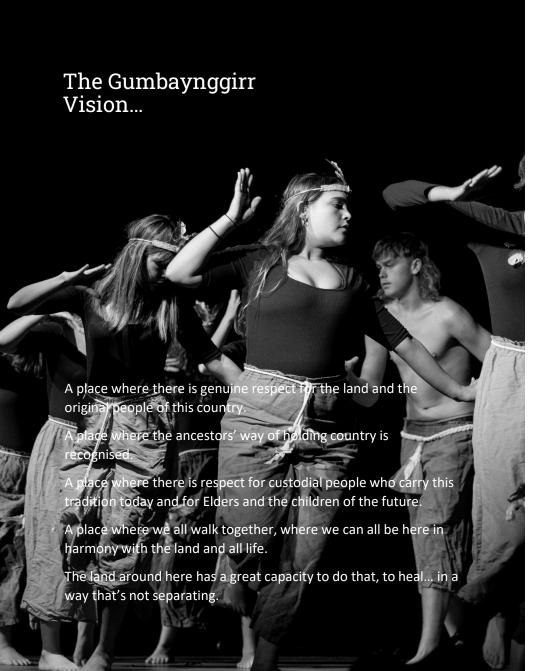


Operational Plan Progress Report

1 July - 30 September 2023 Q1





Vision & Values

Community Vision

Connected, Sustainable, Creative.

We are a community that is inclusive, connected to each other in our shire, and with connections beyond - regionally, nationally, and globally.

We strive to live sustainably to ensure that we have enough for all, forever.

We are a community that is creatively and culturally dynamic. We are ingenious and inventive in finding innovative solutions to problems and challenges.

Our Values

We have developed core values to guide our organisation. These guiding principles dictate behaviour and help to achieve on our Community Vision and our major strategies.



A S









Service Ethic / Pr Commitment

Professionalism

Respect Teamwork

Integrity

Communication

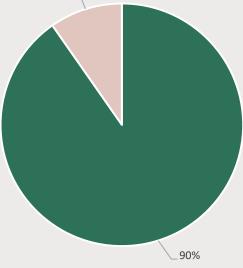


Delivery Program & Operational Plan Four Year Straegies One Year Actions

snapshot of the organisation's performance during the period 1

The following report provides an operational snapshot and key achievements within the five themes that lead Council's progress towards a Connected, Sustainable and Creative Bellingen Shire.





■ In Progress ■ No due to start or delayed

Operational Plan Progress Snapshot

At the close of the first quarter 90% of the plan's programs and initiatives for the 2023-24 period are currently in progress and on track for completion, with 10% of programs delayed, or not due to start.

A



2023 North Coast Tourism Awards

The North Coast Tourism Awards, a prestigious event organised by Destination North Coast, celebrated businesses in the Visitor Economy.

Powered by

BUSINESS

NSW

ion

Held at Plantation House on 27 July, the event recognised excellence in tourism on the North Coast. Bellingen Shire's winners made a notable impact, with Reflections Holiday Park - Urunga, earning a BRONZE award for outstanding camping experiences.

Rebecca Beaton from the Federation of Sporting Clubs won the GOLD award for Outstanding Tourism Business Leader, displaying leadership and innovation. The Council congratulated all finalists, emphasising their role in boosting the local tourism industry. These awards reflect the industry's resilience and commitment to growth.

Operational Plan Report – Q1

Destii



The Bowerhouse Community Reuse Shop has been dedicated to promoting sustainability and fostering a culture of repair and reuse within the community. We have collaborated with the MidWaste Regional Waste Group to bring you a series of exciting and FREE workshops designed to inspire you to fix and re-purpose rather than discard.

Our workshops cover a diverse range of engaging and practical topics, encouraging you to become more hands-on and eco-conscious. From learning the essentials of repairing household items in our "Fix It Basics" workshop, to crafting your own Native Bee Hotel with the guidance of a local bee expert in the "Native Bee Hotel Making" session, we've provided opportunities for skill-building and environmental awareness.

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Additionally, for those with furniture projects waiting in the wings, our "Furniture Restoration" workshop was the perfect opportunity to breathe new life into preloved pieces, whether it's an old wooden chair or a garden bench. The aim is not only to equip you with valuable skills but also to emphasize the importance of sustainability in your DIY endeavors.

We're thrilled to announce that these workshops will continue throughout the year, and they remain completely FREE of charge. So, be sure to visit our website for updates and more details on upcoming workshops.



Bellingen Plant Fair

The Bellingen Spring Plant Fair was a delightful event that perfectly encapsulated the spirit of spring. Under a clear sky, attendees reveled in the in the beautiful weather and enjoyed the uplifting ambiance of the season.

We had our Invasive Plants Officer on site to talk to the community. Our dedicated officer engaged with the community, sharing insights and knowledge about weed management within the Shire. The feedback was positive, with a significant number of people showing genuine interest in invasive weed issues.

Council is actively addressing priority species and issues, such as Tropical soda apple and State Prohibited Matter species, with the help of a full-time Invasive Plants Officer and part-time Invasive Plants Inspector. Additionally, targeted funding from Local Land Services supports the ongoing battle against invasive species like Cockspur Coral Trees, Chinese Tallow, and Seeded Banana. The community's continued support is crucial in safeguarding the Shire from the threats posed by invasive plants.





Completed Capital works - Q1

- \$500k upgrades to the Bellingen Swim Centre
- \$550k upgrade to Crossmaglen Bridge in Valery
- Rehabilitation works on Coopers Lane
- Mylestom Boat Ramp Enhancement
- Mylestom Pontoon & Fish cleaning table

- Rehabilitation works on Perrys Lane in Repton
- Installation of a water standpipe for the Repton Rural Fire Service
- Pine Creek No 1 bridge
- \$5M upgrades to Waterfall Way from Bellingen to Boggy Creek.





During NAIDOC Week Council hosted a gathering at Maam Gaduying Park, guided by Uncle Micklo and our esteemed Gumbaynggirr Leaders. It was a day filled with the beauty of song, dance, art and culture.

The Shire libraries organised various programs that aligned to the school holidays, celebrating NAIDOC Week, by creating an interactive quiz suitable for people of all ages. Participants who answered five questions correctly had the chance to win a book prize. Each library branch also featured a NAIDOC display showcasing the books that helped answer the quiz questions and encouraged exploration and research into the oldest living culture on earth.



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Dementia Awareness Week



During Dementia Awareness Week, Council organised two informative events to support the local community. The first took place at Bellingen Library, where a Dementia Awareness Talk was held on 21 September. This session, led by Clinical Psychologist Annie Wilson, saw 15 attendees gather to learn about the challenges faced by those living with dementia and their families.

