

BELLINGEN SHIRE COUNCIL



ARTS & CULTURAL PLAN 2005

Adopted by Council 5 April 2005

CULTURE

Culture should be defined broadly to include a wide range of elements, which contribute to a local identity, sense of place and quality of life. *The Australia Council.*

'Culture is the way we live and the way we express ourselves.' *David Yencken, Chair of the Australian Heritage Commission; The Fourth Pillar of Sustainability, 2001.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Bellingen Shire Council would also like to acknowledge all individuals, community groups and organisation who have contributed to the development of the Bellingen Shire Arts and Cultural Plan directly and indirectly, through their involvement in consultations, surveys and feedback.

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INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Arts & Cultural Plan will also be referred to as "the Plan" throughout the document.

Purpose Of The Arts & Cultural Plan

An Arts & Cultural Plan shows where Bellingen Shire's arts and cultural resources are and what we need for the future. It sets out to provide a framework and a direction for the development of art & culture in the Shire. The Plan overviews local arts & cultural activities and recognises our cultural strengths and diversity.

The Plan will assist Council, Government Agencies, Arts Councils and the community to work towards the desirable level and range of cultural services, programs and facilities in the Bellingen Shire. To this end the Plan lists stakeholders alongside actions & strategies to be undertaken. This list of stakeholders is by not exhaustive. It is merely an indication of those parties who will be consulted and who may be able to assist in the implementation of those actions. The Plan also acts as a guide by which requests for funding can be prioritised. It is not a guarantee of funding.

The Plan also assists Bellingen Shire Council meet its responsibilities under the Local Government Act (1993) to provide for the needs of various groups within the community such as children, young people, older persons, aboriginal people and people of different cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

AIM

- To provide Bellingen Shire Council, the local community and government agencies with an outline of the current and future cultural needs of the community
- To identify responses to the cultural needs of the community.
- To promote community Co-operation between the 3 diverse areas of Bellingen Shire, the Seaboard, the Valley and the Plateau, through the Arts & through Cultural community activities.

The Arts & Cultural Plan will be linked to Heritage projects, the Bellingen Shire Social Plan, the Bellingen Shire Tourist Development Plan (currently in draft stage), and to other relevant projects, such as The Bellingen Shire Creative Industries Development Strategy, to create a coordinated approach to the Shire's cultural development. Relevant council staff will ensure cross representation of membership on these committees & project groups and facilitate consultation between them and stakeholders in regard to project development, financing and implementation.

NB See p26 for Demographic Information of Bellingen Shire

OBJECTIVES

- *To enhance quality of life by improving the availability, diversity, and quality of cultural resources.*
- *To provide a planning document that is linked to Council's Social Plan and to Council's Management Plans.*
- *To promote the development of art and cultural within the Shire as a significant element of Council's strategic planning and budgetary processes.*
- *To recognise and validate all of the artistic pursuits and cultural activities that are part of Bellingen Shire's cultural fabric.*
- *To establish actions, strategies and priorities for addressing cultural issues & needs.*
- *To help identify artistic and cultural resources within the Shire.*
- *To improve equity of access to cultural resources.*
- *To contribute to local economic growth through arts and cultural facilities and programs.*
- *To improve the coordination of artistic & cultural activities.*
- *To promote sustainable utilisation of local resources.*
- *To provide visitors to the Bellingen Shire with a unique local cultural experience.*
- *To provide a framework of professional development for individuals and groups.*
- *To acknowledge the cultural workers, artists, performers and volunteers that contribute towards the artistic and cultural life of the Bellingen Shire Community.*
- *To contribute to social and community cohesion and development.*
- *To advocate for the cultural needs of the Bellingen Shire residents.*

PROCESS USED TO DEVELOP THE PLAN

The Bellingen Shire Council Arts & Cultural Plan has been developed by Council's Community Project Officer, and members of the Bellingen Shire Council's Arts & Cultural Committee, with input and involvement from special interest groups and individuals across a broad cross section of the local community. The Plan was put on public display for one month to allow for community comment and further modification took place in view of community response to the Plan. Relevant issues identified during the consultation process for Bellingen Shire Council's Social Plan review were also included in the Arts & Cultural Plan.

The following stages were involved in developing the Plan.

A Community Overview

A review of statistics and information was undertaken by Council's Community Projects Officer from the ABS 2001 Census "Basic Community Profile" and Bellingen Shire Council's Community Profile, regarding those distinctive physical and demographic characteristics of the Shire that provide relevant context to the development of the community's art and culture.

The Bellingen Shire Community Directory, Shire Guide and Mid North Coast Arts Directory identified the various organisations, groups, individuals and businesses with an interest in the arts and culture.

Needs Analysis and Strategic Development

Cultural issues and needs were identified and analysed at committee meetings of the Arts & Cultural Committee. This information was then refined through surveys & a series of community meetings at Bellingen, Urunga & Dorrigo as part of the Shire's Social Plan consultations. Copies of the draft plan were sent to specific arts and cultural groups for comment and the Plan modified as a result of feedback from these groups. The Plan was further reviewed following community feedback and comment during the month that the draft plan was placed on public display.

Implementation

Lack of resources is a major issue for the Bellingen Shire and will impact on implementation of the Plan's strategies by Council, stakeholders and community groups. Other factors that may present obstacles to achieving the Plan's objectives include Insurance costs and requirements, and the reliance on volunteer workers to manage assets and resources without the proper training to do so professionally.

The Plan will identify which strategies Council can incorporate into its annual Management Plan. Councillors will then vote to include certain items in Council's budget. The Plan also points the way for applications for funding from external sources.

It is to be noted that the effective implementation of the Arts & Cultural Plan can only be achieved if funds are sought and allocated by Council to employ a Cultural Development Officer to drive the action strategies cited in the Plan, to liaise with relevant community groups, organisations and government departments and to access grants for specific purposes and events. The current Arts & Cultural Committee of volunteers consider it beyond their resources to fully implement the Plan without this assistance.

Evaluation

The Plan is a dynamic document and provides for updating and review processes so that it remains current and relevant. The Plan will be reviewed annually and evaluated every 3-5 years. Relevant stakeholders will be consulted as part of the annual review of the Plan.

Promotion & Distribution of the Plan

Copies of the Plan will be placed in Council's foyer, in libraries at Dorrigo, Urunga and Bellingen and on Council's website at www.bellingen.nsw.gov.au for public perusal. Members of the community will also be able to purchase hard copies of the Plan from Council's Dept of Environmental Health & Planning.

PLAN FORMAT

The Arts & Cultural Plan sets out to provide a framework and a direction for cultural development within the Shire. It lists Stakeholders alongside the various strategies to be implemented as well as performance indicators. The list of Stakeholders is not exhaustive, and is only an indication of parties to be consulted within development of that part of the Arts & Cultural Plan's actions / strategies and who may be able to assist in the implementation of such actions / strategies.

The Plan addresses artistic & cultural issues in the following areas:

1. Performing Arts - *Presentation and participation in all forms of performance art*

These art forms include theatre, dance, mime, music, busking, circus, bush poetry. and street theatre.

2. Visual Arts - *Appreciation of an involvement in visual arts*

Whilst there is considerable overlap between visual arts and the products from craft and cottage industries, for the purpose of this Plan visual arts include: painting, sketching, cartooning and the like; as well as electronic and video art, cinema, sculpture, body art and photography.

3. Literature - *appreciation of literature and written expression*

This section deals with issues and strategies relating to the written word (whatever the language), ie libraries, writers, poets, plays etc.

4. Creative Industries - *Appreciation of local crafts and the creation of crafts ad cottage industries*

These industries are not easy to define, however the following practices would be included: furniture makers; jewellers; metal smiths; glass, leather; textile artists; spinners/weavers; potters; wood workers; ceramists etc.

5. Heritage - *Preservation of local heritage*

Our history is dealt with in this section. It includes both indigenous and non-indigenous history and the preservation of the physical infrastructure as well as places of significance to the community.

6. Cultural Diversity - *The celebration of cultural diversity*

This section addresses issues and strategies, which recognise and include the many elements of our local cultural fabric. The interests of Australia's indigenous peoples, minority groups such as the gay and lesbian community and people of different linguistic backgrounds are considered here. This section also deals with cultural issues around religion; youth culture such as that of skaters; surf culture and alternate lifestyle culture.

7. Infrastructure and Networks - *Effective marketing and promotion strategies*

This section deals with linkages within the community. Information Technology and information flow around the community is the core business of this section. Transport issues are included here.

8. Marketing and Promotion - *Effective marketing and promotion strategies*

The means to improve marketing and promotion of local cultural events and to raise the profile of our unique culture is covered in this section.

9. Resources - *Adequate Resources*

This section contains strategies for how to provide the financial and non-monetary means to implement the Plan. For the purpose of the Plan resources may include, social capital, partnerships, sponsorship, government grants, community fundraising, and human resources such as relevant organisations eg arts councils, intellectual, physical and skills-based resources, and volunteers.

10. Evaluation - *Ongoing assessment of community cultural needs*

The Plan includes indicators by which the community and Council can determine the Plan's success and need for change.

