



Ordinary Meeting of Council

25 June 2025

**UNDER SEPARATE COVER
ATTACHMENTS**

ITEM 9.4

**QUEANBEYAN-PALERANG REGIONAL COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL**

ATTACHMENTS – 25 June 2025 Page i

- Item 9.4 Draft 2025-26 IP&R Documents (Operational Plan and Revenue Policy, Fees and Charges, Delivery Program, Resourcing Strategy, Donations Policy and Grant Guidelines)
Post Exhibition Report for Adoption
- Attachment 1 Post Exhibition Community Engagement Report - Integrated
Plans 2025/26 Review2*

QUEANBEYAN-PALERANG REGIONAL COUNCIL

Council Meeting Attachment

25 JUNE 2025

ITEM 9.4 DRAFT 2025-26 IP&R DOCUMENTS (OPERATIONAL PLAN
AND REVENUE POLICY, FEES AND CHARGES,
DELIVERY PROGRAM, RESOURCING STRATEGY,
DONATIONS POLICY AND GRANT GUIDELINES) POST
EXHIBITION REPORT FOR ADOPTION

ATTACHMENT 1 POST EXHIBITION COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT -
INTEGRATED PLANS 2025/26 REVIEW



Post Exhibition Community Engagement Report

Draft Integrated Plans 2025-2026

Engagement Summary

The annual review of the draft Integrated Planning documents were on public exhibition from 16th May to the 13th June 2025. Feedback was sought for all documents:

- Operational Plan and Delivery Program, inclusive of Statement of Revenue Policy, Fees and Charges and Annual Donations Program
- Resourcing Strategy: Workforce Plan, Asset Management Strategy and Long Term Financial Plan
- Donations Policy

The engagement activities conducted were:

- Emails to all your YourVoice participants (4,500).
- Mayors' column, e-news, radio, media release, social media.
- Community Group emails.
- A Shortform Social Media Video.
- 'Easy to Read' version of Operational Plan and Delivery Program (not published until 4th June.).
- Community meetings held at: Braidwood, Bungendore, Queanbeyan, Nerriga, Tralee and Jerrabomberra.

The recorded engagement response is from Councils Your Voice website hits; however Council does not record the number of informed and engaged participants that contributed to group discussions or group responses.

Recorded engagement response:

- page visits by unique visitors – 700
- page visits with at least one further click / view – 310
- document downloads – 357
- submissions - 45
- Community meeting attendees – 99



The full list of community submissions to the Draft Integrated Plans is included in this report. After consideration of all submissions, draft changes have been considered for inclusion in the 2025-2026 plans as summarised in the following tables.

In addition to community submissions, additional changes have been recommended based on new information during the public exhibition period. For example, some fees and charges

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set by the NSW Government had not been announced at the time that Council adopted the Operational Plan for public exhibition.

During the Community Strategic Plan (CSP) consultation period in early January, Staff made a point to specifically ask for community feedback on their priorities for Council activity. This request focused on identifying projects and programs the community felt were essential for actioning our CSP strategies. All of these operations-related submissions have been incorporated into the feedback below.

Summary of Recommended Changes

Change	Submission	Document	Budget Impact	Page
Change fee for sale of screened compost to \$60 per cubic metre to replace fee for bulk sale of 20mm screened compost / mulch	6	Fees and Charges (F&C)	-	96
Section 68 Local Government Act Fees updated to match legislative changes released during the public exhibition period	na	F&C	-	13 -15
Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021 amended for CPI for legislated DA fees for 25/26 released during the public exhibition period	na	F&C	-	44
Council Circular 25-12 Annual CPI adjustments to companion animal fees for 2025/26	na	F&C	-	16-17
Damages deposit major events (high risk) added to Seiffert Oval	Staff	F&C	-	73
355 committee fees – removed 'at discretion of booking officer'	26	F&C	-	28, 31
Add the list of projects funded from the SRV into the Executive Summary. Update the Delivery Program Highlights to match the list that was presented in the Easy-Ready version of the OP/DP.	37.1	Operational Plan / Delivery Program (OP/DP)	-	4
Add an additional section into the 'Easy Read Version' of the OP/DP detailing what projects and activities were able to be funded with additional income that was collected from the third year of the SRV.	37.1	Easy Read Version	-	Na
Add an action "Prepare a Heritage Interpretation Plan for Braidwood" (\$50,000 budget funded from Heritage Reserve Fund Resolution 851/25)	24.14	OP/DP	-	67

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Change	Submission	Document	Budget Impact	Page
<p>Update page 10 of the LTFP with additional commentary from the CFO describing Council's financial position.</p> <p><i>A financially sustainable position has not yet been achieved as council has not reached an appropriate level of unrestricted cash. Council has significantly improved this position and as such is in a satisfactory financial position. From 2026/27 onwards, council has a satisfactory level of unrestricted cash of over \$5m.</i></p> <p><i>While a surplus in the General fund has not yet been achieved, from 2026/27 onwards the deficit result is lower than previously forecast. While the general fund remains in deficit, the cash position ensures council can renew its assets with a reasonable reliance upon grant funds to support part of this renewal.</i></p> <p>-to include the CFO's current assessment of the Council's financial position as being "fair", with the financial assessment.</p>	24.23, 24.28	Long Term Financial Plan	-	10
Add a paragraph in the Operational Plan with additional information about an upcoming review of the Annual Report to produce improved comparative reporting on Council's Services; in line with streamlined OP/DP.	24.33	OP/DP	-	Page 19
Update the Delivery Program Action: <i>Investigate opportunities in Queanbeyan CBD <u>and town centres</u> to increase housing diversity and supply.</i>	24.32	OP/DP	-	67
Add a "A 10-year budget and fund positions projection is available in our Long-Term Financial Plan" on page to link to the LTFP for additional financial detail.	24.38	OP/DP	-	19
Move the clause: "Hire of Seiffert Oval for non sporting events that deliver an economic benefit may be eligible for an alternative fee structure" from "Recreation and Sports" to underneath subtitle "Elite" on page 73.	38	F&C	-	73
Additional comment in Loans Appendix about process of annual review of loan borrowings plan to reduce overall ratepayer cost.	39.1	OP/DP	-	112
Additional appendix with a simple Reserve Statement showing Reserve Balances	37.2	OP/DP	-	na
Additional paragraph about Council's reporting and accountability measures	39.7	OP/DP	-	19

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Change	Submission	Document	Budget Impact	Page
including continued whole of life costing reporting to support long term decisions				
Add additional table of closing levels of debt in Appendix and a sentence stating total annual interest payments	37.2	OP/DP	-	112
Update the Community Vision Statement	na	OP/DP	-	11
Reduce and revise commentary about our organisation to improve integration of Operational Plan and Workforce plan	na	OP/DP	-	14
Remove all acronymns from all documents	na	OP/DP	-	56
Correct Community Donations Table, Appendix 4 to include donation to Araluen Hall that was included in the Draft Budget, but missed from the Table of Donations	na	OP/DP	-	114
In the Pricing Policy within the Statement of Revenue Policy: update the Community Service Obligation identified for Economic Development and Tourism to 90-95%. Update the Private Benefit for Strategic Landuse Planning to 5-10%.	24.31	Revenue Policy	-	51
Update missing hyperlinks throughout documents, correct spelling errors, incorrect naming and incomplete sentences.	40	Community Grant Guidelines	-	na
Include sentence after: The following facilities available for no fee hire: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heritage Library meeting room Nellie Hamilton Centre meeting rooms <i>But as these venues have other users, there is limited availability and additional requirements apply.</i>	40	Community Grant Guidelines Category H	-	3
Change "The Glasshouse" to "Braidwood Community Centre" to reflect official name.	40	Community Grant Guidelines Category H	-	3
Change addresses to reflect Nellie Hamilton Centre addresses.	40	Community Grant Guidelines	-	4

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Donations Program

As part of the development of the 2025-26 Operational Plan, Council reviewed the Donations Policy and associated Community Grant Guidelines. Council has allocated the following amounts in the draft Operational Plan totalling \$202,000 in community grants and donations, updated during the community engagement process for inclusion in the Operational Plan at Appendix 4.

Grant / Donation Type	2025-26 Budget Allocation
General Assistance – Category A	\$32,000
Hire Fees – Category B	\$37,000
Rates and Charges – Category C	\$85,000
Heritage Grants – Category E	\$30,000
Cultural Grants – Category G	\$16,000
No Hire Fee – Category H	NA
Schools and Sundry Donations	\$2,000
	\$202,000

To encourage increased use and availability of Council owned community spaces, a “no fee” category has been made available for regular community, not-for-profit or charitable organisations without the capacity to pay for hiring these spaces.



Community Submissions

#	Community Submission
1	I'm surprised that ~25% of the councils workforce is from the ACT or wider NSW. I think you should definitely seek to employ locals from the townships you're responsible for attending to.
1	<p>I think you should aim to simplify the rates and charges document it was very taxing to read through.</p> <p>The draft revenue policy document was a good read and I appreciate you putting that together.</p>
1	I think you've been smart in prioritising the councils waterways and sewerage system - pretty impressive getting a "good to very good" rating and getting a good rating on the councils roads as well is positive. I think it would be appropriate to ensuring the councils buildings rating improves from "fair" to very good. It's important to improve the councils facilities.
2	<p>The Queanbeyan Leagues Club and the Queanbeyan Blues both strongly support the proposed Canteen upgrades to Seiffert Oval and the water refilling Station at Wright Park.</p> <p>Seiffert Oval provides for not only the Queanbeyan Blues but Rugby League in the general area. It is home to the Canberra Raiders Cup finals and a show piece for Queanbeyan. Upgrades will help local clubs provide better services to those attending events and thus increase financial support to their clubs.</p> <p>Wright Park is the home to 450 Junior players this year, and that number seems to increase each year. Recent developments at the par are fantastic however there is no where for people to fill water bottles without lining up at the canteen. During training days there is no access at all.</p>
3	<p>I am supportive of expenditure to maintain the Queanbeyan Whites Clubhouse and fence and enclose Campese Oval.</p> <p>Enclosure of Campese Oval will bring the Queanbeyan Whites facilities in line with other ACT Rugby Facilities as well as add safety and security to the grounds.</p> <p>The Queanbeyan Whites clubhouse is an excellent facility but has not had any meaningful Council maintenance in many years. The Queanbeyan Whites are a not for profit organisation funded almost entirely by donations and sponsors, whilst the Club does it's best to maintain the facility, ultimately these are Council facilities and the Council should expend funds to ensure they are maintained and can remain functional for many years to come.</p>
4	<p>I strongly support the proposed plans to upgrade floors for Neil Bulger Oval and Freebody oval change room. In the case of the new Neil Bulger change room, the delivered non-slip flooring has failed to deliver and is a safety hazard. This has been reported to council previously and needs urgent repair before the next cricket season to avoid injury and potential liability for council.</p> <p>QDCC was advised that council received a quote for this work of \$18000.</p>

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#	Community Submission
	<p>The Freebody Oval change rooms were floored with carpet tiles and after 12 years or wear and tear from cricket and football boots the flooring is in desperate need of replacement. The cost for this item would be similar to the Neil Bulger quote.</p> <p>QDCC would like to see the budget for these items increased to \$20k to cover the costs.</p>
5	<p>QDCC note the inclusion of lighting improvements in the budget and the fact that Neil Bulger oval is one of the last totals left for this work. We request consideration of implementing a lighting standard of 300Lux for the upgraded lights at this oval.</p> <p>Lighting of 300Lux across the field would allow Neil Bulger Oval to be used for women's grade cricket in the evening which would maximise our use of the grounds and allow more cost effective management of cricket pitches on council grounds. Cricket ACT trialled women's night games last season and Queanbeyan had to play away at Deakin and Kippax. Not sure what the cost is but would appreciate consideration of meeting this standard</p>
6	<p>Please change the fee for sale of 20mm screened compost to \$60 per cubic metre to reflect full cost. Old fee was based on a process that no longer exists. New process is off site processing and buy back compliant compost product. Please remove Bulk Sale of Mulch and bulk sale of 20mm screened compost fees, as was based on (unsuccessfully) trying to shift product at low price.</p>
7	<p>Feedback on Draft Operational Plan and Delivery Program – Sporting Field Fee Structure</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft Operational Plan and Delivery Program. The ongoing investment and planning by QPRC in community infrastructure, particularly sporting fields, is appreciated by all those involved in grassroots sport.</p> <p>However, the proposed fee structure for sporting field usage requires a more nuanced and equitable approach to ensure local Queanbeyan-based clubs remain viable and can continue to deliver inclusive and high-quality programs for the community.</p> <p>1. Fee Structure Based on Governing Body Capitation Fees One key consideration is the significant disparity in governing body registration (capitation) fees between different sports. For example, football (soccer) carries much higher per-player fees—often in excess of \$250 to \$400—compared to sports like AFL or rugby league, which may be under \$100.</p> <p>Recommendation: Base field hire fees on a scaled model that factors in the capitation costs of each sport. This ensures a level playing field and recognises the additional financial burdens placed on clubs operating in high-capitation sports such as football.</p> <p>2. Classification of Fields – Elite, Lit, and Standard A tiered system for field usage fees is strongly supported. Fields should be categorised according to their quality, lighting infrastructure, and frequency of use. Elite Fields (Premium Quality)</p>