Additionally, the Dorrigo Support Centre hosted a talk attended by 25 people, emphasising the importance of understanding dementia's impact on families, friends, and caregivers. These events provided vital information and support for the community, fostering awareness during Dementia Awareness Week.



Cr Tree Elected as Deputy Mayor

Council is thrilled to announce the election of Cr Ellie Tree as its youngest Deputy Mayor in the Shire's history. A dedicated mother, university graduate, and active community volunteer, Cr Tree's extensive background as a youth and family caseworker positions her to champion the concerns and aspirations of the Shire's youth. She continues to push to enhance communication and inclusivity in decision-making, promoting a more engaged community. Mayor, Cr Steve Allan warmly congratulated Cr Tree and emphasised the importance of fresh perspectives in leadership. The Council also expressed gratitude to outgoing Deputy Mayor Cr Jo Cook for her invaluable contributions.





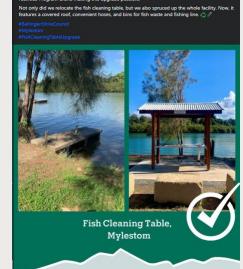




Social Media Snapshot

The social reporting document is to report monthly on the reach, engagement and audience growth as well as highlight top performing post across Facebook and Instagram and any insights on performance or platforms.





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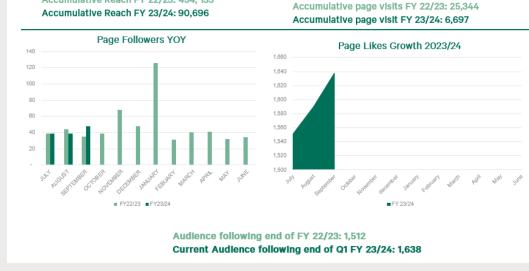
■ FY22/23 ■FY23/24

Accumulative Reach FY 22/23: 454, 133

Bellingen Shire



The graphs to the right are an overview comparison of Reach, Page Visits, Page Followers and Audience Growth of our Facebook Channel FY 22/23 & FY 23/24



■ FY22/23 ■FY23/24

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Sign Up



bellingenshirecouncil

Follow

Message

968 posts

772 followers

101 following

Bellingen Shire Council

www.bellingen.nsw.gov.au/Home







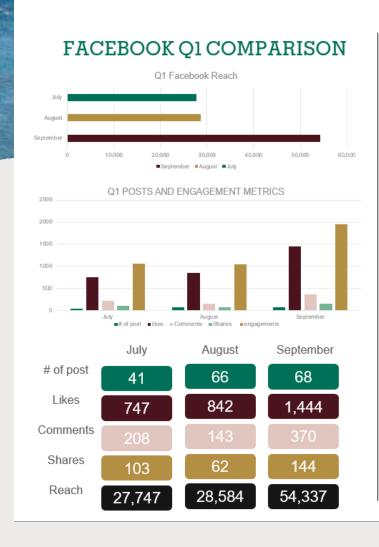


Instagram

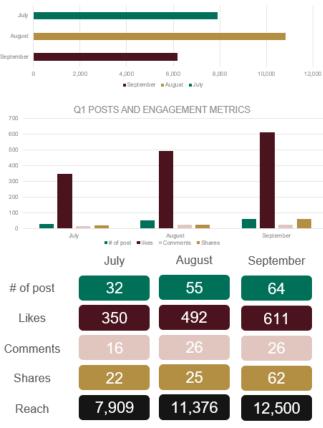
The graphs to the right are an overview comparison of Reach, Page Visits, Page Followers and Audience Growth of our Instagram Channel FY 22/23 & FY 23/24



Comparative Data







In Q1 FY23/24, we saw a significant improvement in our reach shares, surpassing the performance of Q4 FY22/23. The comments we received indicated an increase in community engagement on our primary social channels. September stood out as a strong month for both channels, with the highest number of posts for the quarter. September also marked the most impressive reach and engagement levels since January 2023 across both channels.

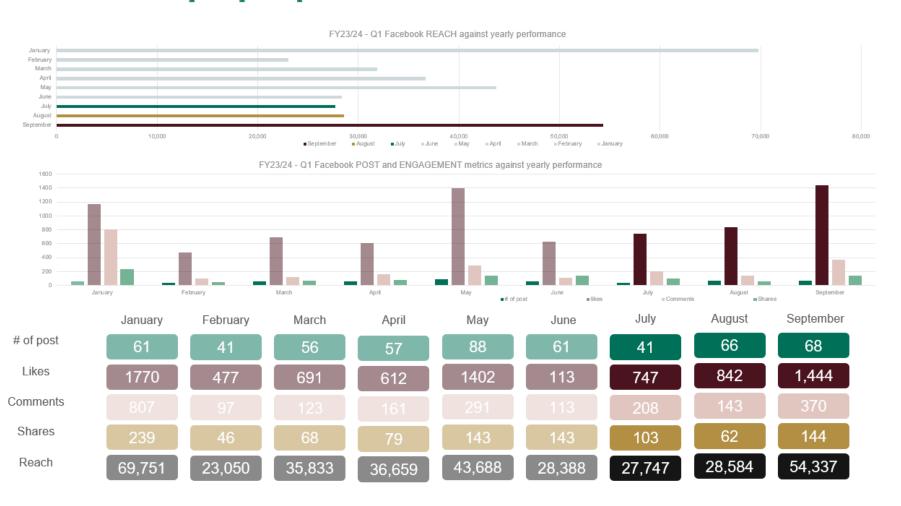
While Facebook continues to outperform Instagram in terms of reach and engagement, it's worth noting that Instagram has shown remarkable growth, with its performance steadily improving each month as our audience expands.

