

ANNUAL REPORT

2022/2023





Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Wiradjuri people who are the traditional custodians of the land on which we live, work and play. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging of the Wiradjuri Nation and thank them for their care of the land, water and sky and extend that respect to other Indigenous Australians.

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Mayoral message



Over the past financial year, Dubbo Regional Council has focused on translating our long-term objectives into actionable short-term projects. Our mission is clear: to create a better living environment for everyone in our community, both now and well into the future.

One of our standout initiatives has been the 3D-printed amenities facility, a project that has received international recognition and applause. This forward-thinking venture has not only modernised our local amenities but has also positioned Dubbo as a leading Council in the adoption of groundbreaking technology. The experience and knowledge we have gained from this exciting initiative are invaluable. We are actively reviewing the learnings to assess how this technology could be utilised across other community facilities or infrastructure projects in the years to come.

Environmentally, we've been equally proactive. The Council has taken decisive action in adopting both the Zero Emissions Fleet Strategy and Implementation Plan as well as the Net Zero Emissions Framework. These were publicised for community review and input as the financial year concluded. We've already begun the practical implementation of these strategies: our first fully electric zero-turn mower is in active service around the local government area and we've added four electric vehicles to our staff fleet. These actions signify our commitment to sustainability, offering not just environmental benefits but also long-term financial efficiencies.

Looking ahead to a potentially arid 2023-2024 summer season, we have doubled down on creating a comprehensive water security strategy. A series of drought resilience projects are already underway, primarily aimed at augmenting access to groundwater resources. The goal is to fortify our community against water scarcity and ensure a more reliable potable water supply, particularly during severe drought conditions. These measures are pivotal not only for human consumption but also for our agricultural sectors and natural habitats.

The breadth of Council activities spans far beyond these highlighted projects. We are actively engaged in multiple aspects of community life—infrastructure, economy, housing, liveability, leadership, and environmental sustainability, just to name a few. As you read through this annual report, you'll gain a well-rounded understanding of how the Council's initiatives touch upon these various facets of your daily lives.

In the spirit of maintaining open and transparent lines of communication, I'm committed to ensuring that our community stays well-informed about these and many other activities of your Council. I sincerely hope you find this extended overview both enlightening and useful.

For any questions, clarifications or suggestions, please feel free to email me directly at mayor@dubbo.nsw.gov.au. Your input is invaluable as we continue to strive for a better Dubbo region for all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mathew Dickerson'. The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial 'M' and a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mathew Dickerson
Mayor of Dubbo Regional Council



Dubbo Regional Council (DRC) Mayor Mathew Dickerson, DRC Chief Executive Officer Murray Wood and Council staff pictured at Maliyan Cultural Centre with Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel (WAAP) members at the signing of the inaugural Partnership Agreement between WAAP and DRC.

Your Council

Dubbo Regional Council (DRC) has a rich cultural heritage and a diverse local government area which is represented in the elected Councillors.

DRC's population, as recorded in the 2021 Census, showed 16.6 per cent of our community identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander; 20 per cent of DRC's Councillors are of Aboriginal heritage.

The 2021 Census also identified that DRC has 18.5 per cent of the population born overseas with 10 per cent of the elected Councillors being born overseas.

This is the second year of the current Councillors term at DRC. Councillors play an active role in our community through their involvement in community committees, consultation workshops, community programs and events.

Councillors have been committed to improving DRC's community engagement to assist with informing the community and gaining important feedback on projects. Day to day Councillors individually engage with community face to face and digitally. Through the launch of DRC's new YourSay platform residents are now able to find information about upcoming projects, impacts to the community and have their say on all projects on public exhibition. This new platform allows for two-way communication with Council on matters that interest our community. Through this platform our community have the opportunity to share their thoughts to help guide decision making on the region's future.

Your Councillors

Mayor: Mathew Dickerson

Deputy Mayor: Richard Ivey

Councillors:

Joshua Black

Lewis Burns

Shibli Chowdhury

Vicki Etheridge

Jessica Gough

Damien Mahon

Pamella Wells

Matthew Wright



Your Councillors (back row from left) Lewis Burns , Matthew Wright, Vicki Etheridge, Pamella Wells , Joshua Black, Jessica Gough (front row from left) Shibli Chowdhury, Deputy Mayor Richard Ivey, Mayor Mathew Dickerson and Damien Mahon.

CEO's message



The past 12 months have been challenging for Council and the community with La Niña saturating landscapes, a series of flooding events across the region followed by bushfires in early 2023.

The resilience of the community to come together and support each other during these natural disasters is one that we can be collectively proud of. I am proud of the role our team played during these emergencies to help and protect our community.

The La Niña events of 2022 saturated regional landscapes, not only heavily impacted the integrity of the roads network but also the ability to repair them. Pleasingly, over the past six months teams have been able to make good progress on the road repair program. Restoring the road network will be an ongoing effort.

Our region continues to see significant growth and housing to support current and future populations and a growing workforce remains a priority. Off the back of accelerated strategic planning, Council was successful in securing government funding to fast track the north-west residential urban release area, unlocking an estimated 6,000 new homes to support future population growth. This effort will fast track much needed development, help alleviate pressure on housing and enable future investment in key infrastructure.

Financial sustainability has remained a key focus to ensure Council effectively undertakes its role as custodian of community assets in the long term. An adopted program of service reviews commenced, examining services across Council to ensure the design, delivery and performance of such services meets community needs and delivers value for money.

The region welcomed a range of events across the year, with a number returning for the first time following the pandemic. Sky Castle by ENESS lighting installation was delivered in partnership with the NSW Government and attracted over 24,000 people to the Dubbo CBD, an expanded program of entertainment was delivered at the Wellington Civic Centre and the Dubbo Art Fair secured its place as the biggest art fair west of the Blue Mountains. Council also secured the NSW Junior State Cup Northern Conference for the first time in February 2023. The event brought over 7,000 visitors to the region and received a high volume of positive reviews. The tournament has been secured for the next three years and will continue to deliver a major economic boost to the region at a time of typical lower visitation.

The past year has presented numerous challenges and opportunities for the region and our organisation. I look forward to working with Councillors, Council teams and the community to continue to progress, partner and deliver on opportunities to better serve our community today and shape our region's future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Murray Wood'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Murray Wood
Chief Executive Officer



DRC Mayor Mathew Dickerson, Local Government NSW President Cr Darriea Turley, DRC Chief Executive Officer Murray Wood and Local Government NSW Chief Executive Scott Phillips.

The community we serve

55,894
population Dubbo
region

9,101
people who are
Aboriginal or Torres
Strait Islander

10,200
people who were
born overseas

36 years
average age



Source - Dubbo Regional Council Community Profile | Age, Population | REPLAN based on the 2021 census and ABS estimations
** Estimated 2022

Key employment industries



Healthcare and social assistance



Construction



Retail trade



Education and training



Public administration and safety

Dwellings in the Dubbo region

22,693
houses

\$300
median weekly
rent

\$540,000
median house price
- Dubbo

\$276,000
median house price
- Wellington

1.57%^{**}
population
growth rate
annualised growth rate
(2016-2021)



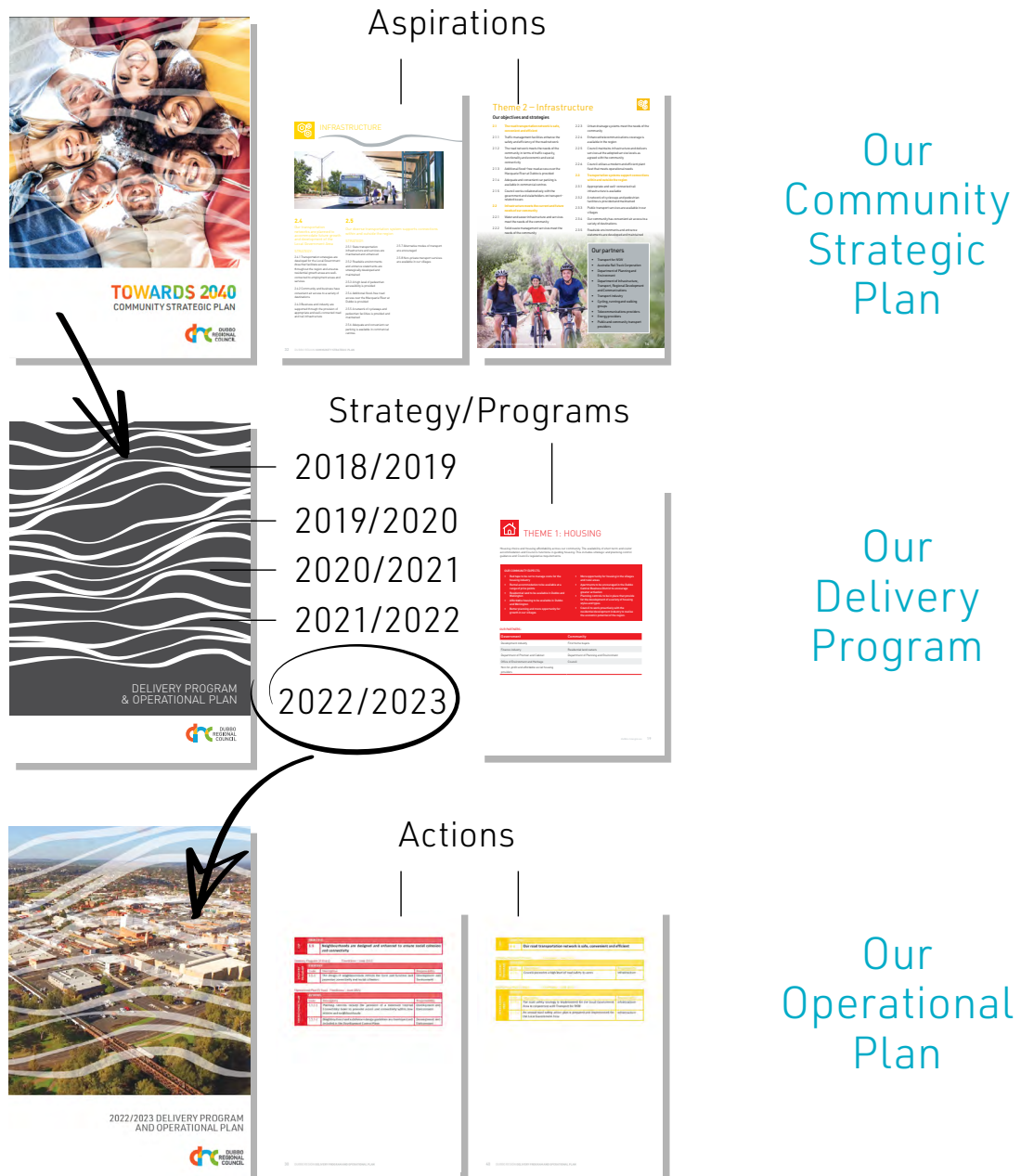
Source - Dubbo Regional Council Community Profile | Age, Population | REMPLAN based on the 2021 census and ABS estimations
^{**} Estimated 2022

Delivering for our community

The 2022/2023 Annual Report is a snapshot of the Dubbo region, the Council and our local community. It includes highlights and challenges, operational performance and an overview of financial performance and expenditure for 2022/2023.

It also contains information as prescribed by the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, including detailed progress on our Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

The report showcases the projects and achievements we have made in implementing the Operational Plan as highlighted in the Community Strategic Plan which was designed to meet the aspirations of our community.





Council's Resource Recovery Education Officer Hamish Campbell and Allan Andriske of the Resource, Recovery and Efficiency branch with a disposal container used during the polystyrene recycling trial, which has now been made permanent.



A number of community consultation sessions were held throughout the year.



Council crews worked on cleaning up the streets following the flooding events of 2022.

Our vision, purpose and values



DRC Team members Alan Stanger, Stephen Parish, Mary Anne Waters, Kristy Forrest and Shoilee Iqbal were recognised for delivering to community in line with Council values.