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS as used in the Plan


ACD	Arts Council Dorrigo
ACE	Adult Community Education
Arts MNC	Arts Mid North Coast
BACC	Bellingen Arts & Cultural Committee
BSC	Bellingen Shire Council
BCAC	Bellingen Community Arts Council
BMA	Bellingen Music Assoc Inc
DDC	Dorrigo Dramatic Club
Dept of Ed	Department of Education
EDO	Economic Development Officer
NGOs	Non-Government Organisations
NHT	National Heritage Trust
NPWS	National Parks & Wildlife Service
NSWHO	NSW Heritage Office
TAFE	Technical and Further Education
YDO	Youth Development Officers
U3A	University of the Third Age

ACTION STRATEGIES

1 PERFORMING ARTS

OBJECTIVE	ACTION STRATEGY	EVALUATION	STAKEHOLDERS	TIME FRAME
1.1. Support the development and sustainability of local performers and performance organisations	<p>1.1.1 Assist local performers and performance organisations find funding for transport and training.</p> <p>1.1.2 Consult with local community based performance groups</p> <p>1.1.3 Develop a set of protocols which address issues of concern Eg insurance, appropriate design, ongoing maintenance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local performers and performance organisations sustained through successful funding application Local community based performance groups consulted regarding development & sustainability of performance arts Protocols developed to address issues of concern 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts MNC, BSC, Bellingin Arts & Cultural Committee (BACC), Local performance groups, Bellingin Community Arts Council (BCAC), Bellingin Music Assoc Inc (BMA)Arts Council Dorrigo (ACD), Dorrigo Dramatic Club (DDC) As above As above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short term and ongoing As above As above
1.2. List, & identify the present status of existing performance venues	<p>1.2.1 Compile a list of performance venues and facilities</p> <p>1.2.2 Assess suitability of open-air venues for some performances</p> <p>1.2.3 Assist hall committees to conduct an audit of their facilities and seek funding for improvement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List of venues completed and attached to Arts & Cultural Plan Assessment of outdoor venues completed Audits complete and funds applied for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art groups, BACC, Relevant Indigenous groups, Reserve management committees. BSC, BCAC, BMA & Hall management committees & hall users As above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short term Short term Medium term
1.3. Support funding strategies for local & touring performance artistes	<p>1.3.1 Provide letters of support and financial contributions where possible.</p> <p>1.3.2 Provide in kind support where relevant &/or possible.</p> <p>1.3.3 Promote & support major productions in local & regional centres.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successful grant applications & funding allocated by council In kind support provided where possible & relevant to project Increase of major productions in local & regional centres 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts MNC; Performance groups, BSC BACC, BCAC, BMA, ACD, DDC As Above As Above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing
1.4. Acknowledge, promote and respect the Gumbainggirr Culture	<p>1.4.1 Encourage & support the performance of indigenous stories, music, song and dance within the wider community</p> <p>1.4.2 Consult with Gumbainggirr Elders regarding cross cultural understanding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occurrence of Indigenous performances in the wider community Gumbainggirr Elders consulted regard to and acknowledged at, all major community events to ensure cross cultural understanding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts MNC, BCAC, BSC, BACC, Art groups, BMA Relevant Indigenous groups Schools, ACD, DDC As above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing As above

Performing Arts (cont)

OBJECTIVE	ACTION STRATEGY	EVALUATION	STAKEHOLDERS	TIME FRAME
1.5. Increase opportunities for marginalised groups to be involved in the performing arts.	1.5.1 Support workshops in areas of identified interest in liaison with relevant groups and non-government organisations (NGOs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occurrence of workshops in areas of identified need especially for marginalised groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts MNC, BCAC, BSC, BACC ,BMA ACD, ACD, DDC, NGOs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term & Ongoing
1.6. Encourage and develop performing arts with youth in schools and in the wider community 	<p>1.6.1 Support the development of school choirs and bands</p> <p>1.6.2 Encourage youth participation arts and cultural activities such as cultural camps, music, drama & theatre through sponsorship and promotion</p> <p>1.6.3 Support youth performance events through promotion and financial contributions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in youth participation in school bands and choirs • More young people involved in arts & cultural activities • Youth performances take place throughout the year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACE, TAFE, YDO, BMA, Dept of Ed • Bellingin & Dorrigo YDOs, Arts MNC, BCAC, Dept of Ed, Performance Groups. ACD, DDC Private investors, business's, Chambers of Commerce, • Arts MNC, BCAC, BSC, BACC, BMA, ACD, DDC ,Bellingin & Dorrigo YDOs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium term & Ongoing • Medium term • Short term & ongoing
1.7.Support the promotion of performing arts and artists to the wider community	<p>1.7.1 Provide financial or in kind support for the development & maintenance of an Events Calendar</p> <p>1.7.2 Create an events poster with all major events listed & promote to the wider community</p> <p>1.7.3 Seek sponsorship for the above publications</p> <p>1.7.4 Make a media contact list available to all event organisers to encourage promotion of events</p> <p>1.7.5 Provide public space for performance art where possible or relevant</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events calendar published annually • Poster printed & displayed in all major population centres • Sponsors for the above secured • Contact List compiled and made available for events organisers • Public spaces available for performance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts MNC, BSC, BACC, BCAC, BMA, ACD, DDC Chambers of Commerce, user groups • As above • As above • BSC, BACC , ACD, BCAC, BMA • BSC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term & ongoing • As Above • As Above • As above • Medium term

2 VISUAL ARTS

OBJECTIVE	ACTION STRATEGY	EVALUATION	STAKEHOLDERS	TIME FRAME
2.1 Promote local art exhibitions	<p>2.1.1 Support the use of cafes, store windows, business houses, etc as exhibition spaces and identify public areas to be utilised for art displays and performance art</p> <p>2.1.2 Support and promote the development of public art and the concept of Art in the Park</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local art exhibited on a regular & ongoing basis Increase in public art and Art in the Park program established 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chambers of Commerce, BSC, BCAC, ACD, Visual Art groups, Relevant Indigenous groups, As above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short term Ongoing
2.2 Establish a permanent regional art gallery in the Bellingen Shire	2.2.1 Secure an existing facility, such as the current library building, for use as regional gallery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of a permanent regional art gallery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts MNC, BSC, Youth services, Relevant Indigenous groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medium to long term
2.3 Support Shire cinema and film groups	<p>2.3.1 Promote local screenings and major film events</p> <p>2.3.2 Support and promote the development of local film and video makers</p> <p>2.3.3 Promote Bellingen Shire as a location for film and video production</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendances at screenings Level of activity of local film & video makers Bellingen Shire used as a location for film and video production 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associated groups, Chambers of Commerce BSC, BACC, EDO As above As Above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short term & ongoing As above Ongoing
2.4 Encourage public art and sculpture	2.4.1 See 1.1.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public art and sculpture displayed in appropriate locations throughout the Shire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chambers of Commerce, BSC, BACC associated groups, relevant Indigenous groups. tourist groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short term
2.5 Establish public art and culture tours for visitors and locals	<p>2.5.1 Identify and audit existing public art for maintenance and development</p> <p>2.5.2 Support the establishment of new public art works.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audit list of existing public art and work plan for maintenance and development New public art works established. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts MNC, BSC, BACC, associated groups, relevant Indigenous groups. tourist groups As above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short to medium term Long term & ongoing

Visual Arts (continued)

OBJECTIVE	ACTION STRATEGY	EVALUATION	STAKEHOLDERS	TIME FRAME
2.6 Create regional opportunities for local artists	2.6.1 Promote local exhibitions at regional galleries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local artists regularly exhibited at regional galleries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts MNC, Exhibition organisers, relevant visual arts groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medium term & ongoing
2.7 Develop youth art and culture	2.7.1 Support local youth art initiatives and projects 2.7.2 Continue support for Youth Week activities 2.7.3 Support and liaise with Shire High Schools to hold an annual exhibition showcasing students projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occurrence of local youth art initiatives & projects Youth week activities take place Annual exhibition showcasing students projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BSC BACC YDOs, Education Dept, BCAC As above As above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short term & ongoing As above As above
2.8 Recognise the importance of Gumbaynggirr art & culture within the wider community	2.8.1 Promote and support the establishment of a local aboriginal cultural centre 2.8.2 Support indigenous arts and cultural exhibitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local aboriginal cultural centre(s) established Regular indigenous arts and cultural exhibitions take place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BSC BACC, Relevant Indigenous groups, NPWS, Tourist groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medium-long term & ongoing As above