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#	Community Submission
	<p>These fields are of high standard and often used for representative fixtures and major events: Regional Sports Complex Fields 2 & 3 Riverside Stadium High Street Oval Bungendore Sports Precinct Recommended Fees: Exclusive Annual use: \$4,000 per field Match-day use: \$1,850 per day (non QBN based clubs) Hourly use: \$200 per hour (Training non Qbn based clubs) Regional Sports Complex Field 1 Given its elevated profile, quality, and capacity, a premium pricing structure is appropriate: Recommended Fees: Exclusive Annual use: \$5,000 Hourly use: \$300 per hour (training and casual use non Qbn based clubs) Match-day use: \$1,850 per day (non QBN based clubs) Well-Presented Fields with Lighting These fields are suitable for regular competition and training, with adequate facilities and lighting: David Madew Letchworth Lambert park Duncan Oval Recommended Fees: Exclusive Annual use: \$2,000 per field Hourly use: \$100 per hour Match-day use: \$1,350 per day (non Qbn Based clubs)</p> <p>3. Support for Queanbeyan-Based Clubs The local clubs form the heart of our sporting community. The Queanbeyan-based football clubs—Monaro Panthers FC, BellaMonaro Women's FC, and Queanbeyan City FC—have long histories of volunteer-led development and significant community contribution. Multi-Club Use Discount: Where fields are shared between two or more Queanbeyan-based clubs, an automatic 50% discount on the annual field fee should be applied. This approach: Promotes efficient and shared use of facilities Recognises the collaborative nature of local sport Reduces unnecessary financial strain on community organisations Support for BellaMonaro Women's FC: As a newly established club with a small but growing number of teams, BellaMonaro Women's FC is focused on increasing women's participation in football, a key strategic goal for both local and national sporting bodies. Recommendation: Provide a 70% discount on all field fees for a period of five (5) years to BellaMonaro FC to support their establishment, growth, and long-term viability.</p> <p>4. ACT-Based Teams – External Use Pricing It is recognised that occasionally ACT-based teams may seek to hire Queanbeyan fields.</p>

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#	Community Submission
	<p>This is acceptable when availability permits and when it does not impact ongoing field maintenance and wear-and-tear schedules.</p> <p>Recommendation:</p> <p>Apply the full commercial hire rates to ACT-based or non-local clubs:</p> <p>Standard field: \$200 per hour</p> <p>Elite field: \$300 per hour</p> <p>Match-day hire: \$1,850 per day, regardless of field class</p> <p>This ensures that local Queanbeyan-based clubs are prioritised and protected from competition for access to community-funded facilities.</p> <p>Conclusion</p> <p>We encourage QPRC to adopt a fair, transparent, and sport-sensitive approach to field hire pricing. The model proposed here reflects:</p> <p>The financial realities faced by clubs,</p> <p>The need for fair access to high-quality infrastructure, and</p> <p>The importance of supporting new and emerging community clubs, particularly those promoting female participation.</p> <p>We thank Council for its continued support of community sport and trust these recommendations will be considered as part of the finalised Operational Plan and Delivery Program.</p>
8	<p>Feedback on Refurbishment and Repairs – David Madew Oval, Jerrabomberra</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide input regarding the facilities at David Madew Oval, Jerrabomberra. While this is a valuable and much-used community sporting venue, it is in urgent need of refurbishment to meet the current demands of local users and to ensure safety, functionality, and longevity.</p> <p>Below are the key issues and corresponding recommendations:</p> <p>1. Canteen Facilities – Immediate Upgrade Required</p> <p>The canteen facilities at David Madew Oval are outdated and deteriorating, making them inefficient and increasingly unhygienic.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <p>Install stainless steel benchtops throughout for durability, hygiene, and ease of cleaning.</p> <p>Replace all existing cupboards with rodent-proof, lockable storage to ensure health and safety compliance.</p> <p>Upgrade the locking mechanisms on all doors—consider electronic locks (keypad or fob access) to enhance security and allow access flexibility for club volunteers.</p> <p>General re-fit of the canteen interior to bring it up to modern safety and service standards.</p> <p>2. Lighting System – Upgrade and Automation</p> <p>The current lighting setup is outdated and limited, contributing to both user inconvenience and increased vulnerability to vandalism.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p>

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#	Community Submission
	<p>Implement a remote lighting control system, similar to what is used at the Regional Sports Complex, to allow approved users to activate lighting as needed without on-site manual switching.</p> <p>Install additional night lighting around the facility, including common areas, entrances, and storage zones. This will help deter vandalism and improve user safety during evening events.</p> <p>3. Storage Facilities – Enhanced and Secure</p> <p>Storage is insufficient and not secure enough for modern club needs, particularly given the rise in vandalism and theft at public venues.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <p>Construct an additional storage facility—potentially under the existing awnings—to maximise space usage without encroaching on open grounds.</p> <p>Ensure all new storage facilities have high-security hinges and tamper-resistant locks to reduce risk of break-ins.</p> <p>Incorporate weatherproof and ventilated materials for long-term durability and usability.</p> <p>4. Camera & Security System</p> <p>Given the increased reports of vandalism and anti-social behaviour, it's critical that Council supports improved surveillance infrastructure.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <p>Install a basic but robust camera security system, with coverage of the canteen, storage, and general grounds entry points.</p> <p>Signage indicating surveillance is in operation can also serve as a deterrent.</p> <p>Explore integrating the system with Council's central monitoring or club-managed online access (for review of incidents).</p> <p>5. General Infrastructure Improvements</p> <p>In addition to the above key priorities, a general audit of the Oval should be conducted, including:</p> <p>Maintenance of fences and gates</p> <p>Upkeep of seating and shaded areas</p> <p>Improved bin enclosures to prevent mess and animal interference</p> <p>Conclusion</p> <p>David Madew Oval serves as a crucial sports and recreation hub for the Jerrabomberra and wider Queanbeyan community. The current state of the facilities—particularly the canteen and storage—undermines the efforts of local volunteers and the experience of players and visitors alike.</p> <p>Timely and targeted upgrades will not only enhance usability and safety but also extend the lifespan of the facilities and reduce the ongoing costs caused by vandalism and security issues. We urge Council to prioritise this site in upcoming capital works budgets.</p>
9	<p>Dear QPRC</p> <p>I am writing in response to the QPRC Operational Plan and Delivery Program 25-26 to 28-29.</p>

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#	Community Submission
	<p>I am a resident of Maslin Place, Bungendore and I am one of the 9 families who has been significantly impacted by the stormwater easement in our street.</p> <p>My husband and I purchased our block of land in 2016, this was to be the location where we would build our first home and create a family. After a lengthy land registration process, we finally moved into our home in March 2020.</p> <p>After moving into the property we were immediately impacted by the easement - we had issues with fencing levels, securing the property for our animals and an immediate and ongoing drowning risk to our young children. The increasing nearby developments (which were provided with appropriate underground drainage solutions) only further exacerbated the frequency and volume of water in the channel as water was diverted into our backyard easement.</p> <p>In June 2021, I alongside fellow residents of the street advocated to council in response to section 5.3 of the Draft 21-22 Integrated Plan, whereby a Maslin Place drainage solution was considered. We spoke at the June 2021 Council meeting, met Councillors on site, wrote emails and sent images/videos, urging Council to fund the easement to be fixed with a permanent underground drainage solution. Sadly we were informed that QPRC did not have the funds available to fix the solution and we were advised it was at least an 8-10 year plan for this to be rectified, with money to be placed in a long term deposit account to await interest payments leading to the funding of these capital works. This news was absolutely devastating to my family, and the other residents, as we continued to live with daily safety concerns and property risk due to the easement.</p> <p>During my 5 years of living in Maslin Place, we have experienced the following impacts due to the easement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Very deep, running water after periods of rainfall, which takes months to drain completely. This has caused an ongoing and significant drowning risk to my young children of 5 and 2 years old. - Snakes in our backyard, attracted to the very long and unmaintained grass and water in the easement. In May 2024 my cat being bitten and killed by a snake in our easement. - Unsecured yards, due to inability to fence the area safely. This has resulted in my dogs escaping regularly. We also received a letter from QPRC advising us that we must secure our animals, or face penalties if they continued to escape. - Stagnant water which remains in the easement is smelly and attracts breeding of mosquitoes and other insects. - Inability to complete the landscaping/fencing of our property, due to the open easement. - Costly rate payments on a large portion of our property which is unusable land. <p>For the first time in many years, I am hopeful that QPRC will take action to ensure the funding allocated in the 25-26 budget is secured and a permanent underground solution to the easement is actioned.</p> <p>For my family, the impact of the easement being fixed will finally provide peace of mind that we can safely enjoy a functional property. The drainage solution will provide a backyard for my children to enjoy their childhood and our pets secured. Many of the residents who moved to Maslin Place, sought a place to create a safe family home, the impact of Council providing a permanent solution to this ongoing safety risk, will be nothing less than a life changing outcome for us.</p> <p>I urge you to commit to securing the funds in the 25-26 financial year and removing this risk for Maslin Place residents.</p> <p>For reference, I have also attached a video of the easement following rain, so that Council</p>

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#	Community Submission
	can fully understand the impact to our properties. Thank you.
10	I support the idea for maintenance at the Clubhouse, as the carpet/paint/bathrooms have become dated.
11	Statement of revenue policy page 26 shows the % change to sewer charges as 5.8-6%. This is not consistent with the QSTP business case and Queanbeyan IWCM which were adopted with 6.5% annual increases (as referred to on page 25). The 25-26 QSTP Upgrade budget was based on maintaining the IWCM and Business Case proposed 6.5% increases per annum up to and including the 27/28 financial year.
12	<p>I am writing in regards to the easement at the back of our property on Maslin place, Bungendore. Considerable problems appear to have arisen along the easement during heavy rains when a torrent of water flows down. This causes a situation detrimental to the safety of our family and neighbors, along with water collecting in the backyard, endangering it with flooding during moderate to heavy rainfall and potential flooding of our homes. It's actually pretty scary to watch when we get rain.</p> <p>The easement, as it exists at the moment, does not allow us to secure our property with the kind of fencing that is needed to keep our pets safe and contained. The easement is also an eyesore for our property.</p> <p>We believe that filling the easement would provide a great deal of safety, security and visual enhancement for our property. We kindly seek the help and support of the council to address these problems so we can finally have a backyard our kids can play in and we are no longer anxious of flooding when it rains.</p>
13	<p>We live at Maslin Place; Bungendore and we are reaching out to raise some important concerns regarding the safety and maintenance of our property. With the well-being of our children, grandchildren, and our dog in mind, it is crucial that we address the following issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. **Safety for Our Children and Grandchildren:** We need to ensure that the environment is safe for our younger family members during their visits. 2. **Safety for Our Dog:** Similar attention is necessary for our dog's safety, as well. 3. **Erosion of Our Land:** The ongoing erosion poses a risk to our property and needs to be addressed. 4. **Possible Flooding of the House:** I am also concerned about potential flooding issues that could affect our home, especially during heavy rains. 5. **Unusable Land with Ongoing Rates:** It is frustrating to pay rates for land that has become unusable. We should find a solution for this issue. 6. **High Grass and Snake Risks:** The high grass not only makes the land look unkempt but also increases the risk of snakes if not cleared regularly. <p>We would appreciate your thoughts on how we can tackle these matters efficiently. Perhaps we can schedule a time to discuss this further?</p> <p>Thank you for your attention to these important issues. We look forward to your response. We have attached some videos and photos.</p>
14	<p>'Queanbeyan Bowls Club Inc. Farrer Place Queanbeyan -</p> <p>Proposal for a New Toilet Facility</p>