Council's Customer Experience Strategy

Through the implementation of Council's Customer Experience Strategy, Council has ensured that positive customer experience is championed across all functions of our diverse organisation. This enables Council to utilise customer data and insights to make informed strategic and operational decisions. The Customer Experience Strategy was implemented to focus on not just the interactions we have with our customers and community, but the entire relationship we have with them.

Through Customer Experience Surveys, 23,202 customers who contacted Council by phone were 92.4% satisfied with their customer experience and 16,111 customers who visited Council in-person were 99% satisfied with the overall experience. 304 customers who interacted with Council via Web Chat on Council's corporate website were 88% satisfied with their interaction. 253 offline messages were responded to the next business day. 542 responses to an optional satisfaction survey on Council emails identified 87% being highly satisfied with their overall experience with Council.

40,159
customer
satisfaction surveys
completed
through Council's
Customer Experience
touch points

88%
satisfied with overall
experience
(completed Web Chat
surveys)

92.4%
satisfied with overall
experience
(completed Call Centre
surveys)

99%
satisfied with overall
experience
(completed Council in
person survey)



Working for our community

Council's organisational direction is centred on delivering outcomes identified in the Towards 2040 Community Strategic Plan and responding to the expectations of our regional community.

Regional community expectations are not only defined in a strategic and operational sense through the planning process, but are also articulated on a daily basis to the organisation through community feedback and sentiment via a range of channels. Dedicated teams members led by passionate leaders are committed to delivering real outcomes and making positive contributions to the region they all call home.

The organisational direction is driven by Council's five divisions and associated directorships:

- Community, Culture and Places – Director Craig Arms
- Development and Environment – Director Stephen Wallace
- Infrastructure – Director Luke Ryan
- Organisational Performance – Director Jane Bassingthwaighte
- Strategy, Partnership and Engagement – Director Natasha Comber

The integrated framework that supports the Council's delivery and operational plan ensures we are working towards achieving the community's vision.

The focus for the past 12 months has included:

Essential Services

A continued focus on the renewal of key assets in the road network as well as providing essential services such as waste, water and sewerage.

Financial Sustainability

Our focus on being financially disciplined will ensure long-term financial sustainability for the region. This includes managing the increasing costs associated with running Council's current programs and service levels.

Community Centric

Improving our community engagement practices to support informed decision making.

Future Focus

Identify opportunities that strategically grow and further enhance facilities and services that support the regional economy and the community as a whole into the future.

Strategic Partnerships

Building on strategic partnerships in our community and region and developing new partnerships that will provide an ongoing benefit to the Dubbo region.

Social Impact

Delivering and coordinating a number of programs and events that provide social connection, skill building and support belonging in the community.



Executive Leadership Team Craig Arms, Jane Bassingthwaighe, Murray Wood, Stephen Wallace, Natasha Comber and Luke Ryan.

Dubbo Regional Council at a glance

480

Employees

Permanent employees as at
23/11/2022

\$236M

Budget

Operating and capital

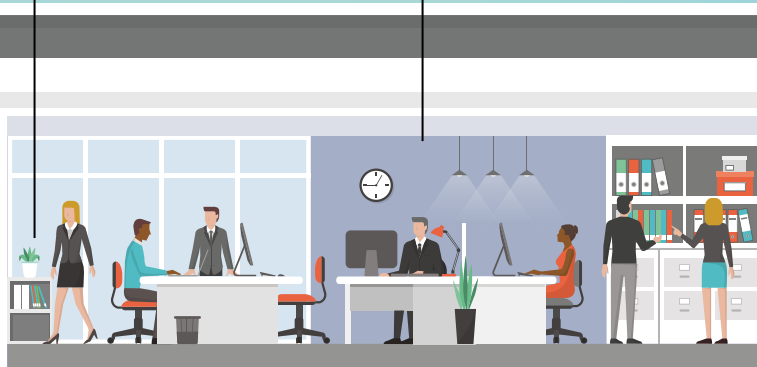
\$3.70B

Value of assets

This includes buildings at a value of \$312M

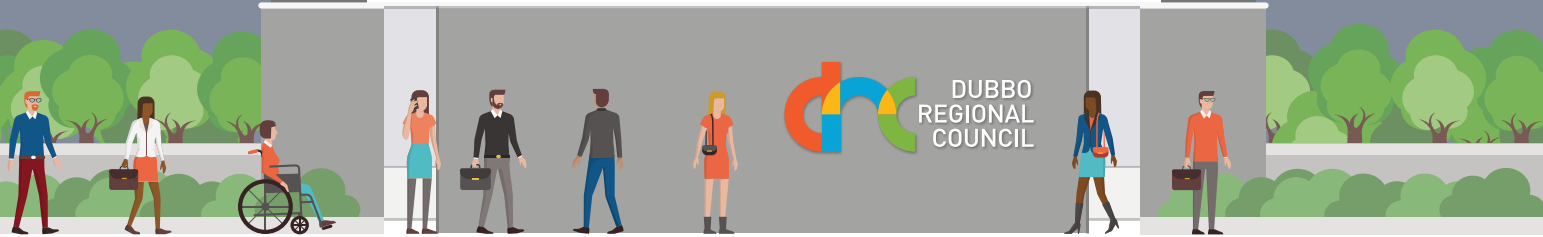
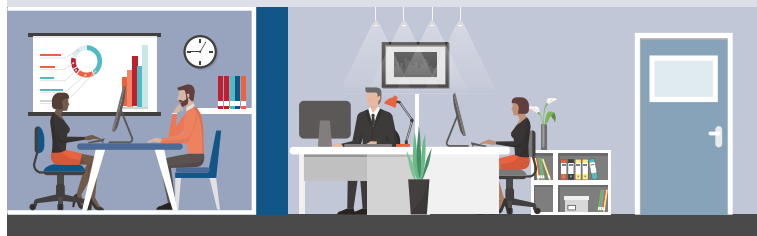
2

Customer
Experience
Centres



18

Websites and
47 Social
Channels





1 airport
1 airstrip

2,765km roads
1,409km sealed road
1,356km of unsealed roads

2 libraries

Macquarie Regional Library encompasses the local governments of Dubbo Regional, Narromine Shire and Warrumbungle Shire. It serves a population of over 65,000 and covers an area of more than 25,000 square kilometres.



2
Visitor
Information
Centres

1
saleyard



3 aquatic centres
(Dubbo, Wellington
& Geurie)

118 parks
200.78 hectares

85 landcare
reserves

1,028.75 hectares

32 sporting
facilities

2
showgrounds



2
childcare
services

2
tourist
attractions
1 holiday park

3 cultural
facilities



Year at a glance

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel

A Memorandum of Understanding between Council and the Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel (WAAP) created a partnership to ensure the Wellington Aboriginal community is formally represented within Council. The agreement seeks to include the voices of the Wellington Aboriginal community for projects, issues and celebrations in the community whilst enhancing the working relationship between the Aboriginal people of Wellington and Council.

SPARC Cultural Plan

The Shaping Plans to Advance Regional Culture (2020-2025) is a five-year framework detailing the priorities for Council's development for arts and culture in the region. Through SPARC we are directly partnering with community groups, creative practitioners, service and education providers to assist with programing and project support. SPARC enables core creative service providers to facilitate a range of programming across several disciplines, making access available to the public. The framework also supports creative organisations and providers to become viable as standalone organisations through the growth of opportunities, audiences and markets.

North West Dubbo Development

To ensure the future population growth of Dubbo, we partnered with the NSW Government and local property developers to fast track growth in North West Dubbo. This strategic planning guides the essential infrastructure and layout of the area.

NSW Touch Junior State Cup

For the first year Dubbo hosted the NSW Touch Junior State Cup – Northern Conference in February 2023. This event was a result of a strong partnership with NSW Touch and provided an economic benefit to the Dubbo region of \$4M in a traditionally low peak visitation period. This event has now been secured to be held in Dubbo for the next three years.

Working with Emergency Services

Council plays a significant role in the event of an emergency in the region. We have a Local Emergency Management Officer (LEMO) who helps establish an Emergency Operations Centre to coordinate a multi-agency response in the event of large-scale emergencies. This officer also assists with communication between relevant agencies as well as providing administrative support. In the event of an emergency Council also provides traffic management, clearing of roads and supplying of heavy plant equipment. In the past 12 months Council worked closely with the State Emergency Services (SES) with regards to flooding in both Wellington and Dubbo as well as the Rural Fire Services (RFS) to provide support for bushfire management in our region. This includes heavy plant equipment such as graders for fire breaks and containment lines, excavators to clear trees and water trucks for RFS trucks to refill from. These operators and plant equipment need to be redeployed from their core function of roads maintenance, which impacts Council's day to day operations but helps support emergency responses to protect our community.



DRC Chief Executive Officer Murray Wood, Dubbo Regional Council Mayor Mathew Dickerson, Member for Dubbo Dugald Saunders MP and DRC Senior Growth Planner Shoilee Iqbal at the funding announcement of the NSW Government's Accelerated Infrastructure Fund (AIF), to start construction of the River Street West Collector Road.



Dubbo Touch players at the 2023 NSW Touch Junior State Cup – Northern Conference in Dubbo.



Dubbo Art Fair 2022 was held over three days at the Western Plains Cultural Centre; 50 emerging and regionally based visual artists showcased their works.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

The region experienced another wet year with saturated landscapes triggering flooding and placing further stress on the road network. Major damage occurred at the Duke of Wellington Bridge and Pioneer Park, and significant erosion of Macquarie River banks in Dubbo. Flooding also placed strain on the region's water supply with a boil water alert being triggered. The challenge of resulting backlog of road repairs and flood rehabilitation was experienced by many Councils around the state.

Bushfires threatened our rural communities in early 2023 with Council supporting the emergency response. Council staff were deployed to assist with fire breaks and containment lines, excavators to clear trees and water trucks to refill the Rural Fire Service vehicles.

A severe storm in February 2023 caused widespread damage in Dubbo with high volumes of damage to homes and trees across the region. The clean-up took several weeks and included Whylandra Waste and Recycling Facility offering a free green waste service and an additional green bin service for heavily impacted areas.

Throughout these extreme weather events Council continued the provision and coordination of community messaging and information across a variety of media platforms, ensuring community awareness and safety.

SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS

In line with our organisational value of progressive, Council teams are encouraged to seek change and innovate. Continuous improvement is important to support organisational efficiency and improve service delivery to customers and community.

