & BG4 were collected from areas outside of the investigation area. No samples were collected from directly within the investigation area.

At the PSI's time of issue in 2021 the 1995 sampling design guidelines were still in force. The references section of the PSI notes the 1995 guidelines however, reference to these within the PSI and the rationale for the sampling in accordance with the guidelines was not provided.

The EPA considers there is insufficient justification to consider that the limited sampling and analytical results are representative of the investigation area and that the information in the PSI cannot be used to make conclusions on the soil contamination status.

Whilst sampling was limited in nature and no soil contamination was identified on-site above natural background levels, the locations should have focussed on the investigation area and justification for sample locations provided. At present, soil analytical results are limited and do not appropriately assess the contaminant types within the investigation area.

The EPA recommends that the soil sampling locations are re-assessed. If further testing is recommended this must be completed. If further testing is not recommended, the consultant should provide justification for the sampling rationale.

Our ref: DOC25/584910-2

Grahame Fry
Parkes Shire Council

By email: grahame.fry@parkes.nsw.gov.au

11 August 2025

EPA Response – Re-referral – Planning Proposal
Bogan Gate Explosives Reserve

Dear Grahame Fry

Thank you for providing the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) with the opportunity to comment on the air quality, noise and vibration, and water impact assessment reports.

The EPA understands that the assessment reports are a re-referral of the Planning Proposal for Bogan Gate Explosives Reserve (BGER) in the Parkes Shire Council area prepared by Currajong Pty Ltd 22 July 2024 (**Proposal**).

The EPA provided a response for the Proposal with EPA reference: DOC24/1003734-4, dated 31 January 2025, and remains valid for land use conflict, future environment protection licence application or variation and dangerous goods.

The EPA has reviewed the following documents:

- *Preliminary Site Investigation - Client: Solar Mining Services Pty Ltd - Site Address: Bogan Gate Explosives Reserve Lot 2 DP1064474 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate NSW,* prepared by Barnson Pty Ltd 2025, dated 18 June 2025 (**2025 PSI**)
- *Noise and Vibration Impact Assessment - Bogan Gate Explosives Reserve,* prepared by Acoustik, dated 3 July 2025
- *Air impact assessment - SMS Manufacturing site, 3577 Bogan Gate Rd, Bogan Gate, NSW,* prepared by Barnson Pty Ltd 2025, dated 20 June 2025 (**Air Assessment**)
- *Water impact assessment - SMS Manufacturing site, 3577 Bogan Gate Rd, Bogan Gate, NSW,* prepared by Barnson Pty Ltd 2025, dated 19 June 2025

Upon review of the above documents, the EPA identified matters for consideration. These detailed comments are provided in **Attachment A**.

The EPA notes that in accordance with the Local Environmental Plan Making Guideline (DPE, 2023), the EPA is not the Planning Proposal Authority (**PPA**). This advice is intended to assist the PPA to determine whether the proposal has strategic and site-specific merit.

NSW Environment Protection Authority
As the environmental steward and regulator of our State we are committed to a sustainable future. Join us on our mission to protect tomorrow together.

Phone: 131 555
Website: epa.nsw.gov.au

Email: info@epa.nsw.gov.au
Mail: Locked Bag 5022
Parramatta NSW 2124

NSW GOVERNMENT

If you have any further questions about this submission, please contact Geo Lapina via environmentprotection.planning@epa.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Patrick Andrade
A/Unit Head – Environment Protection Planning
NSW Environment Protection Authority

Attachment A – Detailed EPA Comments

Contaminated land

Background

In January 2025, the EPA reviewed the Proposal, specifically the Appendix M, Envirowest Pty Ltd 'Preliminary Contamination Investigation', Pages 299 – 344, (**2021 PSI**). The EPA provided comments that the 2021 PSI did not appear to be adequate and did not contain sufficient information or assessment to support the conclusions contained within the assessment.

In June 2025, the EPA understands that the 2025 PSI, was completed for the same purpose of the 2021 PSI, which included a desktop review of available information, a site inspection and collection of soil samples from the surface of the investigation area for contaminants of potential concern (CoPC).

EPA comments regarding the 2025 PSI

The EPA notes that the 2025 PSI reported all soil analytical results for assessed CoPCs were below the adopted thresholds for commercial/industrial land-use and were near environmental background levels in all samples. The EPA also notes that during the inspection, no evidence of contamination was identified on the investigation area soil surface.

Additionally, the EPA understands that the issues previously identified in 2021 PSI have been adequately addressed in the 2025 PSI.

The EPA provides the below points / minor concerns for the PPA to consider, however, these were not considered to affect the conclusions and outcomes of the 2025 PSI.

1. The PSI focused on sources of contamination raised by the EPA

Section 3.2, 'specific locations' were identified as potential contamination sources by the EPA. These potential contamination sources were raised following EPA's 2021 PSI review, and it appears that feedback was provided to Solar Mining Services, which was likely then provided to Barnson for consideration in the 2025 PSI.

The EPA notes the 2025 PSI should have considered all potential contamination sources and not solely relied on the areas flagged as not previously being considered by the EPA. As per the NEPM Site Characterisation field Checklist 'CSM' tab, parameters for consideration in the collection of data, based on specific objectives of investigations and contaminants of concern are listed. These extend to contaminant sources outside of those prescribed from existing information and reports and include the information and parameters typically expected to be considered.

The 2021 PSI explored the other identified sources, which were not discussed in the 2025 PSI and did not consider these to present a risk to the site. As these were not discussed in the 2025 PSI, the EPA considers that this would not affect the conclusions.

2. Historical information provided in the PSI appears to be generally anecdotal

Section 2.3 provides information pertaining to the general history of the site. This information references specific dates of occupation by historical site owners and also discusses the historical site uses. Aside from a historical site plan published in 1960 and provided in Figure 8, the 2025 PSI has not provided the sources of information for historical site use.

Additionally, the review of historical imagery has also not been mentioned in the 2025 PSI.

However, the timelines and historical site uses provided by Barson does not appear inconsistent with the 1960 site plan/current site use, and therefore, the understanding of the site history appears sufficient.

The EPA also notes that some background information on the site and investigation area was also provided in the original Proposal, which may have been the source of this information.

3. *Incorrect references to proposed site-use criteria*

The EPA notes that the references to residential future site use and residential land use below appear to be incorrect and potentially typographical errors, as the site assessment criteria discussed and provided in Section 7.1 are for health investigation level 'D – commercial/ industrial':

- Sections 1.5: "*The nature of the intended future use of the site is **residential** and assessment criteria is **residential** land-use. This assumption forms the basis for the conceptual site model*."
- Section 4.5: "The adopted criteria is suitability for **residential** land-use"

Air impact

The EPA reviewed the Air Assessment and notes that it concludes there are two sources of air emissions: a diesel generator and delivery vehicles traversing roadways. Additionally, based on the roadside screening traffic tool, it indicated that the emissions were acceptable within 20m of the generator source, and mitigation controls were to be applied and reviewed regularly to mitigate potential dust generated by truck movements.

The EPA considers that the Air Assessment does not provide sufficient information to support the conclusions contained within the assessment. The EPA notes that the assessment was not prepared in accordance with the *Approved Methods for the Modelling and Assessment of Air Pollutants in New South Wales* (EPA 2022) (**Approved Methods**). Furthermore, the results have not been compared against the relevant impact assessment criteria in the Approved Methods to show that the on-site operations will not result in adverse air quality impacts at existing and future sensitive receptors.

The EPA considers that it is unclear if the Air Assessment has identified all the potential point and fugitive emissions sources that pertain to the ammonium nitrate emulsions (ANE) production – these may include nitrogen oxides (NOx), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), ammonia emissions and particulate matter.

The EPA notes that based on the information provided on the use of diesel generators on-site, it may need to comply with emissions concentration limits in the *Protection of the Environment Operations (Clean Air) Regulation 2022*.

The EPA recommends that the PPA upon consideration of this rezoning proposal's strategic merit, consider whether the Air Assessment has sufficient information for its purpose.

[redacted]
Bogan Gate, NSW, 2876

Attention Neil Westcott (Mayor), Marge Applebee (Deputy Mayor), Parkes Shire Councillors, Brendan Hayes, Kent Boyd and Grahame Fry.

I write to OBJECT to the Planning Proposal PP2024/002 from Solar Mining Services at
Lot 2, 1064474, Lot 4 1064474, Lot 3 1064474, Lot 5 1064474,
3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate NSW 2870
Over SAFETY CONCERNS both on and off the site and EXISTING USE RIGHTS.

SAFETY CONCERNS

- 3577 Henry Parkes Way is classed as a “Bushfire Prone Area” where many fires have occurred in past years. The most memorable of late was on 23 November 2014. The over blast from the initial explosion that day was felt as far away as Parkes. Smoldering metal remnants from that blast were found 2kms from the blast site by RFS members. No local RFS response teams (my husband, Lloyd Nock, was at the time and still is today, the Deputy Captain of South Bogan Gate Brigade) were NOT permitted to enter the site. The site was evacuated, the Trans Australian Railway Line (Sydney to Perth) was closed as were local roads and residents evacuated from the site. HAZMAT crews, NSW Fire and Rescue, Bomb Squad from Sydney as well were flown in due to the ferocity of the blast as it was initially believed to be a terrorist attack. Water bombers were also brought in the following day to try and douse the blaze that took a week to extinguish.The cause was reportedly the explosion of 4.5 tonnes of prepared Fireworks of Howard and Sons that was stored on site.
- The local RFS crews have now been instructed that if there is a fire, at the 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate that they are NOT permitted to enter the site due to the volatile nature of products now manufactured and stored there.
- If there were a fresh incident, there would be no first responders from Bogan Gate RFS crews (who are all volunteers) or any other RFS crews permitted to enter the address. First responders from Parkes are at least half an hour away by road. Parkes Emergency Services or Parkes Hospital are definitely not equipped to deal with an emergency that could emanate from having so many explosives in such close proximity. Remembering that the danger does NOT stop at the front gate.
- There is insufficient WATER for any industry let alone heavy industry at 3577 Henry Parkes Way Bogan Gate which is supplied by the Parkes Shire Councils” B Pipeline” that runs from Forbes and supplies water to the Villages of Bogan Gate, Trundle and Tullamore. Some Days especially in dry times, that water source can be as slow as a trickle or even non existent as it was recently. It already has Water Restrictions imposed this summer after a very wet period. I would also note that Parkes Shire Council has made amendments that no new customers are to be connected to the B Pipeline. That they would only commit to servicing existing customers.
- The B Pipeline has also been quoted in the Currajong Proposal as the source of Solar Mining Services fire fighting source. They have also advised of an on sight tank for fire fighting. Which unfortunately won’t be of use on evacuation.
- If this proposal is granted, Solar Mining Services will be permitted to store 450 tonnes of Ammonium Nitrate and 100 tonnes of Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion at 3577 Henry Parkes Way Bogan Gate, at any one time, which has a blast equivalent to 194.5 tonnes of TNT.
- Johnex Explosives is also on the same site manufacturing and storing Ammonium Nitrate and Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion(Major Hazard Facility) and Howard and Sons also have

explosives on site and who knows who else! There are so many different enterprises and leasings at the site that I don't think anyone would properly know what was there.

- There has been an Operational Hazard Assessment, at the request of Solar Mining Service, by Greenice Pty Ltd. The majority of which relates to onsite safety.
- I would ask that Parkes Shire Council request an immediate independent on site QUANTITATIVE RISK ASSESSMENT to assess exactly what is stored and manufactured by all parties, on site at 3577 Henry Parkes Way Bogan Gate. For the Safety of all Parkes Shire Residents.
- As the Bogan Gate Explosive Reserve is only a trading name there seems to be inadequate Federal or State Governments Checks on ALL those occupying, working, transporting, visiting and in this case actually residing on the site.
- Ammonium Nitrate and Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion in Australia are classed as Security Sensitive Ammonium Nitrate SSAN or Security Sensitive Dangerous Substances SSDS where every kilo of product must be accounted for as Work Safe NSW describe as "cradle to grave licencing regime throughout the supply chain".
- As the township of Bogan Gate, many agricultural businesses and homes, the Bogan Gate Cemetery, 2 Communication Towers, the Trans Australian Railway Line (Sydney to Perth),which is also pivotal to the Parkes Shires Inland Rail Development, local public roads and many school bus stops(one at BGERs front gate) are all within a 2 km distance and that the increased production from 960 tonnes to 20,000 tonnes of Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion per annum - which has a BLAST EQUIVALENT OF 16,600 TONNES OF TNT, by Solar Mining Services alone, that an independent RISK ASSESSMENT and SOCIETAL RISK ASSESSMENT be immediately conducted again involving ALL the parties on site and not just Solar Mining Services.
- Australian Explosives Industry Safety Group Inc. Code of Practice Storage and Handling of Solid Ammonium Nitrate, clearly states in 10.0 RISK ASSESSMENT that "proposed new or UPGRADED AMMONIUM NITRATE STORES". "Conduct Risk Assessment (or series of Risk Assessments) of WORST CASE potential of FIRE, FUME and BLAST EFFECTS within an appropriate radius (typically at least 2 kilometres.)".
- To date Solar Mining Services DO NOT have a current EPA licence nor have they ever had one. A Facility capable of producing over 1000 tonnes of Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion is required to hold an EPA licence and they are aware of that after being contacted by the EPA. An EPA spokesperson quoted to ABC News in January 2024 that the Company had been contacted on a number of occasions regarding its legal obligations. See link for associated ABC article - https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-01-18/epa-solar-mining-services-ammonium-nitrate-emulsion-plant-nsw/103250480
- Solar Mining Services Pty Ltd is a subsidiary of Solar Industries India, in which in December 2023 nine workers were killed and 3 injured in an explosion at one of their factories at Nagpur, India. See link for ABC article regarding incident, https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-12-18/india-explosion-solar-industries-factory/103240262
- The Solar Mining Services facility at Bogan Gate is the global company's first entry into the Australian market. It does however have many overseas facilities that prepare explosives, ammunition and other related products used for mining, construction and military purposes.
- The entry/ exit point to the BGER, and the most inappropriate right U- Turn, to travel back in an easterly direction, across Henry Parkes Way/ Condobolin Rd and Leafy Tank Rd intersection, is obviously inadequate for purpose and poses a great threat to the community. There is quite obviously not enough turning room in either direction and the Traffic Impact Assessment Report which was also done on behalf of Solar Mining Services by GHD and again, not independently assessed, is dangerous at best. Remembering we aren't trying to turn a wheat truck, this truck is FULL OF EXPLOSIVES.

- The Leafy Tank Rd intersection is also the entry point into the Manildra Group Wheat Handling and Storage Depot one of the largest Grain retrieval facility in NSW and the largest employer in Bogan Gate. That same intersection can be serviced by over 100 grain trucks a day travelling from both east and west all trying to access the Grain Site. The entry to the Manildra Group Depot is only metres from the Condobolin Rd /Henry Parkes Way and again over the Trans Australia Railway line. I would also point out that there is NO mention of the increased Traffic and blockages that could and do already occur at Leafy Tank Rd intersection. No photos of the Manildra Group Grain Store in any of the traffic report and the catastrophic ramification of an accident there, in any section of the report.
- This ridiculous U-Turn proposal also doubles the risk of accident along that section of road from Memorial Lane to Leafy Tank Rd, which again the report does not mention goes right through the centre of Bogan Gate. Metres then from the School, Churches, Tennis Complex, PO, Hotel, Memorial Hall, School Bus Stops .The explosives trucks would go through once and within ten minutes go through again. If Solar Mining Services are proposing 8 B- Double trucks (26 metres) A-Doubles (30 metres) a day to leave the site at the BGER and 8 turn-arounds to head the trucks back in an easterly direction as stated, that is 16 trips per day through Bogan Gate x 5 days = 80 truck loads of explosives through the centre of town a week. At least !!
- Transport NSW, Manager Development Services West Region and Outer Metropolitan, Andrew McIntyre, in a letter to Stuart Williams, Industry Assessments Planning and Environment regarding SEARs, specifically states “only daily movements of semi-trailers and Rigid truck movements. The same letter states “ that B-Doubles, Road trains or long configurations wont be used.”
- In the interest of public safety I request that Parkes Shire Council seek an indepedentant TRAFFIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT.
- There have been catastrophic incidents in the past involving Ammonium Nitrate. The most infamous on 4 August,2020 in Beirut, Lebanon where 218 people were killed and 7,000 injured. The city was destroyed.The cause, improper storage of Ammonium Nitrate, that decomposed when heated in a confined space, and caught fire.
- Most incidents involving Ammonium Nitrate in Australia have been on the roads. On the 30th August, 2024 a truck carrying 24 tonnes of Ammonium Nitrate caught fire after a collision with a ute on the Bruce Highway south of Gladstone. There was a 5 metre crater left in the middle of the highway. The highway couldn't be opened for 5 days. Luckily an Exclusion Zone of 2.5 kms could be established around the crash site, after the initial accident that killed the ute driver, the truck didn’t explode for some hours after the initial impact. People returned to their homes some 1.5 kms from the crash site to broken windows and mangled and twisted doors, floors and walls due the overblast from the explosion.
- On the 11th October, 2023, 3 people were incinerated in a collision on the Great Northern Highway in the Pilbara when a car and truck collided. The truck was carrying Ammonium Nitrate. Emergency Services couldn’t access the site for 3 days after the accident due to the extreme heat on the site. Again, fortunate not to have been in a highly populated area. A 2 km Exclusion Zone was created around that accident.
- A truck fire can happen anywhere. It could be caused by an electrical fault, a wheel bearing going, a tyre blow out or brake system problems. Earlier this month one such fire did occur in the Parkes Shire, just on the outskirts of Peak Hill.
- Don't be naive in thinking this is just a Bogan Gate problem, Parkes Shire Council and its Councillors must also be aware that if this Planning Proposal is accepted every truck movement into and out of the BGER can also go through Parkes. With 20,000 tonnes of Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion out of the site per year and to make that finished product at least

15,000 tonnes of Ammonium Nitrate must go into the site. Equivalent to 20,150 tonnes of TNT. All travelling by road in the Parkes Shire.

- If there is a road accident a 2 km Exclusion Zone needs to be established around the accident site.

- At best truck leaves the Parkes Shire quickly to the south, turns off Henry Parkes Way to the right through Gunningbland (where there is no appropriate turning lane and I have witnessed many near misses at that intersection) on to the Bogan Way into Forbes past St Laurence's Catholic School and Church and safely joins the Newell Highway at the northern end of the Forbes CBD.
- Westerly travelling, the truck heads into Parkes past the back of the newly expanded Parkes Christian School then north on reaching the new by-pass route onto the Newell Highway then through Alectown and Peak Hill.
- Or to head in an easterly direction, on the official route through Parkes, the truck, remains on Henry Parkes Way past the Southern Cross Village, The Parkes Pool, right at the Little Theatre, left at the Parkes Shire Council, right at Cooke Park, left at the Parkes RSL then past the Pavillion in Cooke Park at the southern end of the Parkes CBD and hopefully safely down Clarinda St, past the lower end of Parkes High School, past Lions Park and out the Orange Rd.
- I am not naive to think that you can stop all trucks carrying an explosive substance going through the Parkes Shire but you do have the opportunity to stop these ones.

EXISTING USE RIGHTS

- On the 26th of March, 2002 my husband was granted an "Agistment Licence" over the entire Former Bogan Gate Explosive Storage Facility / RAAF Base by the Commonwealth of Australia (Department of Defence), including all Buildings on site.
- Mr Allan Hibbert was granted a lease on the Former Bogan Gate Explosive Storage Facility/RAAF Base, by the Commonwealth of Australia, directly proceeding the above lease, as stated in documentation supplied to us by the Commonwealth of Australia, to establish a "Rabbit Farm and Abattoir" and his occupation continued until the take over by Timber Creek Holdings Pty Ltd on the 8th of April 2004. Parkes Shire Council had in fact also approved a development application for Allan Hibbert of Hibbert Enterprises to build a Rabbit Abattoir in August of 2003 on the Former Bogan Gate Explosive Storage Facility/ RAAF Base.
- After seeking legal advice, this would in fact make the "existing use" information supplied to Michael Mantei of Madison Marcus Law Firm by Solar Mining Services incorrect, as there was definitely a cessation period of over 12 months and over 24 months, where all operations pertaining to the Storage of explosives at the Former Bogan Gate Explosive Storage Facility/RAAFBase prior to "the Relevant Date" of the 8th of April, 2004.
- The immediate use prior to the take over date of 8th of April 2004 by Timber Creek Holdings Pty Ltd, was for AGRICULTURAL purposes only and as that stands, from the advice that has been provided to Solar Mining Services by Michael Mantei "Advice on Permissibility" accordingly ALL present enterprises on the Former Bogan Gate Storage Facility/RAAF Base have in fact been established illegitimately. The only enterprise that has any "Permissible" legitimacy are the Grazing Cattle that are presently on Lot 2, 3577 Henry Parkes Way Bogan Gate, 2876.

Yours Sincerely,

[redacted]

Date: 22nd January, 2025

To Parkes Shire Council
2 Cecile Street
Parkes NSW 2870

Attention:

Mayor, Neil Westcott
General Manager, Kent Boyd
Director, Planning and Community Services, Brendan Hayes
Parkes Shire Council Building and Development Department

I write in regards to the Planning Proposal PP2024/0002 from Solar Mining Services Pty Ltd on land known as Lot 2 DP 1064474, Lot 4 DP 1064474, Lot 3 DP 1064474, Lot 5 DP 1064474, 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate NSW 2876. - Amendment to Parkes Local Environmental Plan 2012 currently on public exhibition (applicant: Solar Mining Services Pty Ltd (Provided by Currajong Planning).

I'm writing to formally request:

1. An additional 3-6 months for the public exhibition period for the Planning Proposal to amend the Parkes Local Environmental Plan 2012.
2. A matching extension to the deadline for submissions related to the proposal.

These extensions would make sure that the community and stakeholders have enough time to review the proposal properly and provide meaningful feedback.

The key reasons for this request:

1. The required conditions of the referenced Gateway Determination *(Department Ref: PP-2004-1667)* have not been met.
2. The level of risk that the DA request carries to the Bogan Gate and Parkes Shire Community renders the application high risk to the community, and a non-standard application.
3. The time required to access appropriate documentation from departmental bodies to complete submissions is longer than the allocated submission period.
4. The timeframe provided overlaps with the 2024/25 Christmas and New Year period, from 10 December 2024 to 31 January 2025, when many government departments, businesses and individuals are in formal shut-down period, or unavailable due to holiday period.
5. The current exhibited application is over 300 pages and necessitates specialist assessment.
6. Investigations by relevant government bodies against applicants are currently underway for existing legality of operations.

Allowing more time would help make the process fairer, and transparent for everyone impacted, while providing appropriate time to access documentation and engage with relevant governmental departments.

Please reach out to me to discuss any questions related to this formal request for extension. Thanks for your time, and I'm looking forward to hearing back from you soon.

[redacted]

[redacted]

Bogan Gate, NSW, 2790

[redacted]

30TH JANUARY, 2025

Development Proposal Objection

Planning Proposal No:
PP2024/0002
PP-2024-1667



Presented To
Parkes Shire Council

Presented by
Yandilla Angus
Frank and Tegan Oly

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DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL OBJECTION

Planning Proposal No: PP2024/0002 PP-2024-1667

Dear Parkes Shire Council,

This document has been developed to express a series of serious concerns and genuine objections against the proposed development of an Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion (ANE) plant by Solar Mining Services PTY LTD within our community.

Our business, Yandilla Angus operates on the land adjoining the proposed application. Unfortunately our business operations have been impacted previously by hazardous incidents by those operating at 3577 Henry Parkes Way, and we have growing concerns regarding the proposed plans.

I look forward to a thorough and transparent process to be run in the assessment of this application, with full consideration to community needs and the long-term severe risks associated with a decision by the Parkes Shire Council to approve the application.

Kind Regards,

[redacted]



Executive Summary

This document presents a formal objection to the proposed Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion (ANE) plant by Solar Mining Services PTY LTD in the Parkes Shire, **Planning Proposal No: PP2024/0002 and PP-2024-1667.** The objection is raised by Yandilla Angus, a business directly adjacent to the proposed site, citing major risks to safety, environmental integrity, and legal compliance.

Key Objection Categories:

1. Legal and Procedural Issues:
    - The original Development Application (DA) was incorrectly classified, making it invalid.
    - There has not been continuous use of the site for heavy industry, with the storage of explosives decommissioned by the Commonwealth prior to 2002.
    - The project exceeds hazardous material thresholds and requires assessment as a State Significant Development under NSW regulations.
    - The necessary licenses from NSW EPA and Safework have not been granted.

2. Inappropriate Land Use:
    - The site is shared with other explosive storage companies that do not coordinate safety measures, creating a high-risk environment.
    - Limited security, inadequate fencing, and single-lane gravel roads pose transportation and logistical hazards.
    - Proximity to Gunning Gap State Forest and Bogan Gate Cemetery raises accessibility and safety concerns.

3. Poor Track Record of Solar Mining Services and Its Parent Company:
    - The parent company, Solar Industries India Ltd, has a history of major safety violations, including a fatal explosion in 2023 that killed nine people.
    - The company has been linked to ISIS through the supply of explosive materials, raising concerns over supply chain security.
    - It is currently under NSW EPA investigation for operating in breach of licensing requirements.

4. Application Deficiencies and Inaccuracies:
    - The biodiversity assessment is incomplete and fails to consider the surrounding environment.
    - No risk assessment for neighboring farmland and water sources has been conducted.
    - Inconsistencies in application data, including errors in water flow mapping.

5. Community and Environmental Risk:

- The proposed plant is within the evacuation and hazardous materials zone for several key community sites, including Bogan Gate Primary School, Town Hall, and RFS Fire Truck Shed.
- The area is classified as a bushfire-prone zone, increasing the likelihood of uncontrolled explosions.
- Runoff contamination risks Gunningbland Creek, a critical water source for livestock and local ecosystems.

6. Transportation Hazards:
   - The movement of hundreds of tonnes of hazardous materials daily on local roads presents a severe risk of accidents and explosions.
   - Multiple Australian cases of ANE transport explosions have resulted in fatalities and infrastructure destruction.
   - Existing rail crossings and road conditions are inadequate for safe transport.