3 LITERATURE

OBJECTIVE	ACTION STRATEGY	EVALUATION	STAKEHOLDERS	TIME FRAME
3.1 Improve existing library services.	3.1.1 Seek funding to create a new Library in Bellingen 3.1.2 Provide resources for additional staff and volunteers with a view to extending opening times all Shire libraries 3.1.3 Provide training and programs volunteers of the library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New library established in Bellingen • Opening times extended & staff resources increased. • Training and programs for friends of the library conducted regularly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC; BACC, State Library, Clarence Regional Library • BSC • As above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium-long term • Short term • Medium term & Ongoing
3.2 Support the development of additional library services.	3.2.1 Encourage & assist outlying villages to develop & establish annexes or outreach services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annexes in, or outreach services to, outlying villages established 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC, State Library, Clarence Regional Library 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium term
3.3 Promote use of Information Technology	3.3.1 Provide IT services for people with disabilities through adaptive technology 3.3.2 Continue the provision of community training to enable independent usage of Internet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of IT services for people with disabilities through adaptive technology • Community training continued 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC Access Committee, BACC, State Library • ACE; TAFE; BSC, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term & ongoing • As above
3.4 Promote local literature	3.4.1 Establish a local writer's section at libraries 3.4.2 Encourage local writers to donate copies of their works to local libraries 3.4.3 Acknowledge book donations by local writers via media and BSC networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local writer's section at libraries established • Local works donated to libraries • Local writers acknowledged 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC Libraries, BACC, Individual writer's & groups, • As Above • As Above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium term • Ongoing • Ongoing
3.5 Improve community appreciation of Literature and expand public education opportunities	3.5.1 Support and encourage public readings, regular literary events in partnership with local business and displays 3.5.2 Encourage development of literary workshops to be run by local writer's and interested persons 3.5.3 Promote the establishment of a writers festival in cooperation with existing festival organisers 3.5.4 Introduce an annual young writers competition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular literary events, public readings & displays established supported by local business • Establishment of workshops • Annual writers festival established • Young writers competition takes place annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Dept, ACE, TAFE, U3A, Chambers of Commerce, literary group • As above • As above • Youth Workers, Education Dept, Writers Groups, Dept Education TAFE, ACE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing • Short- Medium term • Medium term • Short term

4 CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

OBJECTIVE	ACTION STRATEGY	EVALUATION	STAKEHOLDERS	TIME FRAME
4.1 Facilitate use and development of appropriate venues for craft meetings and displays	<p>4.1.1 Utilise existing & potential venues for display of goods</p> <p>4.1.2 Encourage the use of existing & potential venues for craft group meetings</p> <p>4.1.3 Support relevant incorporated organisations to auspice unincorporated groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goods displayed in existing venues • Venues utilised by craft groups • Unincorporated groups suitably auspiced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC, BACC, Tourism orgs, Chambers of Commerce, Arts MNC, ACD, Craft groups, Committees of Management. • As Above • As Above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term ▪ As Above ▪ As Above
4.2 Support local craft person, craft festivals, exhibitions, outlets and markets	<p>4.2.1 Liaise with relevant committees & community groups to organise exhibitions and events.</p> <p>4.2.2 Continue to support the maintenance of the Bellingen Shire Community Directory and encourage relevant individuals and groups to list and update their information</p> <p>4.2.3 Continue support for the Handmade in Bellingen Shire Marketing directory.</p> <p>4.2.4 Explore the possibility of sponsored travelling Art & Craft Exhibitions of local arts and crafts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exhibitions and events held throughout the year • Craft persons & groups listed in the Bellingen Shire Community Directory & the latter updated & published annually • As above • Feasibility study carried out 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BACC, BCAC, ACD Tourism orgs, EDO • BSC, Craft persons & groups, Relevant NGO's • BACC, BCAC, ACD Tourism orgs, EDO • BACC, Arts MNC, BCAC, ACD, Exhibition organisers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term • Ongoing • As above • Medium term
4.3 Encourage community participation in craft activities in the Shire	<p>4.3.1 Promote and encourage community use of the Bellingen Shire Community Directory to promote participation in craft activities & events</p> <p>4.2.5 Compile information sheet & display at tourist information outlets with the Handmade in Bellingen Shire Marketing directory.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased membership and numbers participating in craft activities & events • As above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC, BACC BCAC, ACD Arts MNC , craft groups, Relevant NGO's Tourism, • As Above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term and ongoing • As above
4.4 Support continuation of the Creative Industries Project	<p>4.4.1 Encourage relevant community ownership & participation in the Creative Industries Project</p> <p>4.4.2 Include coordination of the project as part of a Cultural Development Officer position (See also 9.1)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation of the Creative Industries Project • Successful funding of Cultural Development Officer ensures coordination of the Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC, BACC BCAC, ACD craft groups, Arts MNC, Relevant NGO's Tourism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing • Medium - long term
4.5 Support product development and skills training in business development for Arts and Crafts	<p>4.5.1 Explore craft development partnerships with ACE & TAFE</p> <p>4.5.2 Seek funding for professional skills development training courses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feasibility study into partnerships with ACE • Training courses established through successful funding applications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC, ACE, relevant groups • Arts MNC, TAFE, ACE, BCAC, ACD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium term • Short term and ongoing

5 HERITAGE


OBJECTIVE	ACTION STRATEGY	EVALUATION	STAKEHOLDERS	TIME FRAME
5.1 Preserve Bellingen Shire's natural and built environment	<p>5.1.1 Provide adequate signage of significant sites.</p> <p>5.1.2 Support the work of historical societies in recording local history and current events unique to Bellingen Shire</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signage at all significant sites. • Historical societies continue to record Bellingen Shire's local history. and current events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC, Historical societies, Relevant State/Federal Depts eg National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS) & NSW Heritage Office (NSWHO), National Heritage Trust (NHT) Elders, Relevant Indigenous groups, BSC, Tourism, Chambers of Commerce, Relevant Indigenous groups • BSC, Historical Societies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing • Short term & ongoing
5.2 Preserve and promote Aboriginal and European historical trails and interpretative walks	<p>5.2.1 Identify & document sites and buildings of historical significance in consultation with relevant groups.</p> <p>5.2.2. Develop Interpretative walks and tours to promote awareness of sites and buildings of significance</p> <p>5.2.3. Develop a Tour & Walker's Guides to the Bellingen Shire and include sites and buildings of cultural significance</p> <p>5.2.4 Publicise the Dorrigo Rainforest walks, and the Urunga boardwalk</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sites and buildings identified and documented • Interpretative walks and tours developed • Tour & Walker's Guides published and promoted • Dorrigo Rainforest walks, and the Urunga boardwalk well publicised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC, Elders, Relevant Indigenous groups, Historical societies, Tourism orgs, NPWS, NSWHO, NHT • BSC, Historical societies, NHT, NSWHO, NPWS, TAFE, Elders, Relevant Indigenous groups, Chambers of Commerce, • Tourism orgs, BSC, Historical societies, Heritage Dept, Museum groups • NPWS, Tourism orgs, Chambers of Commerce 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term & ongoing • Medium term • Medium term • Short term & ongoing
5.3 Recognise the importance and responsibilities of heritage listing	5.3.1 Ensure inclusion of heritage listings and significant sites and buildings & local historical / cultural walks/tours in Bellingen Shire Tourist Guides, tourist maps and promotional videos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant sites, buildings, tours & walks, included in Bellingen Shire Tourist Guides, tourist maps and promotional videos 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC, Arts MNC, BCAC; ACD, Chambers of Commerce, Relevant Indigenous groups, Tourism orgs, Historical societies, NHT, NSWHO, Museum groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term & ongoing

Heritage (continued)

OBJECTIVE	ACTION STRATEGY	EVALUATION	STAKEHOLDERS	TIME FRAME
5.4 Preserve settlements and buildings of historic & cultural significance	<p>5.4.1 Identify settlements and document their cultural & historical significance</p> <p>5.4.2. Provide support and advice to management committees and special interest groups about preservation, restoration and maintenance of buildings, streetscapes and sites of significance</p> <p>5.4.3. Seek funding to ensure the preservation of significant sites & streetscapes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Settlements identified and their significance documented • Management committees and special interest groups with relevant knowledge in restoration etc. • Significant sites & streetscapes preserved and funding successful 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC, [CDO] Arts MNC, BCAC; ACD, Chambers of Commerce, Relevant Indigenous groups, Tourism orgs, Relevant BSC staff, BACC • As above • As above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long term • Ongoing • Short term & Ongoing
5.5. Conserve museums as ongoing cultural facilities	<p>5.5.1. Investigate means for broadening use of existing museum facilities</p> <p>5.5.2. Promote use of museums for educational visits, celebrations and special events</p> <p>5.5.3. Open times of museums be widely advertised</p> <p>5.5.4. Ensure improvement of buildings and display areas ie. Security, pest control and air-conditioning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More diverse use of existing museum facilities • Museums being used for educational visits, celebrations and special events • Open times of museums be widely advertised • Improvement of buildings and display areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC, Historical societies, Relevant Indigenous groups, Historical societies and museum committees, Education Dept, TAFE, ACE, U3A • BSC, Historical societies and museum committees • As Above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term & ongoing • Ongoing • Ongoing • Short - Medium term & Ongoing
5.6. Preserve local history and knowledge of local characters of historic and cultural significance	<p>5.6.1. Identify significant historical figures of the Shire</p> <p>5.6.2. Document the stories & achievements of identified local characters</p> <p>5.6.3. Establish tributes, plaques &/or public art pieces to significant local characters</p> <p>5.6.4. Encourage & support the development of a Living History/Oral History project</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant historical figures of the Shire Identified • Stories & achievements of local characters documented • Plaques &/or public art pieces to significant local characters in place • Living History/Oral History project established 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC, [CDO] Historical Societies, NHT, NSWHO, Museum groups • As above • As above • As above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short -Medium term • As above • Med-long term • Medium term
5.7. Preserve Indigenous history (See also 7.2, 7.3 & 7.4)	<p>5.7.1. Support & encourage local aboriginal groups to identify & protect their sites of significance</p> <p>5.7.2. Support the establishment of a local Aboriginal Heritage & Cultural Centre</p> <p>5.7.3. Seek funding for the writing and publishing of Gumbainggirr history</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local aboriginal sites of significance identify & protected • Aboriginal Heritage & Cultural Centre established • Publication of Gumbainggirr history through successful funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC, ACAC, Relevant Indigenous groups NPWS, NHT, NSWHO. • As above • As above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short term & ongoing • Med-long term • Short-medium term