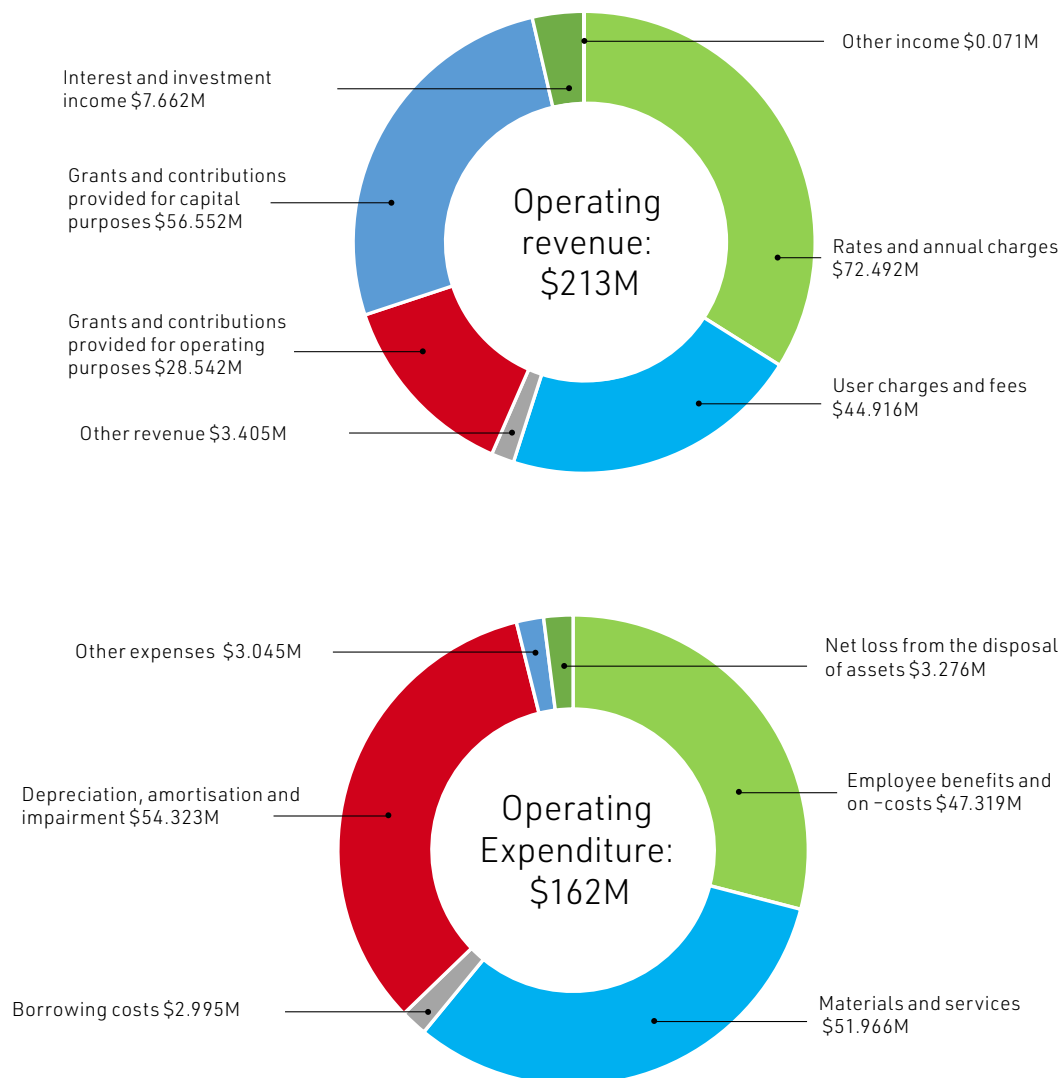
Examples of service improvements in the 12 month period include:

- Use customer feedback in service design to build services that meet our customers' expectations and preferences including expansion of DRC&ME online services and improvements based on customer centred design.
- Implementing outcomes from a customer request management review resulting in operational efficiencies in the time and manner in which we respond to service requests.
- Relocation of the Council Chamber to the ground floor; meeting modern accessibility requirements while maintaining functionality as corporate meeting rooms.
- Altering service delivery in line with customer needs including webchat.
- Stage one of Procure to Pay supporting quicker payments to our suppliers.
- Online form integration to support business practices, risk management and reduce process times.
- Development of 30 in-house applications to enable digital processes and workflows for over 40,000 documents annually.
- Online staff portal Employee Kiosk to support effective human resource management practices
- Centralised receipting improving cash handling and financial efficiencies.
- Improved information sharing and transparency on work programs to ensure centralised knowledge and enable community to independent access.



Financial snapshot

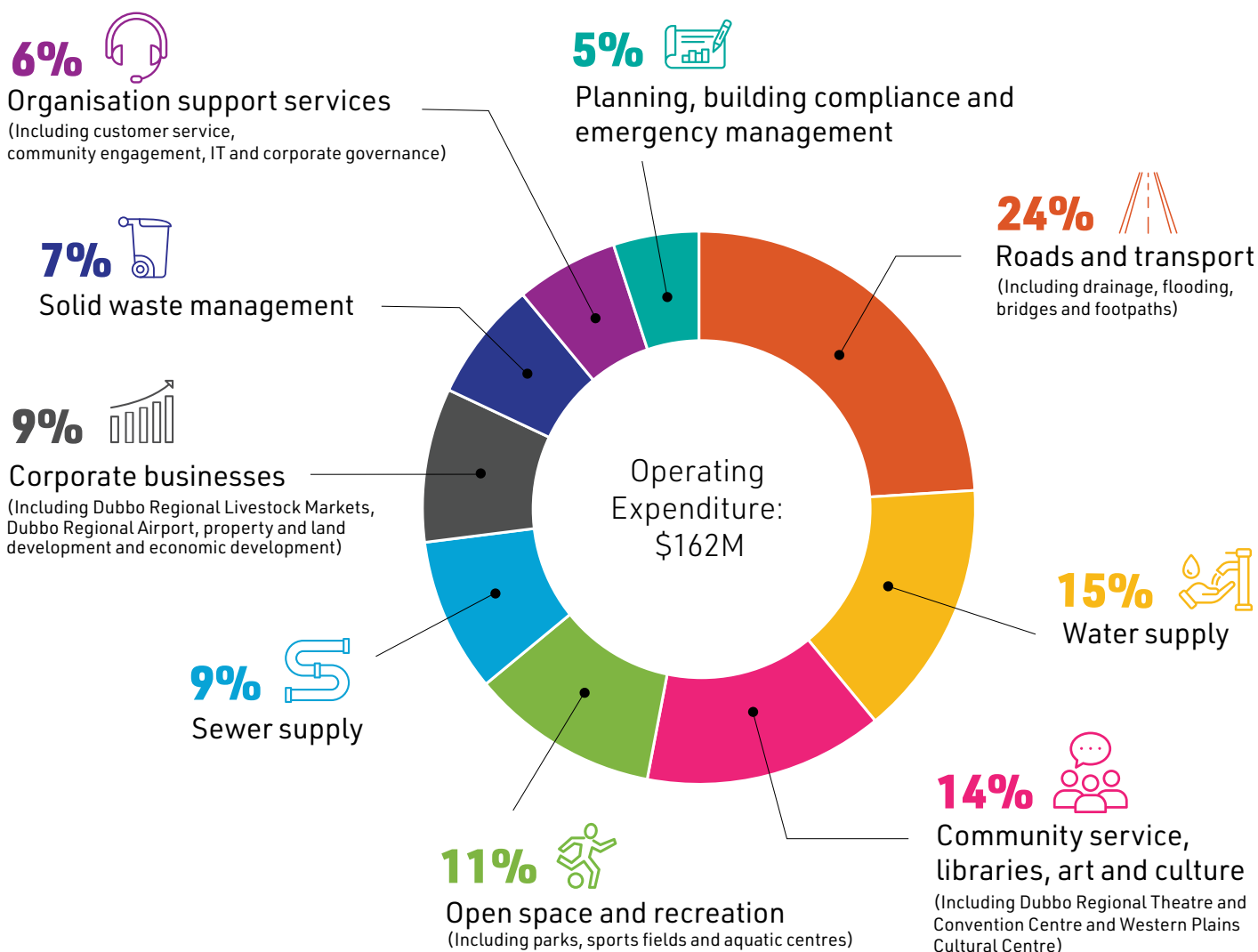
Like many Local Governments Areas around Australia, financial sustainability is a key challenge facing our Council. This challenge is due to several factors including the demand on current levels of services, cost shifting from other levels of government, ageing infrastructure, constraints on increasing revenues and risk of reliance on external funding sources. The prolonged wet weather also posed a significant financial challenge with the road network requiring considerable investment to rehabilitate the damaged infrastructure.



Funding services for your community

Rates, fees and charges contribute to Council providing a range of services to our community.

The below chart illustrates the distribution of operating expenditure under key service groupings, it does not account for income from fees and charges for each service.



Ensuring a financially sustainable future

A DISCIPLINED BUDGET

The 2022/2023 budget process was one of the most challenging that has faced Dubbo Regional Council since it was created in 2016.

Long-term financial sustainability continued to be a key challenge with an increased demand for services beyond what has traditionally been provided, cost shifting from other levels of government and aging infrastructure.

The disciplined budget for the year aimed to support financial sustainability ensuring a financial sustainable future for the region with a focus on being an effective and responsible leader for the community in terms of financial sustainability.

In adopting the 2022/2023 budget Council acknowledged that being measured with expenditure now is a vital step in managing the increasing costs associated with running the current programs and service levels the community are accustomed to.

This also included organisational commitment to improve efficiencies and some tough decisions made in consultation with the community on priorities.

The 2022/2023 budget saw an increase to some of Council's fees and charges to ensure a continuation of delivery for services and the support of ongoing maintenance of facilities and asset renewal into the future.

Council remains committed to the principals of the adopted Financial Strategy and Policy that resulted from the Long-Term Financial Plan.

The policy is designed to:

- achieve financial sustainability;
- manage asset backlog the prevent an infrastructure crisis;
- preserve essential public services in line with population growth;
- keep rates, fees and charges affordable;
- borrow at acceptable levels in line with intergenerational equality;
- meet the financial benchmarks prescribed by the Office of Local Government.

SERVICE REVIEWS

Council continues to undertake a series of service reviews across the organisation which are centred on understanding the current community investment and value return of the current model as well as exploring alternative models or service levels Council provide increased values or retain the same level of community value with less cost.

FUTURE ACTION

Council will continue to undertake further actions to support a financial sustainable future including:

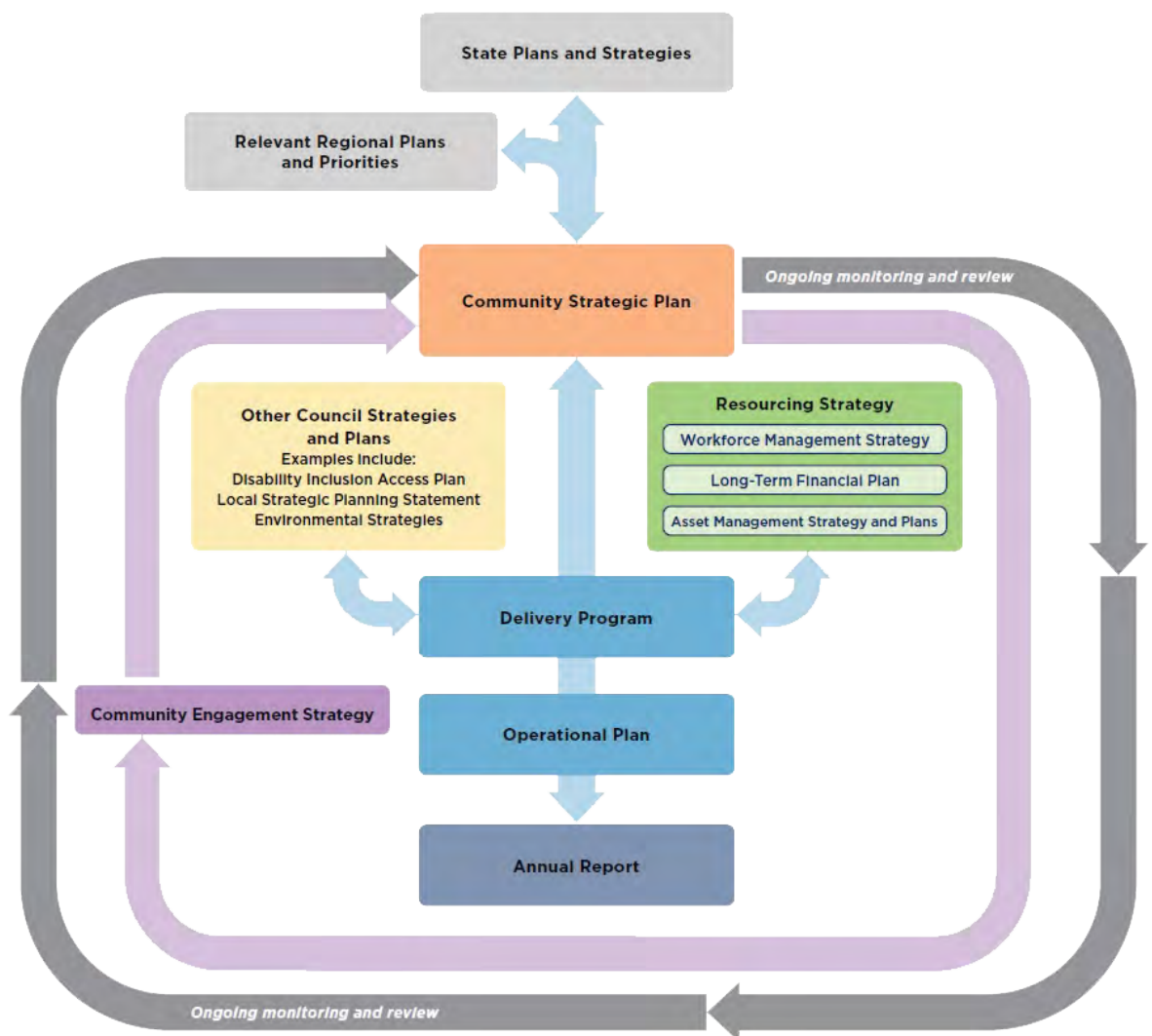
- Undertake and Independent Financial Sustainability Review;
- Reviews of current expenditure to identify possible opportunities for budget reductions;
- A review of restricted reserves set aside for certain purposes to determine if they are adequate;
- A review of property holdings to identify under-utilised assets;
- A review of funding sources to fund new capital works;
- Continue to pursue grants that may be available with focus been asset renewals.



