



COUNCILLOR ENGAGEMENT

Engagement was undertaken with the councillors to identify the issues and priorities they had heard from the Queanbeyan-Palerang community during the recent local government elections. This engagement was also in recognition that as elected representatives they fulfil a community leadership role under the provisions of the Local Government Act. The councillors identified a number of issues that are consistent with the community engagement results and are reflected throughout the Strategic Directions, Key Goals and Community Outcomes within the five Strategic Pillar areas. The table below summarises the feedback Councillors received from constituents during the election period. As can be seen here this feedback fell into the following broad categories:

- Provision of sports fields and recreational facilities
- Economic development across the region
- Revitalisation of the Queanbeyan CBD including the need for a cinema complex
- Sound planning processes to protect the environment and heritage
- Managing growth and its impact on town centres and facilities
- Road improvements, maintenance and access as well as carparking
- Transport management and planning
- Telecommunications access
- Engagement and communication by Council
- Representation of rural areas

Table 1: Councillor Engagement Outcomes by Strategic Pillar

STRATEGIC PILLAR	COUNCILLOR ENGAGEMENT	
Strategic Pillar 1: Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade of Queanbeyan Aquatic Centre • Ageing population and need for facilities, disability services, infrastructure to allow for mobility of people • Sports fields and facilities - Queanbeyan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insufficient sports facilities/grounds • Sports facilities – Bungendore • Skate Park location – Braidwood • Queanbeyan Aquatic Centre at capacity
Strategic Pillar 2: Choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic development – promotion of ‘Chamber of Commerce’ activities in both Bungendore and Braidwood • Dying main street (Monaro Street) – need to have economic development plan to address this • Cinema complex • Ecologically sustainable economic development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empty shops in the Queanbeyan CBD • Cinema • Braidwood Saleyards – importance to region’s economy • CBD decline • CBD revitalisation
Strategic Pillar 3: Character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning that protects the natural environment, built and Aboriginal heritage • Waste management • Impact of continuing population growth on the environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development and maintaining village feel - Bungendore • Lack of maintenance plans for Council areas/parks/recreation grounds • Heritage protection – Braidwood • Queanbeyan River Walk extension and cycling
Strategic Pillar 4 Connection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road maintenance – includes sealing of existing sealed roads, sealing of currently unsealed roads and maintenance of unsealed roads • Traffic management - Bungendore • Footpaths - Braidwood • All weather access on roads (bridges/culverts) • Lack of WiFi in public spaces within Queanbeyan CBD • More bus services between town centres/suburbs across LGA • Captains Flat Road improvements • Woolcara Lane sealing • Cooma Road improvement • Sustainable transport including cycleways • Roads and Bridges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation – public/private • Duplication of Old Cooma Road • Bus Services • Build Ellerton Drive Extension • Roads between Burra/Googong and Queanbeyan • Roads • Rural roads • Car parking in Wallace Street • Braidwood Bypass road • Car parking – Bungendore • Mobile coverage and telecommunications
Strategic Pillar 5 Capability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication of Council activities • Open and transparent decision making • More consultation and engagement with community regarding Council projects • Fairer water usage charges for businesses • Accountable, ethical and open government • Fair and responsible rates, revenue and spending 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficulty of community coping with change – community not like it was 30 years ago • Apprehension about the influence of small groups • Proper representation for rural areas • Actually listening to the community, not lip service • Addressing concerns of rural residents – ensuring they aren’t forgotten by Queanbeyan centric council