6 CULTURAL DIVERSITY

OBJECTIVE	ACTION STRATEGY	EVALUATION	STAKEHOLDERS	TIME FRAME
<p>6.1 Promote the celebration of cultural diversity in the Bellinghen Shire including the planning areas, Seaboard, Valley & Plateau and the specific groups within the Shire, eg Youth, Seniors, Aboriginal, German, Filipinos etc.</p> 	<p>6.1.1 Support and promote cultural events for marginalised groups</p> <p>6.1.2 Ensure community celebrations are inclusive of all cultural groups through inclusive promotion and planning</p> <p>6.1.3 Promote cross cultural training programs</p> <p>6.1.4 Promote an annual community cultural event (eg picnic) to include Seaboard, Valley & Plateau residents and specific cultural groups</p> <p>6.1.5 Investigate the cultural needs of each Planning Area</p> <p>6.1.6 Document and acknowledge the cultural differences of the Seaboard, Valley & Plateau</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in cultural events for marginalised groups • Level & diversity of different cultural groups represented at celebrations • Increase in cross cultural training programs • Annual community event established • Cultural needs documented • Cultural differences of Seaboard, Valley & Plateau documented in planning and demographic documents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC, Arts & Cultural Cmt, relevant groups, Event organisers • As above • BSC, Education Dept, Adult Education TAFE • BSC , relevant groups and residents of the 3 planning areas, Event organisers, Arts & Cultural Cmt • As above • As above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing • Ongoing • Ongoing • Med term & ongoing • Short term • Short -Med term
6.2 Preserve Indigenous culture	<p>6.2.1 Liaise with relevant Indigenous groups to develop strategies to create Indigenous Keeping Place</p> <p>6.2.2 Support the continued operation of the Dorriggo Land Council</p> <p>6.2.3 Encourage the display of Aboriginal Artworks in the local Community</p> <p>6.2.4 Support & promote NAIDOC week</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategies in place to create Indigenous Keeping Place • continued operation of the Dorriggo Land Council • artworks displayed locally • level of NAIDOC week celebrations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC, Relevant Aboriginal groups, Arts MNC • BSC & Relevant Indigenous groups • Relevant Indigenous groups, Arts MNC, BCAC; ACD • BSC & Relevant Indigenous groups, ACAC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Med-Long term • Ongoing • Medium term • Ongoing
6.3 Establish an Aboriginal Liaison Officer position (ALO)	6.3.1 Seek funding for the Aboriginal Liaison Officer position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful funding application & employment of (ALO) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC, Neighbouring councils, relevant indigenous groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Med Long Term

Cultural Diversity (continued)



OBJECTIVE	ACTION STRATEGY	EVALUATION	STAKEHOLDERS	TIME FRAME
6.4 Promote acknowledgment and respect for Indigenous culture	6.4.1 Erect a public acknowledgment of the traditional owners and signs of entry to Gumbainggirr land in consultation with the Elders 6.4.2 Use of Gumbainggirr welcome speech at appropriate events and functions 6.4.3 Recognise traditional ownership of the land in the introduction at public functions 6.4.4 Promote the understanding of the role of Elders and of Indigenous protocol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional owners acknowledged and signs of entry erected • Relevant events opened with Gumbainggirr welcome speech • traditional owners acknowledged at public functions • Elders included & or consulted appropriately and indigenous protocol followed in community affairs and events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC, RTA, Elders & Relevant Indigenous groups, Neighbouring councils • Elders, Mayor, Councillors, BSC staff, Event organisers • As above • Elders, BSC, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium term • Ongoing • Ongoing • Short term



7 INFRASTRUCTURE & NETWORKS

OBJECTIVE	ACTION STRATEGY	EVALUATION	STAKEHOLDERS	TIME FRAME
7.1 Provide appropriate facilities	<p>7.1.1 Support Management Committee's to improve and maintain Community Halls and facilities.</p> <p>7.1.2 Support the Memorial Hall Management Committee to continue the improvement & development of the Hall as a Theatre and Cinema Venue</p> <p>7.1.3 Investigate feasibility study for a live performing arts theatre for Bellingen</p> <p>7.1.4 Audit & review existing venues/spaces, indoor and outdoor, to maximise use for local and travelling performing arts and other creative works</p> <p>7.1.5 Investigate infrastructure funding for the development of an arts and crafts centre</p> <p>7.1.6 Assist the development of suitable facilities for the expansion of ACE, U3A and other community based cultural education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Halls & facilities improved & maintained ▪ Memorial Hall developed as a Theatre & Cinema venue ▪ Feasibility study carried out ▪ Audit and review carried out ▪ Funding investigated and applied for if available ▪ Suitable facilities developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSC, BCAC, BMA, Art & Cultural Cmt Arts MNC, ACD BCAC, Hall & facility Management Committees ▪ BSC, BCAC, Management Committee ▪ Arts MNC, Tourism orgs, BSC, BCAC, BMA Art groups, Tourism orgs, ▪ BSC, BCAC, BMA, Art & Cultural Cmt Arts MNC, ACD BCAC, Hall & facility Management Committees Relevant Indigenous groups ▪ BSC, Arts MNC, BCAC, Hall Management Committees ▪ BSC, Arts MNC, BCAC, ACD, Art groups, Relevant Indigenous groups ACE, U3A, Art & Cultural Cmt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short term & ongoing ▪ Short term and ongoing ▪ Short term and ongoing ▪ Medium term ▪ Short to medium term ▪ Medium term
7.2 Support the sustainability of local festivals	<p>7.2.1 Continue to provide practical support to festival organisers.</p> <p>7.2.2 Encourage stakeholders to conduct annual audits of festival sites</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Festivals continue to be an integral part of the communities cultural expression ▪ Sites audited annually 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSC, BCAC, BMA, ACD, Relevant Indigenous groups, Chambers of Commerce, Tourism orgs, Event organisers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short term and ongoing
7.3 Increase awareness of our cultural assets	7.3.1 Promote the Bellingen Shire Community Directory and ensure an annual Council donation to support its maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community Directory well utilised and supported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSC, BCAC, BMA, Relevant Indigenous groups, Chambers of Commerce, Tourism orgs, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing

Infrastructure & Networks (continued)

OBJECTIVE	ACTION STRATEGY	EVALUATION	STAKEHOLDERS	TIME FRAME
7.4 Ensure Access to venues and activities 	7.4.1 Investigate solutions to transport issues 7.4.2 Ensure venues meet disability standards with adequate disability parking and fully accessible facilities 7.4.3 Liaise with Bellingen Shire Traffic Committee to ensure adequate parking especially for buses & coaches during major cultural events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Investigation carried out & recommendations made ▪ Venues accessible to standards ▪ Adequate parking provided during major cultural events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSC, Committees of Management, Chambers of Commerce, Tourism & Transport organisations ▪ As above + BSC Access Committee ▪ As Above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short term and ongoing ▪ Ongoing ▪ As above
7.5 Encourage culturally appropriate means of communication	7.5.1 Liaise with indigenous and multi cultural groups to develop programs for improving communication and understanding between different cultural groups 7.5.2 See 6.4.2 & 6.4.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Development of programs for improving communication and understanding between different cultural groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSC, Aboriginal & Multicultural groups, local Land Councils, Seniors groups, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing
7.6 To use local educational institutions to assist in cultural development 	7.5.3 Establish links with local schools to incorporate youth issues and events in the cultural calendar 7.5.4 Support the development of U3A as a cultural resource 7.5.5 Encourage partnerships between artists, crafters etc and possible sharing of venues 7.5.6 Lobby TAFE and ACE to include artistic and cultural development courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ youth issues and events in the cultural calendar ▪ U3A well resourced & utilised ▪ Partnerships and sharing of venues between artists, crafters etc ▪ artistic and cultural development courses included in TAFE & ACE courses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSC, YDOs, ▪ BSC, U3A ▪ BSC, BAC, YDOs, ACE, TAFE BCAC, ACD ▪ As above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short term and ongoing ▪ Ongoing ▪ Short term and ongoing ▪ Ongoing