Delivering to support community aspirations

Operational Plan 2022/2023

The 12 month Operational Plan of the endorsed Delivery Program was implemented on 1 July 2022. The Delivery Program stems from the overarching Community Strategic Plan that reflects the community's aspirations for the future of the Dubbo Region.



Council's Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework.

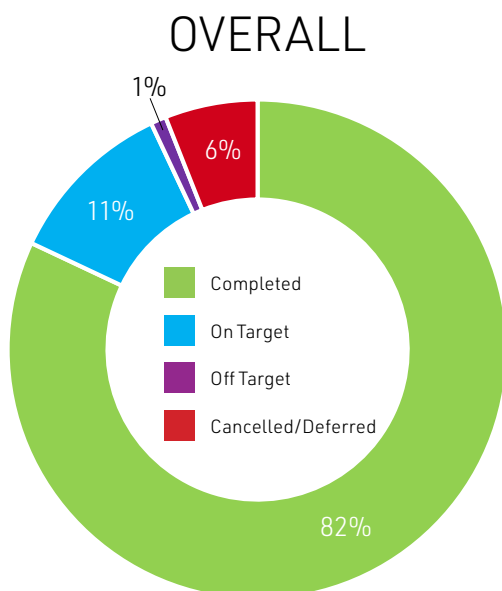
Performance is evaluated through principal activities with 268 actions reported as complete, on target/off target or cancelled/deferred. As Council operates to support, strengthen, lead and serve the regional community, a diverse selection of actions are provided below for each principal activity, aimed to clearly link agreed actions with community outcome, value or benefit. A full performance report against all actions for the period can be found on Council’s website – [Community Strategic Plan - Dubbo Regional Council](#).

The 2022/2023 Delivery Program and Operational Plan contains 268 actions which have been separated into the following six themes:

- Housing (29 actions)
- Infrastructure (50 actions)
- Economy (33 actions)
- Leadership (43 actions)
- Liveability (73 actions)
- Environmental Sustainability (40 actions)

DEFINITIONS:

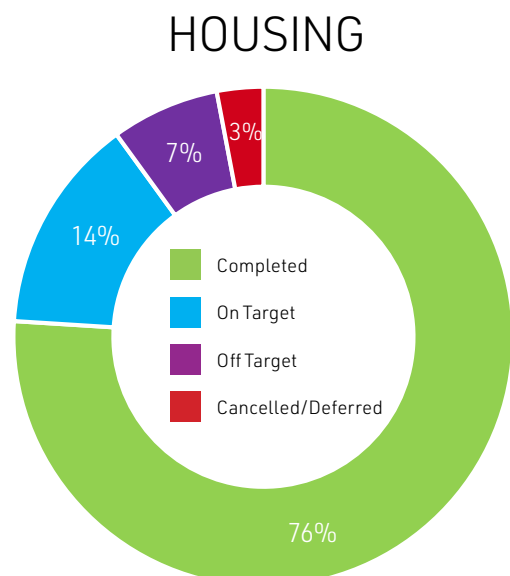
- Completed – action completed within the year
- On Target– at 30 June 2023 action was still underway and on track for delivery
- Off Target – progression of action was delayed but will be undertaken
- Cancelled/Deferred – action was not delivered
- Not Due to Start



Housing

Aspiration: 'We are a well-designed region that includes a variety of housing types, densities, locations and price points'

- Investment supported with 762 Development Applications and Compliant Development Certificate approvals provided to the value of \$378,582,758, an increase in value of 34% on the previous year.
- Regional housing was supported with Council providing input into the review on the Accommodation Employment Strategy for various green energy projects within the Central-West Orana REZ.
- Strategic planning activities continued with the North-West Precinct Master Plan and Development Control Plan adopted by Council at the June 2023 Council meeting for public display. The plan has the future potential to deliver approximately 6,000 residential lots within 2km of the Dubbo Central Business District.
- Works progressed on a range of planning items in the Central West Urban Release Area towards residential and employment land development in the precinct.
- Works commenced including project scoping for further strategic work at Montefiores at Wellington.
- There are a number of active development approvals for multi-storey residential and tourist and visitor accommodation in the Dubbo Central Business District.
- Engagement with industry and key development proponents undertaken to improve identification and capturing of benefits for our community through Voluntary Planning Agreements. Five requests to enter into Voluntary Planning Agreements are still undergoing assessment.
- A wide range of advocacy activities have been undertaken regarding accommodation issues across the LGA with consultation undertaken with Community Housing Providers and groups through the Dubbo Supply Reference Group, Interagency networks and with the State Government Department of Communities and Justice.
- Council continues to explore further ways of assisting in the development of housing across the LGA including through policy and other means.





Inspections of private swimming pools



177

Private swimming pool inspections



163

Compliance Certificates issued



50

Non-Compliance Certificates issued

Development



762

DAs and CDCs approved



\$378,582,758

Value of approved DAs and CDCs



451

New residential blocks



1

Development Application refused



468

Total residential dwellings approved (includes single dwellings and other dwellings)



301

Residential related buildings (pools, sheds, carports, patios, fences etc)



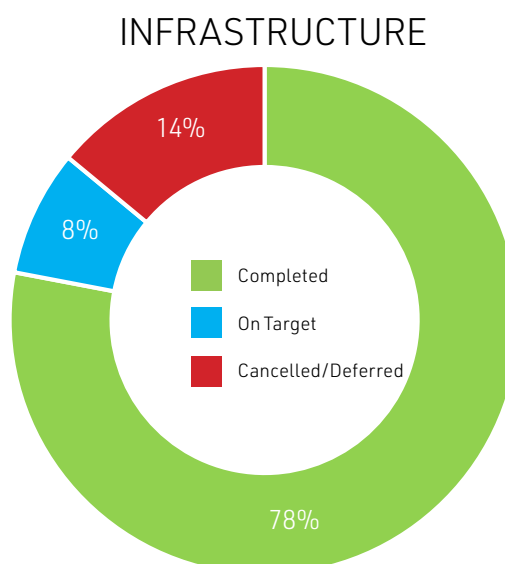
71

Commercial, industrial and other developments approved (eg: business premises, childcare, educational, health, signs)

Infrastructure

Aspiration: 'We have well-maintained, fit for purpose and new infrastructure that helps our community grow'

- The sealing of the gravel road on Ballimore Road between the Windora Road intersection and Wongajong Lane intersection was completed.
- Following the installation of 150 parking sensors in the CBD area there has been a noticeable increase in the turnover of carparks in the area which means that people have a better chance of getting a park in the CBD and more people can access the shops and services in the area.
- The survey, design and assessment of environmental factors for stage one road works on Eulalie Lane has been complete. The project development will continue with construction commencing in the 2023/2024 financial year.
- Consultation has continued with consultants and developers from the Central West Orana Renewable Energy Zone to discuss designs and infrastructure needs to support the proposed renewable energy developments. Council received a grant from Energy Co to provide technical, advisory and consultation services directly related to development and acceleration of the project.
- Council staff have been regularly liaising with Transport for NSW to discuss projects proposed under the 16 Cities Program, including continual review and feedback for bus stop locations proposed around the city of Dubbo. Council staff also facilitated the reporting of proposed bus stop locations to the Local Traffic Committee and Council in May 2023. The 16 Cities program will be rolled out in the 2023/2024 financial year.
- Repairing potholes on local roads throughout the Dubbo region has been a priority with over 20,000 potholes filled by the Jetpatcher crews, following the severe rain events at the end of 2022.
- An extensive heavy patching road repairs program for a number of regional and rural roads was completed. The program was funded by the NSW Government's Regional and Local Roads Repair Program which provided funding for road repairs affected by 2022 flooding.
- The Wellington pedestrian bridge over the Bell River opened in September 2022. The bridge features a striking arch structure that replaces the original suspension bridge and was funded by DRC and the Australian Government Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Fund.
- Council completed major upgrades to the grandstand at Victoria Park No. 1 Oval. The project included removal of existing seating and the installation of new flooring and seating. The project was funded from NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Fund Round Four.





Water and sewer



20,338
Water services



19,081
Sewer services



81,737
Meter reads



71
Gross Pollutant Traps (GPTs)

Roads



5.92 km
New roads
constructed

33.2 km
Roads
re-sheeted



2,140
Number of customer requests
received in relation to
transport assets

Fleet



830
Items



\$38M
Value

Waste services



81,118 tonnes
Entombed at Whylandra



2,983 tonnes
Entombed at other waste facilities

**558 tonnes recycled material
sent off site**
(448 tonnes scrap metal, 18 tonnes
E-Waste, 20 tonnes batteries, 8
tonnes waste oil, 37 tonnes tyres & 27
tonnes CRC)

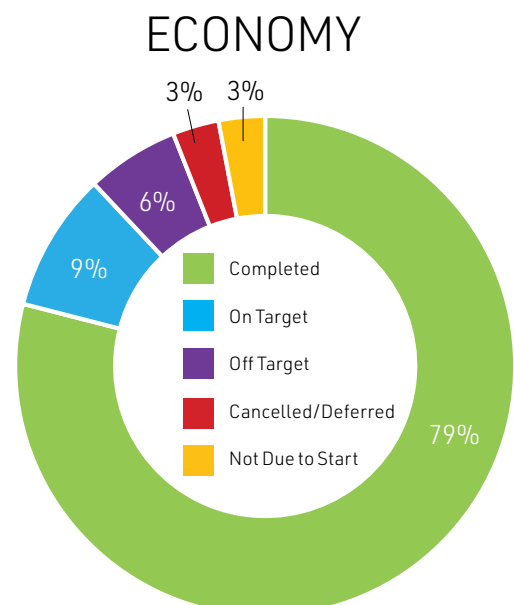


7,999
Tipping vouchers used

Economy

Aspiration: 'We have a strong and diverse local economy that provides employment opportunities for people of all ages and abilities'

- The Dubbo and Wellington Visitor Information Centres welcomed 88,746 visitors through the doors in the last financial year and responded to 4,166 email enquiries.
- The Dubbo and Wellington Visitor Information Centres played a crucial role in connecting local businesses with Council's Partnership Programs, including the Destination Partnership Program, New Resident Program and Welcome Night events and the Visitor's Information Partnership Program.
- A range of capital works projects were completed including the Old Dubbo Gaol's underground infrastructure project and repointing and plinth storage and the Wellington Cathedral Cave Floor Platform.
- The Destination Events Fund Stream 1 and Stream 2 supported the combined delivery of 17 events to the region, injecting \$13.2 million in to the local economy. These events included the Wellington Vintage Fair, Burrendong Fishing Classic, Cricket NSW Youth Championships, NSW Swimming Championships and NSW Touch Junior State Cup.
- Council's Economic Development Services team facilitated 107 business development and investment enquiries across the region. In addition, the team delivered several economic development programs including the Western Sydney Jobs Expo, Trade-Up to Dubbo and Wellington, Shop Local campaign, Dubbo Skills Platform and the MyDubbo Region Shopping Card.
- Activities undertaken to support investment in Dubbo and Wellington CBDs included facilitating 20 specific enquires relating to CBD expansion or investment, development of Local Government Area investment collateral, ongoing expansion and promotion of the My Dubbo Region Shopping Card with a focus on CBD businesses.
- Council participated in numerous industry networking forums and facilitated discussions and negotiations with a number of large supply chain and circular economy/renewable energy related companies in relation to Dubbo Region opportunities.