7. Lack of Community Consultation:
   - No meaningful consultation has been undertaken with local community groups or RFS brigades, despite repeated requests.
   - A community petition against the plant was submitted to Parkes Shire Council but has not been addressed.

The proposal presents unacceptable risks to the community, environment, and local businesses. The lack of proper regulatory approvals, combined with the poor safety record of the proponent, makes it clear that this development should not proceed. The objectors call for a transparent and thorough review by the relevant regulatory authorities, considering the significant safety, legal, and environmental implications of this project.

Background on Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion Risks

The chemical properties of both the inputs of the materials produced by Solar Mining Services, Pty Ltd and others at 3577 Henry Parkes Way make them incredibly hazardous, posing risks to human life, infrastructure, and the environment. Below is a summary of the risks, including references to notable international and domestic accidents and community-related hazards.

AMMONIUM NITRATE EMULSION (UN3375) is a strong oxidizing agent. Intimate contact with combustible materials creates a fire or explosion hazard. Closed containers may rupture violently or detonate if heated. Both AN and ANE can detonate if subjected to strong shocks, such as from an explosion. Ammonium nitrate emulsion is an explosive developed for detonation by the combustion or explosion of adjacent materials. The material emits toxic oxides of nitrogen and ammonia when heated to decomposition.



Port of Beirut in Beirut, Lebanon, on Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2020. A massive Ammonium Nitrate explosion at Lebanon's main port rocked Beirut, overwhelming hospitals dealing with the injured and dying.

1. Hazards of Ammonium Nitrate and Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion

- Chemical Properties:
    - Ammonium Nitrate is a strong oxidizer, meaning it supports and amplifies combustion. When mixed with fuel or exposed to heat or shock, it can detonate.
    - It is a high-energy explosive, typically used in mining applications.
- Risks to Communities:
    - Explosions: Accidental detonation can cause devastating damage, with blast waves destroying infrastructure and scattering debris.
    - Toxic Gases: When burned or detonated, AN can release toxic gases, such as nitrogen oxides (NOx) and ammonia, which pose immediate health risks, or death.
    - Contamination: Accidental spills during transport or storage can lead to groundwater contamination, endangering water supplies and surrounding productive or environmental lands.
    - Fire Hazards: Fires involving AN and ANE can escalate rapidly, complicating and hindering firefighting efforts.

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2. Notable Accidents Worldwide

The extreme dangers of AN and ANE are highlighted by numerous high-profile fatal incidents globally:

Solar Industries India Limited Explosion (Solar Mining Services PTY LTD Parent Co) (2023):

- Impact:
    - 9 deaths, and 3 injuries.
    - Significant destruction within the factory premises and an immediate suspension of operations.
- Cause: Under investigation, with initial reports suggesting potential safety lapses or accidental ignition during the manufacturing process.

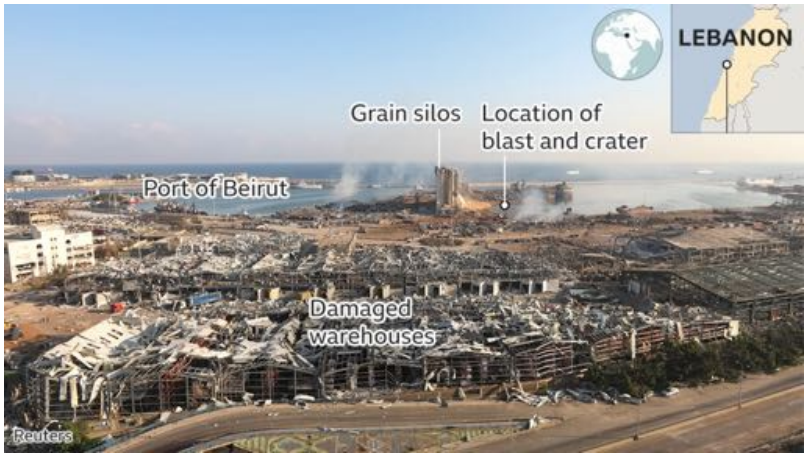
- Event: On December 18, 2023, a catastrophic explosion occurred at the Solar Industries India Limited (SIIL) factory near a village in Nagpur, Maharashtra, India.



Police personnel stand guard outside of a Solar Mining explosives manufacturing unit which exploded and killed nine people in 2023.

Beirut Port Disaster (2020):

- Event: Approximately 2,750 tonnes of improperly stored ammonium nitrate exploded.
- Impact:
  - 218 deaths and 7,000 injuries.
  - Massive destruction over a 10-kilometer radius.
  - Severe environmental contamination and displacement of 300,000 people.



Immediate damage caused by the Beirut Port Ammonium Nitrate Explosion in 2020 (Image: BBC World News)

Toulouse Chemical Factory Explosion (2001):

- Event: About 300 tonnes of ammonium nitrate stored at a chemical factory in Toulouse, France, exploded.
- Impact:
  - 31 deaths, 2,500 injuries, and destruction of nearby buildings.
  - Environmental contamination from chemical by-products.

Texas City Disaster (1947):

- Event: A ship carrying 2,300 tonnes of ammonium nitrate caught fire and exploded in Texas City, USA.
- Impact:
  - At least 581 fatalities and over 5,000 injuries.
  - One of the deadliest industrial accidents in U.S. history.



Toulouse Chemical Factory Explosion, France, 2001, which killed 31 people.

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3. Recent Australian Incidents

Several incidents in Australia highlight the risks associated with AN and ANE, particularly during transportation:

- Pilbara Crash (2023):
  - Event: A mining truck carrying explosives, including ANE, collided with another vehicle in Western Australia.
  - Impact:
    - Death of all occupants.
    - Highlighted challenges of managing hazardous material transport in remote areas.

- Bororen Explosion (2024):
  - Event: A truck carrying ammonium nitrate exploded on the Bruce Highway near Bororen.
  - Impact:
    - Infrastructure damage, evacuations, and long-term disruption.
    - Highlighted vulnerabilities in transporting hazardous materials through populated areas.
  - Cause: Unknown, but likely initiated by a collision or fire.

- Angellala Creek Explosion (2014):
  - Event: A truck carrying 56 tonnes of ammonium nitrate overturned and caught fire, resulting in a massive explosion.
  - Impact:
    - Eight injuries, including first responders.
    - Complete destruction of a highway bridge.
    - Environmental contamination in the area.
  - Cause: Ignition from the fire after the accident.



One of the fire trucks damaged in the explosion near Charleville, 2014. (QFRS)

4. Risks to Communities

- Proximity to Populated Areas:
  - Accidents nearby townships can lead to mass casualties, as seen in the Beirut disaster.
  - Pressure waves from explosions can flatten buildings, while flying debris increases fatalities.
- Economic Disruption:
  - Explosions and contamination can render areas uninhabitable, leading to displacement, loss of livelihoods, and long-term economic impacts.
  - Immediate evacuation orders are put in place for surrounding areas in the case of any incident, or related or unrelated fire.
  - Long-term damage to roads and critical infrastructure when transportation accidents occur

- Emergency Response Challenges:
  - Incidents related to facilities and transportation of ANE and AN are removed from the jurisdiction of the NSW Rural Fire Service and escalated by the NSW Fire and Rescue due the highly hazardous nature of the material.
  - Fires involving AN can escalate, posing risks to first responders. The Angellala Creek explosion injured several emergency workers, underscoring these challenges.
  - Toxic fumes during fires complicate evacuation and containment efforts.

- Environmental Impact:

  - Spills during accidents can leach into soil and waterways, causing eutrophication and harming aquatic ecosystems.
  - Large-scale detonations can introduce nitrate contamination, affecting agricultural productivity and drinking water quality.

Ammonium nitrate and ammonium nitrate emulsion pose significant hazards to communities and infrastructure. The catastrophic accidents in Beirut, Texas City, Toulouse, and across Australia demonstrate the need for the highest level of scrutiny over the proposed application.

Objection Categories and Objection Statements

1) Objections based on Major Risk to the Community and Environment

a) The site has a poor track record of safety, with the adjoining fireworks storage facility exploding on November 22nd, 2014.

Fireworks storage units at the site have previously exploded, causing a major safety incident for Bogan Gate (Appendix 1).

In 2014, there was a significant explosion made by 4.5 tonnes of fireworks combusting for unexplained reasons. The explosion occurred on the 22nd of November, 2014, during intense heat. It resulted in evacuation of local residents, property damage in the township of Bogan Gate, a two-day response from the local volunteer Rural Fire Service complemented by both plane and helicopter fire-fighting support and damage to my business due to the need to plough firebreaks into unharvested wheat crops to protect my farm from an active fire front.

During the time of the active fire front, I was advised that I was unable to access or fight fires on parts of the farm I run my business on, as it had been deemed a HAZMAT zone.



The 2014 explosion at the exact location of the proposed Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion Plant. The pictured explosion was 4.5 tonnes of fireworks. The proposed facility in ModDA2021/0022 will house > 100 tonnes of ready-made explosive mix and ammonium nitrate stock, posing a significantly greater risk than that of the 2014 explosion.

The explosion also caused a grass fire which then spread to a bushfire into the hills and state forest to the east of the site. The RFS were unable to fight parts of the spreading fires on Sunday until Fire and Rescue NSW arrived from further afield, who are responsible for hazardous materials.



The 2014 explosion caused damage to the surrounding bushland, and required fixed-wing and helicopter support to control the fires from spreading to surrounding farming properties.

The NSW Bomb squad investigated the explosion, but the Bogan Gate Community was not informed of the outcome of the investigation, or given a debrief following the incident.

This incident is not isolated (Appendix 2) with the same company Howard and Sons Pyrotechnics having a similar explosion at its site in Wallerawang, causing Police to set up a two kilometre exclusion zone and evacuate the occupants houses in the vicinity.

The repeated incidence of these explosions of firework stores, that are numerous and currently present at the site, is a significant safety risk and adds additional ignition sources for the proposed Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion Plant, making the risk of a catastrophic disaster much greater than if Solar Mining Services were the only business on the site.

The Bogan Gate Community Cemetery is surrounded on three sides by the site, falling into both the PWB and PWA zones for the Solar Mining Services site. The only road in and out of the cemetery will be shared with the additional trucks required to carry the explosive Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion and explosive or dangerous inputs.

The cemetery is active, is looked after by a community trust and the Bogan Gate community has put significant investment into the cemetery over many years. Many shire residents and non-shire residents hold the Bogan Gate cemetery as a very significant site, including myself, with generations of immediate relatives laid to rest at the Bogan Gate cemetery.

The site has the potential to impact and interrupt funeral services that are held at the cemetery, and discourage others from visiting loved ones' graves.

In the case of any incident or explosion on the site or surrounding roads, the community cemetery will also be deemed a HAZMAT risk, and will not be able to be accessed.

b) The plant poses increased safety risk on shared roads, with an estimated 180T of explosive or oxidative material transport capacity on the road each day of plant operation.

The Parkes Shire current Road Safety Action Plan (2017 - 2020) lists heavy vehicle safety as one of the key priorities.

The development application ModDA2021/0022 outlines a minimum operational requirement of ~180 tonnes of incoming and outgoing transport from the Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion plant daily.

This poses a significantly increased road safety risk, above and beyond added heavy traffic, and with the additional hazardous material on the road throughout the Shire. There is currently no turning bays from the Henry Parkes Way into the site, meaning that there will be significant added risk, particularly during harvest time when the Henry Parkes Way has increased use by heavy machinery. The area around the site has seen a number of heavy vehicle accidents in recent years.

The plant also provides an increased risk to economically significant infrastructure, as to enter the site, any trucks carrying explosive material must cross the train line, which does not have a level crossing to prevent collisions.

There is a precedent for explosions in Australia of trucks carrying ANE and AN, which include fatalities. In many of these crashes, injuries and fatalities are exacerbated due to the declaration of evacuation zones, inhibiting rescue operations of anyone trapped or impacted by the collisions. Emergency responders are unable to attend crash sites to rescue any injured parties due to the hazardous nature of the material, rendering anyone in need of rescue, isolated, and at a much higher risk of death. This puts local emergency services in a highly compromised position, unable to carry out a routine rescue of anyone impacted by a crash, in some cases leaving injured or trapped parties to die, or significantly risking their own lives, while HAZMAT evacuations are in order.



Authorities were forced to await intervention and rescue operations at a crash site due to ANE explosion risk at Pilbara crash in 2023. Unfortunately, this led to 3 people being killed. (ABC News).

Some of these incidents include:

Incident	Cause	Outcome	Link to source
Pilbara Crash (2023)	A mining truck carrying explosives, including ANE, collided with another vehicle in Western Australia.	Death of all involved, three fatalities.	https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-10-13/investigators-access-site-of-fiery-pilbara-crash/102974114
Bororen Explosion (2024)	A truck carrying ammonium nitrate exploded on the Bruce Highway near Bororen.	Infrastructure damage, evacuations, and long-term disruption. One fatality in the crash.	https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-09-07/bororen-residents-bruce-highway-truck-explosion-aftermath/104303332
Laverton Explosion (2022)	a tanker trailer transporting ANE caught fire and	The explosion resulted in the complete destruction	https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-11-09/goldfields-road-train-ex

	subsequently exploded on the Great Central Highway, approximately 150 kilometers east of Laverton, Western Australia.	of the tanker trailer and road infrastructure.	plosion-investigation/101634394
Angellala Creek Explosion (2014)	A truck carrying 56 tonnes of ammonium nitrate overturned and caught fire, resulting in a massive explosion.	Eight men, including a police officer and four firefighters, were injured in the blast, which police said was so powerful it "disintegrated" the truck, destroyed two firefighting vehicles and two bridges, and blew a hole in the Mitchell Highway.	https://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-09-07/ammonia-truck-explosion-site-near-charleville-queensland-unsafe/5725376



The blast sent a mushroom cloud of hazardous smoke into the air at the Laverton Explosion blast site, 2022 (Image: Dangerous Goods & Hazmat)

2) Objections based on misalignment with Parkes Shire Council's 2030 Community Strategic Plan

a) Heavy Industry is better aligned to the areas mapped out in the PSC Strategic Plan

The proposed changes and development are in direct contradiction of the Parkes Shire Council's 2030 Community Strategic Plan, particularly as it works against the ability to improve health and wellbeing, and caring for the natural environment in a changing climate.

The special activation precinct is the most suitable site for these types of zoning. There is no alignment with the PSC 2030 Community Strategic Plan to have heavy industry introduced at the proposed site, particularly with the appropriate emergency response services of NSW Fire and Rescue 33 kms away from the site.

The strategic plan maps out the Parkes Special Activation Precinct, Parkes Airport Business Park and Parkes Industrial Estate as the targeted areas for promoting industry expansion.

'2.1 1 Promote opportunities for industry expansion, industry diversification and new investment via the Parkes Special Activation Precinct, Parkes Airport Business Park and Parkes Industrial Estate'

- Economy Category: 2.1, Parkes Shire Council's 2030 Community Strategic Plan.

3) Objections based on legal and procedural issues

a) **Illegality of Foundational DA2020/0073**

The original **DA2020/0073** was submitted and approved by Parkes Shire council for General Industry. There was no information provided to relevant stakeholders regarding heavy industry, designated or integrated development or regarding the risks of the site, and no community consultation. The approval was given with no due consideration to the genuine nature of the development, rendering the original application illegal. Despite knowlege of this, Solar Mining has built and is operating the plant, knowing that operations are illegal.

As stated by the applicant's own lawyer, Michael Mantei of Madison Marcus,

'**The proposed ANE plant is prohibited on lot 2 under Parkes Local Environmental Plan 2012**'

- Michael Mantei - Appendix E. Madison Marcus Existing Use Rights Letter, Attachment A - Planning Proposal Currajong Planning (1).pdf, Pg 75.

b) Requirement for holistic assessment as a Major Hazard Facility based on all site activities and explosives load

The Currajong Planning Proposal application states that:

'The Johnex operations at the BGER are deemed to comprise a major hazards facility under the WHS Regulation 2017. As such, the Johnex site operations by an Explosives Licence administered by WorksSafe NSW under the WHS Act 2011 and an Environment Protection Licence administered by the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) under the POEO Act 1997.

Howards and Sons and SMS operations involve manufacturing / storage of chemicals well below the threshold triggers listed in Table 15.1 of the WHS Regulation 2017 and the POEO Act 1997.'

The premise that each site is required to be assessed individually is a direct contradiction of the intent of the legislation governing a major hazard facility. Under the NSW Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (WHS Act) and the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (POEO Act), the classification of a site as a Major Hazard Facility (MHF) is generally determined based on the cumulative quantities of hazardous materials present on a site (address or lot), rather than being assessed separately for individual business entities operating on that site.

- The **WHS Regulation 2017** specifies thresholds for certain hazardous chemicals, above which a facility may be classified as a **Major Hazard Facility**.

- If multiple businesses operate on the same lot or address, the **total quantity of hazardous chemicals across the entire site** is assessed. The rationale is that the risks from hazardous materials are cumulative and can affect the entire site, regardless of business ownership or operation structure.
- The POEO Act 1997 regulates activities that pose significant environmental risks, including facilities with large amounts of hazardous substances.
- Similar to the WHS framework, environmental licensing and risk assessments consider the **aggregate impact of all activities** on a site, regardless of how those activities are divided between businesses.
- The **control and safety management systems** required for MHFs assume a holistic view of the site's risks, accounting for interactions and cumulative hazards from all activities and entities on the property.
- For example, if two businesses collectively exceed the hazardous material thresholds for MHF classification, the site as a whole would likely need to comply with MHF regulations.

A **single site or lot** is treated as one entity for risk and regulatory purposes, irrespective of the number of businesses present. Both the **WHS regulator (SafeWork NSW)** and the **NSW EPA** would expect a coordinated approach to managing risks and compliance obligations for the site as a whole.

c) **The Application should be assessed by those with expertise in Designated Development**

The quantity of Ammonium Nitrate, and Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion (class 5.1 oxidizing material) being stored on-site demands a Designated Development assessment under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000. This requires review by the regional development committee due to the hazardous nature of the activities involved, and justifies a higher level of scrutiny than the typical DA assessment process, by those with experience in assessment of risks of explosive and hazardous materials.

The Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021 states that a Designated Development includes chemical industries and works that are 'explosive and pyrotechnic industries that manufacture explosives for purposes including industrial, extractive industries and mining uses, ammunition, fireworks or fuel propellents.'

(Please refer to Schedule 3, Part 2, Designated Development 12(d))

The legislation also references that 'Chemical industries or works for the commercial production of, or research into, chemical substances, that manufacture, blend, recover or use substances classified as explosive, poisonous or radioactive in the Australian Dangerous Goods Code, or (ii) that manufacture or use more than 1,000 tonnes per year of substances classified (but other than as explosive, poisonous or radioactive) in the Australian Dangerous Goods Code.'

(Please refer to Page 211)

The facility is also classified as an 'Integrated Development'. For integrated development approval must be obtained from other approval bodies (such as the NSW EPA) before consent can be granted. Integrated development applications require a permit listed in section 91 of the EP&A Act. As the Solar Mining Services PTY LTD facility does not currently hold the appropriate integrated licences, and is currently under active investigation by the NSW EPA, the current application cannot be progressed.

d) **The Application incorrectly states that continuous use rights are relevant**

The Application states that continuous use rights are relevant however, the Commonwealth site was decommissioned and has historically been used for livestock production. The attached contract shows that the site from 2002 has been referred to by the Commonwealth as the 'Former' Explosives Storage Reserve, and is forbidden to be used for industry or disturbed, due to the risk that the site holds (see appendix).

4) Objections based on the inappropriate nature of the subject land

a) Contamination of proposed land

The subject land was determined unsafe for activities outside of agriculture and farming based on the likelihood of undisturbed landmines and buried explosives at the site by the Commonwealth of Australia in 2002. This also extends to white phosphorus contamination on the site. Please see the cont

Contractors on the site are still required to be chaperoned by explosives experts when carrying out any major works. Please see the contract between the Commonwealth and Lloyd Nock, highlighting that the land contains unexploded ordinances, and prohibiting the use of the land for anything but grazing purposes (Attachment XXX). Excerpts of the contract is as follows:

'The Licensee will not, other than in accordance with the Permitted Use or with the Commonwealth's prior written approval (and then only in accordance with all Statutes and Requirements), store or use firearms, explosives, detonators, chemicals, inflammable liquids, acetylene gas or alcohol, volatile or explosive oils, compounds or substances on the Premises.

Unexploded Ordnances: The licensee acknowledges that he is aware that the land is unexploded ordnance ("UXO") contaminated and contaminated with white phosphorus and or its chemical residue after burning.

Unexploded Ordnances

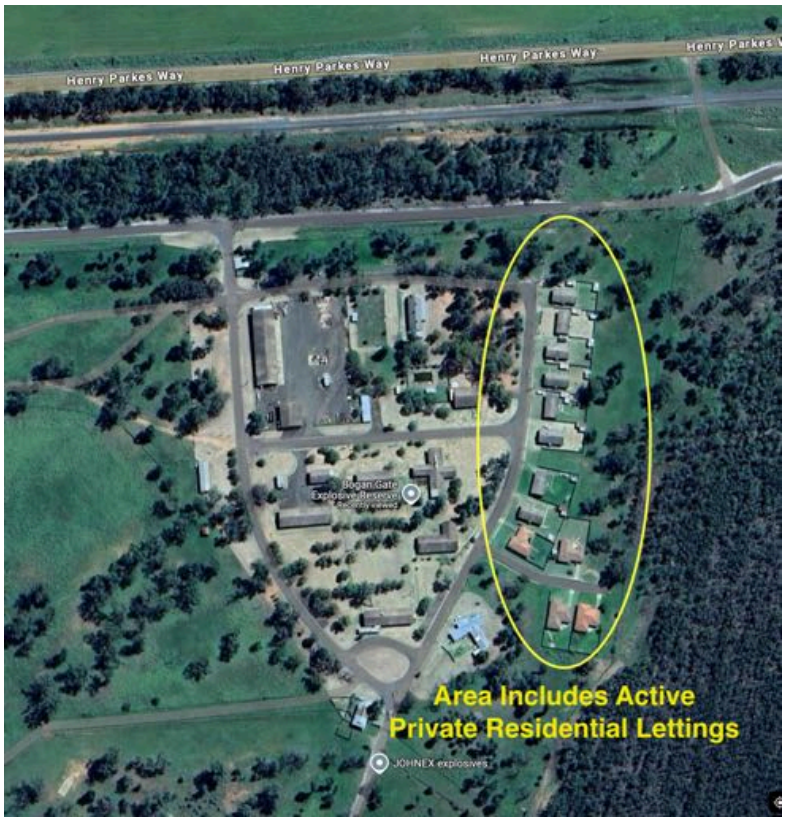
The Licensee must:

A. immediately notify the Commonwealth if it locates any unexploded ordnance on the Premises or the Land;
B. not interfere with or allow to be interfered with any unexploded ordnance;
C. and comply with the Commonwealth's reasonable directions in relation to any unexploded ordnance.'

Previously, the land which we currently run our business on acted as a buffer zone prior to the commonwealth decommissioning the explosives storage on Lot 2. With this buffer zone no longer in place, I can be excluded from operations including animal husbandry, and livestock evacuation with any instance of an incident or HAZMAT declaration on 3577 Henry Parkes WAy / Lot 2, as has happened in the past (please reference the fireworks store explosion of 2014, where the RFS removed us from installing firebreaks due to HAZMAT declaration, and placed our land under an evacuation order).

b) Site contain residential homes let to private families

3577 Henry Parkes Way is currently home to a number of families, occupying private rentals. There have been residential occupancy of homes for up to a decade, with all of the homes not accounted for in the proposal documents submitted by Currajong Planning. These active residential properties have been omitted from the 'dwelling' calculations provided in the application.



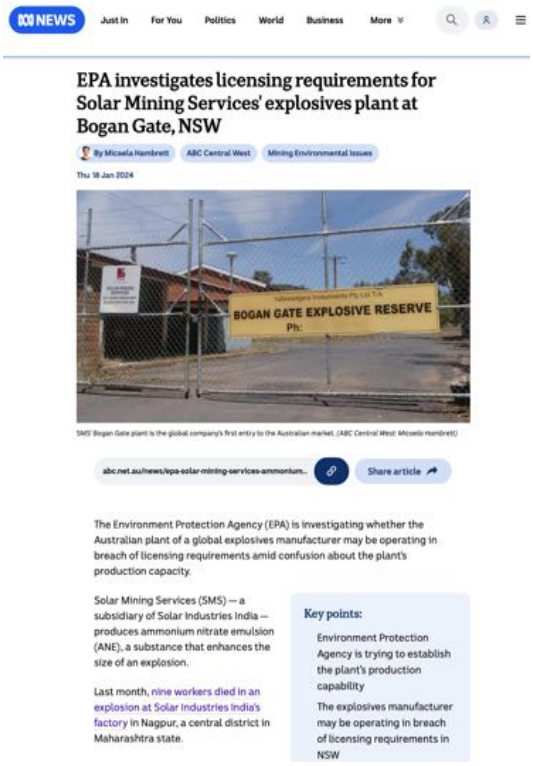
c) Extended reasoning for subject land being inappropriate for proposed use

- The subject land was determined unsafe for activities outside of agriculture and farming based on the likelihood of undisturbed landmines at the site. Contractors on the site are still required to be chaperoned by explosives experts when carrying out any major works.
- The combined Classified materials produce and stored at the subject land require assessment as both State Significant Development assessment and Major Hazard Facility

- The subject land illegally contains 3 completely independent explosives and pyrotechnics companies who are not informed of each other's explosives loads, work practices, safety plan, bushfire plans and internal travel and logistics.
- The internal roads within the subject land are single-lane gravel an/or dirt roads shared roads between 3 companies, all carrying significant amounts of pyrotech
- The internal road within the subject land is a two-way road, with the width of a one-lane road. Trucks carrying explosives, oxidising agents and pyrotechnics share this road with no way of communicating, or knowing who is moving at any given time.
- The Gunning Gap State Forest is within 100m of the hazardous storage and plant
- The Bogan Gate Cemetery, as listed on the Cemeteries & Crematoria NSW register, is a place of public significance and is bordered on all sides by of the subject land.
- The construction and changes to the road will inhibit access to the Bogan Gate Cemetery.

6) Solar Mining Services' (and Parent Company's) Poor Track Record

Solar Mining Services, their parent company, and the associated subsidiaries have a poor track record for safety environmental compliance, hazardous materials storage conditions and distribution of security-sensitive materials, having killed nine people in 2023, and currently being under investigation for non-compliance by the NSW EPA.