Infrastructure & Networks (continued)

OBJECTIVE	ACTION STRATEGY	EVALUATION	STAKEHOLDERS	TIME FRAME
7.7 Establish a fully functional Bellingen Shire Community Centre	7.7.1 Seek funding to establish the Shire Community Centre 7.7.2 Promote & encourage the use of the Community Centre by Community Services & Health organisations, and diverse community groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Shire Community Centre established and well utilised by ▪ Community Services & Health organisations, and diverse community groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSC, relevant NGOs, BCAC, ▪ BSC, Community Health & Service providers, YDOs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Long term ▪ Ongoing
7.8 Provide modern amenities that are appealing and accessible to all members of the public including the elderly, people with a disability and mothers with small children	7.8.1 Carry out an audit of all main public amenities 7.8.2 Ensure that all CBD amenities are of a high standard, in good repair and include baby change and disabled access facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Audit completed ▪ all CBD amenities are of a high standard, in good repair and include baby change and disabled access facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSC, BCAC, Bellingen Shire Access Committee ▪ As above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short term ▪ Med – long term

8 MARKETING & PROMOTION

OBJECTIVE	ACTION STRATEGY	EVALUATION	STAKEHOLDERS	TIME FRAME
8.1 Employ an Arts & Cultural Development Officer	8.8.1 Seek funding to finance a Cultural Development Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cultural Development Officer employed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSC, BCAC, BMA, Arts MNC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short – medium term
8.2 Develop a Bellingen Shire Cultural website	8.8.2 Seek funding to finance the website development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Funding secured and website developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSC, BCAC, BMA, Arts MNC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short term
8.3 Develop effective marketing and promotion strategies for cultural activities, events and projects	8.3.1 Promote and contribute funding to the development of a Shire Cultural Calendar and encourage groups and individuals to list events and activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishment of effective cultural calendar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSC, BCAC, Art groups, ACD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing
	8.3.2 Promote development of the Shire Cultural Calendar on community & regional websites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ cultural calendar promoted regionally 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC, Arts MNC, BCAC, BMA, Art groups, ACD, Arts & Cultural Cmt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short term & ongoing
	8.3.3 Liaise with relevant tourism officers to ensure promotion of cultural events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ cultural events promoted through tourist officers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tourism orgs, Chambers of Commerce, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing
	8.3.4 Support continued employment of a Regional Arts Development Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ continued employment of a Regional Arts Development Officer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC, BCAC, BMA, Arts MNC, ACD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing
	8.3.5 Promote events, cultural groups, and artists via the Internet and council's website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ events, cultural groups, and artists promoted via the Internet and council's website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC, BCAC, Relevant Indigenous groups, Local media, Arts & Cultural Cmt, ACD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short term & ongoing
	8.3.6 Nurture relations and cooperative arrangements with local media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cooperative relationships with local media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As Above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing
	8.3.7 Use all forms of local and regional media eg TV, radio, press, websites etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ all forms of local and regional media utilised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSC, BCAC, BMA ACD, relevant arts groups Local media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing

Marketing & Promotion (continued)

OBJECTIVE	ACTION STRATEGY	EVALUATION	STAKEHOLDERS	TIME FRAME
8.3 (continued)	<p>8.3.8 Develop a monthly "Community Cultural Profile" on local artists through the local media and council's website with BCAC</p> <p>8.3.9 Submit articles which promote and publicise cultural issues, artists and events in local, regional and state Newsletters</p> <p>8.3.10 Erect information & storyboards at appropriate locations throughout the Shire</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local artists profiled in local media and council's website ▪ cultural issues, artists and events publicised in local, regional and state Newsletters ▪ information & storyboards at appropriate sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSC, ACD, BCAC, BMA, Art groups, Arts & Cultural Committee ▪ BSC, YDOs, BCAC, ACD, BMA, Art groups • BSC, Chambers of Commerce, Tourism, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short term & ongoing ▪ Ongoing ▪ Short term
8.4 Establish an E-gallery at a suitable outlet	8.4.1 Seek establishment funds for E-Gallery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ E Gallery established & funding secured 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSC, BCAC, BACC, ACD Arts MNC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium term



9 RESOURCES

OBJECTIVE	ACTION STRATEGY	EVALUATION	STAKEHOLDERS	TIME FRAME
9.1 Maximise available resources for cultural expression and development	9.1.1 BSC to act as a source of funding information and auspice applications where appropriate once a Cultural Development Officer is employed 9.1.2 Link requests for BSC financial support to Council's Management Plan and Budget process 9.1.3 Promote "in kind" contributions 9.1.4 Develop community partnerships, joint ventures and business sponsorships in cultural activities 9.1.5 Continue to promote scholarships, fellowships and financial opportunities for cultural pursuits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community well informed of available funding and applications With Council auspice where appropriate ▪ Requests for funds linked to council budget process & Management Plan ▪ Projects receive in kind contributions ▪ community partnerships, joint ventures and business sponsorships established ▪ continued promotion of scholarships, fellowships and financial opportunities for cultural pursuits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSC, Arts & Cultural Committee, Arts MNC ▪ Relevant BSC staff and Councillors, Arts & Cultural Committee, Arts Councils and Arts MNC, Tourism orgs, ▪ As Above ▪ BSC, Arts MNC, BCAC, BMA ,ACD Chambers of Commerce, Tourism orgs, Relevant Indigenous groups ▪ BCAC, Youth Workers, Arts & Cultural Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Medium term & Ongoing ▪ Ongoing ▪ ongoing ▪ Medium term ▪ Short term & ongoing
9.2 Utilise regional resources	9.2.1 see 9.3.4 9.2.2 Support the application for an Indigenous Regional Arts Development Officer 9.2.3 Investigate regional funding opportunities eg Local development boards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishment of Indigenous Regional Arts Development Officer ▪ Awareness & promotion of regional funding opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSC, Arts MNC, Arts & Cultural Cmt • BSC, Arts MNC, BCAC, BMA ,Arts & Cultural Cmt Relevant Indigenous groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing • Short term
9.3 Encourage and support volunteer participation	9.3.1 Seek funding to develop and implement skills training programs in culturally related projects and programs 9.3.2 Establish a local culture volunteer award program in recognition of volunteers 9.3.3 Encourage voluntary Youth participation in cultural activities eg work placements, mentoring projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Successful funding applications ▪ Volunteers acknowledged and awarded ▪ Numbers of young volunteers participating in cultural activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSC, Arts MNC, BCAC, BMA, ACD Arts groups, Relevant Indigenous groups, TAFE, ACE ▪ BSC, Arts MNC, Relevant Indigenous groups, Arts & Cultural Committee ▪ YDOs, Education Depts, Relevant Indigenous groups, BCAC, BMA, Arts MNC, ACD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short term & ongoing ▪ Short term & ongoing ▪ Short term & ongoing

10 EVALUATION

OBJECTIVES	ACTION STRATEGY	EVALUATION	STAKEHOLDERS	TIME FRAME
10.1 Ensure that the Cultural Plan Action Strategies are implemented	10.1.1 Include Action Strategies in Council's Management Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Action Strategies included in Council's Management Plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSC, Arts & Cultural Committee, BCAC, BMA.ACD ▪ BSC, Council Directors & General Manager 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Annually
	10.1.2 Designate responsibility for implementation of Action Strategies to relevant council staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Responsibility for implementation of Action Strategies to relevant council staff designated and actions carried out 		
10.2 Ensure the Cultural Plan reflects community priorities and meets community needs	10.2.1 Determine the means of providing ongoing cultural advice to BSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council aware of culture needs and issues of the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BSC, BCAC, BMA, ACD Art groups, Relevant Indigenous groups ▪ As above ▪ As above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing ▪ Annually ▪ Every 2 years
	10.2.2 Combined community and BSC evaluation work group to evaluate and update the Plan annually taking into consideration funding cycles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Effective annual review of the Plan 		
	10.2.3 Community consultations to be conducted every two years to review the Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community consultations take place every 2 years 		

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

The Bellingen Shire

Bellingen is situated halfway between Sydney and Brisbane on the Pacific coast of New South Wales and covers an area of 1604 Sq kilometres. National Parks and State Forests account for 84,560 Hectares Sq kilometres.

Coffs Harbour is the nearest large town to the north (approximately 33 kilometres) from Bellingen and Nambucca Heads is the nearest large town to the south (approximately 29 kilometres) from Bellingen.

History

The first residents of the Bellingen Shire area were the Aboriginal Gumbainggirr people. Gumbainggirr tribal territory extends from along the east coast of NSW from the Nambucca River, Scotts Head south of Nambucca to the north of Woolgoolga and the Clarence River, between Woolli & Red Rock and west across the Dorrigo Plateau towards Ebor, close to Cootes Crossing. The Gumbainggirr tribe originally numbered about 1,500 people by the time of white settlers arrived. The Gumbainggirr tribe spoke 3 or 4 dialects. Each sub-tribe lived in its own territory and usually there was no trespassing except for inter-tribal meetings or conflicts. Trespassing was severely punished.