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#	Community Submission
	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. In relation to the Draft Operational Plan and Delivery Program 2025-2029, and as part of the 2025-26 budget for the Capital Works Program, in reference to the project: "Toilet upgrade Queanbeyan Women's Bowling Club \$100,000" in the Parks and Reserves Section, Clubhouses at page 21.</p> <p>The Queanbeyan Bowls Club is supporting the progression of this project in 2025-26 as a high priority.</p> <p>Background The Federal Government has recently committed, as part of the recent 2025 Federal Election process, to provide grant funding to the Queanbeyan Bowls Club for the construction of an indoor lawn bowls facility. Currently the existing toilet facilities include four cubicles within the club house at Farrer Place. The four cubicles are generally allocated to the ladies' bowlers because there is no adequate division eg. dividing walls or partitions provided for a separate men's and women's toilet facility. There is also a men's urinal which is located outside the clubhouse approximately 70 metres from the clubhouse and near the storage and green keeper's shed and adjacent to the Queanbeyan Park Tennis Club.</p> <p>The current toilet facilities are dated and are not suitable to be treated as a uni-sex toilet facility. As a result, on match day the men bowlers are required to use the toilets across the road at the Campbell & George (C&G) licensed club. However, Campbell & George opening hours are from 10am and therefore the Bowls club is required to negotiate a special arrangement to have access to the toilets at C&G for bowls events.</p> <p>It should be noted that the existing club house was previously the lady's bowls club and therefore has not been configured to accommodate toilets for men bowlers. This situation occurred when the bowls club transferred across its operations for both men and women to Farrer Place in 2015.</p> <p>This is an unsatisfactory arrangement when bowls events are being hosted regularly with both men and women's bowlers competing at the Farrer Place bowls facility as part of the Bowls ACT Pennants, Bowls ACT Championships, and club events calendar.</p> <p>Although local Queanbeyan schools are interested in including bowls in their sporting options, the bowls club is currently unable to accommodate school aged students to learn the game of bowls with these sub-standard toilet facilities as it's considered an "unsafe" environment.</p> <p>Project Details The Bowls club is pursuing the least cost option to renovate the existing internal toilet facility within the club house and construct the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a new accessible toilet cubicle and hand basin. • new male toilet/ambulant (2 cubicles, a new urinal and 2 hand basins). • new female toilet/ambulant (2 cubicles and 2 hand basins). <p>These proposed renovations would include plumbing, electrical works, establishment of new</p>

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#	Community Submission
	<p>basins and toilets, and a redesign of the existing walls within the clubhouse.</p> <p>Quotes for these works indicate a total project cost of \$120,000. It is also possible that the bowls club can call upon its membership base to reduce this cost further given there are tradesmen as club members.</p> <p>Future Community Demand for Lawn Bowls Facilities in Queanbeyan It is anticipated that the canopy over green No.1 at Farrer Place Queanbeyan will be fully constructed in the next 12-18 months (mid 2026) and the bowls club will then have an indoor and all-weather lawn bowls facility, including the existing adjoining clubhouse facility available to the local community. The level of demand from the local community for an all-weather lawn bowls facility, including the offering of evening competition and social bowls up to 9pm, is expected to significantly increase and therefore it is essential that the clubhouse has fully functioning and accessible toilet facilities for female, male and school aged bowlers within the indoor lawn bowls facility.</p> <p>Furthermore, several local schools have indicated their preference to include lawn bowls in their sporting curriculum when the indoor bowls facility is constructed.</p> <p>The Queanbeyan Bowls Club's general committee and members would appreciate QPRC's favourable consideration to include this project within the 2025-26 draft integrated plans.</p>
15	<p>I have had recent discussions with a Eurobodalla Council officer in running their virtual fencing program. They have three different sections of the virtual fencing on different roads in the Eurobodalla and have reported outstanding results. The latest section was installed within the past 12 months. The reported per kilometre cost for their system is closer to \$10,000- \$12,000 with marginal maintenance costs reported over a 5-year period. Wildlife Safety Solutions (contact David Everet) was the group utilized by Eurobodalla Council.</p> <p>I would like to propose a 1.5km – 2.0km trial section of the fencing along the worse section of Macs Reef Road, Bywong as this is generally acknowledged as one of the hot spots for wildlife/vehicle collisions (especially for macropods) in the QPRC LGA. Monitoring of the program could involve WIRES, like the partnership used in the Eurobodalla which is purported to work very well. I propose that a budget of up to \$20,000 be included in the 2025-2026 OP.</p> <p>Courtney Fink-Downes is the Eurobodalla Officer with whom I have had discussions. She offered further support to QPRC should it decide to adopt the virtual fencing.</p>
16	<p>The draft operational plan indicates an allocation of \$25k for design work on Williamsdale Road. Council has previously advised that this work was completed under the poorly managed and communicated sealing works last year for Williamsdale road. How can both be true? Or is this just another way for QPRC to further delay finishing this job?</p>
17	<p>I would like to add the following comments.</p> <p>. I strongly believe we should be keeping ground hire fee charges to an absolute minimum. As a rate payer, I am already contributing to the upkeep of grounds and facilities etc therefore there should not be a significant burden placed on top of the already high rates that we pay. In saying this I have no problem with Academies etc paying normal prices for ground hire where they are based on charging fees for participants on a commercial basis.</p> <p>. It should be recognised that cricket is a unique sport compared to other sports when it comes to fees and charges. Most other sports as far as I am aware book a ground, have</p>

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	<p>lines marked on them, play their game, pack up and leave. Cricket is not that simple. Once a ground is booked, a cricket pitch needs to be prepared which takes up to a week beforehand. At the conclusion of a match the wicket square needs to be repaired and maintained ready for the next match. On top of this there is regular maintenance done on a square including scarifying, fertilising, top dressing, rolling, levelling etc not to mention the purchase of and maintenance of equipment to ensure these tasks are able to be undertaken. With the cooperation of Council we achieve positive outcomes in all aspects. A number of the above expenses mentioned are covered by the cricket club with the cost of preparing a wicket at least \$15k per season.</p> <p>. Passing the cost of preparing a wicket on to cricket organisations on top of ground hire charges would make the prospect of playing other cricket games on our grounds far too expensive at over \$1k per day. I believe we should be trying to showcase our City's facilities rather than pricing ourselves out of hosting games of cricket. I believe our President, Steve Moore, is in discussions with you about capturing these types of issues and more in a license agreement with our Club. This would be a positive move and assist in planning in to the future.</p>
18	<p>'- There has been an obvious lack of action on development applications which has outlined poorly structured workforces affecting output. It appears considerable funding is allocated in this plan to improve DA processing, it is imperative QPRC do better across the board for DAs.</p> <p>- Pleasing to see Dunn's Ck rd as a key priority, please increase cross-border negotiations to see this cross the line.</p>
19	<p>Operational Plan and Delivery Programme</p> <p>In relation to Major Capital Works Mount Jerrabomberra Plan of Management (Signage and Reserve Management), key priorities are erosion control (see the cutaway on the right of the Scar which goes to the top of Mount Jerrabomberra as well as restoration of the bottom of gullies on bike trails [perhaps small wooden bridges]); removal of woody weeds (have removed privet bushes and other weeds - perhaps Landcare could be enlisted to assist with this activity); fire management (the reserve has the potential to be a fire hazard and adequate measures need to be taken to ensure the survival of the reserve and surrounding properties (an example is the successful burn back on the northern side of the reserve0; rubbish (over the years I have noticed an increase in rubbish (eg paper, dog poo bags plastic bottles etc) which might require additional waste bins at strategic locations in the reserve; signage is important and needs to remind visitors to the reserve that trail bikes are not allowed and flora and fauna are protected (some years ago I made a submission during Covid which highlighted safety issues arising from the presence of trail bikes when many people were walking on the road to the lookout - trail bikes still enter the reserve).</p> <p>I walk in the reserve on a very regular basis and watch for any developments which must be drawn to the attention of Council (eg the angle grinding of locks on the entrance gates in Jerrabomberra and Karabar and what appears to have been a fire site at the lookout: the fire site was a concern especially as it must have been lit during the recent very dry weather). I made a submission when the last Plan of Management was being prepared and recall that a Council employee was developing the Plan of Management as part of their study at the University of Canberra [no idea if this is what happened].</p> <p>A positive at this stage is that no deer seem to have been in the reserve.</p> <p>Happy to talk with you if you need any clarification</p>
20	9 June 2025

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#	Community Submission
	<p>Dear Councillors of the Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council,</p> <p>I am writing in response to the QPRC Operational Plan and Delivery Program for 2025-26 to 2028-29.</p> <p>I am a recent resident of Maslin Place, Bungendore and I am one of the nine families who has been significantly impacted by the uncovered stormwater culvert in our backyards in our street.</p> <p>My late husband and I purchased our dream retirement home in Maslin Place at the end of October 2024. Tragically, my husband became ill suddenly only 12 days after we had moved in and passed away on 20 November 2024. I have been battling DVA ever since as he was an Army veteran of 39 years service. I am also a veteran.</p> <p>Because of the stormwater culvert in our backyard, I have lost 20% of my land at 7.5m wide and 20m long. I will have to erect a secondary fence of some description to keep my dog and my grandchildren safe when they visit. I have been told by my neighbours that in the five years that this has been an issue, Council have only been once to clear any weeds or debris. This is left to the homeowners to do. I would also like to add that we all pay rates of approximately \$900 to \$1000 per quarter on our properties. My rates are \$962 per quarter. We all are paying a percentage of these amounts on unusable land and would have to or have erected secondary fences, at our costs, to keep our families and pets safe.</p> <p>In the six months I have lived here, I have spoken to my neighbours and they have all told me that they have been trying to get something done for the past five years. I note often that the children play in the street as they have no backyards to play in as it is far too dangerous. Fortunately, we are a 'no through' road, but this is far from ideal for young families. Also for our pets. I am concerned about snakes as we back onto acreage and the vet's paddocks. With the stormwater culvert uncovered and gaps of nearly a metre under the fences, snakes etc are an ever present issue.</p> <p>I have seen footage from my neighbours of the amount of fast flowing water that also runs through the open stormwater culvert when we have rain periods. These rain periods are more frequent now due to climate change and that alone, is beyond dangerous. The fast flowing water also erodes what land we have to the point that we lose more land each year that the works are not completed. When the water is not flowing, it remains stagnant bringing health hazards such as mosquitoes and other insects close to our homes.</p> <p>Due to the loss of my husband, my children want me to move back to Canberra as this home is too big for me on my own and I need to be closer to my family now. Having the stormwater culvert issue not being looked at until 2030-31 meant that it would be extremely difficult for me to sell and even remotely recoup the money my husband and I spent to purchase this property.</p> <p>If this issue can be delegated to the 2025-26 Budget and then completed, this would allow me to move forward. It would also allow the other nine families that this stormwater culvert impacts to have a backyard for their children or grandchildren and/or pets. This is why we love Bungendore. Larger blocks of land for our families to grow safely.</p> <p>I urge the council to please look favourably on these stormwater culvert covering works and approve them so that the nine families can move forward with their lives.</p> <p>If anyone on the Council would like to inspect, I am more than willing for you to visit my home.</p>