EPA investigates licensing requirements for Solar Mining Services' explosives plant at Bogan Gate, NSW

By Micaela Hambrett · ABC Central West · Mining Environmental Issues

Thu 18 Jan 2024

SMS' Bogan Gate plant is the global company's first entry to the Australian market. (ABC Central West: Micaela Hambrett)

abc.net.au/news/epa-solar-mining-services-ammonium... Share article

The Environment Protection Agency (EPA) is investigating whether the Australian plant of a global explosives manufacturer may be operating in breach of licensing requirements amid confusion about the plant's production capacity.

Solar Mining Services (SMS) — a subsidiary of Solar Industries India — produces ammonium nitrate emulsion (ANE), a substance that enhances the size of an explosion.

Last month, nine workers died in an explosion at Solar Industries India's factory in Nagpur, a central district in Maharashtra state.

Key points:

- Environment Protection Agency is trying to establish the plant's production capability
- The explosives manufacturer may be operating in breach of licensing requirements in NSW



Nine people killed, more injured in blast at Solar Industries explosives factory in India

Disasters, Accidents and Emergency Incidents

Mon 18 Dec 2023

Concerned villagers gathered outside the factory in India's Nagpur following the explosion. (Reuters)

abc.net.au/news/india-explosion-solar-industries-facto... Share article

At least nine workers have been killed and several injured in a blast at an explosives factory in India.

The blast occurred around 8.30am on Sunday local time at a factory in Nagpur, a central district in Maharashtra state, a local police officer told Reuters over the phone.

The factory, run by Solar Industries India, manufactures industrial and military explosives, as well as propellants and warheads for India's defence sector.

The injured were moved to nearby hospitals, the police officer said, adding the number of casualties could

Key points:

- Police are still investigating the cause of the explosion in the factory's packing department
- The company has not commented on the blast
- It's the latest incident in a long history of industrial disasters in India

The company is an owned subsidiary of the Indian company Solar Group. Both the Indian and Australian entity are governed by a majority board that enables reach-through status for the company.

The Solar Group's has a poor track record of non-compliance and major fatalities, including factory explosions causing death, environmental non-compliance, and poor storage conditions in South Africa and non-compliance in Australia.

In 2023, nine people were killed at Solar Industries' plant in india. The company is currently under criminal investigation for this incident. There are currently a number of board members of the Solar Mining Services PTY LTD that are being investigated for this fatal accident in India, that are responsible for the safe operations of the plant within the Parkes Shire Council.

In 2017, South African media alleged that Solar Mining Services, Explosives & Accessories (Pty) Ltd, and it's only South African Director, had been accused of a number of questionable activities which has led to the resignation of the company's former General Manager.

Local media has also reported on poor storage practises within Solar Mining Services' Ammonium nitrate stores, which employees were allegedly told by the plant manager not to report. According to local media reports from South Africa, the company is also alleged to have built plants without any of the necessary Environmental Impact Assessments, and built into wetlands with none of the necessary water licences, aligning with the track record in Australia.

The company has also been found to have provided explosive detonators for the terrorist group ISIS, listed in the 2016 European Union commissioned report**,** Tracing the Supply of Components Used in Islamic State IEDs. With the recent



Above: Image of Ammonium Nitrate Storage at a Solar Mining Services manufacturing plant in South Africa. The poor handling and storage is said to have damaged the storage facility walls.

Solar Mining Services has been operating recently at the Bogan Gate site unlicensed by the required regulating bodies, including the NSW EPA and is under active investigation, which highlights the lack of adherence to regulation, and willingness to put the Parkes Shire community at continued risk.

5) Objections based on the Assessment provided by Currajong Planning

a) Oversights in Environmental Assessments in DA PP2024/1167

There have been no expert environmental consultants used in the development of the environmental plans provided in the application. Principal Author, Micheal Carter, has no qualifications in biodiversity assessment, and has overlooked the presence of key species which have been observed on the site, including the breeding nest of the Square-Tailed Kite, which holds a 'vulnerable' conservation status in NSW. The nest has been observed within Lot 2, directly South of the Solar Mining Manufacturing shed.

The assessment methodology does not take into account direct observation, and the broader impacts of increased activity at the site.

b) There have not been impact assessments carried out on the neighbouring farms and food production systems.

The scope of impacts of a significantly increased risk from the development of an Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion Plant to surrounding farms and food production systems are unknown.

Whilst the company may deem there to be minimal risk to neighbours, there are a large range of factors that have not been considered by the company. These can all impact the existing businesses' freedom to operate, market access or financial health of the businesses.

Factors that have not been considered;

- Insurance premium implications on neighbouring farmland
- Land values within the area surrounding the plant
- Soil contamination due to dust or spills and implications for food safety
- Long-term or chronic air pollution from volatiles, AN dust or chemical spills
- Water course contamination and impacts on environment and food production
- Contamination zones following any HAZMAT major disaster or explosion
- Market access related to Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) in food

c) **Separation distances are not legal, particularly for community significant sites.**

Table A1.2 Separation Distances to External Infrastructure states that minimum separation distances for storage sheds are 341 at the least required distance. In the map below, it is demonstrated that the distance from the Bogan Gate cemetery is less than 186m.


Memorial La
Closest Hazardous Chemical Storage Shed
Bogan Gate Cemetery
186.97 m
Bogan Gate Cemetery

6) Objections based on heightened local community risk

a) Proximity of township, and community-significant sites to evacuation and HAZMAT zones.

- The township of Bogan Gate falls directly into the evacuation zone in the instance of any explosion, fire, crash or hazardous issue.
- The Bogan Gate Primary School is within both the blast, evacuation and Hazmat Zone in the event of any incident, fire, or fatal explosion event.
- The Bogan Gate Cemetery is within both the blast, evacuation and Hazmat Zone in the event of any incident, fire, or fatal explosion event.
- The Bogan Gate Primary Town Hall is within both the blast, evacuation and Hazmat Zone in the event of any incident, fire, or fatal explosion event.
- The Bogan Gate Post Office is within both the blast, evacuation and Hazmat Zone in the event of any incident, fire, or fatal explosion event.
- The Bogan Gate Town Hall is within both the blast, evacuation and Hazmat Zone in the event of any incident, fire, or fatal explosion event
- The RFS Bogan Gate Brigade Fire Truck Shed is within both the blast, evacuation and Hazmat Zone in the event of any incident, fire, or fatal explosion event
- The explosive stores at the site have a proven track record of exploding and drawing in local volunteers to extinguish fires.
- In the police report from the 2014 site explosion, the Howard and Sons explosion damaged the Class 1 Jonex NSW Major Hazard Facility. The SMS is 1 km closer than the 2024 blast, meaning the likelihood of explosion amplification is high.

b) Additional pressure on town water supply to Bogan Gate, Trundle and Tullamore which is already unable to meet demand in times of drought.

Throughout the most recent drought there were significant supply issues with water at Bogan Gate, Trundle and Tullamore, with supply not enough to service households and provide limited water disaster support allocations to local farmers. This has been raised with the council consistently through the drought, and since.

The proposal outlines that water will come from the town water supply, supplemented by rain water captured on-site. During times of drought there will be little to no rain to capture at the site, and water allocation will primarily come from the town water supply which will be already under significant pressure.

Particularly during these times, the town water supply is relied upon in times for fire response, and the additional pressure will render the fire response plans at the site void due to lack of water resource.

7) Objections based on heightened transportation risk to roads

a) There is expected to be increased damage to shared roads due to significantly increased cartage of explosives, ammonium nitrate and diesel to and from the plant.

With the increase in heavy vehicle transport to and from the plant, there is an expectation that roads throughout the Parkes Shire, and particularly local roads in the direct vicinity to the site will suffer due to at least 40,000 additional tonnes per annum of materials on the roads (20,000 tonnes of feedstock in, 20,000 tonnes of finished product out).



Above: An example of a specialist Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion tanker which would be required to transport Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion to mine sites.

Road quality is of importance, particularly as the Henry Parkes Way and adjoining local roads are key routes for harvest transport to both the Manildra Group site at Bogan Gate, and to the Parkes Graincorp Sub-Terminal.

1. 20,000 tonnes of additional ANE and >10,000 tonnes of ammonium nitrate on local shire roads is an unacceptable risk
2. There is a proven track record in Australia of Ammonium Nitrate and ANE trucks exploring, which exacerbates existing road concerns at critical times such as harvest, when truck traffic of the Henry Parkes Way is heightened. This is already a key priority for Parkes Shire, and will add to the already high rate of crashes and incidents.

7) Objections based on lack of community consultation

a) Lack of consultation with the community of Bogan Gate, Parkes or those directly impacted by the activities at the site.

Despite previous petitions for adequate community consultation regarding the plant, there has not been appropriate consultation with the community of Bogan Gate, Parkes or those directly impacted by the activities at the site. Please see attachments for a copy of the petition (See appendix) submitted to Parkes Shire Council with community members requesting appropriate consultation.

The local RFS branches have not been engaged, and the vast majority of the volunteers who are regularly called out to fires in and around the site have not been consulted.

1. There has been no community consultation with any community groups
2. The local RFS brigades have not had any community consultation

Appendix 1 - ABC News Article

‘Bomb squad police investigate Bogan Gate explosion’

Regarding previous explosions at 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate.

Bomb squad police investigate Bogan Gate explosion

Melanie Pearce

Industrial Fires

Mon 24 Nov 2014 at 10:17pm





Pink smoke billows from a fire that started at a Bogan Gate explosives and pyrotechnics depot. November 23, 2014
(Supplied: NSW Rural Fire Service Mid Lachlan Team)

Bomb squad officers are among those investigating a pyrotechnics depot at Bogan Gate today following an explosion yesterday that sparked a bushfire.

It happened at about 5:15 PM (AEST) in the evening at the former defence force base.

The explosion sparked a bushfire in timbered country in the hills nearby in difficult to access terrain.

The Rural Fire Service is today working on the blaze and has five water bombing aircraft and two helicopters as well as dozens of crews on the ground.

Area Commander of Lachlan Police, Chris Taylor, said specialist scientific police will be on scene at Bogan Gate today.

"We've already been speaking to the bomb squad although we don't think this was a bomb," Superintendent Taylor said.

Our early indications are that it would be weather related and we've had nothing to deter us from coming to that conclusion

"Our early indications are that it would be weather related and we've had nothing to deter us from coming to that conclusion but we will have detectives and senior crime officers out there this morning."

Superintendent Taylor said the property is over 300 hectares and there are some houses along the main Condobolin Road.

"There was about 6 or 8 people evacuated just to the Bogan Gate township. There were no injuries and they were later allowed back into their homes."

Some residents of Parkes 40 kilometres away have reported felt the explosion however Supt Taylor said it is hard to determine how far away it could be felt happened at the same time as a thunderstorm.

He said police will talk to officers who investigated a 2007 blast at the Howard and Sons plant at Wallerawang which destroyed some buildings and damaged nearby homes.

It happened during an electrical storm but a coronial inquest found the Wallerawang blast was of unknown cause.

"We'll be liaising with other police around the region particularly at Chifley just to get some ideas on how their investigation processed and what they were looking for," Supt Taylor said.

"I'm sure our scene of crime, our forensic police will be up on that type of investigation as well."

Supt Taylor said one building on the Bogan Gate site has been destroyed and there is some damage to other structures but a police examination last night found none was in serious danger.

He said the Bogan Gate site is a former Army and RAAF depot and is leased out to various companies including the pyrotechnics firm.

The site manger of the Bogan Gate Explosives Reserve, Paul Kay, said it has about 20 units that house combustible goods and the incident could have been much worse.

He said the explosion happened at a shed of one of the tenants of the site.

Mr Kay said at this stage police believe the fire was sparked by the stormy weather.

"That's probably the best case scenario, I hate to think it was anything more sinister but they've got a list of things they're inquiring into and hopefully will come out with something that we might be able to remedy in the future," Mr Kay said.

"You don't want to talk about terrorism or things like that but they've all got to be ticked off and then we'll take it from there, so until the police inquiries are finalised we're sort of in the dark until they can tell us what's going on."

In October 2011, a blaze in an old army barracks at the Bogan Gate site that contained fireworks and ammunition destroyed a shed and started a grass fire which was quickly put out.

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Posted Mon 24 Nov 2014 at 10:17pm, updated Tue 25 Nov 2014 at 8:32pm

Top Stories



Appendix 2 - Sydney Morning Herald Article

‘Huge blast in fireworks plant’

Regarding previous explosions related to current tenants at 3577 Parkes Way, Bogan Gate.

The Sydney Morning Herald

National

This was published 17 years ago

Huge blast in fireworks plant

Heath Gilmore and **Eamonn Duff**

December 9, 2007 — 11.00am

A MAJOR explosion ripped through one of the biggest fireworks factories in Australia late last night, smashing windows of homes more than one kilometre away.

The Howard & Sons factory at Wallerawang, between Lithgow and Bathurst, exploded at 10pm, setting off blasts lasting nearly 90 minutes, prompting more than 50 calls to emergency services.

Police evacuated 10 homes in a one-kilometre exclusion zone in case of a major explosion in storage areas at the site.

Witness Luke Phillips said the 2000 residents of Wallerawang watched helplessly at the pyrotechnic show from the factory two kilometres outside town.

"It sounded and felt like a mini earthquake shaking all the buildings," said Mr Phillips, whose family are the licensees of the Commercial Hotel.

"My old man went out to have a look and there was a house about one kilometre away whose doors and windows were blown in."

Wallerawang resident Angela Knight said: "It was like a bomb went off, the whole house shook and windows shattered at neighbouring properties. We were all fine, just a little shaken and so far I haven't heard of any injuries."

Sergeant Darryl Goodwin, from Lithgow police, said an unknown number of houses had windows blown out. He said the roof of an unoccupied house collapsed.

"At this stage no one is hurt but we still have people out at the scene," he said.

Howard & Sons director Andrew Howard said: "The reports I'm receiving are that nobody has been injured, all our immediate neighbours are safe.

"The explosion occurred at approximately 10pm.

"None of our personnel were at the facility working today so there's no indication at this stage of what might have led to this occurring."

Responding to news the initial blasts were heard more than 30 kilometres away, Mr Howard said: "It doesn't surprise me. We're dealing with fireworks, that's the chemistry of them. But of course, I'm concerned about the size of the explosion."

He said while the company wasn't providing fireworks for the Sydney Harbour New Year's Eve spectacular, it was set to supply "just about everywhere else".

"It's our busiest time, we have a lot of work through this festive time. We supply all over Australia and indeed all over the world," he said.

The company employs 17 people at the factory as well as a further 25 full-time and 100 casual staff.

The company, which celebrated its 85th anniversary this year, represented Australia at the inaugural Malaysian International Fireworks Competition held in Putrajaya, near Kuala Lumpur in August.

Appendix 3 - Contract for Use of 3577 Henry Parkes Way



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

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LICENCE

THIS DEED is made the day of

BETWEEN **THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA REPRESENTED BY THE DEFENCE ESTATE ORGANISATION ("Commonwealth")**

AND **THE PARTY** specified in the Schedule **("Licensee")**

RECITALS

A. The Commonwealth owns the Land.

B. The Licensee has requested the Commonwealth to grant, and the Commonwealth has agreed to grant, a licence of the Premises to the Licensee on the conditions set out in this Deed.

OPERATIONAL PROVISIONS

1. DEFINITION AND INTERPRETATION

1.1 Definitions

In this Deed:

"Authority" includes any government, statutory, public or other authority or body;

"Building" means any improvement from time to time on the Land including the Commonwealth's Fixtures;

"Claims" means all threatened or actual actions, proceedings, demands, damages, losses, claims, costs, expenses and liabilities;

"Commonwealth's Fixtures" means all fences, fixtures, fittings, plant and equipment in or on the Premises from time to time supplied by the Commonwealth including those specified in ***Item 6*** *(if any)*;

"GST" means the tax payable on taxable supplies under GST Legislation;

"GST Legislation" means the *A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act* 1999 and any related Act imposing such tax or legislation that is enacted to validate, recapture or recoup such tax;

"Licence Fee" means the licence fee *(if any)* specified in ***Item 7*** (as reviewed from time to time);

"Licensee's Fixtures" includes all fixtures, fittings, plant, equipment and other articles in or on the Premises in the nature of trade or tenant's fixtures and chattels which are not Commonwealth Fixtures;

"Premises" means the premises situated on the Land specified in ***Item 2*** and includes the Commonwealth's Fixtures;

"Requirement" means any requirement, notice, order or direction received from or given by any Authority; and

"Statute" means any present or future legislation and any rule, regulation, ordinance, by-law, statutory instrument, order or notice now or thereafter made under or in replacement for such legislation.

Where not specifically defined, words and phrases used in the Reference Schedule have the meanings attributed to them in the Reference Schedule.

1.2 Interpretation

In this Deed, unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa, and the masculine gender includes the feminine or neuter gender and vice versa and words importing persons includes corporations and vice versa;

(b) headings have been inserted for guidance only and do not form part of the substance of this Deed;

(c) reference to a person includes a corporation and vice versa;

(d) no rule of construction applies to the disadvantage of a party if that party was responsible for the preparation of this Deed or any part of it;

(e) any covenant, obligation or agreement on the part of 2 or more persons will be deemed to bind them and any 2 or more of them jointly and each of them severally;

(f) a reference to a party includes that party's, successors and permitted assigns and where relevant will include that party's employees, agents, contractors, consultants, invitees, sub-licensees, licensees and concessionaires or others who may at any time be in the Premises or on the Land with the express or implied consent of the relevant party; and

(g) where the day on or by which a thing is to be done is not a business day that thing must be done on or by the next succeeding business day.

2. LICENCE

2.1 Licence

The Commonwealth grants to the Licensee for the Term, a licence to use the Premises for the Permitted Use on the terms and conditions set out in this Deed.

2.2 Personal Rights Only

The Licensee acknowledges that the rights conferred on the Licensee by virtue of this Deed are personal rights in contract only and will not create any tenancy or any estate or interest whatsoever in or over the Land.

2.3 Exclusion of Landlord and Tenant Relationship

Nothing in this Deed is intended to, nor will, confer on the Licensee any rights as tenant of the Land or create a relationship of landlord and tenant between the parties and any such implication or inference is hereby expressly negatived.

2.4 Acknowledgment by the Licensee

The Licensee:

(a) accepts the Premises in their present state of repair and condition, whether dilapidated or not; and

(b) acknowledges that the Commonwealth is not liable for, and the Licensee cannot require the Commonwealth to, undertake any works or repairs to the Premises during the Term or to seek compensation from the Commonwealth if the Licensee repairs the Premises or makes any improvements to the Premises.

3. TERM

3.1 Term

The Licence will continue for the Term unless earlier terminated pursuant to the terms of this Deed.

3.2 Monthly Holding Over

If the Commonwealth, in its discretion, permits the Licensee to continue this Licence beyond the end of the Term otherwise than pursuant to the grant of a further licence, the Licensee will do so on a monthly licence on the same terms as this Deed as at the end of the Term, except the licence so created is determinable at any time by one party giving one month's notice in writing to the other to expire on any date.

4. OPTION TO RENEW – Deleted

5. LICENCE FEE

5.1 Licence Fee

The Licensee must pay the Licence Fee during the Term to the Commonwealth without deduction, in accordance with ***Item 10***.

5.2 Licensee's Works

The Licensee must, in addition to paying the Licence Fee, carry out the works (if any) specified in ***Item 22***, at its expense, to the satisfaction of the Commonwealth and in accordance with all necessary approvals and consents from all Authorities to those works.

5.3 Market Review

(a) The Commonwealth may, in the period commencing 3 months prior to the relevant Market Review Date and ending 3 months prior to the next Market Review Date, give the Licensee a Market Review Notice.

(b) If the Licensee does not serve on the Commonwealth a Market Review Objection Notice within 14 days of service of the Market Review Notice, then the amount specified in the Market Review Notice will become the Licence Fee from the relevant Market Review Date.

(c) If the Licensee serves a Market Review Objection Notice, then the parties will seek to agree on a Valuer to determine the annual market licence fee for the Premises. If the parties cannot agree on a Valuer within 10 days of service of the Market Review Objection Notice, then the President of the Institute is to nominate a Valuer, at the request of either party.

(d) The Valuer will determine the annual market licence fee for the Premises to apply from the relevant Market Review Date and such a determination will be final and binding on the parties.

(e) Pending the Valuer's determination of the annual market licence fee, the Licensee will continue to pay the Licence Fee payable as at the relevant Market Review Date.

(f) Within 7 days after the date of the determination of the Licence Fee any necessary adjustments will be made between the parties calculated as from the relevant Market Review Date.

(g) The costs of the Valuer will be borne equally by the parties.

5.4 CPI Review

(a) The Commonwealth may on each CPI Review Date review the Licence Fee using the following formula:

$$A = R \times \frac{C2}{C1}$$

"**A**" = the reviewed Licence Fee,

"**R**" = the Licence Fee payable as at the relevant CPI Review Date,

"C1" = the Index Number for the quarter ending immediately prior to the Commencement Date or, where a licence fee review has taken place, the review date immediately preceding the relevant CPI Review Date; and

"C2" = the Index Number for the quarter ending immediately prior to the relevant CPI Review Date.

(b) If the amount of the reviewed Licence Fee is not ascertained by the relevant CPI Review Date then the Licensee will:

(i) pending ascertainment, continue to pay the instalment of the Licence Fee applicable at the relevant CPI Review Date; and

(ii) within 7 days after being notified of the reviewed Licence Fee any necessary adjustments will be made between the parties calculated as from the relevant CPI Review Date.

5.5 Outgoings

The Licensee must pay to the Commonwealth the proportion specified in ***Item 11*** of any outgoings specified in Schedule 1.

5.6 Definitions

For the purpose of this clause:

(a) **"CPI Review Date"** means each of the dates specified in ***Item 8***.

(b) **"Index Number"** means:

(i) the Consumer Price Index (All Groups) for the capital of the State in which the Premises are located published from time to time by the Australian Bureau of Census and Statistics;

(ii) if there is any suspension or discontinuance of the publication of the Consumer Price Index, then until publication of the Consumer Price Index is resumed, such other index reflecting fluctuations in the cost of living in the relevant city:

A. on which the parties agree; or

B. in default of agreement such index as is determined by the President of the Institute or his nominee at the request of either party, who in making his determination will be acting as an expert and not as an arbitrator and whose costs will be borne equally by the parties.

(c) **"Institute"** means the Division (or Branch in the case of a Territory) of the Australian Property Institute Inc in the State or Territory in which the Premises are located.

(d)

(e) **"Market Review Notice"** means a notice given by the Commonwealth to the Licensee pursuant to *clause 5.3(a)* specifying the Commonwealth's Amount.

(f) **"Market Review Date"** means each of the dates specified in *Item 9*.

(g) **"Market Review Objection Notice"** means a notice in writing in which:

(i) the Licensee disputes the Commonwealth's Amount;

(ii) states an alternative figure which the Licensee considers to be the annual market licence fee to apply from the relevant Market Review Date; and

(iii) requires such licence fee to be determined in accordance with the provisions of this clause.

(h) **"Review Date"** means either a CPI Review Date or a Market Review Date.

(i) **"Valuer"** means any person:

(i) who has been a full member of not less than 5 years' standing of the Institute;

(ii) who is registered to practice as a valuer of the kind of premises now licensed by this Licence; and

(iii) who has not less than 5 years' experience in the State in which the Premises are located.

6. DAMAGED PREMISES

If the whole or any part of the Premises are destroyed or substantially damaged, then:

(a) all or a proportionate part of the Licence Fee, given the extent of the damage, will abate until the damage is repaired, except where the damage is caused by or contributed to by the Licensee, in which event no abatement will be given;

(b) either party may terminate this Licence at the expiration of 2 months from the date of the damage unless the Commonwealth has given notice of its intention to reinstate the Premises;

(c) a determination under *clause 6(b)* will be without compensation being payable by one to the other except for any antecedent breach;

(d) the Licensee may not terminate this Licence if the damage was caused or contributed to by it; and

(e) there is no obligation on the Commonwealth to reinstate the Premises.

7. **NO ASSIGNMENT ETC.**

The Licensee will not assign, transfer, mortgage, charge or otherwise deal with its rights under this Deed or part with possession of the Premises without the prior consent in writing of the Commonwealth.

8. **REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE**

8.1 **Licensee's Obligations to Repair**

(a) The Licensee must keep the Premises and all Fixtures in good and substantial repair having regard to their condition at the Commencement Date (as evidenced by the Condition Appraisal Report (if any) attached as Schedule 2) and allowing for fair wear and tear and must yield up the Premises in such condition at the end or sooner determination of the Term.

(b) The obligation in sub-clause (a) will not include repairs of a structural nature unless caused or required by the Licensee's act or omission or its use of the Premises.

8.2 **Specific Obligations**

Without limiting *clause 8.1*, the Licensee must:

(a) repair all damage (including structural damage) caused by it to the Premises or the Fixtures;

(b) immediately replace all broken glass within the Premises;

(c) take all reasonable steps to eradicate pests and will, if required by the Commonwealth, engage a pest exterminator approved by the Commonwealth;

(d) repair or, where appropriate replace, heating, lighting, electrical or plumbing fittings installed in the Premises broken or damaged by the Licensee; and

(e) maintain the waste pipes, drains and water closets within or servicing the Premises in a clean, clear and operative condition.

8.3 **Alterations**

The Licensee must obtain the prior written consent of the Commonwealth before it alters or makes any additions to the Premises, including drilling core holes in any part of the Premises, installing any equipment or redesigning the interior or erecting a partition or does any other building work on the Premises. The consent of the Commonwealth may be withheld in its absolute discretion or may be given on terms and conditions determined by the Commonwealth.

8.4 Notice of Damage or accident

The Licensee will immediately notify the Commonwealth of:

(a) any damage to, and any accident or defect in, the Premises, the Building, the Commonwealth's Fixtures or in any of the services or other facilities provided by the Commonwealth to the Premises or the Building; and

(b) any circumstances likely to occasion any damage or injury within the Premises or the Building.

9. USE OF THE PREMISES

9.1 Permitted Use

(a) The Licensee will not use the Premises other than for the Permitted Use, without the prior written consent of the Commonwealth.