White settlers first arrived in the Bellinger Valley in the early 1840's. Most were cedar-getters quick to exploit the rich stands of that timber once found in the area's rainforest. By 1845, the Bellinger estuary had become a busy port from which timber was shipped to Sydney. The Shire's population slowly increased and settlers spread throughout the surrounding hills and up to the Dorrigo Plateau. By the early 1900's many businesses relocated from Fernmount to Bellingen as the dairy farming and agriculture became major activities along with shipbuilding. Bellingen Shire was formed in 1906 and included Sawtell and the Nambucca Valley. The two valleys separated in 1915 to form separate Shires. Dorrigo became part of Bellingen Shire in 195 when Coffs Shire was formed.

Population & Planning Areas

Bellingen Shire consists of 3 main areas of great diversity: **Total Population: 12,208.**

The Eastern Seaboard: Pop 4,387, (30.11% total pop) which includes the town of Urunga (Pop 2704) and the villages of Myleston, Repton, and Raleigh:

The Bellinger Valley: Pop: 5,588, (51.52% total pop) in which the town of Bellingen (Pop 2721), is located and the Thora and Kalang valleys:

Dorrigo Plateau: Pop: 2,233 (18.29%) which is part of the Great Dividing Range and in which the main town of Dorrigo (Pop 969) is located.

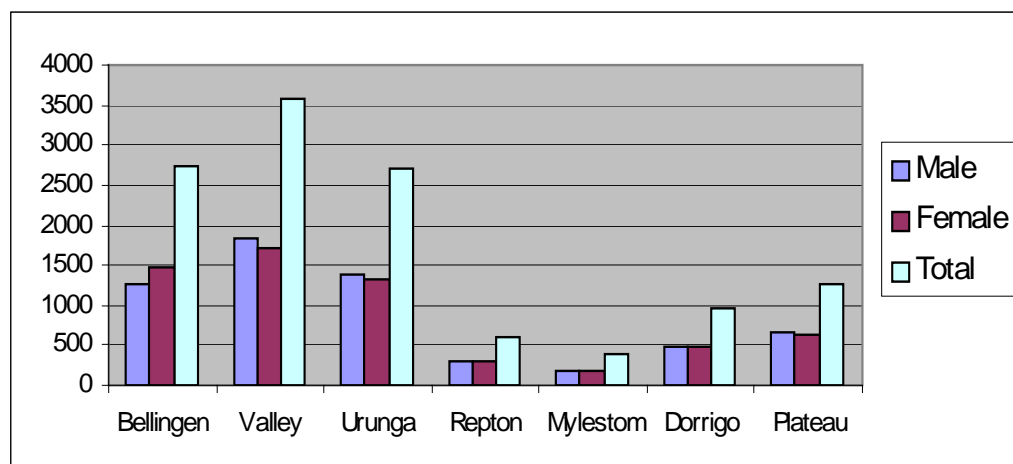
Two main rivers, the Bellinger and the Kalang traverse the area. Both are prone to flooding.

The Kalang and Thora valleys are each entered by one road, 29.98 K & 22.6 k respectively and partially unsealed in both cases.

The Dorrigo escarpment forms a natural barrier across the Shire and is a ½ hour drive from Bellingen. The 29 Kilometre Waterfall Way to Dorrigo is steep, winding, and prone to flooding.

40% of Bellingen Shire's population live in rural areas. Each of these above areas and the villages within them are highly individualistic and protective of their particular cultural identities. This can create some logistical problems to the sharing of resources.

Fig 1 Population Centres of Bellingen Shire LGA. 12,208 persons



[Source - ABS 2001 Census Data from Census Applications Pty Ltd CASA 2001]

Table 1. Bellingen Shire LGA. Selected Characteristics

	Males	Females	Persons	Prop %
Total persons	6095	6113	12208	100
Aged 15 years and over	4646	4771	9417	77.1
Aged 65 years and over	1022	1061	2083	17.1
Aboriginal	154	154	308	2.5
Torres Strait Islander	7	3	10	0.1
Both Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander(b)	4	3	7	0.1
Total Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander	165	160	325	2.7
Australian born	5192	5177	10369	84.9
Born overseas:				
Canada, Ireland, NZ, South Africa, UK(c) and USA	403	424	827	6.8
Other country(d)	164	201	365	3
Total Born Overseas	567	625	1192	9.8
Speaks English only	5727	5707	11434	99.5
Speaks language other than English(e)	124	158	282	2.5
Australian citizen	5677	5643	11320	92.7
Aust citizens aged 18 years and over	3999	4134	8133	66.6
Unemployed(f)	439	243	682	
Employed(f)	2125	1880	4005	
In the labour force(f)	2564	2123	4687	
Not in the labour force(f)	1903	2454	4357	
Unemployment rate(f)	17.1	11.4	14.6	
Participation Rate(f)	55.4	44.7	50	
Enumerated in private dwelling	6004	6008	12012	98.4
Enumerated in non-private dwelling	91	105	196	1.6
Persons same address 1 years ago(f)	4794	4830	9624	
Persons same address 5 years ago(f)	3125	3070	6195	
Overseas visitor	16	21	37	0.3
Population Density (Persons per Sq km)			7.62	

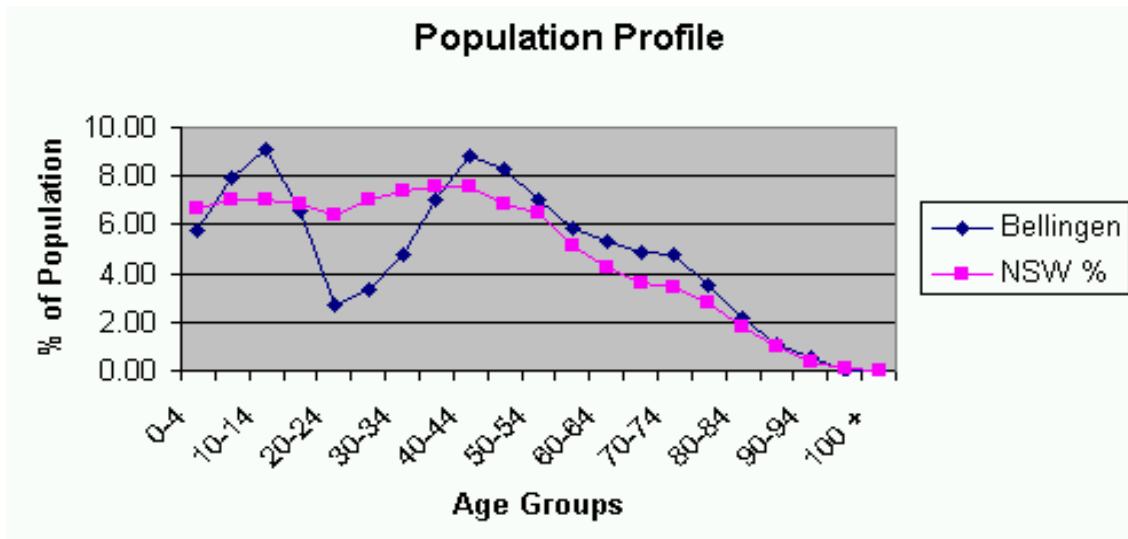
(a) Overseas visitors included in categories: 'Total persons', 'Aged 15 years and over' and 'Overseas visitor'.

All other categories exclude overseas visitors.

[Source Table B01, ABS 2001 Census Applications Australia Pty Ltd.CASAS 2001]

Age of Population

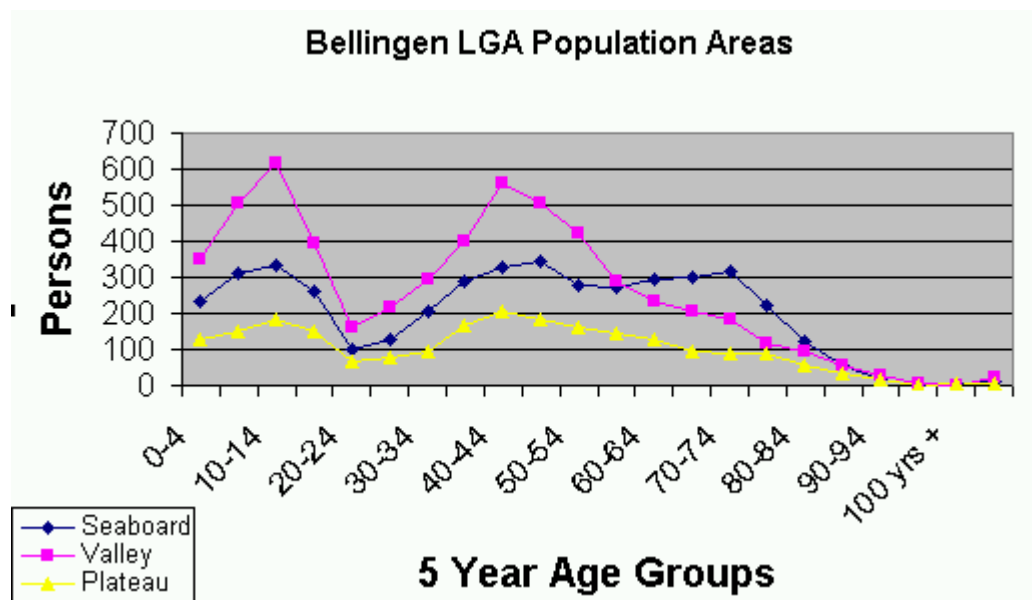
Fig 2. Comparison of state and local population profiles for 2001.