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#	Community Submission
21	As a resident of Maslin place Bungendore the attached file is in relation to the Maslin Place draining issue
22	I really support the cricket bet upgrade at Allan McGrath. As a public facility, it is always being used. It supports the growth of the junior local boys and girls in a safe way where cars and homes are not getting bombarded with cricket balls. It also allows my whole family to use it - to help train our son and it's a fun family healthy activity.
23	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I'm writing on behalf of the Bungendore Bunyips Junior Cricket Club in reply to Council's proposed project to upgrade the cricket nets in Bungendore.</p> <p>Our club currently has 25 children playing in the competition (in three separate teams), aged between 9 and 13. They compete in the Canberra competition Friday, Saturday and Sunday during the cricket season, from October to March every year. We also have 30 children aged between 4 and 8 in the Blasters Program, which is a skills-based program for younger players.</p> <p>If Council are proceeding with plans to upgrade the original cricket nets at Mick Sherd Oval, there are a number of considerations that would need to be addressed to serve the needs of the children in the cricket club and wider community. The roof of the nets is currently at an incorrect height and needs to be at least 1m higher than it currently sits. The need for a raised roof is even greater for children as they need to bowl the ball higher to accommodate for their shorter height. The Cricket Club would also need at least one additional net to accommodate the growing number of registrations to the club each year. From 2023 to 2024 for instance, registrations to the club increased by 50% and the current number of nets did not allow for effective or efficient training and practice.</p> <p>Bungendore Bunyips Junior Cricket Club proposes that three new cricket nets be installed at Bungendore Sports Hub as a better alternative to upgrading existing nets at Mick Sherd Oval. It seems a more viable option to have cricket nets in close proximity to the cricket oval if we take into account that a cricket oval is in future plans for the Bungendore Sports Hub. I also believe the cost involved in installing new nets at Bungendore Sports Hub will not differ too greatly to the cost of upgrading the current cricket nets. Furthermore, to provide additional funding for the Cricket Club's proposal for new nets at the Sports Hub and in an effort to grow and improve cricket in our community, I have received pre-approval from Cricket NSW that they will partner with Council and provide 50% of funding for any capital works required to improve cricket facilities in Bungendore. If the Bungendore Sports Hub is the heart and future of sport in our town, the Cricket Club would like to be involved and play a part.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p>
24.1	While the new presentation makes the Operational Plan easier to follow, it lacks some of the detail of the previous format. It is also very difficult to make comparisons with previous years.
24.2	The previous Operational Plan not only had a wider range of indicators but targets as well. The BCA asks why the targets have been dropped and where are the indicators published?
24.3	1) The draft Plan appears to contain a significant increase in road funding, including rural roads, which is very much supported by the BCA.
24.4	2) Several important components are either complete or in progress which would allow the development of an overarching long-term strategic plan for Braidwood. The BCA encourages Council to complete the Braidwood Structure plan, the IWCMPs review, the development of the revised Development Control Plan arising from the Heritage Review in a timely manner.
24.5	3) The BCA is disappointed that safeguarding Braidwood's water supply is delayed because the outcomes of the reviews of the IWCMP are now not expected to inform the Integrated Plans process until 2025-26 at the earliest, when initially it was flagged that this would be

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#	Community Submission
	undertaken in 2023-24. The BCA urges Council to ensure that these reviews are completed in the coming year.
24.6	4) As for 3 above, the harmonisation of water, sewage, and waste charges across QPRC is disappointingly delayed.
24.7	5) The BCA is disappointed that it is now not possible to know if the budget for Environmental actions is going up or down as the information provided is no longer compatible with previous years. It is concerned that some of the actions under the Urban Forest and Cooling Strategy are being delayed to create savings in 2025-26. The BCA supports the proposals for an <i>'Annual report and status review of the Climate Change Action Plans and implementation of prioritised actions'</i> and a <i>'Review our Urban Forest and Cooling Strategy'</i> .
24.8	6) The Operation Plan (and Delivery Program) is silent on the issue of Community Transport, despite it being included in the Community Strategic Plan. The BCA is very keen to engage in a dialogue with Council on the provision of better community transport in the Braidwood district.
24.9	The BCA welcomes the current consultation on a pedestrian and cyclist priority list and the foreshadowed review of the Braidwood Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP).
24.10	– The BCA supports the intention to <i>'Implement the prioritised and Council actions from the Affordable Housing Strategy in partnership with the Government'</i> and <i>'Update and review Affordable Housing Background Report and overarching Strategy'</i> , but questions why Council will only <i>'Investigate opportunities in Queanbeyan CBD to increase housing diversity and supply.'</i> The BCA suggests this should state <i>'town centres'</i> .
24.11	– The draft Plan is silent on the issue of European wasps, with the BCA hopeful that Council will continue to have a budget allocation to continue controlling wasps throughout QPRC.
24.12	The Delivery Program contains a very ambitious investment program of \$618 million in capital works over the four-year period, an increase in QPRC's assets by nearly 25%. – This will inevitably significantly increase the depreciation allowance and borrowing costs and hence put upwards pressure on rates and charges paid by residents (see comments on the LTFP below).
24.13	– There are some actions which have been foreshadowed for Braidwood but are not included in the Delivery Program which the BCA asked to be added. Namely 1) New Braidwood Cemetery, with the Structure Plan process suggesting the current Cemetery is fast reaching capacity.
24.14	2) Development of the Braidwood Heritage Interpretation Plan and Review of the Braidwood Development Control Plan as part of the implementation of the 15 Year Review of Braidwood's Heritage Listing recommendations.
24.20	3) Braidwood Depot Relocation and development of the site for affordable housing and parking which has been on the agenda since at least 2020-21.
24.21	There is no Delivery Program Financial Summary as in previous Delivery Programs, notably no draft budget position for all funds over the four-year outlook. This is a significant reduction in transparency. The BCA requests that this be rectified in the final Delivery Program.
24.22	– There are no total costs given in the listings of projects by Directorates over the draft Program or in total for QPRC by year. This reduces transparency and makes it more difficult to understand what is happening in aggregate. The BCA suggests project information be presented in a more user-friendly form, including with project numbers, and the reinstatement of Annex 1 of the previous Delivery Program.

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24.23	The BCA is concerned by the statement ' <i>The Council has not yet achieved a financially sustainable position</i> ' (p10). It is unclear whether this is the situation as at 2024-25 or is the situation going forward. The BCA believes it would be prudent to amend the text to clarify which it is.
24.24	– From the modelling scenarios presented, the BCA reluctantly agrees that there should be a third and final 18% SRV increase in rates in 2025-26, before reverting to the rate peg increase of 2.5% for future years.
24.25	– From the budgets presented, the investment program will lead to a total increase in annual borrowing and depreciation costs of \$19.3m by the end of the Delivery Program, which equates to \$637 per household.
24.26	– The BCA is aware that grants are being sought but urges Council to redouble its efforts to get grants to reduce borrowing costs.
24.27	The BCA fully supports the Draft QPRC Workforce Management Plan but notes from the long list of 'weaknesses' in the SWAT analysis there is a long way to go before the aspirations are met.
24.28	<p>Special Rates Variation</p> <p>General rate charges are proposed to increase by a further 18% in 2025-26, the third and final such increase. The cost-of-living crisis is still very much with us and while the reasons for this significant rate increase are well understood, it must be acknowledged that this increase will further exacerbate the hardship being suffered by many households in the LGA.</p> <p>In this environment it is even more important that Council delivers, and is seen to deliver, its services to ratepayers in an efficient, timely and cost-effective manner.</p>
24.29	<p>Annual charges</p> <p>Annual charges are set to generally increase by 3.9%, with the exception of the annual charge for the Queanbeyan Sewerage Scheme which will increase by 6.0%, which is required because of the upgrade of the Queanbeyan Sewerage Treatment Plant.</p> <p>This will slightly reduce the disparity of charges between Palerang and Queanbeyan, with Palerang residents paying on average \$573 more per residential dwelling than those in Queanbeyan (see Attachment 1).</p> <p>The BCA appreciates that the disparity can only be addressed when the reviews of Queanbeyan and Palerang Integrated Water Cycle Management Plans (IWCMPs) have been completed, when charges could then be harmonised, with single Water and Sewerage schemes for QPRC.</p>
24.3	<p>Pensioner rebates</p> <p>The draft Operational Plan highlights that Council will provide an extra voluntary rebate of \$50 to all pensioners in QPRC (up by \$10), in addition to the compulsory rebates for general rates, domestic waste, water charges, sewerage charges to all eligible pensioner ratepayers. This brings the total maximum pensioner rebate to \$475 per annum.</p> <p>The BCA welcomes this proposal. The BCA also encourages QPRC to take all steps to bring this to the attention of eligible pensioner ratepayers, including the rebates being more prominent in Rates and Charges Notices.</p>
24.31	<p>Community Service Obligations</p> <p>The BCA is surprised that in the discussion on CSOs, expenditure on Economic Development and Tourism (p50) is considered to be 100% CSO with no private benefit at all, when even environment activities are considered to have 15-25% private benefit. The BCA suggests that this should be reviewed as there is clearly private benefit. While for Strategic</p>

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	Planning there is a 90-95% CSO and a 15-20% private benefit. The BCA asks how does the total benefit exceed 100% in this instance?
24.32	<p>The presentation of the draft Operational Plan has been changed significantly. While the new presentation makes it easier to follow, it lacks some of the detail of the previous format. The helpful annex on Road Maintenance is not given. Also, project numbers are no longer given so it is more difficult to know how the proposed projects relate to existing projects.</p> <p>The draft Operational Plan is also combined with the draft Delivery Program, which was previously a separate document and contained more information than given this time. The Delivery Program has a different role to play to the Operational Plan in the Integrated Planning process and unless it is intended to provide an updated Delivery Program in future Operational Plans this is a retrograde step.</p> <p>The previous Operational Plan not only had a wider range of indicators but targets as well. The BCA asks why have the targets been dropped and where are the indicators published?</p>
24.33	<p>The budget is also now presented by Directorates and Branches, when previously it was by the Pillars in the Community Strategic Plan and by Program links. While there is broad alignment between the two, it does mean that comparisons with previous years are difficult because of this change. 4</p> <p>Moreover, the budgets for each Branch are now presented in a different way so comparisons with previous Operational Plans budgets are simply not possible. This means that there is no way of knowing the direction or extent of change of expenditure at this level.</p>
24.34	<p>The draft Operational Plan is also combined with the draft Delivery Program, which was previously a separate document and contained more information than given this time. The Delivery Program has a different role to play to the Operational Plan in the Integrated Planning process and unless it is intended to provide an updated Delivery Program in future Operational Plans this is a retrograde step.</p> <p>The previous Operational Plan not only had a wider range of indicators but targets as well. The BCA asks why have the targets been dropped and where are the indicators published?</p>
24.35	<p>Braidwood and District Projects in the Draft Plan</p> <p>The BCA is pleased to see that there are 26 separate projects in the Braidwood district for 2025-26 in the Draft Capital Works Program (see Attachment 2) for a total cost of \$21.7m.</p> <p>The largest projects being Nerriga Rd, Ningee Nimble (MR92) - Reconstruction Part Funding (\$6.7m plus \$1.5m), Braidwood Landfill rehabilitation (\$5m), Braidwood Drainage Design (\$3.1m), Braidwood 88 Wallace St - Placemaking & Carpark (\$1.7m plus \$0.7m), and Braidwood Swimming Pool upgrades (\$1m).</p> <p>The BCA also understands that Council staff, as they did last year, will be presenting a separate Carryover Report around the end of the financial year of current projects, like unfinished projects in the Braidwood Major Projects Update, and will be rolling the uncompleted projects into the 2025-26 Operational Plan.</p>
24.36	<p>Priority Issues and Projects for Braidwood and surrounding district</p> <p>In the lead-up to the 2024 Queanbeyan and Palerang Regional Council elections the BCA undertook a survey of residents on a range of possible priority projects/issues to be progressed during the current term of Council. The results identified 6 priority projects/issues which most of the elected councillors signed up, in one form or another, to progressing.</p> <p>The BCA's assessment of the Draft Plan against these priorities are as follows.</p> <p>1. Better maintenance of rural roads</p>