(b) The Commonwealth does not warrant that the Premises can now or in the future be used for the Permitted Use. The Lessee acknowledges that it is taking the Premises in their present condition, subject to all latent and patent defects.

9.2 Licensee Not to Cause Nuisance

In using the Premises, the Licensee will not do anything which will or may cause annoyance, nuisance, interference, damage or disturbance to any occupiers or owners of adjoining or adjacent premises or to the Commonwealth or any other tenant or occupier of any part of the Building or the Land.

9.3 Comply with Statutes and Requirements

The Licensee:

(a) must, at its own cost, comply with all Statutes and Requirements relating to or affecting the Premises or the Fixtures and the use or occupation of the Premises from time to time;

(b) must immediately advise the Commonwealth of any Requirement, however arising;

(c) will, where compliance with a Statute or Requirement involves making alterations or additions to the Premises, obtain the prior written consent of the Commonwealth before complying with any Statute or Requirement;

(d) is not required to effect structural alterations or additions in complying with any Statute or Requirement unless caused or required by the Licensee's act or omission and its use of the Premises; and

(e) acknowledges that, notwithstanding that the Commonwealth may be immune

from complying with any Statute or Requirement, the Commonwealth may elect to comply with and observe any Statute or Requirement, in which event the Licensee must comply with any such Statute or Requirement as if the Commonwealth was not so immune.

9.4 Contamination

(a) The Licensee must keep the Premises free from any contamination and must not use the Premises or permit them to be used in any way which could result in the discharge of pollution or an environmental hazard.

(b) Without limiting ***clause 9.3***, the Licensee must:

(i) comply with all Statutes and Requirements relating to the environment;

(ii) obtain and maintain any permits required under those Statutes and Requirements in respect of the Premises; and

(iii) provide copies of any orders or notices issued under these Statutes and Requirements, to the Commonwealth,

but before complying with any order or notice, must obtain the Commonwealth's written approval.

(c) In the event of any contamination or environmental hazard occurring on the Premises due to the act or omission of the Licensee, then the Licensee must at its cost immediately remediate such contamination or environmental hazard to the satisfaction of the Commonwealth and any relevant Authority.

(d) The Lessee will indemnify and keep indemnified the Commonwealth against any Claim made against or suffered by the Commonwealth as a result of a breach of this clause by the Licensee.

9.5 No Inflammable Substances

The Licensee will not, other than in accordance with the Permitted Use or with the Commonwealth's prior written approval (and then only in accordance with all Statutes and Requirements), store or use firearms, explosives, detonators, chemicals, inflammable liquids, acetylene gas or alcohol, volatile or explosive oils, compounds or substances on the Premises.

9.6 Military Lands

If ***Item 20*** states that the Premises are near or adjacent to land on which military activities take place (**"Military Land"**), the Licensee agrees and understands that:

(a) it may be hazardous or dangerous for the Licensee to enter onto the Military Land;

(b) night illumination, noise and vibrations may emanate from the Military Land

which may affect the Licensee's use and enjoyment of the Premises; and

(c) it may not make any Claim against the Commonwealth on account of loss, damage or injury suffered or incurred as a result of the Military Land or any thing referred to in or arising from this clause.

9.7 Access Routes

If an Access Route is specified in ***Item 19*** the Licensee may only access the Premises via the Access Route.

9.8 Hours

Unless otherwise specified in ***Item 13***, the Licensee is permitted to use the Premises for the Permitted Use 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

9.9 Special Conditions

The Licensee must comply, at its cost, with any reasonable conditions imposed from time to time by the Commonwealth with respect to safety, environmental matters and matters relating to national security and defence which, at the Commencement Date, are those specified in ***Item 21***.

10. INSURANCE AND INDEMNITIES

10.1 Licensee's Insurances

The Licensee must have current insurance for the following:

(a) public liability policy for the amount specified in ***Item 15*** (in the names of the Licensee and the Commonwealth or, where that is not possible, noting the interest of the Commonwealth);

(b) workers compensation insurance; and

(c) such other insurances that the Commonwealth may reasonably require the Licensee to effect from time to time.

10.2 Provisions of Policies

If the Commonwealth asks, the Licensee must provide such evidence of the insurance as is satisfactory to the Commonwealth.

10.3 Release and Indemnity

(a) The Licensee occupies and uses the Premises at its own risk.

(b) The Licensee releases the Commonwealth from any Claim arising from any loss, injury or death occurring in the Premises except to the extent that the Commonwealth caused this by an act of negligence.

(c) The Licensee indemnifies the Commonwealth against any Claim arising from any loss, injury or death:

(i) by reason of any act, default or neglect of the Licensee;

(ii) arising out of or as a consequence of the Licensee's use or occupation of the Premises; or

(iii) caused by the services to the Premises,

except to the extent that the Commonwealth caused this by an act of negligence.

11. BREACHES AND TERMINATION

11.1 Breaches

The Licensee breaches this Deed if it breaches, neglects or fails to perform or observe any of the covenants, conditions or agreements contained in this Deed which are or ought to be performed or observed by the Licensee and which are not rectified within 14 days of being required to do so by the Commonwealth.

11.2 Forfeiture of Licence

If the Licensee breaches this Deed, the Commonwealth may, without prejudice to any other right, Claim or remedy which the Commonwealth has or may have or could otherwise have against the Licensee or any other person in respect of such default:

(a) by notice in writing to the Licensee terminate this Deed; and/or

(b) recover from the Licensee any loss the Commonwealth suffers due to the Licensee's breach; and/or

(c) by notice in writing to the Licensee elect to convert the unexpired portion of the Term of this Deed into a month to month licence pursuant to the provisions *of clause 3.2*.

11.3 Early Termination Notice

Either party may terminate this Licence at any time, by giving the other a termination notice expiring at the end of the period set out in *Item 21* and neither party will be liable to the other as a result of such termination, except in relation to any antecedent breach.

11.4 Termination of Deed

The Commonwealth is entitled to terminate this Licence in the event of a national emergency on such notice as, in the opinion of the Minister for the Department of Defence, is necessary given the nature of the national emergency or if, in the opinion of the Minister for the Department of Defence, the Premises are required by the Commonwealth for national security or defence purposes.

11.5 Interest on overdue money

Any money payable by the Licensee to the Commonwealth but not paid on the due date may bear interest at the Specified Rate in ***Item 18***, computed from the due date for payment of the money until payment of such money in full and will be recoverable as licence fees in arrears.

11.6 Commonwealth may rectify

The Commonwealth may, but is not obliged to, remedy at any time, without notice, any default by the Licensee under this Deed. Whenever the Commonwealth so elects, all costs and expenses incurred by the Commonwealth including legal fees (on a solicitor/own client basis), costs and expenses in remedying a default will constitute a liquidated debt and will be paid by the Licensee to the Commonwealth, on demand.

12. DETERMINATION OF TERM

12.1 End Date obligations

At the expiration or earlier termination of this Licence, the Licensee will yield up the Premises in the order and condition described in *clause 8.1(a)* and will remove the Licensee's Fixtures from the Premises.

12.2 Licensee to rectify any damage

The Licensee will make good any damage caused to the Premises, the Building or the Land in the course of removal of the Licensee's Fixtures and, in any event, will leave the Premises in a clean condition. If this is not done the Commonwealth may make good and/or clean the Premises at the expense of and as agent for the Licensee and recover from the Licensee the cost to the Commonwealth of so doing as a liquidated debt payable on demand.

13. SECURITY

13.1 Bank Guarantee – Deleted

13.2 Security Bond – Deleted

13.3 GST

Where the Commonwealth incurs any GST liability as a result of or in connection with the conversion into cash of any security provided under this clause or any recovery under the bank guarantee provided under this clause, the Licensee must indemnify the Commonwealth against that liability.

14. GENERAL

14.1 Notices

All notices, demands and other communications ("**Notices**") required or permitted to be given by one party to another must be in writing and:

(a) delivered personally;

(b) sent by pre-paid mail to the addressee;

(c) sent by facsimile transmission to the facsimile number of the addressee (with acknowledgment of receipt from the facsimile machine of the addressee).

14.2 Receipt of Notices

A Notice is taken to have been given (unless otherwise proved):

(a) if mailed, on the second business day after posting; or

(b) if sent by facsimile and received before 4 pm on a business day, on the day it is sent and otherwise on the next business day.

14.3 Address for Service of Notices

The address for service of Notices as at the date of this Deed are as specified in ***Item 23***. A party may change its address by giving notice of that change in writing to the other party.

14.4 Stamp Duty and Legal Costs

The Licensee will pay for:

(a) all stamp duty payable on this Deed;

(b) all costs and expenses (including but not limited to solicitors and agents fees) incurred by the Commonwealth in the negotiation, preparation and execution of this Deed;

(c) all costs and expenses incurred by the Commonwealth in the enforcement, attempted enforcement or preservation of any rights under this Deed, including, without limitation, any expenses incurred in the evaluation of any matter of material concern to the Commonwealth; and

(d) all costs and expenses incurred by the Commonwealth in considering any application for its consent or approval by the Licensee, which will include the cost of any consultants employed by the Commonwealth in considering any such consent or approval.

14.5 No Waiver

A party to this Deed is not to be taken to have waived any right or entitlement it may have under this Deed unless and until that waiver is notified in writing to the party seeking the benefit of the alleged waiver. Waiver by a party in respect of any act or thing required to be done under this Deed does not act as a waiver of any other act or thing (whether of the same or of a different nature) required to be done under this Deed.

14.6 Severability

If any provision of this Deed is held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, that provision must, to the extent of the invalidity, illegality or unenforceability, be ignored in the interpretation of this Deed and all the other provisions of this Deed will remain in full force and effect.

14.7 Proper Law

The laws of the State or Territory in which the Premises are located will apply to this Deed to the exclusion of any other laws and the parties agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the Courts of that State or Territory in relation to this Deed.

14.8 Entire Agreement

The terms of this Deed contain the entire understanding between the parties in relation to the subject matter of this Deed and there are no conditions, warranties, promises, representations or obligations written or oral, express or implied in relation thereto, other than those expressly stated herein or necessarily implied by law.

14.9 Approvals or Consent given by the Commonwealth

Any consent or approval given by the Commonwealth, to be binding on the Commonwealth, must be in writing.

15. GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Where either party to this Licence is entitled to any payment (including payment of the Licence Fee and any payment by way of damages, indemnity, set-off, reimbursement or otherwise) from the other party in relation to anything done or omitted to be done under this Licence, the first named party will be entitled to recover from the second named party the amount of any GST on any Supply (within the meaning of the GST Legislation) for which the payment is made. To the extent that any payment is pursuant to an entitlement to recover all or a proportion of costs incurred, the amount recoverable shall be reduced by the amount of (or the same proportion of the amount of) any Input Tax Credits (within the meaning of the GST Legislation) available in respect those costs.

OPTIONAL SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. **Telecommunications Equipment**

The Licensee acknowledge that the Commonwealth retains, at all times, the right to erect any telecommunication aerials, masts, ground cabling and similar equipment on or in the Premises.

2. **Unexploded Ordnances**

The Licensee must:

(a) immediately notify the Commonwealth if it locates any unexploded ordnance on the Premises or the Land;

(b) not interfere with or allow to be interfered with any unexploded ordnance; and

(c) comply with the Commonwealth's reasonable directions in relation to any unexploded ordnance.

3. **Bulk Supplies**

Notwithstanding *clause 8.2*, if the Licensor purchases, from the appropriate authorities, bulk supplies of electricity, gas, water or other like supplies ("**Supplies**") for consumption within the Premises, the Licensor shall supply to the Licensee such of the Supplies as may be reasonably required by the Licensee for the use or consumption in or on the Premises and the Licensee shall purchase the Supplies from the Licensor on and subject to the following conditions:

(a) the price which the Licensor shall charge the Licensee for the Supplies shall be charged at the rate which would have been charged by the relevant authority if it had supplied the same quantity of Supplies to the Licensee at the Premises over the same period;

(b) the Licensor shall be entitled to impose on the Licensee the same conditions as the relevant authority from time to time imposes when or before supplying the Supplies to consumers at similar premises and the Licensee shall, at all times, comply with those conditions;

(c) the Licensor may render accounts for Supplies supplied to the Licensee from time to time and such accounts shall be payable to the Licensor within 14 days of the delivery of the Supplies;

(d) if the Licensee fails to pay an account rendered for Supplies within the required time, the Licensor may (without prejudice to any other rights or powers of the Licensor) terminate the supply of Supplies to the Premises until such account has been paid in full;

(e) the Licensor shall not be responsible for any failure to provide Supplies arising from the default of any relevant authority to provide the Licensor with bulk supplies or arising from any other cause beyond the reasonable control of the Licensor except due to the Licensor's default or negligence; and

(f) to the extent that the Supplies are not provided from the Licensor's bulk supply the Licensee shall make its own arrangements direct with the relevant authority.

REFERENCE SCHEDULE

Item 1:	The Licensee:	Mr Lloyd Nock "Yandilla" BOGAN GATE NSW 2876
Item 2: Clause 1.1	Premises:	Approximately 482 hectares of land located in the north-eastern and south-eastern sections known as the former Bogan Gate Explosives Storage Facility/RAAF Base with its eastern boundary running along the top of Gunning Ridge. That part of the Land highlighted on the attached plans as Annexure "A" and "B"
Item 3:	Land:	Former Bogan Gate Explosives Storage Facility/RAAF Base located approximately 37 kilometers west of Parkes & 1 kilometer east of the village of Bogan Gate.
Item 4: Clause 3.1	Term:	Month to month commencing on the Commencement Date.
Item 5:	Commencement Date:	26 March 2002
Item 6: Clause 1.1	Commonwealth's Fixtures:	To Be Advised
Item 7: Clause 1.1	Licence Fee:	Licence Fee of $1.00 per annum (if demanded)
Item 8: Clause 5.6	CPI Review Dates:	Not Applicable
Item 9: Clause 1.1	Market Review Dates:	Not Applicable
Item 10: Clause 5.1	Manner & frequency of payment of licence fee:	Licence fee is to be paid quarterly in advance on the first day of March, June, September and December from the Commencement Date
Item 11: Clause 5.5	Licensee's Proportion:	100%
Item 12: Clause 9.1	Permitted Use:	For the grazing of livestock only
Item 13: Clause 9.18	Licence Hours:	24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Item 14: Clause 4.1	Further Term:	Not Applicable
Item 15: Clause 10.1	Public Risk Amount:	Ten Million Dollars ($10,000,000.00)

Item 16: Clause 13.1	Bank Guarantee Amount:	Not Applicable
Item 17: Clause 13.2	Security Bond Amount:	$Nil
Item 18: Clause 11.5	Specified Rate:	Nil
Item 19: Clause 9.7	Access Routes:	The Licensee shall access the premises via the Access Route shown highlighted in blue on the attached plans Annexure "A" and "B".
Item 20: Clause 9.6	Military Land:	Yes
Item 21: Clause 11.3	Early Termination Period:	Not Applicable
Item 22: Clause 5.2	Licensee's Works:	The licensee shall at their own cost and expense erect fences and gates in relation to areas identified as contaminated sites and erect such fences and gates (which upon erection shall become the property of the licensor) as may be required to secure or gain access to the land and render the land stock-proof and at the expiration or sooner termination of this licence shall yield up all fences and gates in good repair order and condition without any payment of compensation.
Item 23: Clause 9.9	Conditions:	**General** The licensee shall not use the land for any purpose other than to graze livestock. The licensee shall not disturb or break up the land, no pasture improvements involving ploughing shall be used. The licensee shall not install stock watering facilities on the land without the prior written appeoval of the licensor. The licensee shall at all times observe the reasonable directions of the Commonwealth and or the Commeonwealth's representatives/contractors in relation to the use of the premises and or access over the premises. The licensee shall at his own cost and expense keep and maintain in good order repair and condition and replace where necessary all fences and gates (including but not limited to perimeter, stockyard and internal fences and gates) on the land and erect such fences and gates (which

upon erection shall become the property of the licensor) as may be required to secure the land and render the land stock-proof and at the expiration or sooner termination of this licence shall yield up all fences and gates in good repair order and condition without any payment of compensation.

The licensee shall ensure that the stock and any other property not belonging to the licensor are removed from the land on or prior to the termination or sooner determination of this licence. Any stock or other property which are not removed shall thereafter become the property of the licensor and may be removed from the land and disposed of at the expense of the licensee as the licensor in its absolute discretion may determine.

Re: Unexploded Ordnances

The licensee acknowledges that he is aware that the land is unexploded ordinance ("UXO") contaminated and contaminated with white phosphorus and or its chemical residue after burning, that it is also located within a buffer zone for the storage of explosives and that the licensee uses the land at his own risk.

The Licensee shall not enter areas of the land which are either fenced or which, though not fenced have erected on them signposts which warn of possible UXO within these areas of the land

The Licensee must:

(a) immediately notify the Commonwealth if it locates any unexploded ordnance on the Premises or the Land;

(b) not interfere with or allow to be interfered with any unexploded ordnance; and

(c) comply with the Commonwealth's reasonable directions in relation to any unexploded ordnance.

Re: Dead Animals \ Livestock

The licensee shall maintain the stocking rate of 2.5 dry sheep equivalent per hectare (approximately 1,200 sheep) through the year and rotate such stock on a regular basis to prevent the land becoming overgrown and to maintain the land in a fire safe condition.

The licensee shall not overstock the land and acknowledges that the licensor shall have the right at all times to limit the number of stock on the land so that the same shall not be overstocked

The licensee shall keep the land free of dead stock and remove dead animals or livestock from the premises. Dead carcasses are not permitted to be buried on the premises.

Re: Non Noxious Weeds, Noxious Weeds & Plants

The licensee shall at its own expense take all necessary steps to prevent fire and soil erosion occurring on the land together with implementing recommendations of the Commonwealth's Land Management Plan.

The licensee shall at his own expense comply with any recommendations of a State Soil Conservation Authority in relation to the control of soil erosion and the general husbandry of the land.

The licensor reserves the right to take any bush fire prevention measures it considers necessary at the expense of the licensee and without compensation to the licensee.

The licensee shall at its own expense take all necessary steps to undertake weed control over the entire licensed area including those areas fenced for environmental conservation purposes.

Re: List of Persons Authorised to enter the Land

The licensee will provide to the licensor a list of persons authorised to enter the premises.

Item 24: Address for Service of Notices:

Commonwealth:

Address: Commonwealth of Australia
C/- Defence Portfolio Manager
KFPW Pty Limited

Level 16
John Hunter Building
9 Hunter Street
Sydney NSW 2000

GPO Box 4027
Sydney NSW 2001

Telephone No: 02 9224 8008

Facsimile No: 02 9224 8055

Contact Person: Ms Senta Vonck

Licensee:

Address: [redacted]

Telephone No:

Facsimile No:

Contact Person:

EXECUTED as a Deed.

SIGNED for and on behalf of the **Commonwealth of Australia** by a delegate of the Minister for Finance and Administration:

[redacted]
Signature of Witness

[redacted]
Name of Witness

Date: 14/6/02

[redacted]
(Signature)

[redacted]
(Name)

Director Property Services
(Position)

SIGNATURE BLOCK FOR INDIVIDUALS

SIGNED SEALED AND DELIVERED by

[redacted]

[redacted]
Signature of Witness

[redacted]
Name of Witness

[redacted]
(Signature)

[redacted]
(Name)

(Position)

Appendix 4 - ABC News Article

‘Nine people killed, more injured in blast at Solar Industries explosives factory in India’

Regarding the fatal 2023 explosion on Solar Mining Explosives site.

Nine people killed, more injured in blast at Solar Industries explosives factory in India

Disasters, Accidents and Emergency Incidents

Mon 18 Dec 2023 at 8:25am



Concerned villagers gathered outside the factory in India's Nagpur following the explosion. *(Reuters)*

At least nine workers have been killed and several injured in a blast at an explosives factory in India.

The blast occurred around 8.30am on Sunday local time at a factory in Nagpur, a central district in Maharashtra state, a local police officer told Reuters over the phone.

Key points:

- Police are still investigating the cause of the explosion

The factory, run by Solar Industries India, manufactures industrial and military explosives, as well as propellants and warheads for India's defence sector.

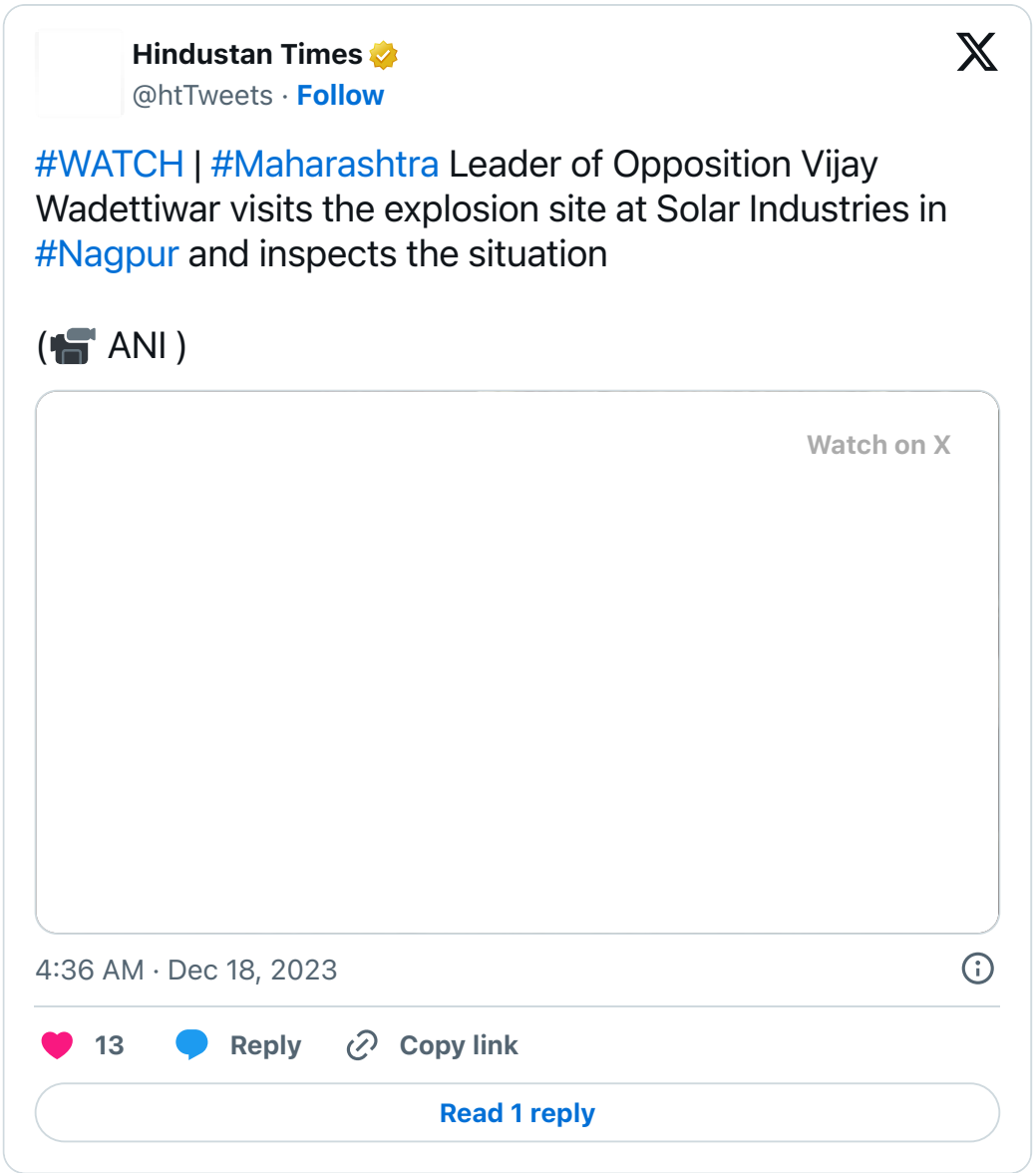
The injured were moved to nearby hospitals, the police officer said, adding the number of casualties could increase.

The officer was part of the team which went to the site of the explosion.

in the factory's packing department

- The company has not commented on the blast
- It's the latest incident in a long history of industrial disasters in India

Concerned villagers gathered outside the factory after the explosion to demand information on the injured workers.



"It is very unfortunate that nine people including six women died in the explosion at Solar Industries in Nagpur," the state's deputy chief minister Devendra Fadnavis said on X, formerly Twitter.

The police are still investigating the cause of the blast, which occurred in the factory's packing area. The state government will provide $8,955 each to the families of those who died in the accident.

Calls to a contact number on the company website were not answered, and email sent to the company did not receive an

immediate response.

Industrial disasters are common in India, with experts blaming poor planning and lax enforcement of safety rules.

Last year, 11 people were killed in eastern Bihar state after an explosion at a house where firecrackers were being manufactured illegally.

And in 2021, 19 people died in a blast at a firecracker factory in southern Tamil Nadu state.

Reuters/AFP

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Posted Mon 18 Dec 2023 at 8:25am

Appendix 5 - ABC News Article

‘EPA investigates licensing requirements for Solar Mining Services' explosives plant at Bogan Gate, NSW’

Regarding the active NSW EPA investigation into illegal operations at 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate.

EPA investigates licensing requirements for Solar Mining Services' explosives plant at Bogan Gate, NSW



By Micaela Hambrett ABC Central West Mining Environmental Issues

Thu 18 Jan 2024 at 1:06pm



SMS' Bogan Gate plant is the global company's first entry to the Australian market. *(ABC Central West: Micaela Hambrett)*

The Environment Protection Agency (EPA) is investigating whether the Australian plant of a global explosives manufacturer may be operating in breach of licensing requirements amid confusion about the plant's production capacity.

Solar Mining Services (SMS) — a subsidiary of Solar Industries India —

produces ammonium nitrate emulsion (ANE), a substance that enhances the size of an explosion.

Last month, nine workers died in an explosion at Solar Industries India's factory in Nagpur, a central district in Maharashtra state.

SMS established its Australian plant at a property called the Bogan Gate Explosives Reserve in central-west NSW in 2022 and has told the ABC it is operating beneath the threshold requiring an environment protection license.

"We do not have planning approval to produce more than 1,000 tonnes [of ammonium nitrate emulsion]," SMS executive director Vetkav Ramesh said.