Operations



180,550
Passengers through airport



37,684 For ticketed events at DRTCC
33,218 For non-ticketed events at DRTCC
70,902 Total visitors to DRTCC



88,746
Visitors to Information Centres
in Dubbo and Wellington



51,546
Old Dubbo Gaol visitors



25,291
Wellington Caves visitors



130,877
Western Plains Cultural Centre visitors

Dubbo Regional Livestock Markets



153,164
Cattle



4,433
Goats



1,000,469
Sheep

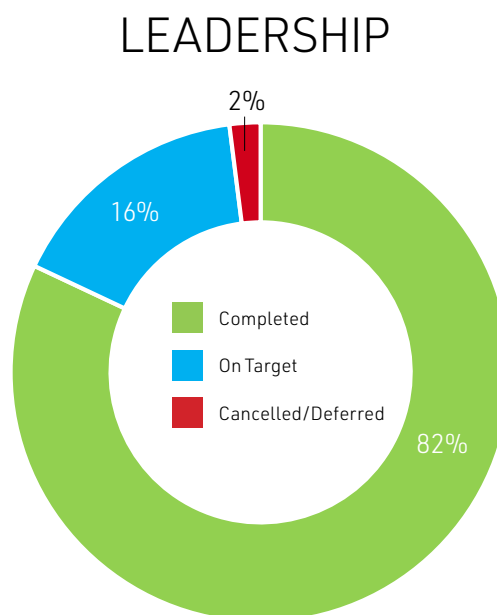


6,030
Truckwashes

Leadership

Aspiration: 'We have leaders who are engaged, transparent, accountable and represent the best interests of our community'

- Council launched an online engagement platform with YourSay serving as a central resource for information for community consultation on projects and programs in addition to public exhibitions. The YourSay platform is accessible 24/7 on all devices and features a translation option to convert the website into one of the top 10 languages spoken in the Dubbo region.
- Council and external grant opportunities actively promoted to community through online grant hub with close to 600 registrations.
- Proactive and reactive media engagement with local, state and national media platforms continues while promotion of council activities also uses key platforms such as social media, website and digital communications.
- DRC&ME is continually expanding the online services available and continual reviews are conducted in further developing the service to ensure a user friendly product. Additional services in development for the platform include GIPA Applications, Pensioner Rebates, Water Connections and Trade Waste Applications, Footpath Dining/ Sign Permits and Footpath Bookings for CBD areas - Busking, BBQ's, Stalls.
- Council is part of a number of formal and informal strategic alliances, including resource sharing with neighbouring Councils.
- Council adopted the Smart Council Strategy in September 2022, which established guiding principles to address opportunities of technological change and actions undertaken in line with adopted implementation plans.
- Community Committees continued to increase active engagement with the wider community as well as supporting improved decision making.





Customer experience



46,275
Calls handled



1 min 2 secs
Average wait time in queue



92%
Calls answered within 60 seconds



8%
Overall call abandoned rate



10,171 Over-the-counter interactions – Dubbo
2,878 Over-the-counter interactions – Wellington



253
Offline messages processed



4,761
Customer requests lodged through DRC&ME



14,793
Customer experience interactions via email correspondence



1,172
Web chats from Council's corporate website



37,332
Customer service requests lodged through Customer Request Management System



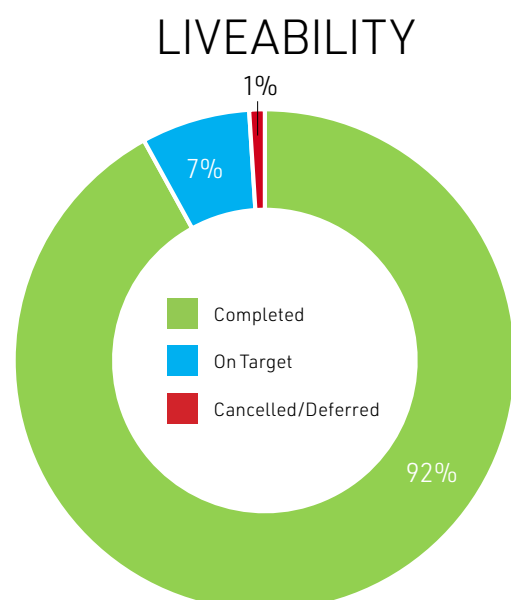
Most popular requests

Rates – 7,717
Waste – 5,606
Planning – 1,650
Ranger Services – 3,281
Water & Sewerage – 2,594
Building – 2,350
Roads – 2,739

Liveability

Aspiration: 'We are a diverse, vibrant, safe and healthy region that includes a variety of public spaces and amenities'

- Council has ongoing partnership agreements with both the Wellington Aboriginal Action Panel and Dubbo Aboriginal Community Working Party with a focus on improving and advancing First Nations communities. The partnerships assist in making sure Indigenous people have the opportunity to apply a cultural lens to Council projects affecting the community and give them a voice in the decision making process.
- Council continues to work with Aboriginal artists and organisations to facilitate First Nations content across Council facilities.
- Council joined the Welcoming Cities Network as a non-fee network member. Welcoming Cities recognises that local Councils are best placed to understand the complexity and diversity of their communities.
- Council continues to provide support to Dubbo Hospital in the planning and development areas, as well as support to other medical services that assist our community.
- Planning activities continue to be undertaken for the extension of River Street and the implementation of the Dubbo Transportation Strategy.
- The Macquarie River Master Plan (North and South Precincts) was adopted in April 2023 following extensive community consultation.
- Council continues to attract major regional and state events to the region across a number of sporting codes including the NSW Touch Football Junior State Carnival, State Athletics and Cricket carnivals.
- Council partnered with Create NSW to deliver additional programs and exhibitions at the Western Plains Cultural Centre including exhibitions including the 2022 Archibald prize.





Recreation and open space



32

Sporting facilities to maintain



2

Master plans adopted: Macquarie River Master plan and Wellington Street Tree Master plan.
One master plan in progress: Delroy Parklands

Community services



32

Community service based events



184

CCTV cameras



205

Family Day Care participants



100

Rainbow Cottage participants



150

Cemetery interments (including ashes)

Aquatic leisure centres



129,351

Visitors



344

Learn to swim classes held

Macquarie regional libraries



117,222

Visitors in the Dubbo and Wellington branches



209,698

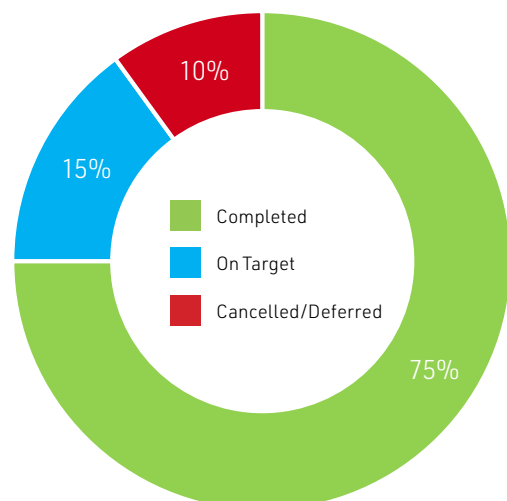
Items loaned

Environmental Sustainability

Aspiration: 'We achieve net zero emissions, recognise, plan for and respond to the impacts of climate change, manage land use and improve the built and natural environment and plan for and mitigate the impacts of natural events and disasters'

- Monthly meetings held with Energy Co which include the revision of short term accommodation issues and overall Renewable Energy Zone considerations.
- Council provided a water saving educational theatre and interactive workshop incursion, Water Smart and Friends, to over 1,500 primary school students with 13 performances at nine schools.
- Council continues to subscribe to the Water Conservancy who provide a range of water efficiency information and materials for the community.
- Continued engagement with property owners to monitor their water usage with the smart meter technology through the MyDRC Water customer portal.
- Two new production bores and associated pipelines were constructed in Wellington and investigations commenced to potentially run the facility on 100 per cent bore water.
- Two new production bores and associated pipelines were constructed in Geurie and five new production bores and associated pipelines were constructed in Dubbo.
- Parks and Bushcare programs support and facilitate volunteer efforts.
- Council has continued to advocate to State Government to assist in restoring degraded environments. Council has received \$300,000 for the Bell River bank stabilisation project, \$650,000 for restoration of Pioneer Park paths and surrounds, \$590,000 for Pioneer Park irrigation and rehabilitation of Pioneer Park western carpark back to a natural state. A further \$100k has been granted for Flying Fox Foraging habitat restoration.
- The Geurie Flood Risk Management Plan was adopted by Council in March 2023.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY





5 fast & 4 destination

EV charging stations



6

Social media education campaigns



\$1.64M

State Government funding to assist in restoring degraded environments



4

Strategies and plans adopted



15 hectares

Irrigated with backwash water



1,050kms

Roadsides inspected for priority weeds

DRC's Zero Emission Fleet Strategy and Implementation Plan

Key initiatives implemented under the Zero Emissions Fleet Strategy and Implementation Plan, adopted in December 2022 so far, have included:

Light Vehicles (procured)

- In 2021 an electric vehicle was purchased for the Dubbo Visitor Information Centre
- In 2023 two more electric vehicles (Teslas) were purchased for Council staff
- In 2023 one electric mower was purchased

Charging Infrastructure for Fleet (installed):

- Macquarie Regional Library, Dubbo (1 x 7kW electric vehicle charger)
- Civic Administration Building, Dubbo (4 x 22kW electric vehicle chargers)
- Council Depot, Hawthorne St Dubbo (1 x 11kW electric vehicle charger)

Renewable electricity for Council



- Close to 400 kW of solar installed on Council's buildings
- Council's small sites electricity contract 100% renewable (Green Power) from 1 January 2023.
- Council's large site and street light electricity contract from 1 July 2023 will have an increasing component of renewable electricity and directly supports local wind farm Bodangora located near Wellington and within the Central West Orana Renewable Energy Zone.

Capital works highlights

The capital works program for 2022/2023 included construction, upgrades of community facilities, roads, footpaths, storm water drainage networks as well as park facilities and playground.

New Terrabella Bridge

The new Terrabella Bridge across Little River south of Dubbo near Geurie officially opened in December 2022. Located between Benolong and Terrabella roads, the new bridge cost \$4.37M and has replaced a 101-year-old, single-lane, timber bridge which could no longer be used. Funding for the Terrabella Bridge involved all three levels of government.

Wellington Pedestrian Bridge

The new Wellington pedestrian bridge was opened in September 2022 thanks to a joint development between Dubbo Regional Council (DRC) and the Australian Government. The new bridge included Australian Standard compliant ramps for access and mobility to ensure safe, convenient and inclusive bridge use. The 41.5 metre truss arch bridge replaces the original suspension bridge which was closed five years ago as it was deemed unsafe following a structural assessment. However, elements of the old bridge will be retained for heritage significance and interpretive signs have been developed to convey the iconic installation's history.

Nita McGrath Netball Courts Resurfacing

The resurfacing of eight existing courts at the Nita McGrath Netball Courts was supported by funding from Round Four of the NSW Government's Stronger Country Communities Fund. The resurfacing project upgraded the playing surface of the courts bringing the facility up to Netball NSW competition standards. The works rectified cracking in the existing court surfaces which posed a risk of trips and falls for participants. The surface of each court was covered with rubber matting before a top coat was applied and line marked.