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	<p>The draft Plan appears to contain a significant increase in road funding, including rural roads, which is very much supported by the BCA.</p> <p>We say 'appears' because there seems to be a change in the names of some of the budget lines for roads and there are new budget lines which were not given before. But assuming that there is a like for like comparison, funding for roads should increase by nearly 27%. This is due mainly to a 53% in <i>Road to Recovery</i> Budget and the introduction of two new Regional Road budget lines (see attachment 3).</p> <p>The BCA notes the <i>Local Roads Renewal - Reseals and Resurfacing</i> budget is increasing by 25% which directly addresses the BCA's number one priority, with the BCA very appreciative of this commitment.</p> <p>The BCA is very pleased that Council decided to increase the number of road crews from two to four this financial year. This gives the capacity to make real progress on improving the maintenance of the LGA's roads.</p>
24.37	<p>2. Long-term strategic plan for Braidwood</p> <p>A number of important components are either complete or in progress. Once all are complete, they will allow the development of an overarching long-term strategic plan for Braidwood.</p> <p>The completed components are the Braidwood Community Plan and the 15 Year Review of Braidwood's Heritage Listing. Those in progress include the Braidwood Structure Plan and the IWCMP review. The development of the Braidwood Heritage Interpretation Plan and a revised Development Control Plan arising from the Heritage Review are still to commence and are needed for there to be clarity on Heritage issues.</p> <p>The BCA encourages Council to complete all these reviews in a timely manner.</p>
24.38	<p>3. Securing Braidwood's water supply</p> <p>The BCA is disappointed that the outcomes of the reviews of the IWCMP are now not expected to inform the Integrated Plans process until 2025-26 at the earliest, when initially it was flagged that this would be undertaken in 2023-24. The BCA urges Council to ensure that these reviews are completed in the coming financial year.</p>
24.28	<p>4. Harmonisation of water, sewage, and waste charges across QPRC</p> <p>As for 3 above, the BCA urges Council to ensure that the IWCMP reviews are completed in the coming financial year.</p>
24.29	<p>5. Environmental enhancement</p> <p>As stated above, it is now not possible to know if the budget for Environmental actions is going up or down as the information is no longer compatible with previous years.</p> <p>The BCA is concerned by the observation in the Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) that there will be a '<i>Staged implementation of the Urban Forest and Cooling Strategy</i>' (p23), as part of the budget cuts made in the next year's budget, although the savings made are not specified.</p> <p>The BCA supports the proposals for an '<i>Annual report and status review of the Climate Change Action Plans and implementation of prioritised actions</i>' and a '<i>Review our Urban Forest and Cooling Strategy</i>' (p66).</p>
24.3	<p>6. Community Transport</p> <p>The Operation Plan (and Delivery Program) are silent on the issue of Community Transport, despite it being an identified priority in the Community Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Given the age profile of Braidwood's population and its relative isolation, access to transport is important to enable community members to access necessary services in larger centres. The BCA is aware of a demand for subsidised community transport for Braidwood residents.</p>

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	<p>Medical transport to larger centres is limited and most residents rely on friends and relatives to drive them to essential medical appointments and treatment. Our senior residents have identified a need for transport to larger centres for shopping and social outings. There is no public transport and limited private bus transport from Braidwood to regional cities.</p> <p>The BCA has researched the Community Transport system operated by Eurobodalla Shire Council and other Councils. This is funded from a number of sources and provides a successful model that could be followed by QPRC.</p> <p>The BCA is very keen to engage in a dialogue with Council on the provision of better Community Transport in the Braidwood district.</p>
24.31	<p>Paths and Pedestrian Refuges</p> <p>The BCA notes that Council is currently consulting on a pedestrian and cyclist priority list. The BCA welcomes this consultation and the foreshadowed review of the Braidwood Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP).</p> <p>Paths are an important issue for Braidwood and a priority for all ages of the community, in particular older persons (some with significant mobility issues, with an increasing usage of mobility scooters), children and teenagers. Braidwood has the highest percentage (12.3%) of people who walk or cycle compared to the rest of the LGA1</p> <p>In addition to completing the network of paths within Braidwood and the installation of pedestrian refuges, the BCA considers a recreational path around the outskirts of Braidwood for the benefit of residents and visitors as a priority for the community, including the concreting of the currently washed out gravel path along Bombay Road to Garvey Street.</p> <p>There is a need to have better and safer access to footpaths from roads. This issue has been raised many times by our residents, especially those who use mobility scooters or walking frames. We believe this would only require a small investment in concrete verges at intersections.</p>
24.32	<p>The BCA notes that Council intends to 'Implement the prioritised and Council actions from the Affordable Housing Strategy in partnership with the Government' and 'Update and review Affordable Housing Background Report and overarching Strategy' (p67). The BCA welcomes these statements.</p> <p>The draft Plan also states Council will 'Investigate opportunities in Queanbeyan CBD to increase housing diversity and supply.' (p67). The BCA questions why this should be limited to the Queanbeyan CBD and suggests this should state 'town centres'.</p> <p>In this respect, the BCA notes the Affordable Housing Working Group has discussed opportunities in Braidwood to increase housing supply and diversity.</p> <p>Affordable Housing is a major issue and is only getting worse. The focus of these activities must be to find and implement solutions to this pressing issue, in collaboration with other levels of Government and other stakeholders.</p> <p>Council's commitment to affordable housing as part of the long-term redevelopment of the Council depot site will not be acted on for many years, as there is no projected funding for this project in the Delivery Program.</p>
24.33	<p>European Wasps</p> <p>The wasp problem in Braidwood has diminished this year, suggesting that the action taken by Council and Braidwood European Wasp Offensive (BEWO) has had an impact. Nevertheless, a lot of wasps were caught during the autumn when the new Queens left the home nests. This suggests that we need to continue to be vigilant in the coming years. The draft Plan is silent on the issue of wasps, with the BCA hopeful that Council will continue to</p>

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	have a budget allocation to continue controlling wasps throughout QPRC (in 2024-25 it was of \$28,000).
24.34	<p>DRAFT QPRC DELIVERY PROGRAM 2025-29</p> <p>The BCA notes that the Delivery Program involves \$618 million in capital works over the four-year period (p4), which is an increase in QPRC's assets by nearly 25% (current assets being \$2.5 billion). This is a very ambitious investment program, with just 2 projects (Queanbeyan Sewage Treatment Plant Upgrade and Q2B Bulk Water Pipeline projects) accounting for 47% of this total and just 8 projects for nearly 60% of the total (see Attachment 3).</p> <p>The BCA notes that Council has not yet formally voted to approve the Q2B pipeline.</p> <p>QPRC staff and Councillors will need to be on the top of their game to manage such a huge investment over such a short period.</p> <p>An increase in assets and associated loans of this order of magnitude will also significantly increase the depreciation allowance and borrowing costs and hence put up upwards pressure on rates and charges paid by residents (see comments in the LTFP below).</p> <p>The BCA also notes that while there is significant expenditure in the Braidwood District in 2025-26, it drops off rapidly in the outlook years to zero specific projects in 2028-29. The BCA appreciates that this may be because Council is yet to approve any projects for the Braidwood District for 2028-29 and few for elsewhere in the LGA, but this does undermine the value of the Delivery Program.</p>
24.35	<p>The BCA notes that there are some actions which have been foreshadowed but are not included in the Delivery Program. Notably:</p> <p>1) New Braidwood Cemetery (p35) with the Structure Plan process suggesting the current Cemetery is fast reaching capacity.</p>
24.36	<p>The BCA notes that there are some actions which have been foreshadowed but are not included in the Delivery Program. Notably:</p> <p>2) Review of the Braidwood Development Control Plan (p66 & 68) as part of the implementation of the 15 Year Review of Braidwood's Heritage Listing recommendations. The BCA notes with thanks that Council at its meeting on 25 May 2025 approved a contribution of \$50,000 from the Heritage Reserve Fund towards the Braidwood Heritage Interpretation Plan, another key recommendation from the 15 Year Review.</p>
24.37	<p>The BCA notes that there are some actions which have been foreshadowed but are not included in the Delivery Program. Notably:</p> <p>3) Braidwood Depot Relocation and development of the site for affordable housing and parking which has been on the agenda since 2020-21. The BCA acknowledges this is a long-term action, but notes Council staff are already working on all the preliminary requirements for this project with consultants engaged to provide concept plans and ideas for the redevelopment of the site.</p>
24.38	<p>There is no Delivery Program Financial Summary as in previous Delivery Programs, notably no draft budget position for all funds over the four-year outlook. This is a significant reduction in transparency. The BCA requests that this be rectified in the final Delivery Program.</p> <p>There are no totals given in the listings of projects by Directorates over the draft Program or in total for QPRC by year (although we acknowledge there is one in the LTFP but you have to know to look there). This reduces transparency and makes it more difficult to understand what is happening in aggregate. The BCA suggests project information be presented in a more user-friendly form, including with project numbers and reinstating Annex 1 of the previous Delivery Program.</p>

Draft Integrated Plans **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

#	Community Submission
24.28	<p>DRAFT QPRC LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2025-35</p> <p>The BCA notes the problematic financial situation of QPRC outlined, which led to the Special Rate Variation (SRV) and the actions being taken to curtail cost and seek productivity improvements.</p> <p>The BCA is concerned by the statement '<i>The Council has not yet achieved a financially sustainable position</i>' (p10). It is unclear whether this is the situation as at 2024-25 or is the situation going forward. The BCA believes it would be prudent to amend the text to clarify which it is.</p> <p>In this iteration of the LTFP, it appear the main purpose of the modelling is to compare three scenarios: 1) current proposal of the third and final year of the 18% SRV; 2) reduced services (a rate increase of 12% with reduced asset renewal and operational expenditure); and 3) significantly reduced services (a rate increase of 3.9% with an even greater reduced asset renewal and operational expenditure). The BCA notes that measured against Council's objectives, only scenario 1 '<i>more closely meets these objectives</i>'.</p> <p>From the modelling scenarios presented, the BCA reluctantly agrees that there should be a third and final 18% increase in rates in 2025-26, before reverting to the rate peg increase of 2.5% for future years</p>
24.29	<p>The Delivery Program (Annex 2) has debt rising by \$123m over 4 years, while the LTFP uses the assumption that debt rises by \$175m over the 10 years. This is a huge increase when compared with debt levels at the end of June 2024 of 149m. While the Debt Service Ratio remains above the benchmark of >2.0x, it only just does in 2029 at 2.5. Should there be cost blow outs, which have to be financed by more debt, during the management of the various large projects envisaged then the outcome may easily be worse.</p> <p>In the base line data given in the LTFP, the cost of servicing loans across the four funds is expected to increase in the four years of the Delivery Program from \$6.3m in 2025-26 to 8 \$14.2m in 2028-29, an increase of \$7.8m or 124%. While the total depreciation allowance increases from \$97m in 2025-26 to \$108.5m in 2028-29, an increase of \$11.4m or 11.8%.</p> <p>This is a total increase in borrowings and depreciation costs of \$19.3m, which equates to \$637 per household.</p> <p>The BCA is aware that grants are being sought but urges Council to redouble its efforts to get grants to reduce borrowing costs.</p>
24.30	<p>DRAFT QPRC WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2025-29</p> <p>The BCA continues to be impressed by the dedication of Council staff and their willingness to engage with the Community.</p> <p>The BCA fully supports the Draft QPRC Workforce Management Plan but notes from the long list of 'weaknesses' in the SWAT analysis there is a long way to go before the aspirations are met.</p> <p>The BCA acknowledges the challenges QPRC has in attracting and retaining quality workers, given the competition from other employers in the region, notably from the ACT. It supports the desire to build internal capacity and reduce the number of contract staff. It also supports expanding the opportunities for the employment and training of local youth.</p> <p>The BCA appreciates the commitment to maintaining services in Braidwood.</p> <p>The BCA is very pleased to see it reiterated that additional resources are being provided for Road Maintenance works in this Plan.</p>