Key points:

- Environment Protection Agency is trying to establish the plant's production capability
- The explosives manufacturer may be operating in breach of licensing requirements in NSW
- Nine workers were killed in a blast at the company's Indian headquarters in December

> **"[We] have a letter from the EPA saying we don't need a licence for the 960t production."**

The EPA has told the ABC the threshold pertains to a factory's capacity, not output.

Initial development application documents submitted by SMS to the local council and the EPA state the plant is designed to manufacture 10,000 to 25,000 tonnes a year.

Any factory with the capacity to produce more than 1,000 tonnes of the explosive a year requires the licence, which subjects an operation to specific regulation and enforced compliance by the watchdog.

SMS' Australian plant is located in a paddock at the centre of Bogan Gate — home to about 200 people. *(ABC Central West: Micaela Hambrett)*

An EPA spokesperson confirmed it had contacted the company "on a number of occasions" regarding its legal obligations.

"If Solar Mining Systems are operating a facility with capacity to produce more than 1,000 tonnes of ANE per year, they may require an environment protection licence," the spokesperson said.

"We are still holding discussions with Solar Mining Systems about the current capacity of the plant.

"The EPA is investigating and will consider further regulatory action if needed."

Request 'out of the blue'

Mr Ramesh said the EPA's suggestion that the company requires an environment protection licence had come "out of the blue".

He said the company's local safety record was "outstanding" when it came to ammonium nitrate production.

"No major accidents have occurred in Solar [ammonium nitrate emulsion] facilities in Australia and worldwide," he said.

Villagers gather outside an explosives factory in India's Nagpur on December 17 after a fatal blast. *(Reuters)*

The December blast at Solar Industries India's headquarters in Nagpur occurred in the factory's sieving and packing area and caused a concrete roof to collapse on the employees.

The cause of the accident is under investigation.

A highly 'volatile' product

Michael Tooma is a leading health and safety lawyer with experience in ammonium nitrate regulation.

He said facilities handling and manufacturing products as hazardous the compound require tight regulatory "vetting".

"We know that ammonium nitrate is highly volatile. It even has security sensitivity," Mr Tooma said.

> **"It's known to be a terrorist's favourite bomb because it has devastating explosive capacity."**

In the wake of high-profile ammonium nitrate disasters, such as the Port of Beirut during 2020 when 2,750 tonnes of stored ammonium nitrate detonated in Lebanon's capital, the NSW government has identified the need for law reform around the product's storage and handling.

Michael Tooma says current regulation of ammonium nitrate in NSW is inadequate. *(Supplied)*

"Other jurisdictions are further ahead in providing protections to the potential for things going wrong and the impact on critical infrastructure, residential areas and industrial complexes," Mr Tooma said.

Members of the Bogan Gate community recently flagged concerns about the proximity of the Bogan Gate Explosives Reserve to houses

as well as its bushfire-prone site.

Mr Tooma said any resident living near an ammonium nitrate facility should rightly question whether there were adequate safety controls in place.

Editor's note 1/2/2024: A previous version of this article called ammonium nitrate emulsion a highly explosive compound. This has been amended to clarify it is a substance that enhances the size of an explosion.

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Posted Thu 18 Jan 2024 at 1:06pm, updated Fri 2 Feb 2024 at 3:04pm

Appendix 6 - Middelburg Observer Article, South Africa.

‘The explosive Solar report’

Regarding issues with Solar Mining wholly-owned subsidiary in South Africa, highlighting shared directorship.

News

The explosive Solar report

Solar Mining Services Pty Ltd in South Africa is linked to Solar Group India through its step down subsidiary Solar Overseas Netherlands Cooperative U.A.

May 16, 2017 Gerhard Rheeder 1 minute read



Ammonium nitrate bags fell over due to an alleged 400-tonne overload and damaged the store room with a capacity of 3000 tonnes.

According to online audit documents as at 31 March 2016, the three Solar Mining Services Pty Ltd directors held 26% indirect beneficial interests of its issued ordinary shares.

The holding company, Solar Overseas Netherlands Cooperative U.A. at the time held 74% of the company's equity.

Solar Netherlands is a subsidiary of the Indian based Solar Group from

where Solar Mining Services Middelburg, imports detonators for local distribution.

AEL Mining Services did a risk assessment on the Solar detonators and found them to be “substandard in assembly and packaging”. The AEL report subsequently led to AEL’s decision not to source detonators for mass distribution from Solar.

The report spread like wildfire in the explosives industry and a reliable sales source told the Observer that it made it very difficult to market the product and sign on new clients.

Solar Mining Services has three directors namely Desmond Pillay (South African), Suresh Menon (Indian) and Solar Group India’s Managing Director and CEO Manish Nuwal. At the time of the audit issue, the property, plant and equipment of Solar Middelburg were at R22 million, with a total share capital of R33 million, with a commitment “to several large contractual agreements”.

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Appendix 7 - Middelburg Observer Article, South Africa.

‘Explosives plant near Mall’

Regarding issues with Solar Mining wholly-owned subsidiary in South Africa, highlighting environmental non-compliance and safety issues.

News

Explosives plant near Mall

An Indian explosives company, Solar Holdings, accused of importing "substandard detonators being used on the Gupta-owned Optimum Mine, and other mines" has opened the largest satellite explosives manufacturing plant outside India near the Mall.

May 16, 2017 Gerhard Rheeder 1 minute read

Solar Mining Services, Explosives & Accessories which opened close to the Mall in December, is the largest explosives manufacturing and accessories import factory outside its holding company's Nagpur-based Indian operations.

The plant is already manufacturing explosives and will soon also manufacture detonators, which are presently being imported.

The Indian subsidiary, Solar Mining Services, Explosives & Accessories (Pty) Ltd, and its only South African Director, Mr Desmond Pillay, and Solar managers, are being accused of a number of questionable activities which has led to the “coerced resignation” of the company’s former General Manager, the resignation of its Rustenburg Sales Manager three weeks ago, and the immediate resignation of the SHEQ Manager two weeks ago.



Clear damage to the store room which employees were allegedly ordered not to report by the plant manager.

The company was issued with licences to produce and spread explosives manufactured at the plant where no Environmental Impact Assessment was carried out before construction commenced.

According to a reliable source, Mr Pillay submitted a 24G admission of guilt application, which could result in administration fines of up to R10 million.

The application requires a water licence which still has not been obtained by Solar, the source revealed. The plant is built on a wetland with a borehole on site.

Present Acting General Manager, Mr Subash Chetty, has also caused a rift between the company and SA employees by allegedly forcing his religious beliefs down on employees, which directly led to the resignation of the only local employee at Solar a fortnight ago.

Meanwhile, the Indian Solar Group has endured a lot of international

scrutiny after having been tied to the supply of detonation cord to Isis terrorists according to an independent Conflict Armament Research (CAR) investigation, commissioned by the European Union in 2016.

The CAR report also found that Solar subsidiary, Economic Explosives, supplied detonators used by Isis to manufacture improvised explosive devices. Seven Indian companies were implicated in the report.



Ammonium nitrate bags fell over due to an alleged 400-tonne overload and damaged the store room with a capacity of 3000 tonnes.

IED components are commercial goods and thus less regulated than the transfer of weapons. All components documented in the CAR report were found to have been legally exported under government-issued licences from India.

During the same time as the release of the CAR report, Solar also became the first private sector company allowed to manufacture bi-modular charge systems, a component of artillery ammunition, by the Indian Commerce Ministry. Other weapons being manufactured include warheads for rockets and missiles as well as multi-mode grenades and

large calibre projectiles.



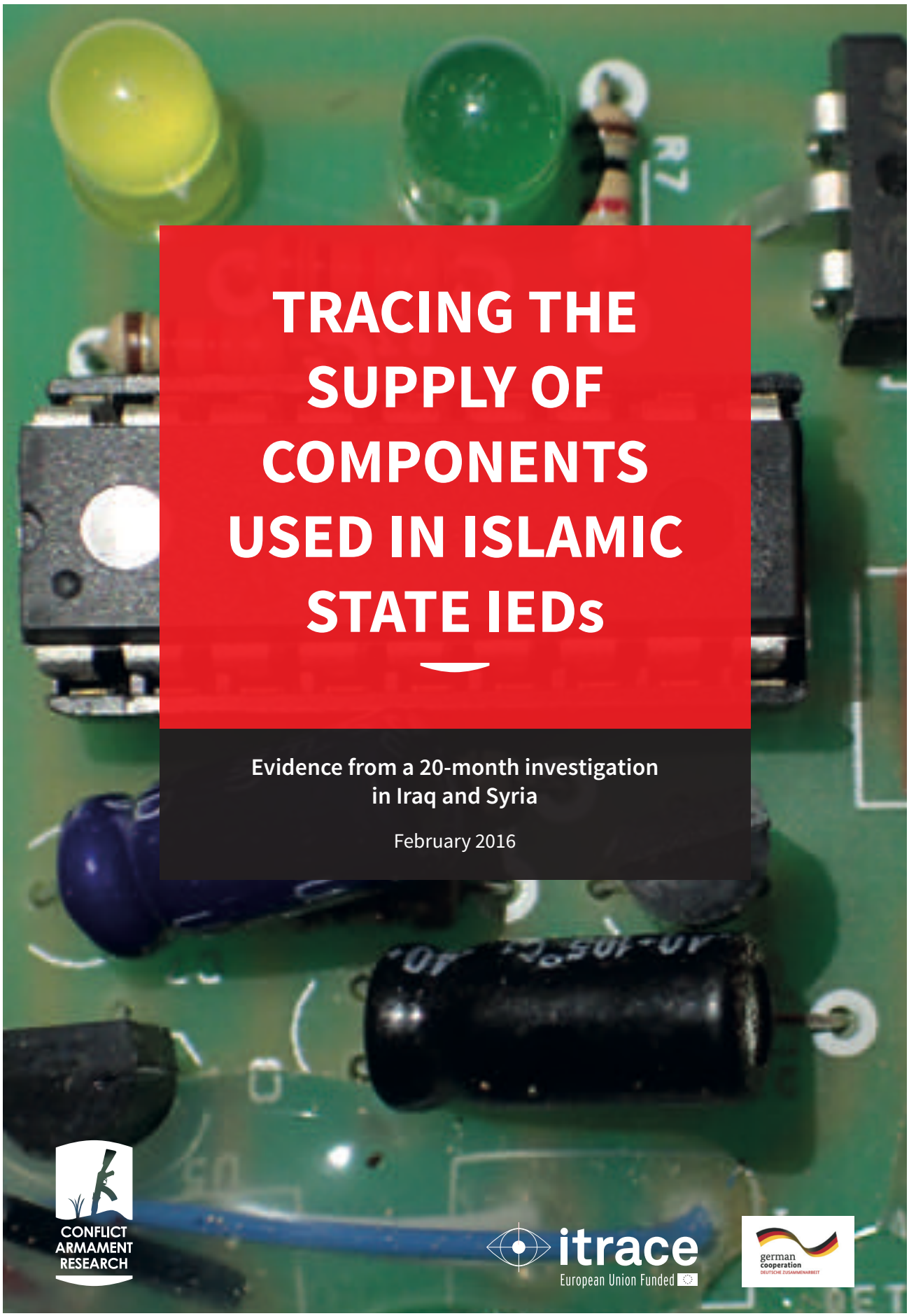
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Appendix 8 - Conflict Armament Research Partial Report for the European Union.

‘TRACING THE SUPPLY OF COMPONENTS USED IN ISLAMIC STATE IEDs’

Regarding issues with Solar Group (Solar Mining Parent Company) products entering terrorist supply chains.



TRACING THE SUPPLY OF COMPONENTS USED IN ISLAMIC STATE IEDs

Evidence from a 20-month investigation in Iraq and Syria

February 2016

CONFLICT ARMAMENT RESEARCH

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ABBREVIATIONS

CAR

Conflict Armament Research

IED

Improvised explosive device

IS

Islamic State

UAE

United Arab Emirates

YPG

Yekîneyên Parastina Gel (People's Protection Units)



MAPS AND TABLES

MAPS

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Map 3
Sites where CAR documented IED components used by IS forces, July 2014–December 2015

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Chain of custody of hydrogen peroxide and white petroleum drums used by IS forces

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Table 4
Reconstructed chronology of events related to detonating cord and detonators that were exported to Lebanon

INTRODUCTION

Since their June 2014 capture of the Iraqi city of Mosul, Islamic State (IS) forces have fought numerous battles along a shifting front line, which spans Iraqi and Syrian territory, and have engaged nearly every armed force there. Despite suffering territorial losses in 2014–15, the group continues to hold significant ground in Iraq and Syria.

Since July 2014, Conflict Armament Research (CAR), an independent organisation mandated by the European Union to investigate the supply of weapons into armed conflicts, has worked in concert with Iraqi and Syrian forces to document materiel recovered in military action against IS forces. These partners include: the Iraqi Popular Mobilization Units, the Iraqi Federal Police, the Kurdistan Region Security Council, the Peshmerga forces of the Kurdistan Regional Government, and the Military Council of the Kurdish People's Protection Units (YPG) in Syria. CAR documented the components presented in this report following their recovery during major battles around the Iraqi towns of al Rabia, Kirkuk, Mosul, and Tikrit and the Syrian town of Kobane.

IS forces have manufactured and deployed improvised explosive devices (IEDs) across the battlefield on a quasi-industrial scale. Responsible for a large number of civilian and military casualties, these improvised bombs endanger and significantly delay ground operations against IS positions, while threatening the safe return of displaced populations. Made of components that are cheap and readily available, IEDs have become IS forces' signature weapon. Their chains of supply differ from those of military weapons. Indeed, for the most part, IED components are commercial goods that are not subject to government export licences and whose transfer is far less scrutinised and regulated than the transfer of weapons.

IED COMPONENTS ARE COMMERCIAL GOODS THAT ARE NOT SUBJECT TO GOVERNMENT EXPORT LICENCES.





Improvised explosive devices captured by the Iraqi Federal Police in Tikrit, Iraq

Tikrit, April 2015

Over a period of 20 months, from July 2014 to February 2016, CAR field investigation teams in Iraq and Syria examined more than 700 components used by IS forces to manufacture IEDs, identified their provenance, and traced their chains of custody. While this report focuses on the origin of supplies captured from IS forces, there is no evidence to suggest, nor does CAR in any respect imply, any direct transfer of goods to IS forces by the countries and companies mentioned in this report. CAR's investigations map out the legal trade in component parts across the region. In all identified cases, producers have lawfully traded components with regional trade and distribution companies. These companies, in turn, have sold them to smaller commercial entities. By allowing individuals and groups affiliated with IS forces to acquire components used in IEDs, these small entities appear to be the weakest link in the chain of custody.

A focus on lawfully traded commodities is thus critically important to an understanding of how IS forces fuel their large-scale manufacture of IEDs. Many components that can be used in the manufacture of homemade explosives, such as aluminium paste and urea, are not subject to transfer controls, including export licensing. As such, their supply within the region is largely unregulated and weakly monitored. Other components, such as detonators and detonating cord, are subject to export licensing, but are also commonly used in commercial activities, such as mining and industry. Licensing alone has not been sufficient to prevent acquisition by IS forces. Ostensibly civilian components, such as mobile telephones and telecommunications cable, are also investigated in this report because their supply serves as a 'marker' for understanding the acquisition networks used by IS forces.

PERHAPS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT FINDING OF THIS REPORT CONCERNS THE SPEED WITH WHICH ISLAMIC STATE FORCES HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ACQUIRE IED COMPONENTS.

Unsurprisingly, IS acquisition networks draw most heavily on lawful commerce in the countries that border their territory. Proximity is a major reason why the goods traded by Iraqi and Turkish companies appear throughout the supply chains of components that IS forces use to manufacture IEDs. Both Iraq and Turkey have large agricultural and mining sectors, in which many such chemicals and explosive components are employed extensively. At the same time, many small-scale commercial enterprises appear to have sold, whether wittingly or unwittingly, components to parties linked to, or employed by, IS forces.

Perhaps the most significant finding of this report concerns the speed with which IS forces have been able to acquire IED components. The appearance of these components in possession of IS forces, as little as one month following their lawful supply to commercial entities in the region, speaks to a lack of monitoring by national governments and companies alike. It may also indicate a lack of awareness surrounding the potential use of these civilian-market components by terrorist and insurgent forces. At the very least, the evidence presented in this report serves to spotlight which chemical precursors and components IS forces use consistently in their construction of IEDs.

CAR continues to investigate the supply of many of the components discussed in this report and to document IED components recovered from IS forces.

KEY FINDINGS

50 COMPANIES, 20 COUNTRIES

CAR has identified 50 commercial entities and 20 countries involved in the supply chain of components used by IS forces to construct IEDs. The companies produced, sold, or received critical material, such as chemical precursors, detonating cord, detonators, cables, wires, and other electronic components (see Table 1 and Map 1).

Table 1
Companies, countries, and material identified

Producer Intermediary Declared end user

Type of material	Company	Country
Chemical precursors	Aldoro	Brazil
Chemical precursors	Gültaş Kimya	Turkey
Chemical precursors	Alba Aluminiu	Romania
Chemical precursors	3D Lojistik	Turkey
Chemical precursors	Marikem Kimyevi ve Endüstriyel Ürünler	Turkey
Chemical precursors	Sunrise Aluminium Pigments	China
Chemical precursors	Metkim	Turkey
Chemical precursors	Unknown	Russian Federation
Chemical precursors	Mert Global	Turkey
Chemical precursors	EKM Gübre	Turkey
Container/chemical precursors	Solvay Chemicals International	Belgium (headquarters)
Container/chemical precursors	Solvay Chemie	Netherlands
Container/chemical precursors	Diversey Kimya	Turkey
Container/chemical precursors	Diversey Gulf	United Arab Emirates
Container/chemical precursors	Mazen Khanati Serrieh Trading & Distributing	Iraq
Container/chemical precursors	Karwanchi Group	Iraq

Type of material	Company	Country
Container/chemical precursors	Al Safi Danone	Iraq
Containers/chemical precursors	Ehsan Chemi Company	Iran
Detonating cord	İlci	Turkey
Detonating cord	Nitromak Dyno Nobel	Turkey
Detonating cord and detonators	Maybel	Lebanon
Detonating cord	Gulf Oil Corporation	India
Detonating cord	Solar Industries	India
Detonating cord and detonators	Premier Explosives	India
Detonating cord and detonators	Rajasthan Explosives and Chemicals	India
Safety fuse	Chamundi Explosives	India
Detonators	Economic Explosives	India
Detonators	IDEAL Industrial Explosives	India
Detonators	Schaffler	Austria
Detonators	Zbrojovka Vsetin	Czech Republic
Cables and wires	Hes Kablo	Turkey
Cables and wires	Kablo Türk	Turkey
Cables and wires	Erikoğlu	Turkey
Cables and wires	Ünal Kablo	Turkey
Signal relays	NEC TOKIN	Japan
Microcontrollers	Microchip	United States
Transistors	STMicroelectronics	Switzerland
Mobile telephones	Nokia/Microsoft Mobile	Finland (headquarters)
Mobile telephones	Nokia Telecommunications	China
Mobile telephones	Nokia Solutions and Networks India	India
Mobile telephones	Nokia Vietnam	Vietnam

KEY FINDINGS

Type of material	Company	Country
Mobile telephones	Al Areen Computers	United Arab Emirates
Mobile telephones	Ghamdan General Trading & Import	Yemen
Mobile telephones	Al Watani Telecom	Iraq
Mobile telephones	Fastlink	Iraq
Mobile telephones	Derinton International	United Arab Emirates
Mobile telephones	Hawk Freight Services	United Arab Emirates
Mobile telephones	Brightpoint Middle East	United Arab Emirates
Mobile telephones	Onesto	United Arab Emirates
Mobile telephones	Midcom	United Arab Emirates



Map 1
Countries of origin of identified material



Turkey

With 13 companies involved in the supply chain, Turkey is the most important choke point for components used in the manufacture of IEDs by IS forces. These components include chemical precursors, containers, detonating cord, cables, and wires, which Turkish companies either manufactured or sold in Turkey before IS forces acquired them in Iraq and Syria.

Agents

Among the 13 Turkish companies identified, eight are intermediaries that have re-transferred components produced in Brazil, China, India, the Netherlands, Romania, and the Russian Federation. The companies serve the Turkish market and most of them do not export goods to Iraq or Syria. Evidence gathered by CAR suggests that IS forces, or intermediaries acting on their behalf, acquired the components in Turkey and subsequently transferred them to Iraq and Syria.

India

Seven Indian companies manufactured most of the detonators, detonating cord, and safety fuses documented by CAR's field investigation teams. Under Indian law, transfer of this material requires a licence. All components documented by CAR were legally exported under government-issued licences from India to entities in Lebanon and Turkey.

Japan, Switzerland, and the United States

IS forces consistently employed the same electronic components in the construction of one type of remote-controlled IED used in Iraq. Companies headquartered in Japan, Switzerland, and the United States manufactured the microcontrollers, signal relays, and transistors used in the devices.

IN SOME INSTANCES, THE CHAIN OF CUSTODY FROM THE ACQUISITION BY THE CLIENT TO THE USE BY IS FORCES COVERED A VERY SHORT TIME PERIOD (1–6 MONTHS).

EVIDENCE GATHERED BY CAR FIELD INVESTIGATION TEAMS AND DOCUMENTS OBTAINED BY CAR THROUGH FORMAL TRACE REQUESTS INDICATE THAT ISLAMIC STATE FORCES ACQUIRED MANY COMPONENTS RAPIDLY FOLLOWING THEIR LAWFUL SUPPLY TO DISTRIBUTORS AND END USERS.

Mobile telephones

IS forces in Iraq use a Model 105 Type RM-908 Nokia mobile telephone in the manufacture of a specific type of remote-controlled IED. Of ten such telephones captured from IS forces and documented by CAR, eight had been supplied to intermediaries in the United Arab Emirates (where CAR investigations are ongoing) and two had been sent to distributors in the city of Erbil, in Iraqi Kurdistan.

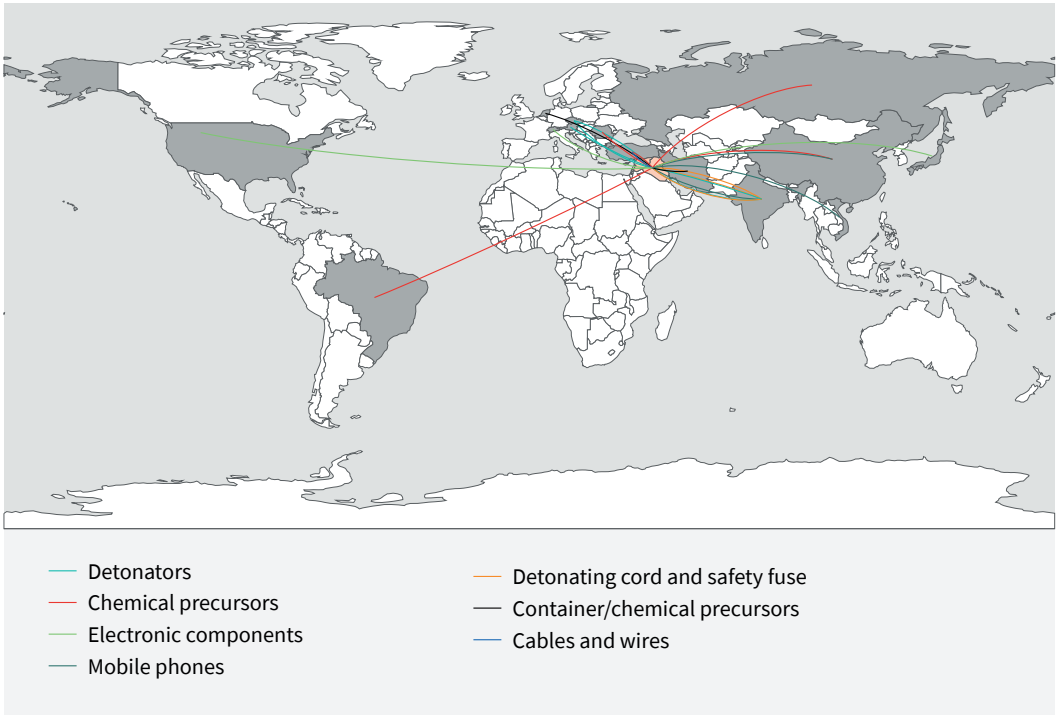
Short chain of custody

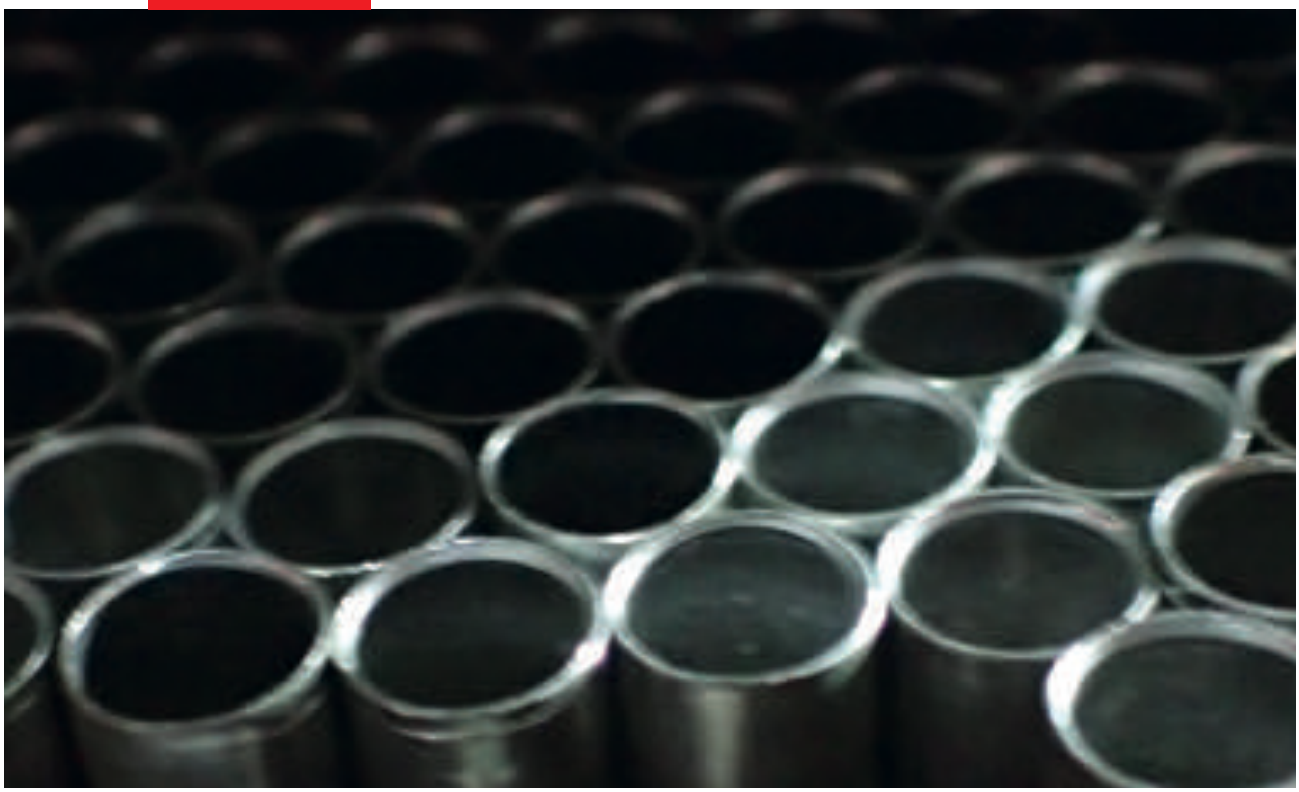
Evidence gathered by CAR field investigation teams and documents obtained by CAR through formal trace requests indicate that IS forces acquired many components rapidly following their lawful supply to distributors and end users (see Table 2 and Map 2). In some instances, the chain of custody from the acquisition by the client to the use by IS forces covered a very short time period (1–6 months).