TOTAL COMBINED SOCIAL

	FY 23/24 POST Q1	FY 22/23 POSTS Q4
# of post	304	361
Likes	3,110	3,786
Comments	788	
Shares	418	360
Reach	142,453	133,924

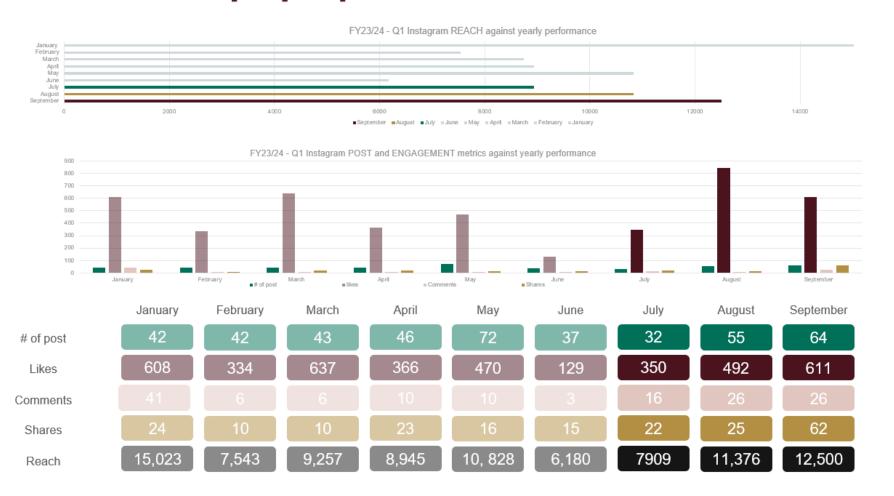
Comparative Data

FACEBOOK 2023 yearly comparison



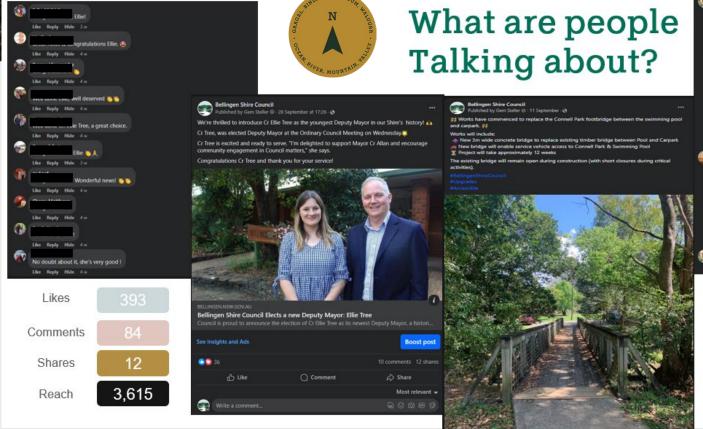
Comparative Data

INSTAGRAM 2023 yearly comparison



What are people talking about?

Our social Shire residents were quick to congratulate Cr Ellie Tree on her election into the role as Deputy Mayor. A historic milestone as she has become the youngest Deputy Mayor in the Shire's rich history. The Connell Park footbridge over by the pool also received lots of comments from the community. Many sharing thoughts of fondness for the wooden footbridge that reached the end of its lifespan.





CONTENT: ALBUMS





CONTENT: Albums

In the first quarter, Council shared three albums that captured our activities.

During NAIDOC Week, we came together at Maam Gaduying Park, guided by Uncle Micklo and our respected Gumbaynggirr leaders to celebrate.

Our Mayor and Councillors embarked on a tour of the Shire, inspecting completed and ongoing projects, which included bridges, road improvements, and a special visit to the Bellingen District Hospital, commemorating its remarkable 120-year history.

The annual plant fair never fails to enchant with its vibrant colors and lively atmosphere. The Council also created an album for the community, allowing everyone to share in the joyous event.



Councillor's Shire Tour

Likes 151 Likes 87 Comments 8 Comments 4 Shares 10 Shares 5

Reach 3,764 Reach 1925

Bellingen Spring Plant Fair

eilingen Spring Plant Fall						
Likes	74					
Comments	4					
Shares	6					
Reach	1,318					

Operational Plan Report – Q1

NAIDOC Week Maam Gaduying Park

CONTENT: Reels and Videos

CONTENT: Reels & Videos

The Council created 12 bespoke videos that were boosted and cross-promoted across Instagram and Facebook in Q1

FACEBOOK Q1 Video

of post 12

Comments

30

Likes

Video Views

6.584

Reach

Shares

9,062

INSTAGRAM Q1 Video

of post

Video Views

11

Comments

16

Likes

1.676

Shares Reach

2,734

Bellingen Spring

Bellingen Plant Fair

Music= Deep Blue Sea

Likes

Plant Fair

17

Reach

1079

Video views

962





Likes

289

Reach

4167

Video views

221



Gleniffer Road Update

168

3.138

2.239



Vandalism Bellingen CBD

31

1648

1507



Road Awareness (2 videos)

351

164

CONTENT: Insta Stories

Throughout Q1, Council effectively utilised Instagram Stories to promote time-sensitive information and provide real-time updates on events. In total, 38 posts were shared directly to Insta stories, which remained visible for 24 hours before being archived. This approach allowed Council to keep the community informed and engaged with the latest happenings promptly and efficiently.

CONTENT: Stories

- · Councillor's Tour (7 stories)
- · Open Day tours (13 Stories)
- NAIDOC Week Maam Gaduying Park (2 stories)
- Road Rules Awareness Week Quizzes (17 stories)
- · Plant Fair (7 stories)
- · Bellingen Pool (1 story)

Stories Q1 - totals

Total Amount

Total Reach
Total Shares

Total 10



Amount

Reach

800

Amount

Reach

1079



Operational Plan Action Updates



On Hald N







Resilient Economy
We have meaningful work and vibrant businesses within our community

On Hold Not due to start

Delayed

Progressing Complete

Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
RE.1.1.1	Commence implementation of priority actions in the Economic Development and Tourism Plan	Community Partnerships		Council has started to progress key actions within the Economic Development and Tourism Plan including: - Successfully securing grant funding to undertake Master Plans in the 3 main town centres. Anticipated completion by Q4 2024. - Piloted a pop-up shop in the old Urunga Visitor Information Centre building - Continues to work with Telstra and NBN regarding connectivity across the Shire - Currently refreshing visitor information including the use of the Destination Branding assets - ongoing - Continue to liaise with National Parks regarding the redevelopment of the Dorrigo Rainforest Centre - Extend information to businesses regarding opportunities for business including entrepreneurs - Continue to work with local Chambers of Commerce around networking and other project opportunities - Receive and distribute tourism sector information from the likes of DNC and DNSW that demonstrates the value of tourism to the region - Council has now completed its Eco Certification including the external audit. Council is working with Ecotourism Australia in finalising the recommendations from the audit. - Council continues to engage with the Yurruungga Aboriginal Corporation around sharing cultural experiences and values
RE.1.2.1	Progress priority actions in the Signage Strategy.	Community Partnerships		Council is looking to engage a consultant to assist in the development of signage concepts. RFQ proposed to be released before the end of the year.