[Source; Australian Bureau of Statistics CASAS 2001]

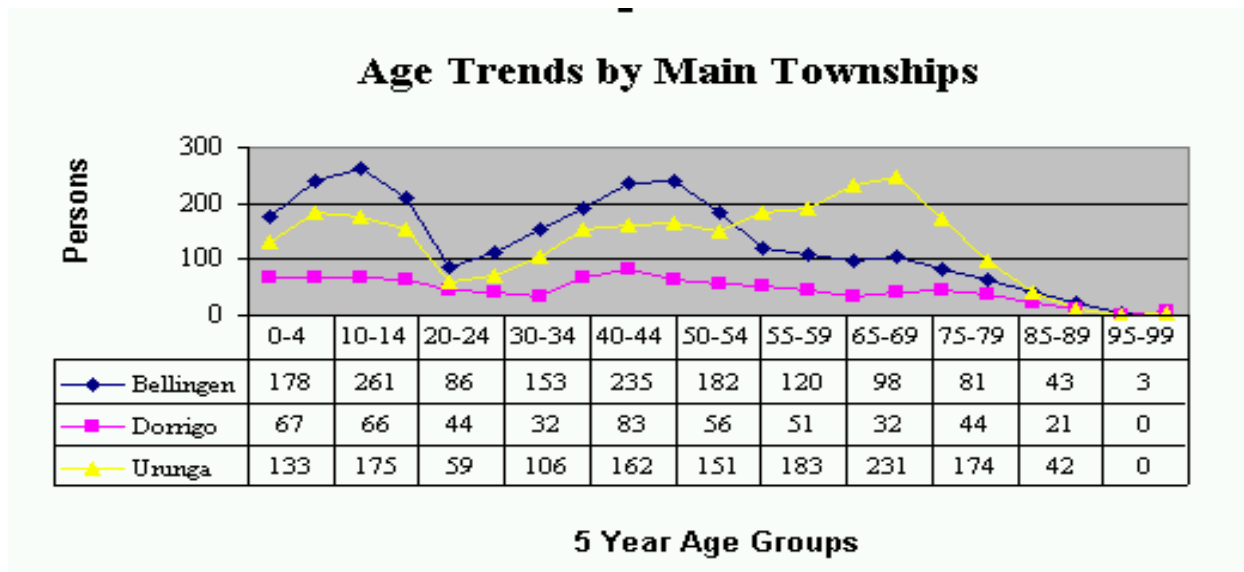
Bellingen Shires LGA's population continues to show an aging of the population curve which peaks in the 10 – 14 and 40 – 50 age groups and decreases significantly in the 20 – 30 age group. The 45– 54 age group increased from 12.4% in 1996 to 15.3% in 2001, an increase of almost 3%.

Fig 3 Main Population Areas by 5 Year Age Groups



[Source - ABS 2001 Census Data from Census Applications Pty Ltd CASA 2001]

Fig.4.

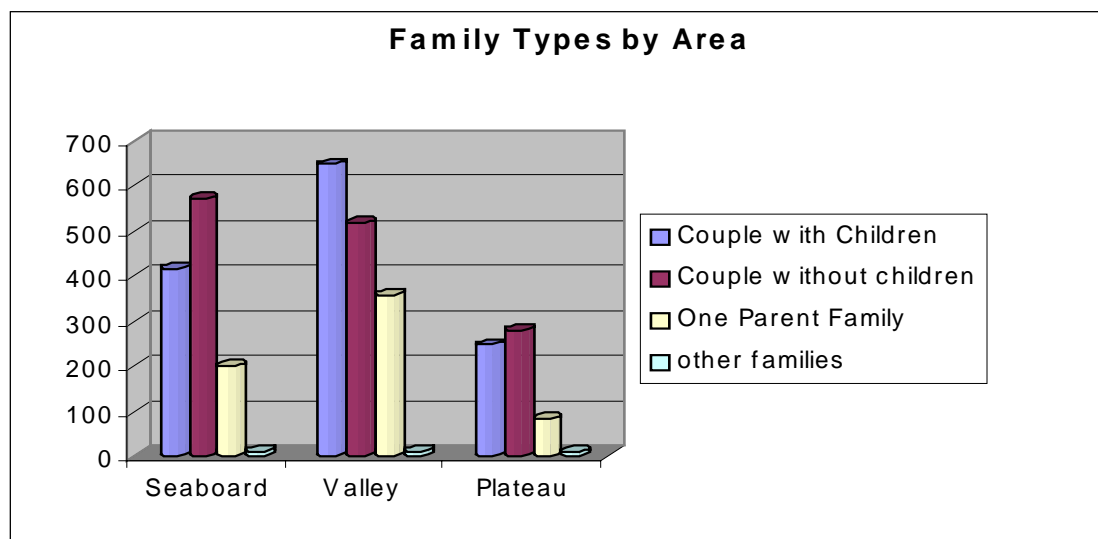


[Source - ABS 2001 Census Data from Census Applications Pty Ltd CASA 2001]

Figs 3 & 4 show the age group patterns of Bellingen shire's main planning and population areas. There is a significantly higher proportion of persons between the ages of 55 and 85 residing in Urunga and on the Seaboard than in the Bellingen Valley and Dorrigo Plateau. The 10 – 14 and 35 – 50 year age group on the other hand has a higher representation in the Valley and on a proportional level, on the Plateau.

Family Types

Fig. 5 Family Types by Planning Areas



[Source; Australian Bureau of Statistics CASAS 2001]

The proportion of single parent families in the Bellingen Shire at 33.50% of total families with children is significantly higher than that of NSW at 24.40%

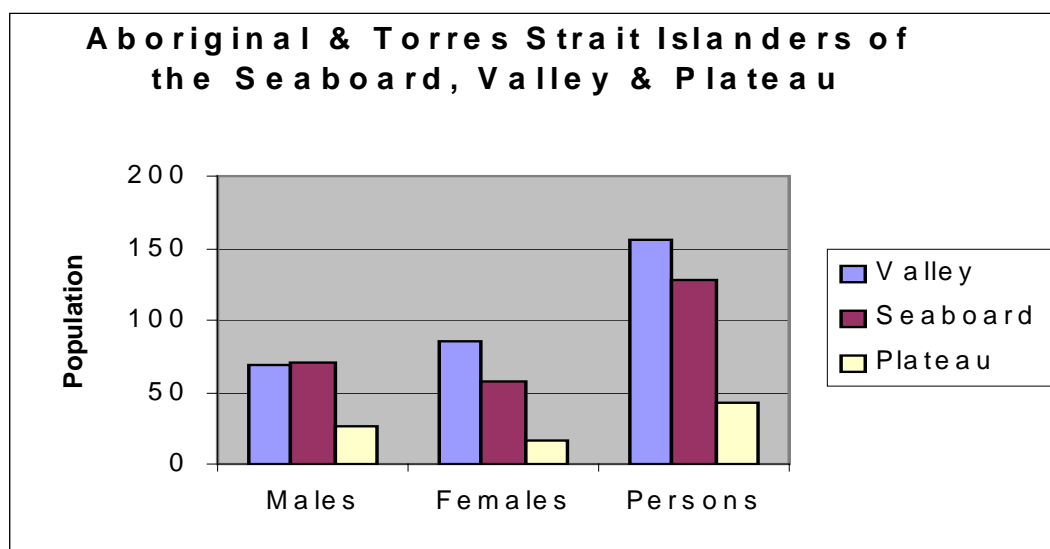
Indigenous Population

There are 325 Aboriginal/ Torres Strait Islanders living in Bellingen Shire. This represents 2.7% of the Shire's total population compared to 1.8% of the total population of NSW.

Of the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander population, 129 (3%) live on the Seaboard, 155 (2.77%) in the Valley area & 43 (1.9%) on the Plateau.

350 people, however, did not state their Aboriginality so the actual figure could double.

Fig. 6



[Source; Australian Bureau of Statistics CASAS 2001]

Table.2. Indigenous Population by Planning Areas

	Males	Females	Persons	Prop %
Valley				
Aboriginal	66	86	152	2.72
Torres Strait Islander	0	0	0	0.00
Both Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander(b)	3	0	3	0.05
Total Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander	69	86	155	2.77
Seaboard				
Aboriginal	67	55	122	2.78
Torres Strait Islander	3	3	6	0.14
Both Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander(b)	0	0	0	0.00
Total Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander	70	58	128	2.92
Plateau				
Aboriginal	24	16	40	1.79
Torres Strait Islander	3	0	3	0.13
Both Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander(b)	0	0	0	0.00
Total Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander	27	16	43	1.93

[Source; Australian Bureau of Statistics CASAS 2001]

Ethnicity

Table. 3 Birthplace.