Draft Integrated Plans **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

#	Community Submission
25.1	<p>1. Queanbeyan Landcare strongly supports the allocation of \$130k pa for at least the next 4 years to address priorities under the Mt Jerrabomberra Plan of Management and suggests that these should include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. preventing and remediating active erosion sites in gullies and on trails, including restricting access where needed (specific examples are included below); b. invasive weed removal; c. systematic cool/cultural burning to reduce severe fires in future; and d. encouraging litter removal and discouraging dumping of soil, garden waste and general rubbish. <p>Queanbeyan Landcare has an active volunteer group (Friends of Mt Jerrabomberra & Stringy Bark Reserve) that could actively contribute to these activities and help reduce costs.</p>
25.2	<p>We note the very limited budget allocation (updating the heat map data) for implementation of the Urban Cooling Strategy and re-emphasise our keenness to assist Council staff with onground plantings under this Strategy, including through seeking external grants and volunteering.</p> <p>We suggest that QPRC follows the initiative of Councils such as Wollongong and Shoalhaven which actively foster community greening programs allowing Landcare/Bushcare members to plant street trees, and actively encourage and support (training, supervision) volunteering by community groups to work alongside council staff on public lands. https://www.shellharbour.nsw.gov.au/environment/caring-bushland ; https://www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/environment/trees-and-plants/urban-greening</p>
25.3	<p>3. We urge Council to consider allocating some resources towards promoting and coordinating feral pest (in particular feral pigs and deer) and invasive weed control on Council-controlled and neighbouring private lands.</p>
25.4	<p>1. We note the planned funding under the Urban Rivers and Catchments Grant of \$719k, \$369k, \$350k over the next 3 years and re-emphasise our keenness to assist with propagation and re-establishment and maintenance of local riparian species</p>
25.5	<p>We are writing to you on behalf of Queanbeyan Landcare in relation to the Draft Integrated Plans for 2025-2026 and beyond. We are also writing to you about our members' continuing concern for the management of natural and semi-natural areas under control by Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council. There is the need for a permanent, trained natural landscapes management team to improve planning, coordination, and ongoing maintenance. Council must have the resources to work constructively with the many (willing) jurisdictions, organisations, and community groups to manage and protect these resources and ecosystem networks, and also to maintain the existing goodwill of the community.</p>
25.6	<p>Mount Jerrabomberra: For these reasons, Landcare welcomes the proposed expenditure of \$130,000 pa towards signage and other reserve management for Mount Jerrabomberra over the next four years, presumably matched with staff time. Mount Jerrabomberra was gifted to our community and Council has the responsibility to manage this focal natural feature under the Mount Jerrabomberra Plan of Management, to protect the special biodiversity and heritage values and address fire risk. The community has shown its interest by the very significant and growing passive recreation of the area. Priorities listed by our members include:</p>
25.7	<p>Water management of fire trails – recent rain has seen significant erosion of some gullies and trails within the reserve. This issue needs addressing as a priority and rectification. A case in point is at the top of Temora Place where past erosion control measures need maintenance and rectification. Contour banks have been filled with sediment and gullying has occurred.</p>

Draft Integrated Plans **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

#	Community Submission
25.8	2. Unauthorised trail bike access – an ongoing issue that is seeing management trails being damaged by riding when wet and burnouts taking place. Gate at the top of Temora PI is off its hinges which needs repair and has been reported a number of times with no action taking place. When was the last audit undertaken on access points limiting trail bike access by QPRC? The access point at the SCAR is of concern for trail bikes accessing the pump track and the reserve as well.
25.9	3. Mountain Bike (MTB) trails - some of these are established and well designed, however others are not. Remediation is necessary and armouring of the trails is required as is water management to stop gullyng on these trails.
25.10	4. Dumping - some residents are dumping soil and green waste onto the reserve. Advice is required on how to report this and to who. A related issue is a small number of residents planting outside of their properties - advice is required on who to report to etc.
25.11	5. The retention basin at the top of Temora Place has an actively eroding head leading into the Ngambri land which is making a walking track dangerous to use - remediation is now required.
25.12	6. SCAR Dog park entrance – the access point into the reserve from the SCAR dog park needs remediation as this is difficult on foot and is being eroded, with active gully erosion nearby. <i>Queanbeyan Landcare is committed to continue to work with the Council and community in actions to promote and protect the Mountain.</i>
25.13	Urban Forest Cooling Strategy: Landcare also welcomes the allocation of resources towards reviewing (including updating heat map data) and implementing the 2021 Urban Forest Cooling Strategy for the main population centres, as a direct response to climate change impacts. It is noted that Council will be reviewing planting schemes with this in mind. Queanbeyan Landcare urges that our members and the community are given opportunities to be involved in this process. Sea level and global atmosphere temperatures in the last 20 months or so are now consistently well above average for every month, a cause for global action. We understand that a position will be allocated for carrying this Strategy, in line with the Strategy itself, although we are unable to find this reference in the draft Management Plan.
25.14	Asset renewal and Stormwater: Landcare also acknowledges Council's broad commitment to asset renewal programs and reviewing asset standards, and also a substantial allocation for stormwater improvements, in the context of climate change.
25.15	Council (and Community) Climate Change Action Plan: Landcare notes the commitment in the Draft Plan for further energy sustainability initiatives and annual reporting on the implementation of the Plan.
25.16	Biosecurity Policy - Feral Animals: Landcare understands that there is an annual allocation of \$5000 (?) towards the control of feral animals although we are unable to find this in the Draft Plan. The Biosecurity Policy makes no reference to feral animals, only referring to the impact of invasive plant species on the "high conservation value of natural reserves." There is an increasing number of reports of feral animals across the LGA including on the 4,900ha of Council-controlled land, which QPRC has both a legal obligation to control under the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015, and a social obligation in being a responsible neighbour. This also applies to invasive weed control. <i>Best practice pest control requires resources for coordination, planning and risk management, working with a range of stakeholders in community-based programs (eg Local Land Services' Feral Fighters groups). Landcare groups within the LGA are an ideal, but under-utilised, resource for this type of program.</i>

Draft Integrated Plans **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

#	Community Submission
25.17	<p>Urban Rivers and Catchment Program: The need for a permanent natural resource team will be increased by the new work planned along the Queanbeyan River under with the Urban Rivers and Catchment grant funding of \$1.9 million.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Queanbeyan Landcare members look forward to working with Council and Molonglo Conservation Group in implementing this worthwhile project on the Queanbeyan River, in addition to partnering in National Tree Day plantings in this and later years.
25.18	<p>Permanent Natural Resources Team: The Queanbeyan and Palerang Council area is unusual in that it contains many natural areas with varied ecosystems and plant associations, including woodlands, forest, grasslands, wetlands, and heathlands. These are set in landscape features of regional ecological and landscape significance including escarpment zones, river corridors, Council reserves, roadsides, and numerous Crown land reserves coming under closer Council responsibility.</p> <p>These natural and associated social and historical assets within the catchments of the Queanbeyan and Molonglo rivers and Upper Shoalhaven River areas are increasingly valued by residents and visitors. There is a growing recognition of the economic and intrinsic value of our natural environment, not only as a resource, eg for high quality water, recreational and spiritual inspiration but also habitat. Council's <i>2008 Biodiversity Study</i> illustrates the vital connectivity of our natural vegetation systems across the region, including threatened species and threatened ecosystems. This justifies long term investment in its proper management and care.</p> <p>Climate change provides an ever-increasing demand on managing our landscapes for adaptability, resilience and liveability. There are huge challenges ahead, including the relentless spread of invasive plants and feral pests, which if left unchecked, will generate ongoing and increasing costs to Council and the community.</p> <p>Council must have the resources to work constructively with the many (willing) jurisdictions, organisations, and community groups to manage and protect these resources and ecosystem networks and to also maintain the existing goodwill and cooperation of the community.</p>
25.19	<p>More Resources: Queanbeyan Landcare recommends that Council approach the ACT Government once again, putting another case for directing a portion of the approximately \$3.5million Water Abstraction Charge revenue paid by Council residents each year towards catchment management actions across the Queanbeyan and Molonglo Rivers and Jerrabomberra Creek catchments. This becomes a reliable, annual allocation to support a permanent natural resource team. In order to support this case, it will be important to document the catchment management activities undertaken by Council working with the community.</p>
26	<p>Response to: Draft Fees and Charges 2025-26</p> <p>Following the recent S355 Audit, questions were raised relating to the waiving of fees. Following a review of the Fees & Charges for 2025-26, it was identified that the following Committees require dollar amounts to be included and the removal of wording 'at the discretion of booking officer'.</p> <p>Amendments required to fees and charges relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Burra Community Hall Hoskinstown War Memorial Hall <p>These proposed fees have yet to be endorsed by the respective Committees (this is expected during upcoming meetings) though we have communicated these recommended changes to them.</p>

Draft Integrated Plans **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

#	Community Submission
27	<p>I note the budget has been built with maintaining community infrastructure at levels that are acceptable to the community. The Allen McGrath Cricket nets are not at an acceptable or safe standard.</p> <p>I would like to make a submission for the Allen McGrath Oval Cricket Nets to be repaired and made safe in the capital works budget for parks and recreation.</p> <p>The Allen McGrath Cricket Nets have been deteriorating for a number of years now and they are now unsafe. The artificial turf was replaced recently; however, the netting has very large holes and the side nets are not high enough. This means that a bowler coming into bowl in the adjoining net to a batsman is a risk of being hit by a ball hit by the batsmen.</p> <p>Additionally, the side nets should be higher to prevent balls hit passers by using the footpath on the western side of the oval.</p> <p>A full blooded shot by a batsman could cause a significant injury if people in adjacent nets or on the footpath if they are not paying attention.</p> <p>When using the Allen McGrath Nets I have witnessed numerous near misses and minor incidents over the past few seasons as I have been coaching QDCC teams, the Jerrabomberra PS team or as a parent taking my children to the nets.</p> <p>The Allen McGrath nets are they only QPRC nets in Jerrabomberra, they are oriented North-South so can be used throughout the day and they are in a central location.</p> <p>However, due to safety concerns we are increasingly moving junior cricket training sessions to Freebody Oval, Taylor Park, or Wellsville Oval Googong. The latter nets are oriented East-West meaning batsmen are looking into the setting Sun during the late afternoon/evening which means they are unsuitable for training late afternoon.</p> <p>See attached photo of Allen McGrath Nets.</p> <p>The Allen McGrath nets are in a great location and have recently been resurfaced and they the netting should be repaired to ensure they can be safely used by the whole community.</p> <p>For your consideration.</p>
28	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I would like to make a submission on behalf of all the Basketball players of the Queanbeyan-Palerang Region. Basketball represents one of the lowest entry-cost sport, with an individual able to gain valuable growth with nothing but a 20 dollar ball and a (council provided!) court. Council has done excellent to provide expansive opportunities for many sports, which Council should be exceptionally proud of. Basketball has always been an excellent sport for social interaction, with pickup games being a key component of the culture. There is no need to organise any expensive teams or leagues, and this ease of accessibility is what drives many to pick up the sport.</p> <p>However, with the loss of the Ross Road courts to make way for a local hospice (a noble enough cause), there is an excess of players, and not enough courts (and a complete lack of 5v5 viable courts). I am requesting that Council consider either the expansion (and remediation) of the Railway Courts in West Queanbeyan to include full courts, or the consideration of a new Outdoor full double court somewhere near the Queanbeyan CBD, or possibly a publicly accessible outdoor court in the new Regional Sports Complex? The court at the Railway Skate Park is appreciated, however is constantly in use, frequently damaged, and has incorrect lines drawn.</p> <p>At the very least, can you please redo the lines at the Railway Basketball courts? Ross Road was poorly maintained, but it represented a place where you could always get shots up.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration.</p>
29	<p>2025 Integrated Plans</p> <p>I am submitting these comments on behalf of the Queanbeyan Park Tennis Club.</p> <p>The Queanbeyan Park Tennis Club is very supportive of a QPRC budget allocation of \$20k</p>