Dubbo Showground improvements

The Dubbo Showground has undergone a number of improvements, the most notable being the creation of the Pavilion Piazza. The new Pavilion Piazza added a new paved area in front of the pavilions with seating to create a central meeting place for patrons to utilise. This improvement was made possible with funding provided by the NSW Government Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's Showground Stimulus Fund. The funding was provided to numerous showgrounds across the state to benefit local communities, deliver economic stimulus, showground maintenance and improvement outcomes.



Region Community Partner Transport for NSW Director Holly Davies, Member for Dubbo Dugald Saunders MP, DRC Mayor Mathew Dickerson, DRC Deputy Mayor Richard Ivey, DRC Councillor Damien Mahon and local residents at the opening of Terrabella bridge.

Funding: NSW Government Fixing Country Roads Program \$2,716,000 and Fixing Country Bridges Program \$454,000.



Nita McGrath Netball Courts Resurfacing

Total project value: \$500,000

Funding: NSW Government Stronger Country Communities Fund - Round 4



Wellington Pedestrian Bridge

Total project value: \$1.26M

Funding: Australian Government Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Phase 2 \$935,503 and DRC.



Victoria Park Play Space

Total project value: \$848,000

Funding: DRC \$698,000 part of the Playground Strategy for the Local Government Area.
Australian Government Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Phase 1 \$150,000 for the red rocket



Dubbo Showground pavillion piazza

Funding: \$544,790 NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Crown Lands Showgrounds Stimulus Funding Program

Awards and recognition

- Old Dubbo Gaol – Silver award Cultural Tourism category 2022 NSW Tourism Awards;
- Old Dubbo Gaol - Upgrade Stage 1 of the Gallows Gallery – Winner 'Exhibition Projects – Museums – Medium' category 2022 IMAGinE awards



Annual statutory report 2022/2023

Audited financial reports

A copy of the council's audited financial reports prepared in accordance with the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting published by the Department, as in force from time to time.

To access Council's Financial Statements please click on the link below:

dubbo.nsw.gov.au/About-Council/Our-Responsibilities/financial-statements

Anti-slavery commissioner

Must contain a statement detailing the action taken by the council in relation to any issue raised by the Anti-slavery Commissioner during the year concerning the operations of the council and identified by the Commissioner as being a significant issue.

No issues raised by Anti-slavery Commissioner in 2022/2023

Modern slavery

Must contain a statement of steps taken to ensure that goods and services procured by and for the council during the year were not the product of modern slavery within the meaning of the Modern Slavery Act 2018

Council is committed in creating effective systems and controls to safeguard against any form of modern slavery taking place within the business or our supply chain. All Council employees as well as private business partners are obliged by the Code of Conduct and Statement of business ethics in carrying out the business dealings with Council.

Steps taken by Council in 2022/2023:

- Procurement strives to ensure compliance with modern slavery legislation through its operations. We may terminate a contract where a supplier is in breach of its obligations in respect to the Modern Slavery provisions and/or require a contractor to remove any subcontractor or staff member suspected or known to have committed a Modern Slavery offence from the performance of the services;
- Reviewed and updated our Statement of Business Ethics of Council to include Modern Slavery, diversity and inclusion, this document sets out the standards to be complied by the supplier;
- We have reviewed and updated our due diligence in procurement documentation, contracts and tender documents to include Modern Slavery;
- All procurement staff including Fleet and Stores department have been trained in identifying and addressing the risk of Modern Slavery within procurement and ongoing learning will take place;
- Identified high risk markets and categories within the supply chain in order to more proactively combat risks of modern slavery; and
- Incorporated specific guidance into our procurement tendering and contract documentation including self-assessment questionnaire.

Environmental upgrade agreement

Include particulars of any environmental upgrade agreement entered into by the council.

Dubbo Regional Council did not enter into environmental upgrade agreements in 2022/2023.

Activities funded by special rate variation

Report on activities funded via a special rate variation of general income including:

- *reporting requirements set out in the Instrument of Approval*
- *projects or activities funded from the variation*
- *outcomes achieved as a result of the project or activities*

The Minister for Local Government has approved Special Variation Rate increases of two per cent above the general increase for 2004/2005, four percent for 2005/2006 and five percent for 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 for the former Dubbo City Council. These Special Variation increases were an essential element of Council's strategy for funding the long-term requirements for the maintenance and improvement of its Civil Infrastructure (Roads and Footpaths) Asset Base, Parks and Landcare maintenance and renewals, and the construction and ongoing operations of the Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre. A condition of the approval of these special variations is that expenditures are clearly reported in the Annual Report. In 2022/2023, the total revenue generated from the Special Variations was \$4.095M which was fully expended during the year on the following areas:

- Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre operations
- Asset Maintenance:
 - Urban Parks Asset Maintenance
 - Rural Parks Asset Maintenance
 - Sporting Facilities Asset Maintenance
- Roadworks:
 - Urban Preconstruction and General Maintenance.

The Minister for Local Government approved a permanent Additional Special Variation (ASV) in 2022/2023 to increase council's rate peg from 0.7% to the 2.3% budgeted for as part of the 2021/2022 Long Term Financial Plan. The guidelines required Councils to show that they had budgeted for higher income than that provided by the rate peg and that they need the additional money to deliver on the projects they have already planned and included in their budgets. The additional \$644,116 generated from the ASV was used to ensure that Dubbo Regional Council had the ability to fund the existing asset renewal program and improve the general fund operating performance ratio.

As part of the approved special variation application, it was a requirement to report on Councils actual revenues, expenses and operating result against projections specified in the application, along with explanation of any significant variances, which is provided in the table below:

General Fund	Original Forecast \$'000"	Actual Expenditure \$'000	Variance \$'000	Explanation
Income from Continuing Operations				
Revenue:				
Rates & Annual Charges	47,084	49,296	2,212	
User Charges & Fees	22,199	24,643	2,444	
Interest & Investment Revenue	1,410	4,248	2,838	
Other Revenues	2,051	3,180	1,129	
Grants & Contributions provided for Operating Purposes	20,513	28,292	7,779	
Grants & Contributions provided for Capital Purposes	7,350	45,930	38,580	Capital contributions received and additional capital grant income to fund additional capital expenditure.
Other Income:				
Net gains/(loss) from the disposal of assets	2,629	(1,966)	(4,595)	Land sales did not settle in this financial year as originally planned.
Total Income from Continuing Operations	103,236	153,623		
Expenses from Continuing Operations				
Employee Benefits & On-Costs	40,449	37,240	(3,209)	Savings in employee benefits due to vacant positions.
Borrowing Costs	930	1,155	225	
Materials & Contracts	23,513	38,622	15,109	Reclassification of other expenses to materials and contracts.
Depreciation & Amortisation	34,491	41,646	7,155	Adjustment required due to recent indexation for airport runways and taxiways, buildings, other structures and roads asset classes.
Other Expenses	13,126	3,045	(10,081)	Reclassification of other expenses to materials and contracts.
Net Losses from the Disposal of Assets	-	2,873	2,873	
Total Expenses from Continuing Operations	112,508	124,581		
Operating Result from Continuing Operations	(9,272)	29,042		
Net operating result for the year before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	(16,623)	(16,888)		

Rates and charges written off

Rates and charges written off by Dubbo Regional Council during 2022/2023:

Description	Amount \$
Rates - Pension Rebates (S583(1))	1,337,579.97
Rates - Postponed Rates (S595(1))	12,488.46
Rates - Non Rateable properties (S555(1))	984.50
Charges - Interest on Postponed Rates	3,401.51
Charges - Amounts which were unrecoverable	108.15

Councillor training and progression development

Information about induction training and ongoing professional development:

- the names of any mayor or councillors who completed any induction training course, induction refresher course or supplementary induction course during the year,
- the names of any mayor or councillors who participated in any ongoing professional development program during the year,
- the number of seminars, circulars and other activities delivered as part of the ongoing professional development program during the year.

All Councillors (listed below) participated in professional development through in-house workshops to provide background information and discussion on important matters. There were 14 various workshops held for the financial year. There were seven seminars, circulars and other activities delivered as part of the ongoing professional development program during the year.

Mathew Dickerson
Richard Ivey
Joshua Black
Lewis Burns
Shibli Chowdhury
Vicki Etheridge
Jessica Gough
Damien Mahon
Pamella Wells
Matthew Wright

Overseas visits

Details, (including purpose) of overseas visits by councillors, council staff or other persons representing council (including visits sponsored by other organisations).

There was no overseas visits by Councillors, Council staff or other persons representing Council during 2022/2023.

Council notes that a deposit of \$4,800 was paid in June 2023 relating to the Sister City Student Exchange visit to Minokamo, Japan by Dubbo students in September 2023.

Payment of expense and provision of facilities to Councillors

Total cost during the year of the payment of expenses of, and the provision of facilities to councillors in relation to their civic functions (this amount must equal the reported amount in the financial statements).

Identify separate details on the total cost of:

- i. provision of dedicated office equipment allocated to councillors
- ii. telephone calls made by councillors
- iii. attendance of councillors at conferences and seminars
- iv. the provision of induction training and professional development for mayor and other councillors
- v. training of councillors and provision of skill development
- vi. interstate visits by councillors, including transport, accommodation and other out-of-pocket travelling expenses
- vii. overseas visits by councillors, including transport, accommodation and other out-of-pocket travelling expenses
- viii. expenses of any spouse, partner or other person who accompanied a councillor in the performance of his or her civic functions, being expenses payable in accordance with the Guidelines for the payment of expenses and the provision of facilities for the mayor and councillors
- ix. expenses involved in the provision of care for a child of, or an immediate family member of a councillor.

Mayoral and Councillor Fees (inclusive of superannuation) for the period 1 July 2022 until 30 June 2023 was \$372,288.

Mayor and Councillor Travel Subsistence within NSW for the period 1 July 2022 until 30 June 2023 was \$27,093.

Description	Amount \$
provision of dedicated office equipment allocated to councillors	Nil
telephone calls made by councillors	3,408
attendance of councillors at conferences and seminars	14,143
the provision of induction training and professional development for mayor and other councillors	11,116
training of councillors and provision of skill development	As above
interstate visits by councillors, including transport, accommodation and other out-of-pocket travelling expenses	11,412
overseas visits by councillors, including transport, accommodation and other out-of-pocket travelling expenses	Nil
expenses of any spouse, partner or other person who accompanied a councillor in the performance of his or her civic functions, being expenses payable in accordance with the Guidelines for the payment of expenses and the provision of facilities for the mayor and councillors	Nil
expenses involved in the provision of care for a child of, or an immediate family member of a councillor	Nil

Contacts awarded

Details of each contract awarded (other than employment contracts & contracts less than \$150,000) including:

- name of contractor
- nature of goods or services supplied
- total amount payable.