On Hold Not due to start

Delayed

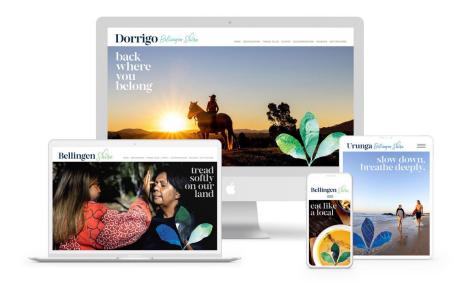
Progressing Complete

Resilient Economy

We have meaningful work and vibrant businesses within our community

Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
RE.1.3.1	Continue rollout of the Bellingen Shire Branding Strategy to businesses and local creatives, including targeted communication and promotion.	Community Partnerships		Council has commence using the Branding in its own collateral and tourism signage. Council is also working with one of the business chambers to incorporate this into their new website. Some businesses have also requested access to the assets for use and Council continues to work with these as appropriate. Council is also looking to engage the consultant who developed the branding to rollout further targeted communications and workshops.









Delayed



Progressing



Resilient Economy We have balanced sustainable Tourism On Hold Not due to start

Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
RE.2.1.1	, ,	Community Partnerships		Council continues to progress where and when possible, recommendations from the Inclusive Tourism Strategy. Some of these include: - Securing funding to widen the Urunga Boardwalk to ensure it meets current access standards. - Mylestom amenities upgraded including inclusive access. There is also designated disabled carparking and easier access through upgraded paths to key points in and around the area - Dangar Falls has also received additional upgrades to the park to include inclusive equipment including a nature play area that fosters sensory engagement, new accessible benches and easier access via a new path around the play area - Connell Park playground upgrade to play equipment, new paths and nature/sensory play area - Council is also working with Reflections Holiday Park in Urunga to upgrade part of the pathway into the caravan park, replacing the amenities to be fully accessible, adding in additional play equipment that is also inclusive and looking to install an access ramp to the stage - William street footpath project completed, upgrades underway at Mylestom pontoon and fish cleaning station making them more accessible. - Purchased Auslan signs for playgrounds.
RE.2.2.1		Community Partnerships		This project is pending the formal announcement of the Shire's successful certification through Ecotourism Australia. Once the Shire has officially received its certification, a program of work will be developed around sustainable management practices.

Resilient Economy We have a sustainable local farming sector that provides us with healthy, fresh food



Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
RE.3.1.1	Enable community facilities for groups to operate growers markets, livestock sales and other localised initiatives.	Community Partnerships		Council continues to be supportive of local producers to promote and sell their products. Council provided the opportunity for local suppliers to participate in the pilot pop up shop in Urunga which saw a number of local food producers participate. Council also provides local producers the opportunity to sell their products in the Bellingen Visitor Information Centre. There are also opportunities for producers to promote and sell the products at the Growers Markets and Monthly Markets at both the showgrounds and Bellingen Park.
RE.3.1.2	Form a steering committee to review progress on the shire wide vision and 10 year plan for community participation in food resilience	Community Resilience		The Food Resilience Vision and Plan is a community-owned document facilitated by OzGreen. OzGreen have been consulted as to who they recommend as participants for the Steering Committee, however, work has stalled on progressing the committee due to new staff recently being employed within the resilience team". As Council is forming the Community Resilience Network, we are now investigating the option to include this committee within the CRN, enabling more agriculture, food, and supply chain members to be involved in the CRN, strengthening its knowledge base and increasing the ability to reach those sectors in recovery support. There are elements of economic resilience and recovery within the Food Resilience Vision as well, so alignment would bring about multiple benefits and broader cooperation.
RE.3.2.1	Continue the review of Council's Growth Management Strategy to address management of Rural Lands into the future including the release of a Discussion Paper with the community.	Development & Compliance		Discussion paper to be prepared to inform the scope of review of the Growth Management Strategy. Considerations to be considered such as: - Consistency of Councils policy position with urban planning principles regarding affordable and sustainable housing including: Focusing further development and population growth to within the boundaries of pre-existing urban areas rather than expanding outward into greenfield, farmland and environmental areas. The release of new Census Results in 2022 and the recent commencement of a range of state reforms to agritourism planning policy have provided additional context for the scope of this review. - The role the Local Housing Strategy already has in proving for further growth.

Community Wellbeing Everyone in our community is valued, involved and supported









On Hold Not due to start

Delayed

Progressing

Compl	ete
Compi	ete

Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
CW.1.1.1	Facilitate a range of community programs, educational events and cultural experiences including afterschool and school holiday activities; Readers and Writers Festival events; author talks; Vintage Film Club as well as annual national events e.g.: Simultaneous Storytime, Children's Book Week, Reconciliation Week.	Community Partnerships		Council continues to facilitate a number of community activities in the delivery of social and cultural programs and activities including: local events (seniors week/festival, NAIDOC week, youth week, International Day of People with a Disability, weekly children's story time at the libraries, school holiday activities, Writers Festival activities, author talks, seniors' activities, etc).
CW.1.1.2	Promote and support community services delivered to our community.	Community Partnerships		Council regularly provides information and support regarding community services through things like interagency meetings, promotion of available services (e.g. Service NSW, breast screening mobile service vans in Dorrigo and Bellingen) and any training, workshops or events that are open to the community. These are promoted through social media and community contact lists.







Community Wellbeing Everyone in our community is valued, involved and supported









On Hold Not due to start

Delayed

Progressing

Complete

Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
CW.1.2	Deliver priority actions identified in the 2022-2026 Disability Inclusion Action Plan including increased awareness of the importance of inclusion and diversity in our community.	Community Partnerships		The Council is actively pursuing the Disability Inclusion Action Plan with a focus on: Promoting Accessibility: Showcasing shire's accessible features, including beach wheelchair, tactile ground surface indicators, pink box machine, and large print keyboards. Hosting RUOK day celebration. Partnering with Dementia NSW for a Dementia Awareness session at Bellingen Library and offering free hearing checks in Bellingen & Urunga with Hearing Australia. Raising awareness of dementia and women's health week. Featuring staff on social media during Local government week. Securing the right to host an adult Activate Inclusion sports day event in 2024. Enhancing Livability: Continuously identifying opportunities for accessible upgrades and maintaining access to amenities and buildings. Completing projects like the William St footpath, upgrades at Mylestom pontoon, and improved accessibility at the fish cleaning station. Conducting an accessibility audit of key council facilities, including the library, Church St amenities, Bellingen Park, and Bellingen pool. Maintaining awareness of accessible features and locations on the shire's website. Monitoring the adequacy of disability parking spaces. Investigating challenges for people with disabilities during disasters. Installing Auslan signs in playgrounds. Promoting Meaningful Employment: Conducting a staff survey on disability and sharing the results. Providing Merit selection training to Council staff. Upholding the commitment to being an EEO employer. Supporting a work placement student from TAFE in community services. Ensuring an accessible workplace and making necessary adjustments. Enhancing Systems & Processes: Offering information on access services through email distribution and the website.