Draft Integrated Plans **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

#	Community Submission
	<p>in the 2025-26 financial year for East Queanbeyan car park lighting.</p> <p>Council is aware the tennis court facilities at 10 Waniassa Street had been in a near derelict state for many years due to past flooding. In early 2024 the Queanbeyan Park Tennis Club was able to upgrade the court surface to a durable hardcourt that is better able to withstand extreme weather conditions; and install court lighting through NSW Government grants, Tennis Australia rebate and a co-contribution of club funds.</p> <p>Court lighting is activated upon entering a booking code at the entry gate off Ford Street. The court lighting automatically turns off 15 minutes after the completion of the booking. Our lighting meets the AS 2560.1 Sports lighting General principles and AS 2560.2.1 Sports lighting Specific Applications – Lighting for outdoor tennis and are aimed for lighting spill to not encroach on neighbouring space. This also means lighting does not spill out to the carparks (as shown in the night play photos supplied).</p> <p>Whether court lighting is on or not at night, through our own observations and feedback from players, we believe there is a real safety issue for people coming to or from the carparks in the dark (Waniassa Street or Ford Street). Safety concerns relate to unseen trip/obstruction hazards as well as a personal safety of all persons but particularly women and children.</p> <p>Since the court upgrades were completed, the facilities is averaging 250 people attending at night in any given week. These numbers do not look to be dropping off.</p> <p>We would imagine that soccer spectators and players who use these carparks would also value lighting installation.</p> <p>Enclosed as additional information - Night play photos showing court lighting only extends to perimeter fencing; and Daylight photos of entry gate and carparks</p>
30	<p>Cricket nets in Jerrabomberra are very well used but they are very unsafe because of broken netting. I go there some time with my kids. You have to be very careful if someone else is playing in one of the other Nets at the same time because of broken netting. They desperately need some work done. I Hope there is something being done before the next summer thanks</p>
31	<p>Please upgrade alan mcgrath oval nets</p>
32	<p>Regarding the Operational Plan & Delivery Program 25–26 to 28–29: the Bywong/Wamboin Greenways s. 355 Committee notes with pleasure that \$30,000 is proposed as expenditure on capital works to effectively maintain the Greenways network in the Bywong/Wamboin rural-residential area in the 2025-26 FY.</p> <p>The Committee and Council staff collaborated, in the previous FY, to attract grants funds and to use them, plus Council's own funds, to undertake a significant repair job on one of the Greenways. That was successfully completed, with fine outcomes in terms of utility, amenity, and safety for the community's many users of the Greenways.</p> <p>Our Committee looks forward to continuing this co-operation to utilise the proposed 2025-26 allocation on the next set of capital works and related enhancements, as per the Greenways Master Plan approved last year by Council.</p>
33	<p>Regarding the Urban Landscapes section of the Operational Plan & Delivery Program 25–26 to 28–29, page 56, we read that Council will report upon 'Community satisfaction with the appearance of public areas as measured by the Regional Wellbeing Survey'.</p> <p>1. I cannot locate any data item in the online survey data tables on this variable. Are you sure that it exists?</p>
34	<p>2. The survey received only 795 responses in its 2023 round (the most recent data published online) for the whole of 'Southern NSW and the ACT'. This covers nine NSW LGAs, plus the whole of the ACT. Surely the number of responses received covering this one data item for the QPRC LGA specifically will be tiny, with a huge standard error, making it unusable. Given that, how will 'Community satisfaction with the appearance of public areas' actually be measured?</p>

Draft Integrated Plans **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

#	Community Submission
35	Can you please add funding for a Bungendore dirt bike track. The youth at Bungendore have little to no facilities. There has been a surge in local vandalism this year and it is widely believed that the two are linked. Land could be used at the Sports Hub or perhaps in the vicinity of the water tank. Design and construction of a basic facility could be achieved for \$20,000. There is strong local support for this recreational facility. Maintenance and ongoing costs would be minimal. It would appeal to both boys and girls. Please introduce this funding into the 2025-26 budget for the Bungendore community.
36.1	The Queanbeyan Palerang Action Group (QPAG) notes the draft integrated plans and thanks Council for its planned funding in relation to maintenance and upgrades for aquatics in the region over the next four years. We also acknowledge the work undertaken (outside of these integrated plans) to provide independent access to the indoor pool at the Queanbeyan Aquatic centre. Thank you.
36.2	QPAG notes that the <i>Draft Operational Plan and Delivery Program 2025-26 to 2028-29</i> references the <i>Aquatics Strategic plan</i> . The <i>Aquatics Strategic plan</i> includes new pools for Googong and Bungendore. However, <i>Draft Operational Plan and Delivery Program 2025-26 to 2028-29</i> does not seem to have budgeted any operational costs over the next four or ten years for either of these facilities. QPAG proposes that any expenditure in relation to these aquatic facilities be specific and transparent, so that the community is aware of all ongoing and future costs in relation to these facilities.
36.3	<p>QPAG notes that the <i>Draft Operational Plan and Delivery Program 2025-26 to 2028-29</i> page 50 includes a table related to Expense and assumption. The last row in the table refers to <i>Growth in asset maintenance and services</i>. The <i>Assumption</i> heading in this row states:</p> <p>'Additional expenditure has been incorporated from 2025-26 and continues into future years, to allow to factor in the costs associated with non-cash gifted assets from Developers. These cost estimates are for additional maintenance and depreciation. Additional staffing has been factored into future years to support the asset maintenance in growth areas including Googong.'</p> <p>QPAG proposes that both the size and nature of this expenditure be published, so that the community understands ongoing costs in this regard and that Council is both specific and transparent about such additional expenditure. Such transparency enables the community to be conscious of the nature and extent of expenditure that current and future generations will be funding'</p>
36.4	<p>QPAG notes from <i>Table 1 Assessment of Community Service Obligation</i> on Page 50 of the <i>Statement of Revenue Policy</i>, that Council is looking to increase the net cost recovery for owning and operating its Aquatic Centres. This will be achieved through a strategy incrementally reduce the CSO to match the cost of infrastructure provision. We do not agree with this approach and request that an alternative approach be developed. We propose that the main beneficiary of a well-run Aquatic Centre is the Community itself – in terms of supporting the health and well-being of all ages.</p> <p>The approach of reducing the CSO over time appears to not take into account that deaths due to drowning are on the increase (see https://www.royallifesaving.com.au/research-and-policy/drowning-research/national-drowning-reports) and the need for non-weight bearing exercise such as aquatic activities is important for the mental and physical health of an aging population (see https://www.health.gov.au/topics/physical-activity-and-exercise/physical-activity-and-exercise-guidelines-for-all-australians/for-older-australians-65-years-and-over). However, QPRC acknowledge that Council is seeking to balance this issue by committing to keeping the user fees affordable for the majority of users.</p>

Draft Integrated Plans **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

#	Community Submission
36.5	The <i>Draft Workforce Management Plan 2025 – 2029</i> indicates on page 5 that increased service demands (including two new pools) will require an increase in staff resources to ensure a skilled and adaptable workforce to service these new facilities. The Draft Integrated Plans could be strengthened through the publishing the size and nature of this expenditure. This builds trust with the community and enhances understanding and transparency of the current and projected ongoing costs.
36.6	With regard to the <i>Draft Operational Plan and Delivery Program 2025-26 to 2028-29</i> , QPAG proposes that Dive Blocks be prioritised as an expenditure item for financial year 2025-26.
36.7	One significant issue missing from the plans – is the transparent rationale costings and justification for the proposed building of new pools in Googong and Bungendore for the Queanbeyan Palerang Region. These do not appear to be listed in the <i>Draft Operational Plan and Delivery Program 2025-26 to 2028-29</i> and are only mentioned in passing across all of the <i>Draft Integrated Plans</i> . The <i>Draft Integrated Plans</i> could be further strengthened by documentation of an open and transparent process for the building of any new aquatic facilities, including any study for economic feasibility of such proposals. This would help provide an overall regional plan for aquatic facilities (which are strategic community assets) and give the community confidence in regard to their affordability into the future.
37.1	The QRRRA has previously commented on the need to improve the readability of QPRC documents open for comment. The Summary is a helpful initiative in providing an overview of what is a complex set of documents. A few simple additions to the Summary would make it a stand-alone document that is easy to read and understand. We believe a useful addition would be a breakdown of the funding sources for the 2025-2026 Delivery Program Highlights listed. This could be simply extra columns against each project indicating the source of the funding for each project. We appreciate this information is contained in the detailed documents but being confronted with a document that is over 100 pages in length can be quite daunting for some.
37.2	<p>The Capital Works Program indicates that expenditure on the QSTP Upgrade for 2025-2026 will be \$27.5M, which included \$0.3M remaining grant funding. This contradicts the IWCM Plan which indicates that loan funding of \$55M was proposed for the forthcoming financial year. We assume the delay in progressing this project is due to the recent Project Health Check which identified issues that needed to be resolved. While the Capital Works Program indicates those activities that will be funded from reserves, the actual balance in each of the reserves was buried in the Long Term Financial Plan. We doubt whether the general public would be prepared to delve this deeply into what are complex documents. The inclusion in the Summary of a simple table identifying the balance in each of the reserve funds would improve transparency. As mentioned in paragraph 1, the fine details of how these balances are composed is contained in the longer documents and is available for those who want/need to know.</p> <p>The summary document indicates that the Council's level of debt will be reduced by \$6 million from \$141 million to \$135 million. The 2025-2026 Budget on page 20 of the QPRC Operational Plan and Delivery Program details borrowing costs (interest) of \$6.312 million and loan repayments of \$10.960 million. Given these figures it is difficult to see how the level of debt will be reduced to \$135 million particularly when taking into account the proposed additional loans of \$7.7million. Once again, the addition of a simple table in the Summary document detailing the existing debt level, new loans, interest charges, repayments and the new debt level would add greater transparency and a clearer understanding of the level of debt being carried by the QPRC.</p>

Draft Integrated Plans **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

#	Community Submission
37.3	<p>QRRR has long argued against the payment of dividends from the water and sewer reserves. This is a position we made clear during the Percy Allan review. The reasons for this were twofold; first the funds should be retained for capital works relevant to each of the reserves and second, the payment of such dividends to the general fund distorts the real cost of delivering other services and also means the water and sewer rates are subsidising other areas of activity. We are pleased, therefore, to note in Table 1 of the Long Term Financial Plan that the Council has now abandoned the proposal to pay dividends and quite rightly notes that activities of the general fund will be supported by general rates.</p>
37.4	<p>SUMMARY</p> <p>We believe the inclusion of a Summary document is a welcome measure improving transparency and readability. But we believe the inclusion of some additional details in a simple format would make it a stand-alone executive summary of the Draft Integrated Plans. Anyone who wants more details can then delve in the hundreds of pages of details contained in other documents that form the Draft Integrated Plans. We appreciate that the need to prepare the detailed documents that are the Draft Integrated Plans may be a requirement set down by the OLG, but providing a simple readable Executive Summary will improve transparency and possibly greater feedback from the general community.</p> <p>We welcome the abandonment of the payment of dividends from the reserve funds to support the general operations of the Council. This is a long-held position of the QRRR.</p>
38	<p>Feedback to Fees and charges:</p> <p>The clause "Hire of Seiffert Oval for non sporting events that deliver an economic benefit may be eligible for an alternative fee structure." in the below section is better placed in the above section.</p> <p>The "Damages deposit major events (high risk)" of \$6,820 fee should be also be added so that it is applicable to Seiffert Oval – to the above section (OR section below?)</p> <p>Fee is currently listed for Queanbeyan, Queen Elizabeth II, Ray Morton, Wanniasa, Beltana, Ryrie Parks</p>
39.1	<p>While this marks the final year of the 18% Special Rate Variation, we are concerned that the proposed increase of 5.9% to the Queanbeyan sewer annual charge and a 3.9% increase for all other annual charges will significantly affect residents already struggling with the current cost-of-living crisis. We are also concerned about the proposed \$7.7 million new loans to support two major projects: the Monaro Street upgrade and the first year of the Bulk Water Pipeline from Queanbeyan to Bungendore.</p> <p>Construction of a new sewage treatment plant represents critical community infrastructure that we recognise as a high priority, the present plant having exceeded its operational lifespan. Given that the community will bear the cost of the loan exceeding \$60 million for this essential project, QPRC should not commit to any additional borrowing until this infrastructure project is completed.</p> <p>We strongly oppose the plan requiring the entire LGA to shoulder the loan costs for the Bungendore water pipeline infrastructure. This project targets increased future development in Bungendore and should be funded through developer contributions rather than general ratepayer funds.</p> <p>QPRC staff must explore all alternatives to avoid using loan funding for the Monaro Street upgrade.</p> <p>Jerrabomberra</p>