Table 2
Recovered items with a short chain of custody

Company	Product	Date of legal transfer or acquisition	Use by IS forces	Chain of custody (duration)
Marikem	Aluminium paste	10 October 2014	March–April 2015	5–6 months
Metkim	Aluminium paste	10 October 2014	March–April 2015	5–6 months
Microsoft Mobile	Nokia 105 RM-908	May–November 2014	Early December 2014	1–7 months
Gültaş Kimya	Aluminium paste	August 2014	March–April 2015	7–8 months
İlci	Detonating cord	27 February 2014	September 2014–January 2015	7–11 months
EKM Gübre	Urea	2014	September 2014–January 2015	1–12 months
Al Safi Danone and Karwanchi Group	Hydrogen peroxide	March–September 2014	March–April 2015	5–12 months
Mert Global	Ammonium nitrate	2014	March–April 2015	3–16 months

Map 2
Movement of identified items, 2014–15

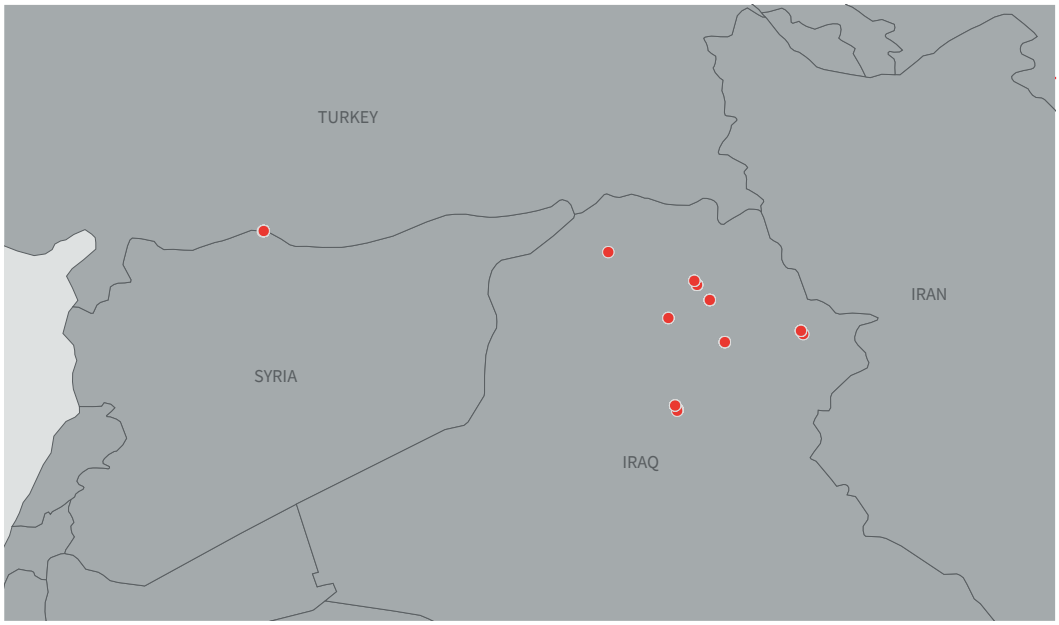




DOCUMENTATION

This section provides information regarding IED components that were captured from IS forces and subsequently documented by CAR field investigation teams in Iraq and Syria.

Map 3
Sites where CAR documented IED components used by IS forces, July 2014–December 2015





CHEMICAL PRECURSORS

Aluminium paste

Aluminium mixed with fertilizer is one of the most common forms of homemade explosive used by IS forces in Iraq and Syria.

During the second battle of Tikrit (2 March–17 April 2015), the Iraqi Jund al-Imam brigade captured a warehouse (GPS: 34.5877149794, 43.6891239882) in which IS forces had mixed aluminium paste with ammonium nitrate in the manufacture of explosives. A CAR field investigation team documented the warehouse's contents on 29 April 2015.

The labels affixed to several drums of aluminium paste found at the location indicated production in August and October 2014 by three different manufacturers: Aldoro, Brazil; Alba Aluminiu, Romania; and Sunrise Aluminium Pigments, China. The three companies sold the aluminium paste to three Turkish companies based in Istanbul: Gültaş Kimya, Marikem Kimyevi ve Endüstriyel Ürünler (hereafter 'Marikem'), and Metkim.



A drum of aluminium paste produced in Brazil and shipped to Turkey in 2014

Tikrit, Iraq, April 2015



A drum of aluminium paste produced in Romania and shipped to Turkey in 2014

Tikrit, Iraq, April 2015



A drum of aluminium paste produced in China and shipped to Turkey in 2014

Tikrit, Iraq, April 2015

CAR's requests for information from the three companies yielded the following responses and details:

- On 15 May 2015, CAR sent a formal request for information to Gültaş Kimya. On 18 May 2015, a Gültaş Kimya representative telephoned CAR and stated that Gültaş Kimya did not export any products and sold only to Turkish companies. Further, on 31 October 2015, Gültaş Kimya wrote to CAR stating that:
  - » It does not authorise any client trading company to resell or export its imported aluminium paste, whether in whole or in part;
  - » the company does not control any post-sale re-transfer of its products by clients;
  - » it has not exported any material of the type subject to CAR's trace request to Syria or Iraq; and
  - » the company is unaware of any legislation that might bind it to enter into an end-user agreement with its clients, which might

prohibit them from forwarding the material concerned to any third party, whether directly or indirectly (see Annexe A).

- Documents sent by Alba Aluminiu to CAR on 11 June 2015 indicate that, on 10 October 2014, the company dispatched 792 metal drums of aluminium paste by road from Zlatna, Romania, to Çayırova, Turkey (see Annexe B). A Turkish company, 3D Lojistik, acted as a consignee for the buyer, Marikem. On its website, Marikem indicates that its products are stored at 3D Lojistik's warehouse. In an email sent to CAR on 3 November 2015, Marikem states that it does not export to Syria or Iraq and, beyond Turkish domestic sales, exports only to Azerbaijan. As of the publication of this report, 3D Lojistik had not responded to CAR's request for information.
- In a message sent on 21 September 2015 in response to a CAR request for information, Metkim states that it was unable to determine to which client it had sold items in the lot documented by CAR (see Annexe C). The message also asserts that Metkim does not export its products and that its sales are destined exclusively to the Turkish market. In an email to CAR dated 23 October 2015, Metkim confirms that the lot number of the item indicates manufacture on 10 October 2014.

At this stage, CAR is unable to document the full chain of custody of the drums of aluminium paste following their resale by Gültaş Kimya, Marikem, and Metkim.

Fertilizers

IS forces operating in Iraq and Syria almost exclusively use homemade explosives made from fertilizers, such as ammonium nitrate and urea, mixed with other chemical precursors.

During the second battle of Tikrit, the Iraqi Jund al-Imam brigade captured a warehouse (GPS: 34.5877149794, 43.6891239882) in which IS forces had mixed ammonium nitrate produced in Turkey in 2014 by Mert Global, Antakya, in the manufacture of explosives. A CAR field investigation team documented the warehouse's contents on 29 April 2015.

CAR sent requests for information to Mert Global on 8 October and 4 November 2015, but did not receive a written response from the company.

During the siege of Kobane (September 2014–January 2015), IS forces used urea that was distributed by the Turkish company EKM Gübre, and produced in the Russian Federation in 2014, to make improvised explosives for use against Kurdish YPG forces. A CAR field investigation team documented the product in Kobane on 25 February 2015 (GPS: 36.8897040188, 38.3421630319).

CAR was unable to locate the company. Repeated attempts to reach the company through the phone number printed on the bag yielded no results.



A bag of ammonium nitrate produced in Turkey in 2014

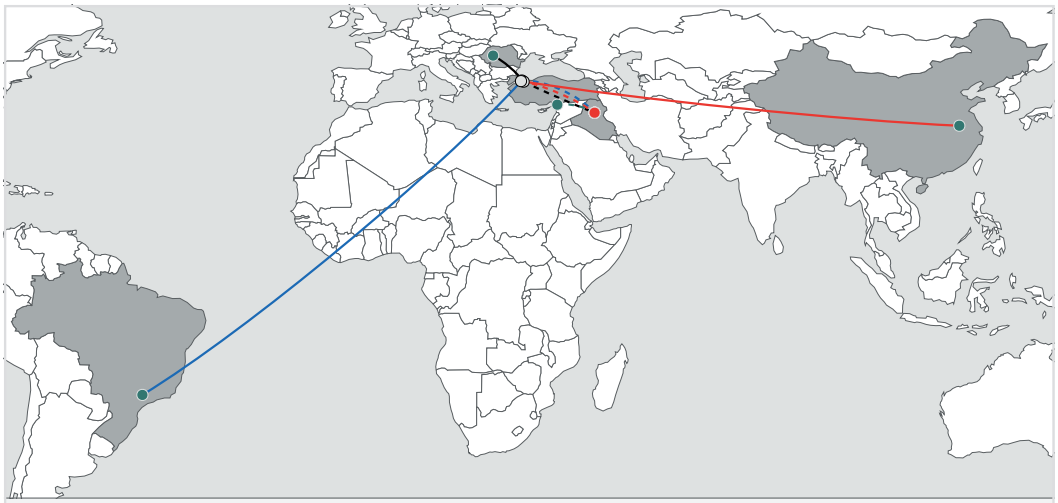
Tikrit, Iraq, April 2015



A bag of prilled urea imported from the Russian Federation to Turkey in 2014

Kobane, Syria, February 2015

Map 4
Chains of custody of aluminium paste and ammonium nitrate used by IS forces



- Source
- Intermediary
- Location captured
- Location documented

- China-Turkey-Iraq
- Turkey-Iraq
- Brazil-Turkey-Iraq
- Romania-Turkey-Iraq

Map 5
Chain of custody of urea used by IS forces in Syria



- Source
- Intermediary
- Location captured
- Location documented

- Russia-Syria

Exact location in Russia unknown.

CONTAINERS

During the second battle of Tikrit, Iraqi Federal Police units recovered a hydrogen peroxide drum filled with homemade explosive. CAR documented the item in Tikrit on 29 April 2015. The hydrogen peroxide (INTEROX® AG Spray 35) had been produced in the Netherlands in 2014 before being imported to Turkey. The exact nature of the homemade explosives is unknown, but hydrogen peroxide is often used as a chemical precursor in improvised explosives. Among its civilian applications, hydrogen peroxide solution is used in aseptic packaging processes to sterilize cartons and plastic packaging materials.

The Government of the Netherlands has confirmed that the Belgian company Solvay Chemicals International, Brussels, consigned the hydrogen peroxide solution to the Turkish company Diversey Kimya, Gebze.[1] On 20 February 2014, the Dutch subsidiary of Solvay Chemicals, Solvay Chemie B.V., Herten, sent 180 65 kg drums of INTEROX® AG Spray 35 (Divosan HS 35 VT68), by road to Antwerp, Belgium, where they were loaded onto the container ship MSC *Sarah*. The ship left Antwerp on 23 February 2015.

According to the Dutch authorities, Diversey Kimya is a regular client of Solvay Chemicals International and receives large quantities of hydrogen peroxide produced by Solvay Chemie B.V.

The Sealed Air Corporation Group provided further information on behalf of its affiliate, Diversey Kimya, regarding the chain of custody of the hydrogen peroxide drums (see Table 3 and Annexe D).[2] The company confirmed that the drum that CAR documented in Tikrit was part of a batch transferred by Diversey Kimya to Mazen Khanati Serrieh Trading & Distributing (hereafter 'Serrieh Trading'), a distributor based in Erbil, Iraq. From there, the distributor transferred drums from the batch to two end users in Iraq: Al Safi Danone, also based in Erbil, and the Karwanchi Group, based in Kirkuk. The two Iraqi end users did not reply to CAR's requests for information.

Table 3
Known chain of custody of the INTEROX® AG Spray 35 drums, one of which CAR documented in Tikrit in April 2015

Date	Activity
31 January 2014	Diversey Kimya agrees to sell 180 drums of hydrogen peroxide to Diversey Gulf.
20 February 2014	Solvay Chemie B.V. in the Netherlands sends 180 drums to Antwerp, Belgium, by road.
23 February 2014	180 drums are shipped from Antwerp to Diversey Kimya in Istanbul, Turkey.
19 March 2014	180 drums are resold by Diversey Gulf to Serrieh Trading (Erbil, Iraq), shipped by road from Diversey Kimya, Turkey.
26 March 2014	65 drums are resold by Serrieh Trading to the Karwanchi Group, Kirkuk, Iraq.
7 May 2014	20 drums are resold by Serrieh Trading to Al Safi Danone, Erbil.
21 May 2014	70 drums are resold by Serrieh Trading to the Karwanchi Group, Kirkuk.
13 August 2014	20 drums are resold by Serrieh Trading to the Karwanchi Group, Kirkuk.
8 September 2014	5 drums are resold by Serrieh Trading to the Karwanchi Group, Kirkuk.
2 March–17 April 2015	1 drum is used in the manufacture of IEDs by IS forces in Tikrit, Iraq.
29 April 2015	CAR documents 1 drum in Tikrit.



This hydrogen peroxide drum was produced in the Netherlands, shipped to Turkey, and then transported to Iraq in 2014. In this photo the drum was filled with homemade explosives

Tikrit, Iraq, April 2015



A detail of the hydrogen peroxide drum filled with homemade explosives. Tikrit, Iraq, April 2015

Tikrit, Iraq, April 2015

On 19 January 2015 in Makhmour, Iraq, and again near the Mosul Dam on 14 February 2015, CAR documented white petroleum drums, manufactured in Iran for export by the Ehsan Chemi Company, and filled with homemade explosives. The exact nature of the homemade explosives is unknown at this stage, but petroleum jelly is often used as a chemical precursor in improvised explosives.

Peshmerga forces recovered the barrels in January and February 2015 in Khazr (GPS: 36.306272, 43.537445) and near the Mosul Dam (GPS: 36.6202160250, 42.7944870014). As no dates of manufacture or batch numbers are visible, CAR is unable to trace the chain of custody of these items. CAR sent a request for information to the Ehsan Chemi Company on 5 December 2015, but at the time of this report's publication, no response had been received.



White petroleum drums, manufactured in Iran

Near the Mosul Dam, Iraq, February 2015



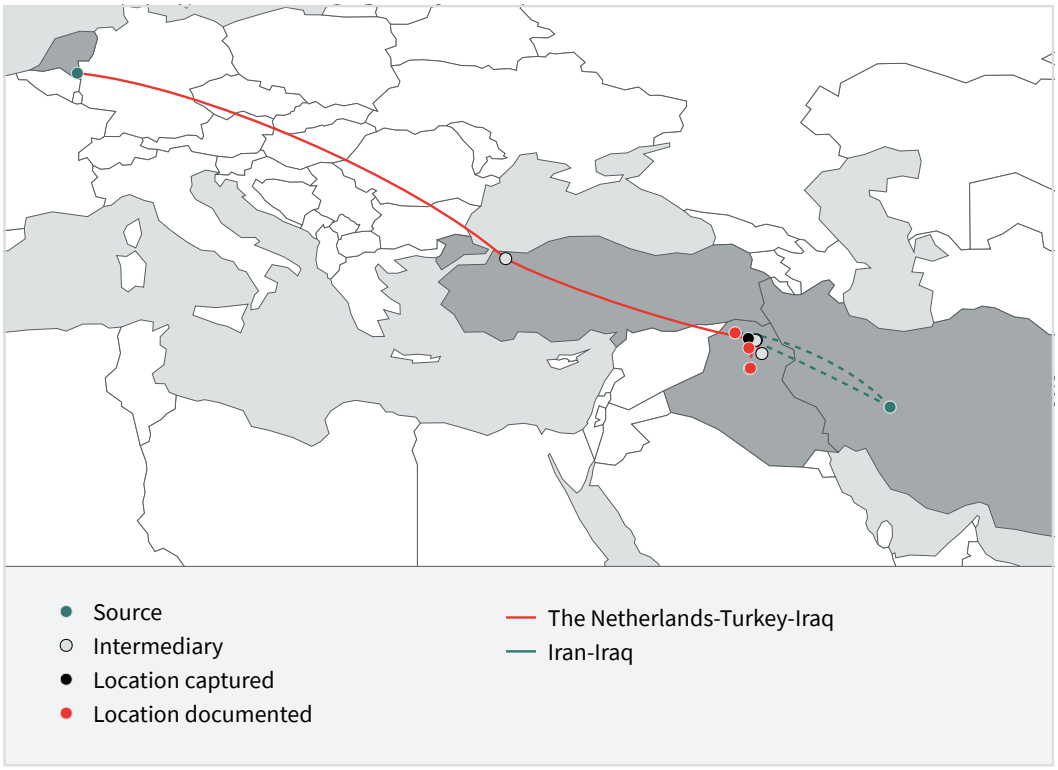
A detail of a white petroleum drum, manufactured in Iran

Makhmour, Iraq, January 2015

DOCUMENTATION

Map 6

Chains of custody of hydrogen peroxide and white petroleum drums used by IS forces.





DETONATING CORD AND SAFETY FUSE

IS forces regularly employ detonating cord in their IEDs to complete the explosive train between the detonator and the main explosive charge. The examples documented by CAR are commercial variants, which are used in both the mining and industrial sectors.

During the siege of Kobane, Kurdish YPG forces captured detonating cord from IS forces in Kobane, Syria (GPS: 36.892334, 38.352662). A CAR field investigation team documented the components in Kobane on 24 February 2015.

Solar Industries, India, produced one spool of detonating cord on 27 February 2014 and exported it to the Turkish company İlci, Ankara. Two months earlier, on 31 December 2012, the Gulf Oil Corporation, India, had produced a spool and exported it to the Turkish company Nitromak Dyno Nobel, Ankara. Solar Industries, India, produced a further two spools, on 21 and 23 October 2012, and exported them (on an unspecified date) to the Lebanese company Maybel, headquartered in Beirut.

CAR also documented the use of Solar Industries detonating cord by IS forces on the Makhmour front line in Iraq at the end of 2014. There is no evidence to indicate to which regional entity Solar Industries supplied the cord.



A spool of detonating cord produced in India and exported to Turkey in 2014

Kobane, Syria, February 2015



A spool of detonating cord produced in India and exported to Turkey in 2012 or 2013

Kobane, Syria, February 2015



A spool of detonating cord produced in India in 2012 and exported to Lebanon

Kobane, Syria, February 2015



A spool of detonating cord produced in India in 2012 and exported to Lebanon

Kobane, Syria, February 2015

A representative of İlci explained to CAR that the company only sold its products to licensed companies in Turkey and the Balkans, and that the Turkish government prohibited the export of detonating cord to Iraq and Syria.[3]

A representative of Nitromak Dyno Nobel told CAR that the company was forbidden by Turkish law to export such items, that it sold detonating cord to licensed Turkish companies only, and that it did not control the re-transfer of its products.[4]

The Turkish authorities failed to respond to repeated requests for information, leaving CAR unable to document the chain of custody of the various brands of detonating cord from Ankara, Turkey, to Kobane, Syria.

According to documents provided by Lebanon to CAR on 15 January 2016, Maybel received a licence to import the spools of detonating cord as well as detonators (see below) on 13 May 2014. These spools were part of a batch of six million metres of cord that received an import authorisation from the Lebanese Ministry of Economy and Trade on 3 February 2015 (see Table 4 and Annexe E).

Table 4
Reconstructed chronology of events related to detonating cord and detonators that were exported to Lebanon

Date	Activity
10 September 2008	An import licence for explosives is delivered to Maybel.
21 and 23 October 2012	In India, Solar Industries produces detonating cord for Maybel.
25 December 2012	In India, Economic Explosives produces detonators for Maybel.
21 February 2014	Maybel requests a renewal of its import licence for explosives.
13 May 2014	The import licence renewal is granted to Maybel.
24 June 2014	The Lebanese Ministry of Defence issues a letter based on which the Ministry of Economy grants an import authorisation to Maybel.
31 July 2014	The Lebanese Ministry of Interior issues a letter based on which the Ministry of Economy grants an import authorisation to Maybel.
6 September 2014	The Lebanese Ministry of Defence sends a letter to Maybel to ensure that the company meets technical conditions.
3 February 2015	Maybel receives approval to import the goods from the Lebanese Ministry of Economy.
24 February 2015	CAR documents the items in Kobane, Syria.
1 June 2015	Maybel sends a request to import the goods to the Lebanese Ministry of Interior.
22 June 2015	Maybel sends a request to import the goods to the Lebanese Ministry of Defence.
6 August 2015	Maybel receives the approval to import the goods from the Ministry of Defence.
10 September 2015	Maybel receives the approval to import the goods from the Ministry of Interior.

CAR has noticed some discrepancies in the dates and numbers mentioned in the documents provided by the Lebanese authorities and is investigating the matter.[8]

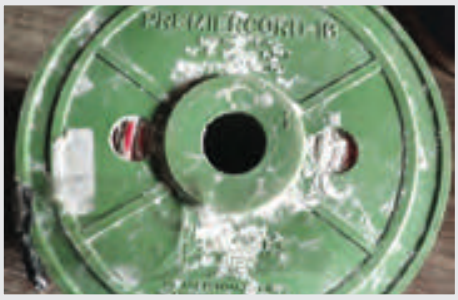
On 24 February 2015, a CAR field investigation team in Kobane documented a spool of detonating cord produced by Premier Explosives Ltd., India (see image 1). Premier Explosives has confirmed that it sold 6 million metres of detonating cord to the Mechanical Construction Factory, Syria, in 2009 and 2010 (see Annexe F).[9]

In December 2011, the European Union placed the Mechanical Construction Factory on a sanctions list for acting as a front company for the acquisition of sensitive equipment by the Syrian government's Scientific Studies and Research Center.[10]

In the absence of serial, batch, and lot numbers, and of dates of manufacture, CAR is unable to assess whether the detonating cord documented in Kobane originated in Syrian government stockpiles.

CAR field investigators also documented Premier Explosives detonating cord among items that Kurdistan Regional Government security forces seized from an IS cell in early December 2014 in Erbil (see image 2). Premier Explosives has told CAR that it never supplied explosive components to Iraq.[11]

A CAR field investigation team in Kobane documented a spool of detonating cord produced by Rajasthan Explosives and Chemicals, India (see image 3). In the absence of serial, batch, and lot numbers, and of a manufacturing date, CAR is unable to further document the chain of custody of this item. Rajasthan Explosives and Chemicals has not responded to a request for information.[12]



1. A spool of detonating cord produced in India.

Kobane, Syria, February 2015



3. A spool of detonating cord produced in India.

Kobane, Syria, February 2015





2. Detonating cord produced in India.

Erbil, Iraq, January 2015

The CAR team in Kobane also documented a spool of safety fuse produced by the Indian company Chamundi Explosives. In the absence of serial, batch, and lot numbers, and of a manufacturing date, CAR is unable to document the item's full chain of custody. Chamundi Explosives has stated that the company had not supplied any product to either Iraq or Syria.[13] CAR awaits further correspondence from Chamundi Explosives.