Community Wellbeing Everyone in our community is valued, involved and supported









On Hold Not due to start

Delayed

Progressing

Complete

	Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
	VV I / / I	' '	Community Partnerships		The Ageing Well Strategy is currently being developed in conjunction with key stakeholders. The first version of the Strategy is currently seeking input from internal stakeholders and key focus groups. It is anticipated that a DRAFT will go to Council in Q3 2024.
•	CW.1.2.3	Promote key awareness days to the community and engage with community groups to deliver events celebrating events such as Seniors Week, NAIDOC, Mental Health Month and National Youth Week	Community Partnerships		Council continues to promote key awareness days to the community and assists in delivery of some events with other key stakeholders including Seniors Week, NAIDOC, Mental Health Month, and National Youth Week to name a few.

We value, honour and actively acknowledge our Gumbaynggirr culture and heritage

Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
CW.2.1.1	Continue to engage and build relationships with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Communities and Land Councils	Community Partnerships		Council continues to strengthen its relationships with our Gumbaynggirr community, working with the Yurruungga Aboriginal Corporation and Local Lands Councils to progress key projects and other topics of interest including preservation and protection of the Never Never.



due to start



Delayed



Progressing



Community Wellbeing
We value, honour and actively acknowledge our
Gumbaynggirr culture and heritage

Re	ef	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
cw	⁷ .2.1.2	Progress review of Council's Customer Service Centre, meeting rooms and Chambers to ensure facilities are culturally safe spaces for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people	Community Partnerships		Council has been engaging with the Yurruungga Aboriginal Corporation to assist in understanding what it means to have a culturally safe space for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Council has artwork in its administration building of Uncle Micklo Jarrett, dual language welcome signs on entrance doors and is looking to undertake cultural training with staff. Council is also looking to formalise the name of Maam Gaduying Park following adoption of its Place Naming Policy. These are some of the steps being taken to actively acknowledge our Gumbaynggirr culture and heritage.
CW	.2.2.1	Deliver cultural awareness training with Council staff	People & Culture		Council continues to work with the Dorrigo Plateau Aboriginal Land Council to progress Cultural Training with tentative dates confirmed for a program to be delivered to Councillors and senior staff. Further options are currently being investigated for cultural awareness training to be incorporated into induction programs for new starters ongoing.



due to start



Delayed



Progressing



Community Wellbeing
We are connected safe and resilient with a strong sense of community

Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
CW.3.1.1	Support capital projects initiated by s355 community committees for which funding has been gained to improve accessibility and inclusion, refurbishment works and maintenance of nominated halls and reserves.	Community Partnerships		Council continues to work with its S355 Committees to see improvements and upgrades to its facilities. Current projects that have received funding include: - Thora Hall for carparking improvements and ramp upgrade - Brierfield Hall also for carparking and other improvements - Dorrigo Community Hall - maintenance improvements - Connell Park for drainage and amenities/storage/facility improvements - Netball court upgrade from grass to hard court including lighting Urunga Museum - Bellinger Valley Historical Society for replacement of windows - maintenance improvements Many of these projects will progress over the next couple of years.
CW.3.2.1	grant applications for	Sustainable Environment & Waste		\$25,000 of funding from the Environment Levy was distributed through a grants process to support 7 community led projects. Recipients: OzGreen Coffee for Climate Urunga Business and Community Dorrigo Community Nursery Bellinger Landcare Inc McCrystal Creek Landcare and Repton Public School.
CW.3.2.2	Invest annually in local projects through the Community Grants Program.	Community Partnerships		Council has completed the first of 2 Rounds of the Community Grants Program with the second round promoted throughout October. Assessments for the second Round will be undertaken in November.

Community Wellbeing We are connected safe and resilient with a strong sense of community









On Hold Not due to start

Delayed

Progressing Complete

I	Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
C	W.3.2.3	Improve community preparation for disaster risk supporting the Community Resilience Network and facilitating community preparedness planning.	Community Resilience		Establishment of the Community Resilience Network continues, as new staff with on the ground experience taking the reins to assist this group to form and be sustainable. Community preparedness activities continue despite funding challenges, with bushfire recovery funding in education supporting the delivery of multiple Bushfire Awareness and Preparedness events across the LGA in partnership with the MNCJO and RFS. Additional work to build capacity in community, such as First Aid Courses, and Psychological First Aid courses have been held or are scheduled, as well as workshops to plan for recovery. We continue to deliver on Local Community Planning and Preparedness across the Shire, gathering community together to form their own movement to boost social connection and support, to share information, and build cooperation. This is done in partnership with a number of community groups, further building sustainability into the projects being produced.
C	W.3.2.4	Enable our community to develop resilience through community-led projects focusing on education, community gardens, indigenous engagement and truth telling, and building community cohesion.	Community Resilience		Most community-led projects funded with Bushfire Recovery funding have been completed. Housing Matters Action Group and Neighbourhood Care Network completed their projects in June 2023. 2BBB are putting the finishing touches on the auditorium and will be completed by end of funding. Bellingen Community Garden Land purchase is complete. The Truth-telling and Engagement project is continuing, however, has been delayed due to various challenges. Extension for project delivery timeframes has been sought from the State Government and Council continues to try and facilitate a positive outcome for the community in this work.
C	W.3.3.1	Maintain official Asset Protection Zones (APZ) and fire trail access on council tenured land in accordance with approvals through the Bush Fire Management Committee (BFMC) dependent on vegetation type and fuel load.	Infrastructure Services		All APZ's have been inspected and works undertaken, reporting to be completed to finalise.

Community Wellbeing We are connected safe and resilient with a strong sense of community









Complete

On Hold Not due to start

Delayed

Progressing

Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
	Support effective response and recovery from disasters by developing a Bellingen Shire pre-event recovery plan, upgrading the Emergency Operations Centre in Raleigh Depot and making arrangement for renovated buildings to be used as recovery centres in disaster response.	Community Resilience		Local Recovery Plan has been completed and endorsed by the LEMC Urunga House and Bellingen Memorial Hall refurbishments to enable stand up as a Recovery Centre are complete. The construction phase of the Emergency Operations Centre is set to start in the new year, as is the refurbishment of the Dorrigo Community Hall.
CW.3.3.3	Establish an expanded staffing structure to facilitate Emergency Management and Response	Operations		Being progressed as part of a review of service areas within the Operations Group and in consideration of disaster communications protocols under development.