Birthplace Groups	Number	% OSB
United Kingdom	586	49.2
Other North-West Europe nfd	200	16.8
New Zetland	139	11.7
Germany	91	7.6
Netherlands	54	4.5
United States of America	36	3
Other Western Europe	30	2.5
South Africa	29	2.4
Canada	23	1.9
Philippines	15	1.3
Ireland	14	1.2
Other Eastern Europe	14	1.2
Other Oceania and Antarctica	13	1.1
Northern Europe	13	1.1
Sth America	13	1.1
France	12	1
Italy	11	0.9
China (excl. Hong Kong & Taiwan Province)	11	0.9
Other Southern and East Africa	11	0.9
Hong Kong	9	0.8
India	8	0.7
Indonesia	7	0.6
Yugoslavia, Federal Republic of	6	0.5
Other Middle East	6	0.5
Malaysia	6	0.5

[Source: Table 39 ABS 2001 Census Data from Census Applications Pty Ltd CASA 2001]

85% of the Bellingen Shire population was born in Australia compared to NSW 69.85%. 6.8% of the Bellingen Shire population were born overseas in English speaking countries while 3% were born in non-English speaking countries. Only 2.4% of the population speak a language other than English.

Percentage Of Persons Born Overseas. Regional Comparison

	OSB	OSB ESC	OSB NESC
Bellingen LGA	9.76	6.77	2.99
Nambucca LGA	8.84	6.11	2.73
Coffs Harbour LGA	11.15	6.79	4.37
Mid-North Coast	8.81	5.76	3.05
NSW	23.15	7.15	16.00

OSB , Overseas Born

ESC= English Speaking Countries

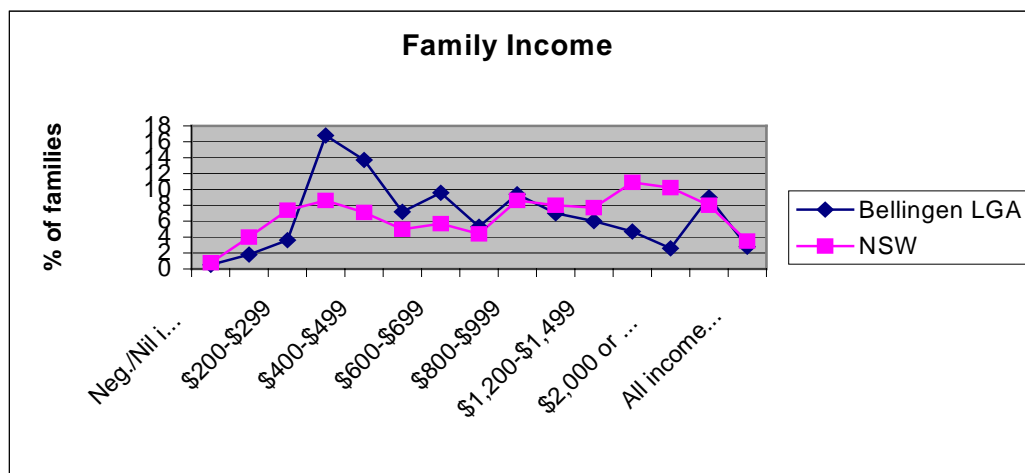
NESC Non English Speaking Countries

[Source: Summary Indicator Program ABS 2001 CASAS Pty Ltd 2001]

Income & Employment

The average weekly earnings of individual Bellingen Shire residents are far below that of the rest of NSW residents. The Average weekly individual income in Bellingen Shire is \$364 compared to NSW average of \$525. Of those individuals, 43.6% earn less than \$399 per week & 32.4% less than \$299. The average family income is \$751. The Shire median weekly individual income is \$269.

Fig 7 Family Income Bellingen LGA & NSW



[Source: ABS 2001 CASAS Pty Ltd 2001]

4,027 persons receive some form of government benefit payment or pension. This represents almost 1/3rd of the Shire's total population. 522 persons receive the Single Parent payment, 632 receive a Disability Support Pension, 1,642 receive the Age Pension and 1,231 receive Newstart and the Youth Allowance.

The unemployment rate of Bellingen Shire is 14.6 % (17.1 % males, 11.4% females) compared to the 6.4 % unemployment rate of NSW, with a participation rate of 50 %.

[Source: Centrelink 2002]



Industry

Fig.8 Industry



[Source - ABS 2001 Census Data from Census Applications Pty Ltd CASA 2001]

Of the employed persons; -

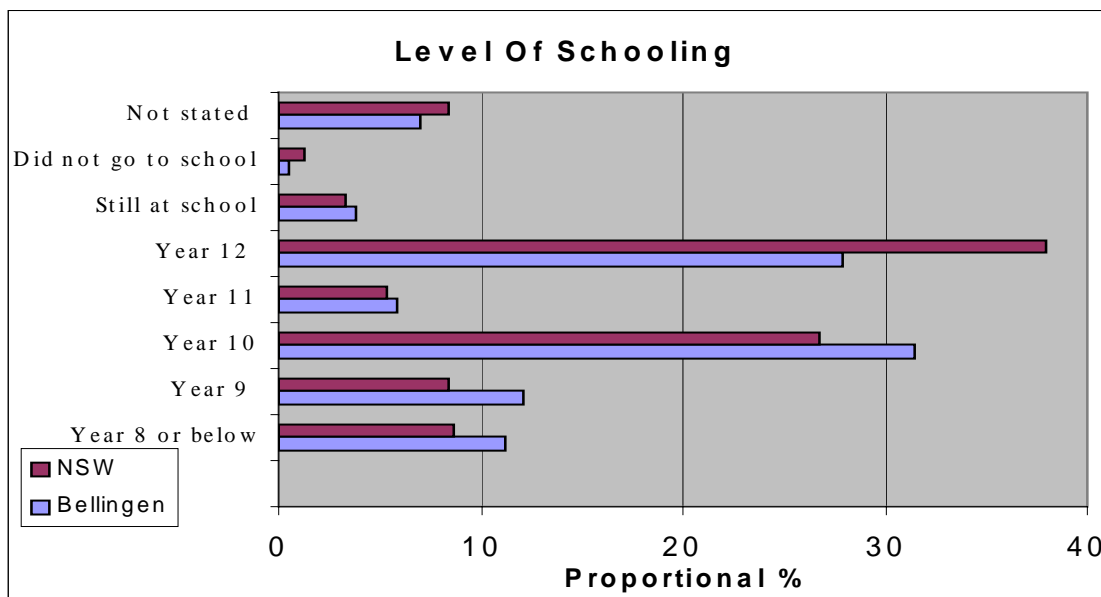
14.5% are in Retail, 11.8% are in Health and Community Services

11.5% Agriculture and Forestry 10.5% are employed by tourist related services including accommodation, cafes & restaurants

8% are in Manufacturing & 7.25% are in Construction.

Education

Fig 9



[Source - ABS 2001 Census Data from Census Applications Pty Ltd CASA 2001]

Transport

Vehicles	Bellingen LGA			
	Shire	Plateau	Valley	Seaboard
Dwellings with:				
Zero motor vehicles	420	64	158	217
One motor vehicle	2386	442	1006	940
Two motor vehicles	1380	271	646	464
Three or more motor vehicles	407	79	184	128
*Avg vehicles per OPD	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.4
*Avg bikes/scooters per OPD	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

OPD Occupied Private Dwellings

[Source - ABS 2001 Census Data from Census Applications Pty Ltd CASA 2001]

Local Bus Services Current services as follows: -

School buses operate throughout the Shire during school terms.

A passenger service operates on weekdays, including school holidays between: -

Bellingen, Urunga, Mylestom & Coffs Harbour.

Bellingen, Mylestom, Urunga & Nambucca

Nambucca, Valla, Urunga & Coffs Harbour

A Bus links Bellingen and Urunga and Bellingen and Nambucca during weekdays. There is also an extra service on Thursdays and a market bus every 3rd Saturday of the month.

Community Transport mainly serves Bellingen Shire's Home & Community Care (HAAC) clients operates an 11 Seater Paralympic bus in Bellingen, Thurs & Fridays and is available to community groups and on weekends by booking. A community transport charter bus is also available to the general public.

A passenger service operates between Dorrigo and Coffs Harbour on Monday's during school terms and Monday and Thursday's in the school holidays.

Dorrigo Support Centre Community MiniBus

Bellingen Shire Council operates a community bus for Dorrigo through a Management Committee based at the Dorrigo Support Centre in Hickory St Dorrigo. Priority use of the bus is given to transport disadvantaged residents of the Dorrigo Plateau, particularly clients of the Dorrigo Support Centre and Dorrigo Youth Services.



Other

One railway station at Urunga - limited connecting buses to the Shire. The nearest airport is at Coffs Harbour.