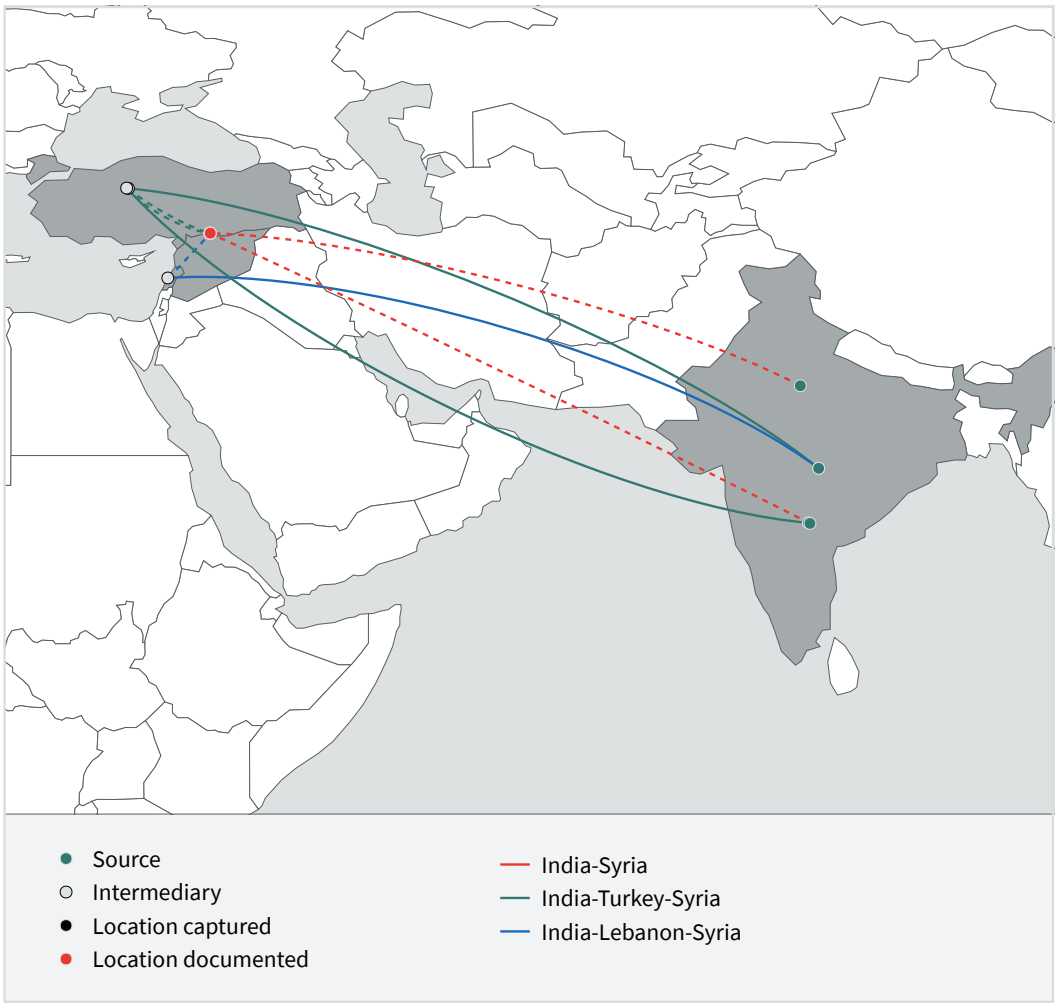


A spool of safety fuse produced in India

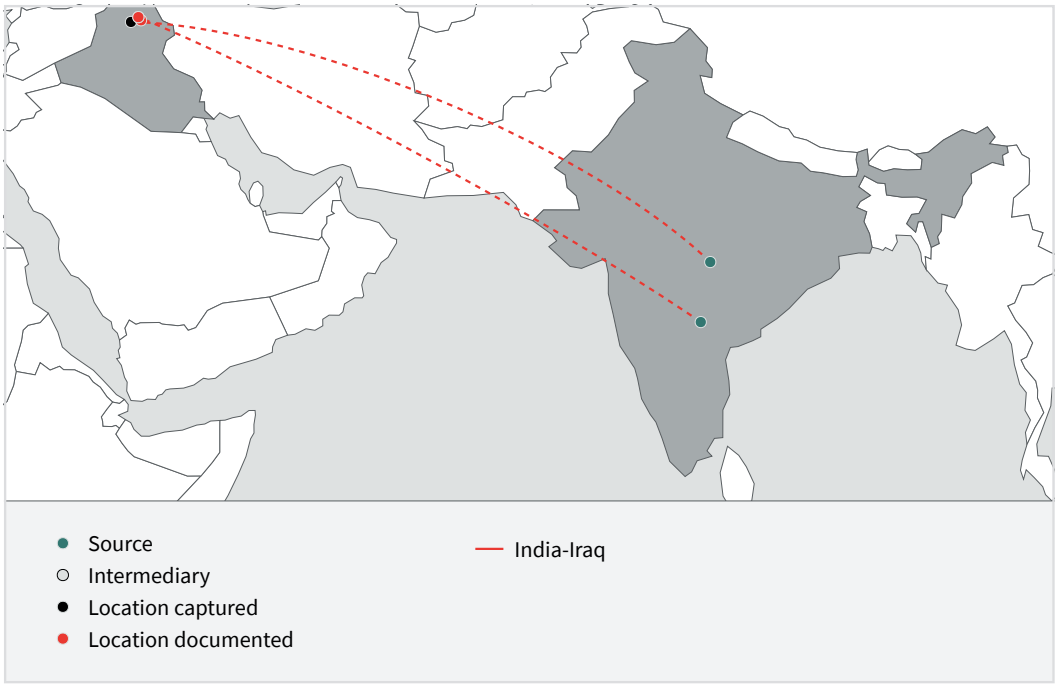
Kobane, Syria, February 2015

Map 7

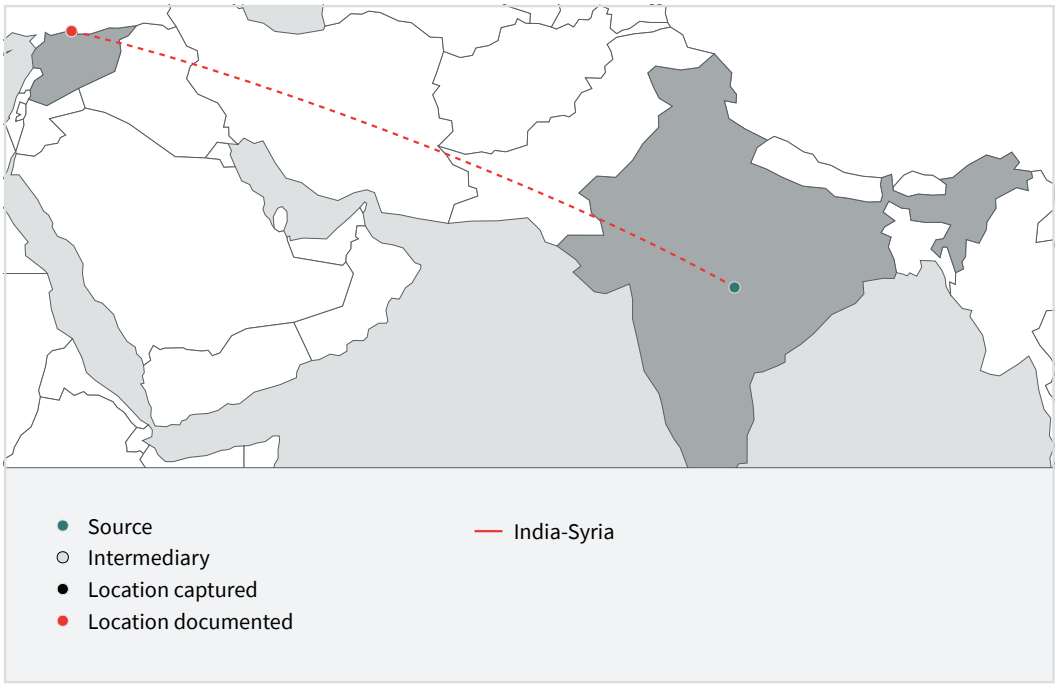
Chains of custody of detonating cord used by IS forces in Syria



Map 8
Chains of custody of detonating cord used by IS forces in Iraq



Map 9
Chain of custody of safety fuse used by IS forces in Syria



DETONATORS

IS forces employ a combination of electric and non-electric (plain) detonators during the fabrication of their IEDs, fuses, and improvised weapon systems (such as rockets, rocket-assisted mortars, and other improvised projected weapons). As with detonating cord, the examples documented by CAR are commercial variants used in both the mining and industrial sectors.

During the siege of Kobane, Kurdish YPG forces captured plain detonators from IS forces (GPS: 36.892334, 38.352662). A CAR field investigation team documented the items in Kobane on 24 February 2015.

The Indian company Economic Explosives manufactured the detonators on 25 December 2012 and exported them (on an unspecified date) to the Lebanese company Maybel, Beirut.

According to documents provided by Lebanon to CAR on 15 January 2016, Maybel received a licence to import the detonators as well as detonating cord (see above) on 13 May 2014. These detonators were part of a batch of three million detonators[14] for which an import authorisation from the Lebanese Ministry of Economy and Trade was received on 3 February 2015 (see Table 4 and Annexe E).

YPG forces also captured electric detonators produced by Economic Explosives, but in the absence of serial, batch, and lot numbers, and of a manufacturing date, CAR is currently unable to trace this item's chain of custody. Economic Explosives did not reply to a request for information.[15]



A box of plain detonators produced in India in 2012 and exported to Lebanon

Kobane, Syria, February 2015



Electric detonators produced in India

Kobane, Syria, February 2015

ISLAMIC STATE FORCES EMPLOY A COMBINATION OF ELECTRIC AND NON-ELECTRIC DETONATORS DURING THE FABRICATION OF THEIR IEDS, FUSES, AND IMPROVISED WEAPON SYSTEMS.

At the same location, CAR field investigators observed plain and electric detonators produced by Rajasthan Explosives and Chemicals, India; plain detonators produced by Premier Explosives, India; and electric detonators produced by IDEAL Industrial Explosives, India. Again, in the absence of serial, batch, and lot numbers, and of manufacturing dates, CAR is unable to document the full chain of custody of these items. Neither Rajasthan Explosives and Chemicals nor IDEAL Industrial Explosives has responded to requests for information.[16]



Plain detonators produced in India

Kobane, Syria, February 2015



Electric detonators produced in India

Kobane, Syria, February 2015



Plain detonators produced in India

Kobane, Syria, February 2015



Electric detonators produced in India

Kobane, Syria, February 2015

Appendix 9 - Conflict Armament Research Partial Report for the European Union.

PETITION FOR COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND INFORMATION - Proposed Bogan Gate Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion Plant.

31st January, 2021

To: Parkes Shire Council
2 Cecile Street
Parkes NSW 2870

Attention:
Parkes Shire Mayor Ken Keith
Parkes Shire Managing Director Kent Boyd

PETITION FOR COMMUNITY CONSULTATION AND INFORMATION - Proposed Bogan Gate Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion Plant

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Residents of the Bogan Gate district and surrounds are submitting a formal request for further information and community consultation regarding the Parkes Shire Council's pending development application ModDA2021/0022, and the development application DA2020/0073.

Those represented below request that the Bogan Gate community be provided with further information and consultation regarding the Bogan Gate Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion Plant at the site of the Bogan Gate Explosives Reserve (BGER), as initiated by Solar Mining Services.

The plant outlined in the project scope in ModDA2021/0022 is for a new explosives manufacturing plant with capacity for the annual production of 10,000 to 25,000 tonnes of Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion (ANE), which is to be registered as a NSW Major Hazard Facility.

The community requests comprehensive information on the planned development and associated activities. We also request information on the impacts of the proposed plant on community safety, impacts on shared resources including water supply and roads, along with additional information on environmental risks, safety management and bushfire management relating to the proposal.

Bogan Gate looks forward to receiving information on the upcoming consultation and provision of further information on the application.

Name	Details
Katrina Thiel	Bogan Gate, NSW, 2876
Shelley Nutley	Bogan Gate Community Consultative Committee Secretary, Bogan Gate, NSW, 2876
Kellie Thomas	Bogan Gate, NSW, 2876
Pete Thomas	Bogan Gate, NSW, 2876

Paul Wilson	Bogan Gate, NSW, 2876
Andrew Britt	Bogan Gate, NSW, 2876
Andrew Gartner	Bogan Gate, NSW, 2876
Fiona Gartner	Bogan Gate, NSW, 2876
Mark Findlay	Bogan Gate, NSW, 2876
Tegan Nock	Bogan Gate Community Member
Monique Nock	[redacted] Bogan Gate, NSW, 2876
Rory Nock	[redacted] Bogan Gate, NSW, 2876
Kristine Nock	[redacted] Bogan Gate, NSW, 2876
Lloyd Nock	[redacted] Bogan Gate, NSW, 2876
David Nock	Bogan Gate Community Member
Tarnia Brown	Bogan Gate Resident
Craig Smith	Bogan Gate Resident
Bobbie Smith	Bogan Gate Resident
Lyn Dickson	Bogan Gate Resident
Yvonne Howarth	[redacted] Bogan Gate, 2876
Christine Webb	Bogan Gate Resident
Bobbie-Jo Bond	Bogan Gate, NSW, 2876
Joanne M Swift	Bogan Gate, NSW, 2876

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to formally lodge my objection to **Planning Proposal No: PP2024/0002**, submitted by Solar Mining Services Pty Ltd, which seeks to amend the zoning of land at **3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate NSW 2876** to facilitate the establishment of an explosives manufacturing facility. This proposal is inconsistent with the objectives of the **RU1 Primary Production** zone under the **Parkes Local Environmental Plan 2012 (LEP)** and poses significant risks to the community, the environment, and the rural character of the area.

Objection to the Proposed Zoning Amendment and Development.

There are numerous established industrial areas within the region, such as the Parkes Special Activation Precinct, that are specifically designed to accommodate developments like the proposed ammonium nitrate emulsion (ANE) facility. These areas are equipped with the necessary infrastructure, separation distances, and access to essential services to safely manage industrial activities involving hazardous materials. Given the availability of these more suitable locations, it is unclear why the proposed facility must be located at the Henry Parkes way location, which presents significant safety, environmental, and logistical challenges. Pursuing rezoning for this specific site appears unnecessary and inconsistent with sound planning principles. The current proposal does not align with the Parkes Shire Council Strategic plans.

The assumption of continuing existing use is incorrect. Historically, the Commonwealth did not manufacture on the site. In 2002 I took over the site under “Agistment Licence”, where the Commonwealth acknowledged that the use was no longer for explosives storage. My lease included the entire Former Bogan Gate Explosive Storage Facility / RAAF Base by the Commonwealth of Australia (Department of Defence), including all Buildings on site. (See Appendix for contract). This is proof that the use of the site ceased to operate as anything but a grazing property for a period exceeding 24 months. Following my lease, the next lessee was using the land for primary production of intensive livestock.

The Unsuitability of the site for the Proposed Rezoning

1. Bushfire-Prone Area
The site is located in a designated bushfire-prone area; Particularly the hill on which the current (illegal) facility is located has, over the past 60 years, suffered many fires. This poses significant risks for the storage and production of ammonium nitrate emulsion (ANE). ANE is classified as a hazardous material with the potential for catastrophic consequences in the event of an uncontrolled fire, In the event of an incident, the first responder would be the Rural Fire Service (RFS). However, the local RFS has received strict instructions not to enter the facility during an incident due to the high risk of explosions. I refer to the 2014 explosion (well documented) where miraculously no serious injuries or fatalities occurred.This lack of on-ground emergency response capability exacerbates the site's unsuitability, as it cannot rely on local services to manage fire-related incidents safely. The combination of bushfire risk, hazardous materials, and inadequate emergency response makes the site fundamentally unsafe for the proposed use.

2. Non-Compliance with AEISG Safety Guidelines
The Australian Explosives Industry Safety Group (AEISG) outlines stringent safety considerations for the storage and handling of ammonium nitrate, which the proposed site fails to meet. According to the AEISG, a comprehensive risk assessment must address issues such as fire scenarios, adequate separation distances, emergency response capabilities, and off-site facilities that could be affected within at least a 2-kilometre radius. The site's proximity to a school, houses, and key community facilities such as a pub, cemetery, community centre, and post office falls far short of the required separation and segregation standards, posing significant risks to public safety. Without meeting these rigorous standards, the proposal cannot ensure the safety of the surrounding community.

3. Contaminated Land

The Commonwealth of Australia has outlined contamination of the land with both unexploded ordinances, and white phosphorus. Please see the contract between the Commonwealth and myself, highlighting that the land contains these contaminations Excerpts of the contract is as follows:

'Unexploded Ordnances: The licensee acknowledges that he is aware that the land is unexploded ordnance ("UXO") contaminated and contaminated with white phosphorus and or its chemical residue after burning.

The Licensee must:

A. immediately notify the Commonwealth if it locates any unexploded ordnance on the Premises or the Land;
B. not interfere with or allow to be interfered with any unexploded ordnance;

and comply with the Commonwealth's reasonable directions in relation to any unexploded ordnance.

4. Unsuitability for Explosives Transportation and Infrastructure
The transportation of explosives and hazardous materials like ANE requires specialised infrastructure and highly controlled environments. However, the general environment surrounding the site including its road network and broader infrastructure—is ill-suited for such activities. Rural roads in the area are not designed to accommodate the frequent and high-risk transportation of hazardous materials, creating an ongoing safety hazard for road users. Additionally, the lack of controlled access points, monitoring systems, and safety buffers along transport routes further underscores the infeasibility of using this site for an explosives facility.

Conclusion
Rezoning the site to permit the proposed ammonium nitrate emulsion facility would result in significant and unacceptable risks to public safety, the environment, and the community. The

site's location in a bushfire-prone area, combined with the inability of the local RFS to respond to incidents due to the risk of explosions, renders it unsuitable for the proposed use. Additionally, the failure to meet AEISG safety guidelines and the challenges posed by unsuitable transportation infrastructure further highlight the inappropriateness of the site. The rezoning does not adhere with legal processes, and should be rejected to prioritise community safety, environmental sustainability, and adherence to responsible planning principles.

Request for Denial of Proposal

In light of the above, I respectfully request that Parkes Shire Council:

1. Deny the proposed zoning amendment as it is inconsistent with the objectives of RU1 Primary Production zoning under the Parkes LEP 2012.
2. Refuse the Development Application for the explosives manufacturing facility due to its unsuitability for the location, risks to the community, and non-compliance with current zoning and industry regulations.

Request for Notification

I request to be notified of the outcome of this planning proposal and any associated decisions made by the Council.

Yours sincerely,
[redacted]

Appendix 1 - Contract between Commonwealth of Australia and [redacted] for the use of 3577 Henry Parkes Way, Bogan Gate, 2876

AUSTRALIA

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

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LICENCE

THIS DEED is made the day of

BETWEEN **THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA REPRESENTED BY THE DEFENCE ESTATE ORGANISATION** ("**Commonwealth**")

AND **THE PARTY** specified in the Schedule ("**Licensee**")

RECITALS

A. The Commonwealth owns the Land.

B. The Licensee has requested the Commonwealth to grant, and the Commonwealth has agreed to grant, a licence of the Premises to the Licensee on the conditions set out in this Deed.

OPERATIONAL PROVISIONS

1. DEFINITION AND INTERPRETATION

1.1 Definitions

In this Deed:

"Authority" includes any government, statutory, public or other authority or body;

"Building" means any improvement from time to time on the Land including the Commonwealth's Fixtures;

"Claims" means all threatened or actual actions, proceedings, demands, damages, losses, claims, costs, expenses and liabilities;

"Commonwealth's Fixtures" means all fences, fixtures, fittings, plant and equipment in or on the Premises from time to time supplied by the Commonwealth including those specified in ***Item 6*** (if any);

"GST" means the tax payable on taxable supplies under GST Legislation;

"GST Legislation" means the *A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act* 1999 and any related Act imposing such tax or legislation that is enacted to validate, recapture or recoup such tax;

"Licence Fee" means the licence fee (if any) specified in ***Item 7*** (as reviewed from time to time);

"Licensee's Fixtures" includes all fixtures, fittings, plant, equipment and other articles in or on the Premises in the nature of trade or tenant's fixtures and chattels which are not Commonwealth Fixtures;

"Premises" means the premises situated on the Land specified in ***Item 2*** and includes the Commonwealth's Fixtures;

"Requirement" means any requirement, notice, order or direction received from or given by any Authority; and

"Statute" means any present or future legislation and any rule, regulation, ordinance, by-law, statutory instrument, order or notice now or thereafter made under or in replacement for such legislation.

Where not specifically defined, words and phrases used in the Reference Schedule have the meanings attributed to them in the Reference Schedule.

1.2 Interpretation

In this Deed, unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa, and the masculine gender includes the feminine or neuter gender and vice versa and words importing persons includes corporations and vice versa;

(b) headings have been inserted for guidance only and do not form part of the substance of this Deed;

(c) reference to a person includes a corporation and vice versa;

(d) no rule of construction applies to the disadvantage of a party if that party was responsible for the preparation of this Deed or any part of it;

(e) any covenant, obligation or agreement on the part of 2 or more persons will be deemed to bind them and any 2 or more of them jointly and each of them severally;

(f) a reference to a party includes that party's, successors and permitted assigns and where relevant will include that party's employees, agents, contractors, consultants, invitees, sub-licensees, licensees and concessionaires or others who may at any time be in the Premises or on the Land with the express or implied consent of the relevant party; and

(g) where the day on or by which a thing is to be done is not a business day that thing must be done on or by the next succeeding business day.

2. LICENCE

2.1 Licence

The Commonwealth grants to the Licensee for the Term, a licence to use the Premises for the Permitted Use on the terms and conditions set out in this Deed.

2.2 Personal Rights Only

The Licensee acknowledges that the rights conferred on the Licensee by virtue of this Deed are personal rights in contract only and will not create any tenancy or any estate or interest whatsoever in or over the Land.

2.3 Exclusion of Landlord and Tenant Relationship

Nothing in this Deed is intended to, nor will, confer on the Licensee any rights as tenant of the Land or create a relationship of landlord and tenant between the parties and any such implication or inference is hereby expressly negatived.

2.4 Acknowledgment by the Licensee

The Licensee:

(a) accepts the Premises in their present state of repair and condition, whether dilapidated or not; and

(b) acknowledges that the Commonwealth is not liable for, and the Licensee cannot require the Commonwealth to, undertake any works or repairs to the Premises during the Term or to seek compensation from the Commonwealth if the Licensee repairs the Premises or makes any improvements to the Premises.

3. TERM

3.1 Term

The Licence will continue for the Term unless earlier terminated pursuant to the terms of this Deed.

3.2 Monthly Holding Over

If the Commonwealth, in its discretion, permits the Licensee to continue this Licence beyond the end of the Term otherwise than pursuant to the grant of a further licence, the Licensee will do so on a monthly licence on the same terms as this Deed as at the end of the Term, except the licence so created is determinable at any time by one party giving one month's notice in writing to the other to expire on any date.

4. OPTION TO RENEW – Deleted

5. LICENCE FEE

5.1 Licence Fee

The Licensee must pay the Licence Fee during the Term to the Commonwealth without deduction, in accordance with ***Item 10***.

5.2 Licensee's Works

The Licensee must, in addition to paying the Licence Fee, carry out the works (if any) specified in ***Item 22***, at its expense, to the satisfaction of the Commonwealth and in accordance with all necessary approvals and consents from all Authorities to those works.

5.3 Market Review

(a) The Commonwealth may, in the period commencing 3 months prior to the relevant Market Review Date and ending 3 months prior to the next Market Review Date, give the Licensee a Market Review Notice.

(b) If the Licensee does not serve on the Commonwealth a Market Review Objection Notice within 14 days of service of the Market Review Notice, then the amount specified in the Market Review Notice will become the Licence Fee from the relevant Market Review Date.

(c) If the Licensee serves a Market Review Objection Notice, then the parties will seek to agree on a Valuer to determine the annual market licence fee for the Premises. If the parties cannot agree on a Valuer within 10 days of service of the Market Review Objection Notice, then the President of the Institute is to nominate a Valuer, at the request of either party.

(d) The Valuer will determine the annual market licence fee for the Premises to apply from the relevant Market Review Date and such a determination will be final and binding on the parties.

(e) Pending the Valuer's determination of the annual market licence fee, the Licensee will continue to pay the Licence Fee payable as at the relevant Market Review Date.

(f) Within 7 days after the date of the determination of the Licence Fee any necessary adjustments will be made between the parties calculated as from the relevant Market Review Date.

(g) The costs of the Valuer will be borne equally by the parties.

5.4 CPI Review

(a) The Commonwealth may on each CPI Review Date review the Licence Fee using the following formula:

$$A = R \times \frac{C2}{C1}$$

"A" = the reviewed Licence Fee;

"R" = the Licence Fee payable as at the relevant CPI Review Date;

"C1" = the Index Number for the quarter ending immediately prior to the Commencement Date or, where a licence fee review has taken place, the review date immediately preceding the relevant CPI Review Date; and

"C2" = the Index Number for the quarter ending immediately prior to the relevant CPI Review Date.

(b) If the amount of the reviewed Licence Fee is not ascertained by the relevant CPI Review Date then the Licensee will:

(i) pending ascertainment, continue to pay the instalment of the Licence Fee applicable at the relevant CPI Review Date; and

(ii) within 7 days after being notified of the reviewed Licence Fee any necessary adjustments will be made between the parties calculated as from the relevant CPI Review Date.

5.5 Outgoings

The Licensee must pay to the Commonwealth the proportion specified in ***Item 11*** of any outgoings specified in Schedule 1.

5.6 Definitions

For the purpose of this clause:

(a) **"CPI Review Date"** means each of the dates specified in ***Item 8***.

(b) **"Index Number"** means:

(i) the Consumer Price Index (All Groups) for the capital of the State in which the Premises are located published from time to time by the Australian Bureau of Census and Statistics;

(ii) if there is any suspension or discontinuance of the publication of the Consumer Price Index, then until publication of the Consumer Price Index is resumed, such other index reflecting fluctuations in the cost of living in the relevant city:

A. on which the parties agree; or

B. in default of agreement such index as is determined by the President of the Institute or his nominee at the request of either party, who in making his determination will be acting as an expert and not as an arbitrator and whose costs will be borne equally by the parties.

(c) **"Institute"** means the Division (or Branch in the case of a Territory) of the Australian Property Institute Inc in the State or Territory in which the Premises are located.

(d)

(e) "**Market Review Notice**" means a notice given by the Commonwealth to the Licensee pursuant to ***clause 5.3(a)*** specifying the Commonwealth's Amount.

(f) **"Market Review Date"** means each of the dates specified in ***Item 9***.

(g) **"Market Review Objection Notice"** means a notice in writing in which:

(i) the Licensee disputes the Commonwealth's Amount;

(ii) states an alternative figure which the Licensee considers to be the annual market licence fee to apply from the relevant Market Review Date; and

(iii) requires such licence fee to be determined in accordance with the provisions of this clause.

(h) **"Review Date"** means either a CPI Review Date or a Market Review Date.

(i) **"Valuer"** means any person:

(i) who has been a full member of not less than 5 years' standing of the Institute;

(ii) who is registered to practice as a valuer of the kind of premises now licensed by this Licence; and

(iii) who has not less than 5 years' experience in the State in which the Premises are located.

6. DAMAGED PREMISES

If the whole or any part of the Premises are destroyed or substantially damaged, then:

(a) all or a proportionate part of the Licence Fee, given the extent of the damage, will abate until the damage is repaired, except where the damage is caused by or contributed to by the Licensee, in which event no abatement will be given;

(b) either party may terminate this Licence at the expiration of 2 months from the date of the damage unless the Commonwealth has given notice of its intention to reinstate the Premises;

(c) a determination under ***clause 6(b)*** will be without compensation being payable by one to the other except for any antecedent breach;

(d) the Licensee may not terminate this Licence if the damage was caused or contributed to by it; and

(e) there is no obligation on the Commonwealth to reinstate the Premises.

7. NO ASSIGNMENT ETC.

The Licensee will not assign, transfer, mortgage, charge or otherwise deal with its rights under this Deed or part with possession of the Premises without the prior consent in writing of the Commonwealth.

8. REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

8.1 Licensee's Obligations to Repair

(a) The Licensee must keep the Premises and all Fixtures in good and substantial repair having regard to their condition at the Commencement Date (as evidenced by the Condition Appraisal Report (if any) attached as Schedule 2) and allowing for fair wear and tear and must yield up the Premises in such condition at the end or sooner determination of the Term.

(b) The obligation in sub-clause (a) will not include repairs of a structural nature unless caused or required by the Licensee's act or omission or its use of the Premises.

8.2 Specific Obligations

Without limiting ***clause 8.1***, the Licensee must:

(a) repair all damage (including structural damage) caused by it to the Premises or the Fixtures;

(b) immediately replace all broken glass within the Premises;

(c) take all reasonable steps to eradicate pests and will, if required by the Commonwealth, engage a pest exterminator approved by the Commonwealth;

(d) repair or, where appropriate replace, heating, lighting, electrical or plumbing fittings installed in the Premises broken or damaged by the Licensee; and

(e) maintain the waste pipes, drains and water closets within or servicing the Premises in a clean, clear and operative condition.

8.3 Alterations

The Licensee must obtain the prior written consent of the Commonwealth before it alters or makes any additions to the Premises, including drilling core holes in any part of the Premises, installing any equipment or redesigning the interior or erecting a partition or does any other building work on the Premises. The consent of the Commonwealth may be withheld in its absolute discretion or may be given on terms and conditions determined by the Commonwealth.

8.4 Notice of Damage or accident

The Licensee will immediately notify the Commonwealth of:

(a) any damage to, and any accident or defect in, the Premises, the Building, the Commonwealth's Fixtures or in any of the services or other facilities provided by the Commonwealth to the Premises or the Building; and

(b) any circumstances likely to occasion any damage or injury within the Premises or the Building.

9. USE OF THE PREMISES

9.1 Permitted Use

(a) The Licensee will not use the Premises other than for the Permitted Use, without the prior written consent of the Commonwealth.

(b) The Commonwealth does not warrant that the Premises can now or in the future be used for the Permitted Use. The Lessee acknowledges that it is taking the Premises in their present condition, subject to all latent and patent defects.

9.2 Licensee Not to Cause Nuisance

In using the Premises, the Licensee will not do anything which will or may cause annoyance, nuisance, interference, damage or disturbance to any occupiers or owners of adjoining or adjacent premises or to the Commonwealth or any other tenant or occupier of any part of the Building or the Land.

9.3 Comply with Statutes and Requirements

The Licensee:

(a) must, at its own cost, comply with all Statutes and Requirements relating to or affecting the Premises or the Fixtures and the use or occupation of the Premises from time to time;

(b) must immediately advise the Commonwealth of any Requirement, however arising;

(c) will, where compliance with a Statute or Requirement involves making alterations or additions to the Premises, obtain the prior written consent of the Commonwealth before complying with any Statute or Requirement;

(d) is not required to effect structural alterations or additions in complying with any Statute or Requirement unless caused or required by the Licensee's act or omission and its use of the Premises; and

(e) acknowledges that, notwithstanding that the Commonwealth may be immune

from complying with any Statute or Requirement, the Commonwealth may elect to comply with and observe any Statute or Requirement, in which event the Licensee must comply with any such Statute or Requirement as if the Commonwealth was not so immune.

9.4 Contamination

(a) The Licensee must keep the Premises free from any contamination and must not use the Premises or permit them to be used in any way which could result in the discharge of pollution or an environmental hazard.

(b) Without limiting ***clause 9.3***, the Licensee must:

(i) comply with all Statutes and Requirements relating to the environment;

(ii) obtain and maintain any permits required under those Statutes and Requirements in respect of the Premises; and

(iii) provide copies of any orders or notices issued under these Statutes and Requirements, to the Commonwealth,

but before complying with any order or notice, must obtain the Commonwealth's written approval.

(c) In the event of any contamination or environmental hazard occurring on the Premises due to the act or omission of the Licensee, then the Licensee must at its cost immediately remediate such contamination or environmental hazard to the satisfaction of the Commonwealth and any relevant Authority.

(d) The Lessee will indemnify and keep indemnified the Commonwealth against any Claim made against or suffered by the Commonwealth as a result of a breach of this clause by the Licensee.

9.5 No Inflammable Substances

The Licensee will not, other than in accordance with the Permitted Use or with the Commonwealth's prior written approval (and then only in accordance with all Statutes and Requirements), store or use firearms, explosives, detonators, chemicals, inflammable liquids, acetylene gas or alcohol, volatile or explosive oils, compounds or substances on the Premises.

9.6 Military Lands

If ***Item 20*** states that the Premises are near or adjacent to land on which military activities take place (**"Military Land"**), the Licensee agrees and understands that:

(a) it may be hazardous or dangerous for the Licensee to enter onto the Military Land;

(b) night illumination, noise and vibrations may emanate from the Military Land

which may affect the Licensee's use and enjoyment of the Premises; and

(c) it may not make any Claim against the Commonwealth on account of loss, damage or injury suffered or incurred as a result of the Military Land or any thing referred to in or arising from this clause.

9.7 Access Routes

If an Access Route is specified in ***Item 19*** the Licensee may only access the Premises via the Access Route.

9.8 Hours

Unless otherwise specified in ***Item 13***, the Licensee is permitted to use the Premises for the Permitted Use 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

9.9 Special Conditions

The Licensee must comply, at its cost, with any reasonable conditions imposed from time to time by the Commonwealth with respect to safety, environmental matters and matters relating to national security and defence which, at the Commencement Date, are those specified in ***Item 23***.

10. INSURANCE AND INDEMNITIES

10.1 Licensee's Insurances

The Licensee must have current insurance for the following:

(a) public liability policy for the amount specified in ***Item 15*** (in the names of the Licensee and the Commonwealth or, where that is not possible, noting the interest of the Commonwealth);

(b) workers compensation insurance; and

(c) such other insurances that the Commonwealth may reasonably require the Licensee to effect from time to time.

10.2 Provisions of Policies

If the Commonwealth asks, the Licensee must provide such evidence of the insurance as is satisfactory to the Commonwealth.

10.3 Release and Indemnity

(a) The Licensee occupies and uses the Premises at its own risk.

(b) The Licensee releases the Commonwealth from any Claim arising from any loss, injury or death occurring in the Premises except to the extent that the Commonwealth caused this by an act of negligence.

(c) The Licensee indemnifies the Commonwealth against any Claim arising from any loss, injury or death:

(i) by reason of any act, default or neglect of the Licensee;

(ii) arising out of or as a consequence of the Licensee's use or occupation of the Premises; or

(iii) caused by the services to the Premises,

except to the extent that the Commonwealth caused this by an act of negligence.

11. BREACHES AND TERMINATION

11.1 Breaches

The Licensee breaches this Deed if it breaches, neglects or fails to perform or observe any of the covenants, conditions or agreements contained in this Deed which are or ought to be performed or observed by the Licensee and which are not rectified within 14 days of being required to do so by the Commonwealth.

11.2 Forfeiture of Licence

If the Licensee breaches this Deed, the Commonwealth may, without prejudice to any other right, Claim or remedy which the Commonwealth has or may have or could otherwise have against the Licensee or any other person in respect of such default:

(a) by notice in writing to the Licensee terminate this Deed; and/or

(b) recover from the Licensee any loss the Commonwealth suffers due to the Licensee's breach; and/or

(c) by notice in writing to the Licensee elect to convert the unexpired portion of the Term of this Deed into a month to month licence pursuant to the provisions of ***clause 3.2***.

11.3 Early Termination Notice

Either party may terminate this Licence at any time, by giving the other a termination notice expiring at the end of the period set out in ***Item 21*** and neither party will be liable to the other as a result of such termination, except in relation to any antecedent breach.

11.4 Termination of Deed

The Commonwealth is entitled to terminate this Licence in the event of a national emergency on such notice as, in the opinion of the Minister for the Department of Defence, is necessary given the nature of the national emergency or if, in the opinion of the Minister for the Department of Defence, the Premises are required by the Commonwealth for national security or defence purposes.

11.5 Interest on overdue money

Any money payable by the Licensee to the Commonwealth but not paid on the due date may bear interest at the Specified Rate in ***Item 18***, computed from the due date for payment of the money until payment of such money in full and will be recoverable as licence fees in arrears.

11.6 Commonwealth may rectify

The Commonwealth may, but is not obliged to, remedy at any time, without notice, any default by the Licensee under this Deed. Whenever the Commonwealth so elects, all costs and expenses incurred by the Commonwealth including legal fees (on a solicitor/own client basis), costs and expenses in remedying a default will constitute a liquidated debt and will be paid by the Licensee to the Commonwealth, on demand.

12. DETERMINATION OF TERM

12.1 End Date obligations

At the expiration or earlier termination of this Licence, the Licensee will yield up the Premises in the order and condition described in ***clause 8.1(a)*** and will remove the Licensee's Fixtures from the Premises.

12.2 Licensee to rectify any damage

The Licensee will make good any damage caused to the Premises, the Building or the Land in the course of removal of the Licensee's Fixtures and, in any event, will leave the Premises in a clean condition. If this is not done the Commonwealth may make good and/or clean the Premises at the expense of and as agent for the Licensee and recover from the Licensee the cost to the Commonwealth of so doing as a liquidated debt payable on demand.

13. SECURITY

13.1 Bank Guarantee – Deleted

13.2 Security Bond – Deleted

13.3 GST

Where the Commonwealth incurs any GST liability as a result of or in connection with the conversion into cash of any security provided under this clause or any recovery under the bank guarantee provided under this clause, the Licensee must indemnify the Commonwealth against that liability.

14. GENERAL

14.1 Notices

All notices, demands and other communications ("**Notices**") required or permitted to be given by one party to another must be in writing and:

(a) delivered personally;

(b) sent by pre-paid mail to the addressee;

(c) sent by facsimile transmission to the facsimile number of the addressee (with acknowledgment of receipt from the facsimile machine of the addressee).

14.2 Receipt of Notices

A Notice is taken to have been given (unless otherwise proved):

(a) if mailed, on the second business day after posting; or

(b) if sent by facsimile and received before 4 pm on a business day, on the day it is sent and otherwise on the next business day.

14.3 Address for Service of Notices

The address for service of Notices as at the date of this Deed are as specified in ***Item 23***. A party may change its address by giving notice of that change in writing to the other party.

14.4 Stamp Duty and Legal Costs

The Licensee will pay for:

(a) all stamp duty payable on this Deed;

(b) all costs and expenses (including but not limited to solicitors and agents fees) incurred by the Commonwealth in the negotiation, preparation and execution of this Deed;

(c) all costs and expenses incurred by the Commonwealth in the enforcement, attempted enforcement or preservation of any rights under this Deed, including, without limitation, any expenses incurred in the evaluation of any matter of material concern to the Commonwealth; and

(d) all costs and expenses incurred by the Commonwealth in considering any application for its consent or approval by the Licensee, which will include the cost of any consultants employed by the Commonwealth in considering any such consent or approval.

14.5 No Waiver

A party to this Deed is not to be taken to have waived any right or entitlement it may have under this Deed unless and until that waiver is notified in writing to the party seeking the benefit of the alleged waiver. Waiver by a party in respect of any act or thing required to be done under this Deed does not act as a waiver of any other act or thing (whether of the same or of a different nature) required to be done under this Deed.

14.6 Severability

If any provision of this Deed is held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, that provision must, to the extent of the invalidity, illegality or unenforceability, be ignored in the interpretation of this Deed and all the other provisions of this Deed will remain in full force and effect.

14.7 Proper Law

The laws of the State or Territory in which the Premises are located will apply to this Deed to the exclusion of any other laws and the parties agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the Courts of that State or Territory in relation to this Deed.

14.8 Entire Agreement

The terms of this Deed contain the entire understanding between the parties in relation to the subject matter of this Deed and there are no conditions, warranties, promises, representations or obligations written or oral, express or implied in relation thereto, other than those expressly stated herein or necessarily implied by law.

14.9 Approvals or Consent given by the Commonwealth

Any consent or approval given by the Commonwealth, to be binding on the Commonwealth, must be in writing.

15. GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Where either party to this Licence is entitled to any payment (including payment of the Licence Fee and any payment by way of damages, indemnity, set-off, reimbursement or otherwise) from the other party in relation to anything done or omitted to be done under this Licence, the first named party will be entitled to recover from the second named party the amount of any GST on any Supply (within the meaning of the GST Legislation) for which the payment is made. To the extent that any payment is pursuant to an entitlement to recover all or a proportion of costs incurred, the amount recoverable shall be reduced by the amount of (or the same proportion of the amount of) any Input Tax Credits (within the meaning of the GST Legislation) available in respect those costs.

OPTIONAL SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. Telecommunications Equipment

The Licensee acknowledge that the Commonwealth retains, at all times, the right to erect any telecommunication aerials, masts, ground cabling and similar equipment on or in the Premises.

2. Unexploded Ordnances

The Licensee must:

(a) immediately notify the Commonwealth if it locates any unexploded ordnance on the Premises or the Land;

(b) not interfere with or allow to be interfered with any unexploded ordnance; and

(c) comply with the Commonwealth's reasonable directions in relation to any unexploded ordnance.

3. Bulk Supplies

Notwithstanding ***clause #.2***, if the Licensor purchases, from the appropriate authorities, bulk supplies of electricity, gas, water or other like supplies ("**Supplies**") for consumption within the Premises, the Licensor shall supply to the Licensee such of the Supplies as may be reasonably required by the Licensee for the use or consumption in or on the Premises and the Licensee shall purchase the Supplies from the Licensor on and subject to the following conditions:

(a) the price which the Licensor shall charge the Licensee for the Supplies shall be charged at the rate which would have been charged by the relevant authority if it had supplied the same quantity of Supplies to the Licensee at the Premises over the same period;

(b) the Licensor shall be entitled to impose on the Licensee the same conditions as the relevant authority from time to time imposes when or before supplying the Supplies to consumers at similar premises and the Licensee shall, at all times, comply with those conditions;

(c) the Licensor may render accounts for Supplies supplied to the Licensee from time to time and such accounts shall be payable to the Licensor within 14 days of the delivery of the Supplies;

(d) if the Licensee fails to pay an account rendered for Supplies within the required time, the Licensor may (without prejudice to any other rights or powers of the Licensor) terminate the supply of Supplies to the Premises until such account has been paid in full;

(e) the Licensor shall not be responsible for any failure to provide Supplies arising from the default of any relevant authority to provide the Licensor with bulk supplies or arising from any other cause beyond the reasonable control of the Licensor except due to the Licensor's default or negligence; and

(f) to the extent that the Supplies are not provided from the Licensor's bulk supply the Licensee shall make its own arrangements direct with the relevant authority.

REFERENCE SCHEDULE

Item 1:	The Licensee:	[redacted] BOGAN GATE NSW 2876
Item 2: Clause 1.1	Premises:	Approximately 482 hectares of land located in the north-eastern and south-eastern sections known as the former Bogan Gate Explosives Storage Facility/RAAF Base with its eastern boundary running along the top of Gunning Ridge. That part of the Land highlighted on the attached plans as Annexure "A" and "B"
Item 3:	Land:	Former Bogan Gate Explosives Storage Facility/RAAF Base located approximately 37 kilometers west of Parkes & 1 kilometer east of the village of Bogan Gate.
Item 4: Clause 3.1	Term:	Month to month commencing on the Commencement Date.
Item 5:	Commencement Date:	26 March 2002
Item 6: Clause 1.1	Commonwealth's Fixtures:	To Be Advised
Item 7: Clause 1.1	Licence Fee:	Licence Fee of $1.00 per annum (if demanded)
Item 8: Clause 5.6	CPI Review Dates:	Not Applicable
Item 9: Clause 1.1	Market Review Dates:	Not Applicable
Item 10: Clause 5.1	Manner & frequency of payment of licence fee:	Licence fee is to be paid quarterly in advance on the first day of March, June, September and December from the Commencement Date
Item 11: Clause 5.5	Licensee's Proportion:	100%
Item 12: Clause 9.1	Permitted Use:	For the grazing of livestock only
Item 13: Clause 9.18	Licence Hours:	24 hours a day, 7 days a week
Item 14: Clause 4.1	Further Term:	Not Applicable
Item 15: Clause 10.1	Public Risk Amount:	Ten Million Dollars ($10,000,000.00)

Item 16: Clause 13.1	Bank Guarantee Amount:	Not Applicable
Item 17: Clause 13.2	Security Bond Amount:	$Nil
Item 18: Clause 11.5	Specified Rate:	Nil
Item 19: Clause 9.7	Access Routes:	The Licensee shall access the premises via the Access Route shown highlighted in blue on the attached plans Annexure "A" and "B".
Item 20: Clause 9.6	Military Land:	Yes
Item 21: Clause 11.3	Early Termination Period:	Not Applicable
Item 22: Clause 5.2	Licensee's Works:	The licensee shall at their own cost and expense erect fences and gates in relation to areas identified as contaminated sites and erect such fences and gates (which upon erection shall become the property of the licensor) as may be required to secure or gain access to the land and render the land stock-proof and at the expiration or sooner termination of this licence shall yield up all fences and gates in good repair order and condition without any payment of compensation.
Item 23: Clause 9.9	Conditions:	**General** The licensee shall not use the land for any purpose other than to graze livestock. The licensee shall not disturb or break up the land, no pasture improvements involving ploughing shall be used. The licensee shall not install stock watering facilities on the land without the prior written approval of the licensor. The licensee shall at all times observe the reasonable directions of the Commonwealth and or the Commonwealth's representatives/contractors in relation to the use of the premises and or access over the premises. The licensee shall at his own cost and expense keep and maintain in good order repair and condition and replace where necessary all fences and gates (including but not limited to perimeter, stockyard and internal fences and gates) on the land and erect such fences and gates (which

upon erection shall become the property of the licensor) as may be required to secure the land and render the land stock-proof and at the expiration or sooner termination of this licence shall yield up all fences and gates in good repair order and condition without any payment of compensation.

The licensee shall ensure that the stock and any other property not belonging to the licensor are removed from the land on or prior to the termination or sooner determination of this licence. Any stock or other property which are not removed shall thereafter become the property of the licensor and may be removed from the land and disposed of at the expense of the licensee as the licensor in its absolute discretion may determine.

Re: Unexploded Ordnances

The licensee acknowledges that he is aware that the land is unexploded ordinance ("UXO") contaminated and contaminated with white phosphorus and or its chemical residue after burning, that it is also located within a buffer zone for the storage of explosives and that the licensee uses the land at his own risk.

The Licensee shall not enter areas of the land which are either fenced or which, though not fenced have erected on them signposts which warn of possible UXO within those areas of the land

The Licensee must:

(a) immediately notify the Commonwealth if it locates any unexploded ordnance on the Premises or the Land;

(b) not interfere with or allow to be interfered with any unexploded ordnance; and

(c) comply with the Commonwealth's reasonable directions in relation to any unexploded ordnance.

Re: Dead Animals \ Livestock

The licensee shall maintain the stocking rate of 2.5 dry sheep equivalent per hectare (approximately 1,200 sheep) through the year and rotate such stock on a regular basis to prevent the land becoming overgrown and to maintain the land in a fire safe condition.

The licensee shall not overstock the land and acknowledges that the licensor shall have the right at all times to limit the number of stock on the land so that the same shall not be overstocked

The licensee shall keep the land free of dead stock and remove dead animals or livestock from the premises. Dead carcasses are not permitted to be buried on the premises.

Re: Non Noxious Weeds, Noxious Weeds & Plants

The licensee shall at its own expense take all necessary steps to prevent fire and soil erosion occurring on the land together with implementing recommendations of the Commonwealth's Land Management Plan.

The licensee shall at his own expense comply with any recommendations of a State Soil Conservation Authority in relation to the control of soil erosion and the general husbandry of the land.

The licensor reserves the right to take any bush fire prevention measures it considers necessary at the expense of the licensee and without compensation to the licensee.

The licensee shall at its own expense take all necessary steps to undertake weed control over the entire licensed area including those areas fenced for environmental conservation purposes.

Re: List of Persons Authorised to enter the Land

The licensee will provide to the licensor a list of persons authorised to enter the premises.

Item 24: Address for Service of Notices:

Commonwealth:

Address: Commonwealth of Australia
C/- Defence Portfolio Manager
KFPW Pty Limited

Level 16
John Hunter Building
9 Hunter Street
Sydney NSW 2000

GPO Box 4027
Sydney NSW 2001

Telephone No: 02 9224 8008

Facsimile No: 02 9224 8055

Contact Person: Ms Senta Vonck

Licensee:

Address: [redacted]
Bogan Gate NSW 2876

Telephone No: [redacted]

Facsimile No:

Contact Person:

EXECUTED as a Deed.

SIGNED for and on behalf of the **Commonwealth of Australia** by a delegate of the Minister for Finance and Administration:

[redacted]
Signature of Witness

[redacted]
Name of Witness

Date: 14/6/02

[redacted]
(Signature)

[redacted]
(Name)

Director Property Services
(Position)

SIGNATURE BLOCK FOR INDIVIDUALS

SIGNED SEALED AND DELIVERED by [redacted]

[redacted]
Signature of Witness

[redacted]
Name of Witness

[redacted]
(Signature)

[redacted]
(Name)

(Position)

MELDOCS/6994/480856.4 Std General Licence 30-3-00

SCHEDULE 1
Clause 5.5

OUTGOINGS

1. The Licensee must either reimburse the Commonwealth or pay directly to the relevant Authority, as required by the Commonwealth, the Outgoings.

2. If any of the Outgoings are not separately metered to the Premises, then the Commonwealth may:

   (a) estimate the proportion of those Outgoings payable by the Licensee having regard to the proportionate use of those Outgoings by the Licensee; or

   (b) require the Licensee, at the Licensee's expense, to install in the Premises separate meters for those Outgoings.

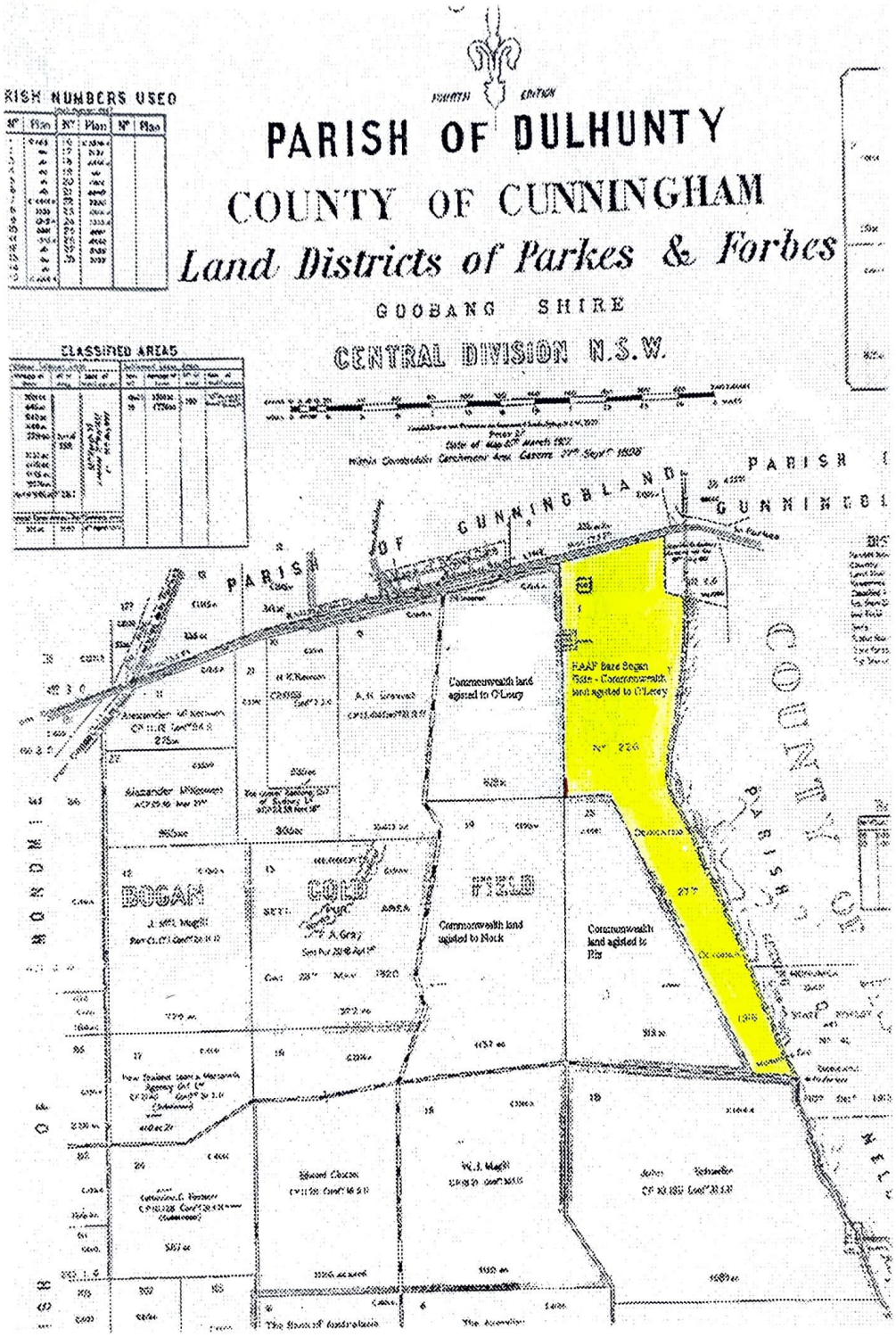
3. For the purposes of this clause:

   "Outgoings" means all rates, taxes and charges relating to or imposed on the Premises and/or the Land and all costs in providing services including electrical, telephone, gas, water, sewerage, garbage and rubbish removal.

Annexure "A"

Premises of Rural Licence - Approximately 482 hectares of land located in the north-eastern and south-eastern sections known as the former Bogan Gate Explosives Storage Facility/RAAF Base with its eastern boundary running along the top of Gunning Ridge.

Access Route



Annexure "B"

Premises of Rural Licence - Approximately 482 hectares of land located in the north-eastern and south-eastern sections known as the former Bogan Gate Explosives Storage Facility/RAAF Base with its eastern boundary running along the top of Gunning Ridge.

Access Route