Places for People

We have a diversity of beautiful spaces and the facilities and services needed to foster community happiness and wellbeing









On Hold Not due to start

Delayed

Progressing Complete

Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
PP.1.1.1	Maintain Urban and open spaces including Parks / Reserves / Sporting Grounds / Amenities / Beach Access Points / Playgrounds / Shared Paths and Footpaths	Infrastructure Services		Urban maintenance program completed for 22/23 FY.
PP.1.1.2	Review and update Plans of Management for Community Land within the Shire.	Community Partnerships		Being progressed as part of a review of service areas within the Operations Group and in consideration of disaster communications protocols under development.
PP.1.3.1		Development & Compliance		Council resolved at its meeting of 27 September 2023 to allocate \$9,000 of funding to 3 Applications received as part of the annual heritage assistance grants program. Delegated authority was provided to the General Manager to allocate an additional \$9750 of funding to other projects that may emerge within the 2023-24 funding window. Heritage conservation activities capitalise on the embodied energy that is inherent in existing building stock, thereby reducing demand for new building materials and impacts on the environment. The continuation of the annual heritage funding program incentivises property owners to maintain heritage listed properties and demonstrates ongoing Council support for preservation of the rich history of the Shire
PP.1.4.1	Inrojects including Connell	Infrastructure Services		Connell Park Netball Courts on track for construction commencement in Q3. Design and procurement activities progressing to support that.
PP.1.4.2	Progress Dorrigo Community Centre Hall Refurbishment project to provide flexible spaces for the community as well as providing a safe space during emergencies.			Council has now gone to tender to understand the market for costings to implement the proposed project to refurbish the Community Hall. These will be assessed in accordance with the tender review process.

Places for People









On Hold Not due to start Delayed

Progressing

Complete

Re	f	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
PP.:	1.4.3	ľ	Technical Services		Not progressed this quarter. Further action to be undertaken in Q3/Q4

We have a mixture of affordable sustainable housing options for all in our community

We have a diversity of beautiful spaces and the facilities and

services needed to foster community happiness and wellbeing

Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
PP.2.1.1	Progress Local Housing Strategy Actions including Infill Infrastructure Investigations and nominated Planning Proposals as opportunities arise.	Development & Compliance		This action has not been progressed this quarter due to significant process improvement work being undertaken in the Development and Compliance area.
PP.2.2.1	Review outcomes of feasibility report presented to MNCJO regarding the establishment of a Community Land Trust (CLT). Assess opportunities for Council to support the establishment of a CLT.	Development & Compliance		Council's General Manager is a participant in the Advisory Panel which has been set up to progress the establishment of a CLT in the Bellingen Shire.

Places for People







We are connected and able to move around in a safe, accessible, affordable, healthy and environmentally friendly way

On Hold Not Delayed Progressing Complete due to start

Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
PP.3.1.1	IL OLINCII TIEET AND NEAVV NIANT			Ongoing activity with works underway. Decision to minimise expenditure in the 2023/24 FY taken in relation to replacement fleet to strengthen the position of the fleet reserve.
PP.3.1.2	kriitability and ritilisation of	Technical Services		Review of plant utilisation ongoing.
PP.3.1.3	Utilise the asset management system to identify the optimal roads to be prioritised during the year to implement gravel resheeting and formation works to optimise outcomes from committed funding	Infrastructure Services		Works are progressing on review of asset management data consistent with budgeted levels of service and on review of external funding opportunities which may compliment project delivery.
PP.3.1.4	Utilise the asset management system to identify the optimal roads to be prioritised during the year	Services		Heavy Patching and Re-sealing program is progressing ahead of schedule on review of asset management data consistent with budgeted levels of service and on review of external funding opportunities which may compliment project delivery.

Places for People

budget.

and gutter in accordance with adopted

We are connected and able to move around in a safe, accessible, affordable, healthy and environmentally friendly way

Services



due to start





Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
PP.3.1.5	Utilise the asset management system to identify the optimal roads to be prioritised during the year to implement major road renewal works to optimise outcomes from committed funding.	Infrastructure Services		Works are progressing consistent with the adopted capital budget on review of asset management data and on review of external funding opportunities which may compliment project delivery. Specific projects progressed at: - South Arm Road - Martells Road
PP.3.1.6	Maintain Councils Road Network - Sealed and unsealed roadways including maintenance grading, pavement patching, vegetation control, roadside furniture, and signage maintenance.	Infrastructure Services		Annual maintenance program is on track consistent with budgeted levels of service.
PP.3.1.7	Perform maintenance and renewal works on Waterfall Way Works through the Road Maintenance Council Contract (RMCC).	Infrastructure Services		Works are on track consistent with agreed schedule and issued work orders from Transport for NSW (TfNSW).
PP.3.1.8	Progress the Essential Public Asset restoration projects in response to approved disaster declarations in consultation with TfNSW and NSW Reconstruction Authority.	Infrastructure Services		Disaster response progressing in consultation with TfNSW and the NSW Reconstruction Authority.
PP.3.1.9	Deliver replacement of damaged stormwater infrastructure including kerb and gutter in accordance with adopted			Works progressing consistent with budgeted levels of service.

Places for People

We are connected and able to move around in a safe, accessible, affordable, healthy and environmentally friendly way





Complete due to start

Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
PP.3.1.10	Perform maintenance and renewal works on Regional Roads utilising Block Grant funding through TfNSW.	Infrastructure Services		Works are progressing as planned
PP.3.1.11	Progress construction activities for new bridge structures funded through programs including the Fixing Country Bridges and Bridges Renewal Program.	Infrastructure Services		Works are progressing consistent with Adopted Capital Program with project progress communicated to the community through dedicated project information on Councils website.
PP.3.2.1	Pursue grant funding opportunities and implement pathway extension works of priority identified in the Pedestrian and Mobility Plan (PAMP).	Technical Services		NSW Get Active Grant Program currently open with applications to be progressed for priority PAMP projects.
PP.3.3.1	Investigate funding opportunities for electric vehicle charging stations to support the transition to electric vehicles.	Sustainable Environment & Waste		NRMA charging points installed at Coronation Park in Dorrigo. Another provider, EVX, is rolling out EV charging infrastructure in partnership with Essential Energy. EVX has conducted a site audit of the Bellingen LGA and identified four potential sites. A proposal is expected in the next quarter.
PP.3.4.1	Partner with Nambucca Valley Council and TfNSW for management of a road safety officer to focus on driving road safety messaging throughout our community. The Program includes the Road Safety Pilot Program targeting various types of road users and driver and pedestrian behaviour to drive road incidents 'towards zero'.	Technical Services		Ongoing program with several road safety projects underway or complete. Engagement opportunities for the community communicated through Councils Social Media Channels.