Name of supplier	Goods/services	Amount \$
Large Industries Pty Ltd T/as JLE Electrical	Dubbo Showground-Electrical upgrade for Harness tr Dubbo Showground (VP 308661)	197,919.63
Regional Quarries Australia Pty Ltd	T21-017 - Old Mendooran Rd - Supply of Quarry Product 3051 DGB20 HD FA	183,401.14
Toro Australia Group Sales Pty Ltd	VP318204 - supply of one Toro Groundmaster 5900	194,461.00
Colas New South Wales Pty Ltd	Old Mendooran Road - Supply and install two coat s pray seal 14/10mm with C240 binder.	300,000.00
Murray Constructions Pty Ltd	Design and Construct Benolong Bridge	2,179,417.90
SNG Engineering Pty Ltd	CD22/3830 -Tamworth Street Water Main replacement - construction of water main	198,913.00
Hako Australia Pty Ltd	VP316419 - supply of one Hako Citymaster 1650 Compact Sweeper	197,252.75
SNG Engineering	CD22/3829 Upgrade of Palmer Street Sewerage Pump Station Wellington	229,838.40
Lackon Pty Ltd	Project Management Services for Construction of New Animal Shelter	224,563.42
Mark Wright Premier Landscapes	Keswick Estate Stage 5 Release 1 - Supply and Installation of Landscaping	476,393.00
Workcontrol Operations Pty Ltd	Traffic Control Services - Wellington Area Traffic Control Various roads	371,831.27
OMNI Building Group Pty Ltd	CD22/4277 Old Dubbo Goal Roof Restoration	185,800.00
SNG Engineering Pty Ltd	CD22/3970 - Queen and Kennedy Street Water Main Replacement Project	246,485.91
Upright Management Pty Ltd T/as Upright Management	T22-004 - Project management Services Fee for Northern Borefield Pipeline Project	178,200.00
SNG Engineering Pty Ltd	CD22/5413 (T22-002) Troy Gully SPS Upgrade Project	2,912,255.50
Haydjack Pty Ltd T/as O'Brien Electrical Dubbo	CD22/3670 - Supply and installation of sports lights for John McGrath Fields	710,083.00
L-Don Sporting Areas Pty Ltd	CD22/3671 - Resurfacing of Nita McGrath Netball Courts	432,184.00
Department of Regional NSW T/as NSW Public Works Advisory	Troy Gully Project - Project Management Services fee	207,083.39
Figgis & Jefferson Tapa Pty Ltd T/as Figgis & Jefferson/TEPA	Consultancy Service - New Animal Shelter Facility - Surveyor,Town Planning, Geotechnical, Environmental , Structural, etc	150,022.00
Tracserv Pty Ltd T/as Tracserv	VP340949 - Supply of one Isuzu FVD165-300 Single Cab Tipping Truck	221,393.50
Tracserv Pty Ltd T/as Tracserv	VP340948 - Supply of one Isuzu FVD165-300 Single Cab Tipping Truck	221,393.50
Aitken Civil Engineering Pty Ltd	T22-014 - Construction of Northern RPT Apron Expansion Project and Stormwater Drainage	1,767,900.20
Westrac Pty Ltd	VP340950 - Please supply one Caterpillar CW34 Multi Tyre Roller , less trade of a Multipack 524H Multi Tyre Roller	254,216.80
Civil Independence Industries Pty Ltd	VP341155 - AC Mill and Fill as Night Works - Wheelers Lane Keswick Roundabout	159,885.00
Department of Regional NSW T/as NSW Public Works Advisory	Project Management Services Fee -Macquarie Event Precinct - Legacy Boardwalk Shared Pathway	229,135.50

Name of supplier	Goods/services	Amount \$
HIWAY Stabilizers Australia Pty Ltd	Ballimore Road Stage 2 - Stabilisation - Supply of Labour, Plant & Equipment; Stabilisation Product to Stabilise 4,955m ³ of road pavement	182,917.90
Trident Services Australia Pty Ltd	Dubbo City Airport - Screening Services Contract - March 2023 to June 2023	750,200.00
Iberdrola Australia Energy Markets Pty Ltd	Power Purchase Agreement - Large Sites	Schedule of Rate
Dionysus Group Pty Ltd T/as Western Project Services	Project Management Engagement for Disaster Management Recovery claims	246,829.00
Audit Office of New South Wales	Audit fees for financial 2022/23, Additional, etc Audit fees for financial 2022/23 Additional audit procedures required due to change in ASA 315 Additional audit procedures required to review comprehensive valuation of asset classes	160,820.00
Impax Group Pty Ltd	DWS025 - Sunnyside - Construct Production and Monitoring Bore	220,990.00
Impax Group Pty Ltd	DWS025 - Nevadon 1 - Construct Production and Monitoring Bore	200,090.00
Impax Group Pty Ltd	DWS025 - Nevadon 2 - Construct Production Bore	167,090.00
Audit Office of New South Wales	Audit Fees for Financial year 2022/2023 and Audit Fees for Financial year 2021/2022	160,820.00
Talis Unit Trust T/as Talis Consultants Pty Ltd	Consultancy Services - Waste Strategy for Wellington Whylandra - Master Plans, Concept Design & Landfill Plans	163,662.41
Contour 3D Pty Ltd	CD22/4523 - Construction of 3D Concrete Amenities Block - Lions Park	316,907.41
Tracserv Pty Ltd T/as Tracserv	VP356285 - Supply of one Isuzu NQR87-190 Dual Cab Truck	168,284.50
Allflow Systems & Solutions Pty Ltd	JGWTP Filters - 3 and 4 refurbishment JGWTP Filters	202,206.40
Department of Regional NSW T/as NSW Public Works Advisory	Project Management Services - Legacy Boardwalk Shared Pathway Project	188,971.20
GPS Plumbing Drainage & Gasfitting	Sewerage Replacement Works - Huckle Street	215,589.00
Lightwell Group Pty Ltd	Digital Upgrade - Create NSW Digital Upgrade	259,267.62
GCM Enviro Pty Ltd	VP352757 - Supply of one Tana H320 Landfill Compactor with Carlson GPS	1,012,715.00
Bruno Altin & Co Pty Ltd	Dubbo Regional Airport - Supply of Pipes	237,875.00
Jacobs Group Australia	Procurement for Design of River Street West/Newell Highway	391,325.00
Rosmech Sales & Service Pty Ltd	VP357261 - (Plant 166) Supply of one Mistral Isuzu FSR120-260 Sweeper Tuck	979,167.20
TWS Evolution Pty Ltd	Dubbo Water Treatment Plant - Design and Construction of Fluoride Plant	1,203,254.00
Mainline Plumbing and Civil Pty Ltd	Infrastructure Delivery Office Building - Hawthorn Street Dubbo	153,865.23
GHD Pty Ltd	Consultancy Services - Residential PFAS Investigations - Dubbo City Regional Airport	155,910.00
Leed Engineering & Construction Pty Ltd	CD22/5442 - Construction of Northern Borefield Pipeline Stages 1 to 3	3,235,100.00
Westrac Pty Ltd	Supply of one CW34 Multi Tyred Roller	254,216.80
J R & E G Richards (NSW) Pty Ltd T/as J R Richards & Sons	Organics Processing - variance Band C to Band B tonnes presented @ DROPP	286,203.70
Belgravia Health and Leisure Group	Management of Dubbo Regional Council Aquatic Centres	7,990,920.30

Legal proceedings

Summary of the amounts incurred by the council in relation to legal proceedings including:

- *amounts incurred by council in relation to proceedings taken by or against council (including out of court settlements)*
- *summary of the state of the progress of each legal proceeding and (if finalised) the result.*

Compliance matter due to go to court, not finalised	\$2,500.00
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Private works

Include resolutions made concerning work carried out on private land, including:

- *details or a summary of any resolutions made under section; and*
- *details or summary of any work carried out, where the charge is less than the approved fee, the proposed fee to be charged and the total amount subsidised by council.*

There were no private works undertaken by Dubbo Regional Council in 2022/2023 which were either fully or partly subsidised by Council.

Contributions

Total amount contributed or otherwise granted to financially assist others.

Organisation	Donation \$
Barnardos Australia	6,507.00
Binjang Community Radio Inc	4,960.00
CanAssist Dubbo	15,000.00
Cerebral Palsy Alliance	2,182.00
Dubbo & District Family History Society	957.00
Dubbo and District Pipe Band	2,300.00
Dubbo District Concert Band	1,983.00
Dubbo Environment Group Inc - Dubbo Indian Myna Control Program	5,000.00
Dubbo Filmmakers Inc	5,500.00
Dubbo Legacy a Division of Orange Legacy	750.00
Emmanuel Care Centre	3,400.00
Girls Brigade Dubbo NSW	4,100.00
Lifeline Central West Inc	15,000.00
Mumbil Parents & Citizens Association Inc	7,319.00
Neurea Recreation Ground	6,500.00
Orana Early Childhood Intervention	3,840.00
Orana Heights Public School P&C Association	9,245.00
Orana Physical Culture Incorporated	1,600.00
Orana Toy Library	996.00
Red Cross, Wellington Branch	1,000.00
Red Cross, Wellington Branch	500.00
Red Cross, Wellington Branch	500.00
Rotary Club of Dubbo	2,000.00
RSPCA NSW	7,800.00
Stuart Town Action Group Inc	10,000.00
Stuart Town Action Group Inc	2,000.00
Stuart Town Advancement Association Inc	1,855.00
Wellington Arts Centre Inc	9,185.00
Wellington Community Progress and Action Group - Macquarie River Platypus Survey	5,000.00
Wellington Community Progress and Action Group - Clean Up Australia Day	4,000.00
Wellington Golf Club Ltd	5,812.00
Wellington Jnr Redbacks Rugby Club	9,528.00
Wellington Men's Shed	6,181.00
Wellington Town Band	3,500.00
TOTAL	166,000.00

External bodies

Statement of all external bodies that exercised functions delegated by council.

There were no external bodies that exercised functions under the delegation of Council.

Joint ventures

Statement of all corporations, partnerships, trusts, joint ventures, syndicates or other bodies in which council held a controlling interest.

Dubbo Regional Council held no controlling interest in any company during 2022/2023.

Statement of all corporations, partnerships, trusts, joint ventures, syndicates or other bodies (whether or no incorporated) in which the council participated during the year.

Macquarie Regional Library

Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan

Statement of activities undertaken to implement its EEO management plan.

Council's Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan (2021- 2023) outlines current actions, planned actions and measurable outcomes to continue to embed, support and improve EEO throughout the DRC employment life cycle. Some of the initiatives and action that have been delivered as per the plan are:

- Updated Council EEO Committee Management plan and Committee information on Council's intranet.
- Delivered Code of Conduct training enforcing behaviours in relation to harassment or discrimination in the workplace.
- Implemented changes to EEO statements in career advertisements and updates to the Work at Council section on our website highlighting diversity.
- Reviewing increased accessibility options for current and future employees as part of plans for building redesign.
- Conducted a survey of employee requirements for a space for cultural, religious or spiritual needs.
- Reviewing Council intranet with options for increased accessibility options for vision impaired.
- Conducted Aboriginal Cultural Awareness Training.
- Adopted traditional indigenous names for Council conference rooms in the Dubbo Administration Building.
- Project team established for the introduction of an Inclusion, Diversity and Belonging strategy for 2024 - 2026 to replace and build on the Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan.

Over the past year the EEO Committee have been actively involved in promoting EEO throughout the organisation and assisting in the implementation of the plan. The committee have proposed some initiatives and are working towards them in addition to the actions in the plan:

- Reviewing the use of traditional titling and introducing pronouns to encourage inclusivity.
- Staff celebrations of events that encourage diversity and inclusion including World Pride, Harmony Week and Wear it Purple Day.

Remuneration packages of all senior staff members

Statement of the total remuneration package of the general manager including:

- *total value of the salary component of the package - \$330,564*
- *total amount of any bonus, performance or other payments that do not form part of the salary component - \$Nil*
- *total amount payable by way of the employer's contribution or salary sacrifice to any superannuation scheme to which the general manager may be a contributor - \$25,292*
- *total value of any non-cash benefits for which the general manager may elect under the package - \$Nil*
- *total amount payable by way of fringe benefits tax for any such non-cash benefits - \$Nil*

Statement of the total remuneration packages of all senior staff members (other than GM), expressed as the total (not of the individual members) including:

- *total value of salary components of their packages - \$1,224,057*
- *total amount of any bonus, performance or other payments that do not form part of salary components of their packages - \$Nil*
- *total amount payable by the council by way of the employer's contribution or salary sacrifice to any superannuation scheme to which any of them may be a contributor - \$132,486*
- *total value of any non-cash benefits for which any of them may elect under the package - \$Nil*
- *total amount payable by way of fringe benefits tax for any such non-cash benefits - \$6,074*

Statement of paid work on Wednesday 23 November 2022

Statement of total number of persons who performed paid work on Wednesday 23 November 2022, including, in separate statements, total number of:

The number of persons directly employed by the council:

- *persons employed by the council on a permanent full-time, permanent part-time or casual basis or under a fixed-term contract - 522*
- *persons employed by the council as senior staff members - 6*
- *persons engaged by the council, under a contract or other arrangement with the person's employer, wholly or principally for the labour of the person - 2*
- *persons supplied to the council, under a contract or other arrangement with the person's employer, as an apprentice or trainee - 12*

Stormwater management services

A statement detailing the stormwater management services provided (if levied).