Our Living Environment We have clean water which is protected and used sustainably









On Hold Not due to start

Delayed

Progressing Complete

Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
LE.1.1.1	Finalise Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan (IWCM) including mapping of the Shire's aquifer to ensure we are a resilient community that is prepared for the future challenges our everchanging environment presents us.			Strategy 90% complete. Council to receive a presentation from NSW PWA on the water supply options report to determine what options or options are included in the financial plan for the strategy.
LE.1.1.2	Commence implementation of the Coastal Management Plan priority actions.	Sustainable Environment & Waste		Plan is awaiting approval of grant variation for indigenous engagement before final draft is presented to Council for endorsement of public exhibition.
LE.1.2.1	Continue to advocate for additional funding to progress delivery of the Sewering Coastal Villages Scheme.	Water & Wastewater		Council has been unsuccessful in securing funds to date with two (2) recent federal grants schemes being cancelled. Staff will continue to monitor for suitable funding opportunities.
LE.1.2.2	Progress renewal of water mains along Yellow Rock Road to replace 4.2km of water mains over a 4 year period.	Water & Wastewater		25% of project complete. This year works program is expected to commence in April 2024.
LE.1.2.3	Increase capacity of Urunga Sewer Treatment Plant to include an effluent reuse scheme to deliver recycled water to South Urunga developments.	Water & Wastewater		Tender negotiation process finalised ahead of report to Council in November 2023 for award of the project. Subject to award, construction anticipated to commence in January 2024.

Our Living Environment We live sustainably and reduce our ecological footprint and contribution to climate change



Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
LE.2.1.1	Deliver sustainability and water conservation education program to the community, including businesses.	Sustainable Environment & Waste		Two community upcycling workshops were help at Raleigh waste facility with the goal of reducing landfill and four water saving workshops/events were held through Our Living Coast alliance. A water saving tip was distributed on Council's social media platforms every day of National Water Week.
LE.2.1.2	Finalise the Beach Access Policy which includes considering environmental protection ahead of broader community engagement processes.	Development & Compliance		This action has not been progressed this quarter due to significant process improvement work being undertaken in the Development and Compliance area. Matter to be reviewed further in Q3.
LE.2.1.3	Provide Professional and financial support for community led projects that align with Council strategies including Council's Biodiversity Strategy.	Sustainable Environment & Waste		\$26,000 was distributed across the shire to support ongoing delivery of Landcare work on council-managed land. Environment Levy Funding of \$25,000 was shared amongst 7 community groups to deliver habitat conservation regeneration and sustainability projects.
LE.2.2.1	Progress implementation of EPA funded behaviour change and infrastructure projects to target the Key Result Areas of the NSW Waste and Sustainable Materials Strategy.	Sustainable Environment & Waste		Preparations for construction of the community workshop space (Bowerhouse Shed) are progressing. It is anticipated that Development Approval will be received in November with project completion on schedule for completion by end of June.
LE.2.2.2	Undertake site and process improvements at Dorrigo Waste Management Centre to support transition to a Circular Economy.	Sustainable Environment & Waste		Updated process and staff training to accurately track waste volumes, streams and diversion in line with EPA guidelines for facilities without a weighbridge. Vehicle counters installed in preparation for Service Review.
LE.2.3.1	Progress implementation of the Corporate Carbon Plan with the aim to reach 100% renewables by 2030. Invest in Green Power, and use savings accrued through previous energy upgrades for continued investment in emissions reduction at corporate and community facilities	Sustainable Environment & Waste		Discussions underway with LG Procurement and Hunter JO for a Power Purchase Agreement tender to commence at the expiry of current electricity contracts in June 2024. Focus is on achieving renewable energy targets and economic benefit.

Our Living Environment We work together to protect and enhance our biodiversity and natural environment









On Hold Not due to start

Delayed

Progressing

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Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
LE.3.1.1	ensure conservation of Grey-headed flying fox	Sustainable Environment & Waste		Participated in quarterly flying fox count with DPE and progressed delivery of LGNSW grant project for Camp habitat restoration for the Bellingen colony. Bush regeneration and population monitoring was completed, and staff participated in the National Flying Fox forum at Port Macquarie.
LE.3.2.1	Provide support for the delivery of community led Climate Action Plan projects including emissions reduction and community education.	Sustainable Environment & Waste		Council supported Dandarrga Landcare with a grant of from the Environment Levy. The Dandarrga project grows and distributes drought resilient endemic plant species to mitigate the impacts of climate change by providing shelter for wildlife.
LE.3.2.2	community partnership projects and maintenance	Sustainable Environment & Waste		\$12,000 from the Environment Levy funds was committed to support the delivery of RiverWatch a volunteer citizen science project to monitor waterway health for habitat. Past project maintenance is being undertaken at the following sites: Earl Preston Reserve North Beach Dangar Falls Ringwood Creek Cemetery Creek Market Park O'Sullivan's Park Hungry Headland Alma Doepel Reserve and Fernmount riverbank.
LE.3.3.1	Strategy, including engaging with Local Aboriginal Councils in the development of 6 Vegetation Plans	Sustainable Environment & Waste		4 Vegetation Management Plans have been developed. Current projects supporting delivery of Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan include: Koala Conservation Project (Dorrigo), Riverbank Erosion Plan (Bellingen) and Water Quality Monitoring (shire-wide).

Our Living Environment We work together to protect and enhance our biodiversity and natural environment









On Hold Not due to start

Delayed

Progressing

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Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
LE.3.3.2	Review signage at all beach access points with information regarding permissible uses, restrictions and location emergency details.	Development & Compliance		This action has not been progressed this quarter due to significant process improvement work being undertaken in the Development and Compliance area.
LE.3.3.3	meets its Biosecurity obligations by addressing the objectives of the NSW Invasive Species Plan	Sustainable Environment & Waste		109 property inspections were undertaken, and control took place on 36.7 hectares. Community engagement/education took place through stalls at Bellingen Spring plant fair, road-side signage, a social media campaign and via the rates notice mailout. A herbicide and weeds training course was delivered to the Operations spray team to finish up the Herbicide Review action plan.
LE.3.4.1	Finalise the Environmental Health Management Plan and commence priority actions.	Development & Compliance		 Practical application of an Environmental Health Management Plan for Council under review. However, the team has progressed the following: Delivered year 1 of a strategy relating to a Shire wide food inspection program. Scoped the high-risk areas to inform the commencement of a On site sewer management strategy. Undertaken priority investigation relating to environmental health and land use compliance matters throughout the last 12months.



Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
CL.1.1.1	Commence implementation of an integrated corporate asset management system allowing more accurate and effective tracking of the costs of maintaining and renewing Council assets.	Technical Services		Review and assessment of potential Integrated corporate asset management systems ongoing.
CL.1.1.2	Progress priority actions within Financial Sustainability Strategy including water and sewer dividend audit, implementation of Special Rate Variation (should this be approved by IPART) and coordination of operational savings targets.	Finance		Council has continued to progress actions contained within the Financial Sustainability Strategy throughout 2023. Councils' efforts to improve financial sustainability have continued to bare fruit, posting an operating surplus in 2023 and improving its cash/investment position. An audit conducted for approval of a water and sewer dividend resulted in Council not qualifying for water and sewer dividends due to the age of Councils Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan. Council is currently in the process of renewing its Plan.
CL.1.1.3	Progress implementation of priority signed timed parking recommendations identified with the Bellingen Shire Council Parking Strategy within Bellingen and Urunga townships.	Technical Services		Not progressed this quarter. To be reviewed in line with CBD masterplans and implement in Q4 as required.
CL.1.1.4	Review On-Site Sewage Management System (OSMS) Strategy to inform future development and inspection program.	Development & Compliance		High risk locations have been identified to inform priority inspections. Further work to occur in the coming quarters.
CL.1.2.1	Regional partnerships used to maximise impact of behaviour change projects that support Circular Economy principles.	Sustainable Environment & Waste		Mid North Coast Joint Organisation is facilitating a project to identify and cost opportunities for a regional Circular Economy Hub. MidWaste regional forum MoU was renewed. Current projects focus on diverting organics from landfill and supporting education providers with classroom resources, workshops and networking opportunities.



Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
CL.1.2.2	to Summervilles Road Gordonvilles Road and	Office of the General Manager		Advocacy work continues on this item with regular contact with the relevant State Government Minister.
CL.1.2.4	community including our schools, hospitals, affordable and diverse housing options and public	Office of the General Manager		We are actively engaged in ongoing advocacy efforts and maintaining regular communication with the relevant State Government Ministers. In addition, we continue to collaborate with the Housing Matters Action group to advance affordable and social housing initiatives. Our advocacy extends to Transport for NSW through the Local Traffic Committee (comprising NSW Transport and NSW Police) to secure additional funding and enhancements to the public transport network to enhance safety. Further, and as part of the Waterfall Way RMCC Contract, advocating for Variable Message Signs (VMS) boards, improvements in traffic safety, and reviews of speed zones that contribute to the safety of public transport and road users.
CL.1.2.5	initiatives to progress priority actions as identified	Office of the General Manager		Council is a strong participant in the Joint Organisation and work continues with the successful receipt of several grant funded programs to be delivered over the next 12 months.
CL.1.3.1	Develop a Cyber Security Plan which defines the current and future state of Council's cyber security landscape and manages cyber security risks to protect customer, employee and corporate information.	Information & Communications Technologies		This project will commence once Council's IT Strategy is finalised. As an initial measure Council has engaged a third party provider to strengthen its Cyber Security Policy position and progresses security penetration testing with staff to strengthen awareness within the workforce of cyber breaches and good practice.



Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
CL.1.3.2	corporate Deputy General Manager Operations and assets and reinvest savings accrued through	Sustainable Environment & Waste		Energy efficient pool works were undertaken at Bellingen and Dorrigo. Audit of hot water systems at all council facilities to determine eligibility for free upgrades under the NSW Energy Savings Scheme. Solar asset list developed with cleaning and maintenance scheduled on performance trigger.
CL.1.3.3	Management System (FRMS) including currency of	Governance & Risk		No action undertaken this period.
CL.1.3.4		Governance & Risk		No Internal Audit undertaken this period StateWide Continuous Improvement Pathway Program Self-Assessments complete and results forwarded to StateWide. * Playgrounds * Building Assets * Business Continuity
CL.1.3.5	Investigate software solutions relating to delegations, registers and contract management.	Finance		A software solution was chosen earlier in the financial year for management of Council contracts. Implementation and associated staff training has commenced. It is expected the software will be fully operational by December 2023.
	align performance objectives and operational	Organisational Strategy & Communication		This project is due to commence in Q3.



Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
CL.1.3.7	Develop register of premises requiring annual fire certification.	Development & Compliance		This work has not been progressed during this quarter and it is programmed to occur alongside upgrades to Council's online planning portal software during the financial year.
CL.1.3.8	Progress remaining high and medium priority actions that have been identified within the Companion Animals Plan.	Development & Compliance		This action has not been progressed this quarter due to significant process improvement work being undertaken in the Development and Compliance area.
CL.1.3.9	Undertake a service review of Dorrigo Support Centre Deputy General Manager Operations in consideration of the home support funding model.	Community Partnerships		Council has been working to review current and future proposed funding models for the Dorrigo Support Service. There is still no clear advice as to the proposed changes to the Community Home Support Program (CHSP). Council is reviewing its client base and potential business models outside of the CHSP should the existing model change or be removed all together.
CL.1.3.10		Community Partnerships		Council has started to review the S355 Committees and now developed a DRAFT Terms of Reference and DRAFT project plan which looks at how a review might be undertaken. A formal review will be dependent on the capacity and resources available to undertake the work.
CL.1.3.11	Progress development of centre-based masterplans consistent with Council's adopted Local Strategic Planning Statement.	Technical Services		Engagement underway including progressing the engagement of external consultants to facilitate delivery of the project.
CL.1.3.12	Progress priority actions of the Information Technology strategy and promote a strong alignment between business and technology.	Information & Communications Technologies		Council has progressed the development of an IT Strategy with a range of risk registers and key action plans informing its progress. With the recruitment of a new group leader to commence in November it is anticipated the Strategy will be finalised by Q3 with key action items already underway.



Ref	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
CL.1.3.13	Review and update policies and procedures related to IT Strategy roll out and customer service	Information & Communications Technologies		Council has engaged a third party provider to support Council's Cyber Security and other associated IT related policies. This project is in draft and is anticipated to be finalised in Q2.
CL.1.3.14	Conduct a review of Council's land and property portfolio	Governance & Risk		No action undertaken this period.
CL.1.3.15	Deliver upgrade works to existing Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) situated at Raleigh to facilitate standalone operational activities.	Technical Services		Procurement activities underway on finalisation of design documentation associated with the EOC Upgrade.

Our community is informed and engaged with a strong sense of civic leadership

Re	f	Project	Responsible unit	Status	Comments
CL.:	1.3.13	related to IT Strategy roll out and customer	Information & Communications Technologies		Council has engaged a third party provider to support Council's Cyber Security and other associated IT related policies. This project is in draft and is anticipated to be finalised in Q2.

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COUNCIL@BELLINGEN.NSW.GOV.AU
33 HYDE ST BELLINGEN NSW 2454 | 02 6655 7300