Stormwater Management Services	Budget \$	Actuals \$
Income from continuing operations	1,766,139	6,260,954
Expenses from continuing operations	3,182,525	2,568,295
Operating result surplus/(deficit)	(1,416,386)	3,692,659
Grants & Contributions included in income	194,943	4,695,109

Council's annual stormwater charges for Dubbo City defined urban area in 2022/2023 was \$103.06 per property, which generated income of \$1,668,333

Council's stormwater operations provide safe stormwater conveyance for the community throughout the Dubbo Regional Local Government Area.

Urban drainage assets include:

- Stormwater pipes 260km
- Stormwater pits 9,082
- Gross pollutant traps 71
- Stormwater channels 9.8km
- Stormwater basins 103
- Stormwater culverts 139

Companion Animals Act

Detailed statement, prepared in accordance with such guidelines as may be issued by the Director-General from time to time, of the council's activities during the year in relation to enforcing, and ensuring compliance with, the provisions of the Companion Animals Act 1988 (CA Act) and the Companion Animal Regulation 2018, including:

- *lodgement of pound data collection returns with OLG*
- *lodgement of data about dog attacks with OLG - 45 incidents reported in 2022/2023*
- *amount of funding spent on companion animal management and activities - \$747,367 (total operating and capital expenditure)*
- *community education programs carried out and strategies the council has in place to promote and assist the desexing of dogs and cats - Council participated in RSPCA healthy pet day, microchipping, vaccinating and health checks for cats and dogs also talking to pet owners in Dubbo. Social media posts and media releases. AWL vet truck visit to vaccinate and desex adoptable cats and dogs in the Animal Shelter. Council participated in two AWL healthy pet days one in Wellington & one in Dubbo, microchipping, vaccinating and health checks for cats and dogs.*
- *strategies in place for complying with the requirement under s 64 of the CA Act to seek alternatives to euthanasia for unclaimed animals - Dubbo Regional Council Animal Shelter works closely with Animal Welfare League, Australian Working Dog Recuse and Pets Haven to rehome as many animals as they can take. Only dangerous dogs or dogs that are ill or unsuitable to be rehomed due to aggression are euthanised.*
- *off leash areas provided in the council area -*
 - Douglas Mawson /Wheelers lane - Fenced - Dubbo
 - South Dubbo Park - Fenced - Dubbo
 - Delroy Parklands - Fenced - Dubbo
 - Joirra Oval - Unfenced - Dubbo
 - Bourke Hill Park - Unfenced - Dubbo
 - Devils hole (Lower end of Brisbane Street) - Unfenced - Dubbo
 - Caroline Reserve - Unfenced - Dubbo
 - Mountbatten Drive Easement - Unfenced - Dubbo
 - Joan Flint - Unfenced - Dubbo
 - Apex Park - Unfenced - Wellington
 - John Oxley Park Unfenced - Wellington
 - Wise Park - Unfenced - Geurie
- *detailed information on how fund money was used for managing and controlling companion animals in their area - No external fund or grant money access or provided for managing and controlling companion animals*

Capital expenditure guidelines

Report on all capital works projects is considered best practice.

Capital works projects where a capital expenditure review has been submitted. No submissions received during reporting period.

Carers Recognition Act

Councils considered to be 'human service agencies' under the Carers Recognition Act 2010 (CR Act) (provide services directed at carers and/or people being cared for by carers) must report on compliance with the CR Act for the reporting period.

All policies, including flexible work policies, are inclusive of the needs of those employees who are carers. Application of leave considers the needs of those employees who are carers. The Community Development Officer (CDO) provides updated information to the community and services on the Carer Gateway and how to access support and services. The CDO Chairs the Dubbo Aged Services Interagency which connects and promotes all local aged care service providers. CDO co-facilitates (with Carer Gateway) the Wellington Carer Support Group, venue is the Wellington Citizen Centre. The Disability Inclusion Action Plan recognises the role of the carer and is inclusive of their needs.

Disability Inclusion Action Plan

Information on the implementation of council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan and give a copy to the Minister for Disability Services.

Dubbo Regional Council has a current Disability Inclusion Action Plan; 2022 – 2025 Dubbo Regional Council Disability Inclusion Action Plan Manager Community Services has been supporting and assisting the creation of a local Dementia Friendly Community Alliance – this is ongoing. Strong connections remain and grow with local and new service providers within the Disability sector. Each section of Community services attend various interagency meetings throughout the region.

Planning agreements

Particulars of compliance with and effect of planning agreements in force during the year.

No specific actions from Planning Agreements commenced during reporting period. Information regarding expired and current Planning Agreements can be found on Council's website, please click the link below: [Planning agreements](#)

Recovery and threat abatement plans

Recovery and threat abatement plans - Councils identified in a plan as responsible for implementation of measures included in the plan, must report on actions taken to implement those measures as to the state of the environment in its area.

Council is not responsible for the implementation of any plans.

Details of private swimming pool inspections

Details of inspections of private swimming pools. Include the number of inspections that:

- were of tourist and visitor accommodation - 9
- were of premises with more than 2 dwellings - 3
- resulted in issuance a certificate of compliance under s22D of the SP Act - 163
- resulted in issuance a certificate of non-compliance under cl 21 SP Reg. - 50

Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009

The annual report of an agency (other than a Minister) required to be prepared under section 125 of the Act must include the following:

(a) details of the review carried out by the agency under section 7 (3) of the Act during the reporting year and the details of any information made publicly available by the agency as a result of the review,

(b) the total number of access applications received by the agency during the reporting year (including withdrawn applications but not including invalid applications),

(c) the total number of access applications received by the agency during the reporting year that the agency refused, either wholly or partly, because the application was for the disclosure of information referred to in Schedule 1 to the Act (Information for which there is conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure), Note. Table D in Schedule 2 also requires information relating to access applications in respect of which there is a conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure.

(d) information, asset out in the form required by the tables in Schedule 2, relating to the access applications (if any) made to the agency during the reporting year.

Note. An agency's report under section 125 of the Act can be included in the agency's annual report required to be prepared under the annual reporting legislation—see section 6 of the Annual Reports (Departments) Act 1985 or section 5A of the Annual Reports (Statutory Bodies) Act 1984 (as the case requires).

Dubbo Regional Council's program for proactive release of information involves:

- Continual improvement of the systems and mechanisms utilized by the organization to facilitate easy and effective access by members of the public to information that they have a right to view, download or copy (where applicable).
- Working towards ensuring all government information is available to the public on the Council website.
- Ensuring that if information is not available on the Council website that it may be accessed by other means.
- Reviewing the types of information via Formal Access applications and via customer contact with Council's Customer Service Centre and deciding if the information should be made readily available to all members of the public.

For the period 2022/2023, Council received in total 23 Formal GIPA Applications, of which only 1 application was refused.

During the year Council published a Disclosures Log on its website. The Disclosures Log publishes details of information released in response to access applications that Council considers may be of interest to other members of the public. It is a requirement under Section 25 of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act) that NSW government agencies publish a disclosure log on its website.

**Government Information (Public Access) Regulation 2009
Schedule 2 Statistical information about access applications to be
included in annual report (Clause 7)**

Table A: Number of applications by type of applicant and outcome*

	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Info not held	Info already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Media	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private sector business	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not for profit organisations or community groups	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (application by legal representative)	0	10	0	2	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (other)	1	8	0	0	0	1	0	0

* More than one decision can be made in respect of a particular access application. If so, a recording must be made in relation to each such decision. This also applies to Table B.

Table B: Number of applications by type of application and outcome

	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Info not held	Info already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Personal information applications*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications (other than personal information applications)	0	11	0	2	0	1	0	0
Access applications that are partly personal information applications and partly other	1	7	0	0	0	0	0	0

* A personal information application is an access application for personal information (as defined in clause 4 of Schedule 4 to the Act) about the applicant (the applicant being an individual).

Table C: Invalid applications

Reason for invalidity	No of applications
Application does not comply with formal requirements (section 41 of the Act)	0
Application is for excluded information of the agency (section 43 of the Act)	0
Application contravenes restraint order (section 110 of the Act)	0
Total number of invalid applications received	0
Invalid applications that subsequently became valid applications	0

Table D: Conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure: matters listed in Schedule 1 to Act

Reason for invalidity	Number of times consideration used*
Overriding secrecy laws	0
Cabinet information	0
Executive Council information	0
Contempt	0
Legal professional privilege	1
Excluded information	1
Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety	0
Transport safety	0
Adoption	0
Care and protection of children	0
Ministerial code of conduct	0
Aboriginal and environmental heritage	0
Information about complaints to Judicial Commission	0
Information about authorised transactions under Electricity Network Assets (Authorised Transactions) Act 2015	0
Information about authorised transaction under Land and Property Information NSW (Authorised Transaction) Act 2016	0

* More than one public interest consideration may apply in relation to a particular access application and, if so, each such consideration is to be recorded (but only once per application). This also applies in relation to Table E.

Table E: Other public interest considerations against disclosure: matters listed in table to section 14 of Act

	Number of occasions when application not successful
Responsible and effective government	18
Law enforcement and security	1
Individual rights, judicial processes and natural justice	12
Business interests of agencies and other persons	0
Environment, culture, economy and general matters	2
Secrecy provisions	0
Exempt documents under interstate Freedom of Information legislation	0

Table F: Timeliness

	Number of applications
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	9
Decided after 35 days (by agreement with applicant)	0
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	13
Total	0

Table G: Number of applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act (by type of review and outcome)

	Decision varied	Decision upheld	Total
Internal review	2	1	3
Review by Information Commissioner*	1	0	1
Internal review following recommendation under section 93 of Act	0	0	0
Review by NCAT	0	0	0
Total	3	1	4

* The Information Commissioner does not have the authority to vary decisions, but can make recommendations to the original decision-maker. The data in this case indicates that a recommendation to vary or uphold the original decision has been made by the Information Commissioner.

Table H: Applications for review under Part 5 of the Act (by type of applicant)

	Number of applications for review
Applications by access applicants	0
Applications by persons to whom information the subject of access application relates (see section 54 of the Act)	0

Table I: Applications transferred to other agencies under Division 2 of Part 4 of the Act (by type of transfer)

	Number of applications transferred
Agency-initiated transfers	1
Applicant-initiated transfers	0

Public interest disclosures

Information required to be provided in accordance with s2 of the Public Interest Disclosures Regulation 2011 is included herewith:

A report to which this clause applies is to include the following information concerning the period to which the report relates:

(a) the number of public officials who have made a public interest disclosure to the public authority - Nil

(b) the number of public interest disclosures received by the public authority in total and the number of public interest disclosures received by the public authority relating to each of the following:

(i) corrupt conduct - Nil

(ii) maladministration - Nil

(iii) serious and substantial waste of public money or local government money (as appropriate) - Nil

(iv) government information contraventions, (v) local government pecuniary interest contraventions - Nil

(c) the number of public interest disclosures finalised by the public authority - Nil

(d) whether the public authority has a public interest disclosures policy in place - Public Interest Disclosures and Internal Reporting Policy adopted by Dubbo Regional Council at its Ordinary Council meeting held 23 October 2023.

(e) what actions the head of the public authority has taken to ensure that his or her staff awareness responsibilities under section 6E (1) (b) of the Act have been met - Code of conduct training to all staff and Councillors, including Public Interest Disclosures processes, policy available on Council website and Intranet.



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