Draft Integrated Plans **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

#	Community Submission
39.2	Jerrabomberra Traffic campaign. We welcome the Jerrabomberra Traffic campaign and require its completion by the end of 2025. While implementation has been slow, this initiative is vital to improving safety for all Jerrabomberra residents.
39.3	<p>Jerrabomberra Community Centre. We are pleased to see the proposed upgrade of the Community Centre's kitchen and toilets. The original part of the building is overdue for refurbishment.</p> <p>We also request that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The surrounding gardens be upgraded with irrigation and maintained regularly, including the car park garden beds. • Additional funding be allocated to improve the centre's aesthetics. Although the centre is designated as an "Emerald Hall," its fittings are outdated and neglected. • Lighter, more user-friendly tables and chairs be provided. • Audio induction loops are installed in the two large meeting rooms to support
39.4	David Madew Oval. We support the proposed amenities upgrades. We also request that a light switch for the toilet block be installed in an accessible location. Each year at Carols@Jerra, lighting in the toilets has been an ongoing issue.
39.5	<p>Dunns Creek Road. While we support Stage 1 of Dunns Creek Road, we are deeply disappointed and concerned that the NSW government funding secured in 2019 for studies, route selection, and land acquisition will no longer be allocated to these essential tasks. The JRA worked with the then Member for Monaro, John Barilaro, to secure funding for this critical infrastructure project.</p> <p>At the time, Mr. Barilaro emphasised the project's importance, stating it would "not only make life easier for residents in Googong, but it will take traffic out of Jerrabomberra and provide a more direct link for many residents to the Monaro Highway and Canberra's south." This funding was intended to advance the project to its next developmental stage.</p> <p>QPRC's failure to undertake the work and expend this funding allocation as initially intended represents a major and concerning disappointment and raises questions about the Council's commitment to delivering on secured funding agreements.</p>
39.6	Carols@Jerra. Carols@Jerra is a much-loved annual event hosted by the JRA. We request that it be formally included in QPRC's cultural program to help offset costs, particularly sound and lighting, which total approximately \$10,000.
39.7	<p>Gifted developer infrastructure of \$27.2 million. With significant growth across Queanbeyan, substantial amounts of developer-gifted infrastructure will continue to be transferred to Council ownership as various developments are completed. QPRC must establish a comprehensive policy that allocates the ongoing costs of this infrastructure directly to the communities that benefit from it through targeted special rate charges, like the existing model used for the Googong recycled water plant.</p> <p>Consider Tralee as an example: this development features smaller residential lots with extensive community infrastructure provided in shared spaces, including dog parks, community orchards, and other amenities. While Tralee residents pay lower general rates due to smaller land values, they receive significantly more gifted community infrastructure than established areas. It is inequitable for the entire LGA to subsidise the ongoing maintenance and operational costs of infrastructure that specifically serves these new developments.</p> <p>The Long-Term Financial Plan identifies this infrastructure cost-shifting issue as a growing concern and requires immediate policy attention to ensure fair and sustainable funding arrangements.</p>

Draft Integrated Plans **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

#	Community Submission
39.8	Emergency Services Levy. We recommend separating the Emergency Services Levy on rates notices, similar to water and waste charges, for greater transparency for rate payers.
39.9	<p>Protecting our Environment. We strongly support the \$130,000 allocated over each of the next four years to implement the Mount Jerrabomberra Management Plan. The mountain is a significant natural, cultural, and ecological asset. For many of us, it's more than just a backdrop—it's a place of history, connection, and pride, and we're committed to protecting it for future generations.</p> <p>We also request:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding for the ongoing maintenance of Stringybark and Copperfield Reserves, including weed control and dam upkeep. Volunteers maintain these areas, but QPRC has a stewardship role that must not be overlooked. • Reactivation of the Lake Jerrabomberra water quality program. The lake is central to our community and is vital for birdlife and aquatic vegetation.
39.10	<p>Recreational Amenities Jerrabomberra residents are active and love their dogs. We request the installation of combined water bubblers/dog drinking fountains at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edwin Land Parkway near the dog waste bin • Enviroa Drive near the dog waste bin

Community Submissions made during the exhibition of the Community Strategic Plan in response to a question about priority Council actions

CSP.1	Improve the Jerrabomberra dog park please.
CSP.2	Repair to roads outside Queanbeyan city.
CSP.3	Availability of high-speed Internet for all. Improvements to mobile phone service.
CSP.4	Country roads. Grading every 3 years because of low traffic use is not realistic in wet years. A few councillors should be unable to leave their property in wet weather with electricity blackout and no mobile reception to learn about rural life.
CSP.4	Keeping sporting fields in good order and making sure enough are built in new housing developments.
CSP.5	Aged services appropriate parking better management of retailers No more tobacconists no more barbers no more nail shops no more happy ending massage parlors that use and abuse women. More women centered care options.
CSP.6	Bungendore Aquatic Centre for this region. Also sort out Bungendore town, since the high school debate, Bungendore town has lost its way. We have had so many retail losses in our town. Blank canvas's obviously waiting for approvals and empty shops. Our town needs Council encouragement to help bring it back.
CSP.7	Care for pedestrians and children. Bungendore has few connected footpaths, only one cycleway, and a haphazard approach to development. Streetside parking is an issue, bus stops likewise. Streets have multiple guttering styles that cause all manner of problems for drivers on narrow roads. People walking children in prams, children to school or just walking for exercise are daily threatened by lack of paths. Wildlife corridors. Too great a level of development allowed with no green space, wildlife corridors or cycle and pathways. This must be addressed in a better global plan.
CSP.8	Putting more Traffic Lights on Roads that attract major traffic delays like the corner of Cameron Rd and Canberra Avenue? One of the last roads along that stretch of road to be

Draft Integrated Plans **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

	overlooked, for far too long. Employing more Rangers to get out of their cars and walk around and see the issues that are creating problems.
CSP.9	Housing, and the infrastructure services that underpin it, and environment (tree cover, particularly native trees, and supporting understorey for the full range of native animals that live here - not just tree dwellers)
CSP.10	Enhance parking availability
CSP.11	For me better transport and access to and around Qbn would be a priority. The lifting of the road immediately east of the bridge through town is one that comes to mind.
CSP.12	Better engagement with the community about the importance of biodiversity , sustainability , weed & feral animal control. More emphasis on retaining of appropriate vegetation instead of "Tidy town " mentality. More collaboration with Landcare & environmental organisations. Implement the management actions contained in Community Climate Action Plan, Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Local Environmental Plan & Roadside Vegetation Management Plans.
CSP.13	Parking arrangements along Gilmore Rd are becoming an issue: many vehicles are getting larger causing occasional bottlenecks at present. In a way related is the difficult engineering solution to bike/pedestrian path from the end of Gilmore Rd to HMAS Harman.
CSP.14	Becoming a champion for specific groups: seniors, pickleball players, yoga and tai chi practitioners for example to become known for these groups and attract them to the area
CSP.15	Maintaining the footpaths, roads and gardens in the councils region.
CSP.16.1	1.) Installation of School pedestrian crossings enhancements (particular focus on St Gregorys Primary School and Harris Park PreSchool at Macquoid Street and Lowe Street campuses).
CSP.16.2	2.) Safer and more integrated pedestrian road crossings in Queanbeyan east. Particularly crossing Bungendore road near the fast food restaurants and at the Ellerton Drive intersection.
CSP.16.3	3.) Introduction of genuinely high quality high school options in Queanbeyan Palerang. These might be religious, private or selective schools, but right now most of best and brightest in Queanbeyan end up in ACT schools.
CSP.16.4	4.) Work with the NSW and ACT Governments to get Queanbeyan added onto the ACT light rail network.
CSP.16.5	5.) QPRC services should focus on deliberately minimising its involvement on its residents personal lives and choices - remove the need for QPRC permits to trim or cut down trees on your personal property (btw my family enjoys gardening and values tree cover) and dont interfere with household decisions on what form of heating they want to use (gas, electric, wood etc). All these minor areas of interference use-up valuable council resources to create policies, implement regulations and enforce compliance (at rate payers expense)
CSP.17	Affordable housing Climate action Improved non-car transport options e.g. bike paths, buses; especially linkage into/with the ACT Community batteries (w solar power) The sewage plant Support for cat containment efforts e.g outfitting homes to contain cars Regulating/capping short term rentals e.g. AirBnB to increase supply of rentals for long term residents
CSP.18	A focus on efficiency - reducing the pressure on rates and delivering services efficiently and at low cost and removing extraneous items from the budget that do not improve the living standards of residents
CSP.19	The lack of Disabled Parking Spaces around School Zones allowing ease of access for the Disabled to Schools.
CSP.20	More Rangers to make sure that people who are repeatedly doing the wrong thing are caught and fined like people parking on the verge blocking the view of exiting neighboring traffic onto

Draft Integrated Plans **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

	public roads. Checking the using of Disabled Parking Permits as they are used by people not entitled to use them but have their parent's ones in their cars at school zones.
CSP.21	One of the priorities should be getting QPRC into a financially robust position over the medium term.
CSP.22	There could be a clearer indication that there is a connection between business security and efficiency, and environmental priorities. For example, Discover Aboriginal Experiences is already engaging with tourists from overseas as well as from Australia and doing so successfully, but this success is predicated on a natural environment. Queanbeyan has some old, ruined homesteads but some of the sites have arrowhead convict bricks on them - archeological, secondary education and tourism possibilities?
CSP.23	Maintenance of historic buildings, which has so obviously not happened in the past. Including private residences.
CSP.24	Something around reducing waste and improving recycling/re-use programs? Supporting community groups to be able to operate long term e.g. support for hosting regular smaller meetings/events, not just the big annual festivals?

Donations Policy Feedback

#	Community Submission
40	<p>Category B Page 2, Overview - No mention of pools? Are swimming clubs eligible for grants? 2.2 Incomplete sentence: <i>For example, if the hours are reduced, the donation amount will reduce pro</i></p> <p>Bookings do get changed all the time. It is hard to know 12 months in advance of when things occur. For elections where there is not much lead-time, bookings can be reduced. I do not think the amount should be reduced or pro-rated. The amount does not get increased if the JRA want to have an extraordinary general meeting. Easier to keep the amount exactly as Council endorsed. If a group cancels a lot of bookings – say 1K worth, you can track this, the budget will not be spent and there is the possibility of another group getting this towards the end of the financial year with council approval.</p> <p>4. Lodgement Links not underlined properly or linked properly Suggested: • <i>Please complete the online form at QPRC Grants and Donations. If you are unable to complete the form online, or need other assistance, please contact Council's Grant Officer via email at grants@qprc.nsw.gov.au or by phone at 1300 735 025.</i> Page 3 5. Assessment Grid Suggest remove – Alignment with Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Plan The document is so big and so many goals, you struggle to find a group that does not meet a goal So the scoring does not differentiate. All the other criteria works really well.</p> <p>Category H Page 2 1. Overview A no fee hire will not be considered if we recommend applicants apply for Category B Funding • Most hirers are better off being Category B due to not being able to be bumped</p>

Draft Integrated Plans **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

#	Community Submission
	<p>Link does not work</p> <p>Council's grants and donations are administered in compliance with the Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council QPRC Donations Policy 2025 available for download from the QPRC website</p> <p>Page 3 3.8</p> <p>Change the name to AXIS Youth Centre,</p> <p>Googong Community CentreThe Glasshouse in Braidwood • Needs a gap</p> <p>The Glasshouse is not the official name – suggest Braidwood Community Centre until a name has been finalised</p> <p>Suggest removing Bungendore Sports Hub Community Space – only added when the Bungendore Community Centre was out of action. No other sports facilities are listed.</p> <p>Suggest putting them in alphabetical order</p> <p>Suggest putting in a different line for the two venues below:</p> <p>The following facilities available for no fee hire:</p> <p>Heritage Library meeting room</p> <p>Nellie Hamilton Centre meeting rooms</p> <p>But as these venues have other users, there is limited availability and additional requirements apply.</p> <p>With rare books in the Heritage Library, bookings may need to be chaperoned and can be additional staffing costs. Similar with bookings after hours at the Nellie Hamilton Centre.</p> <p>Using AXIS Youth Centre has less of a risk.</p> <p>3.9 What is a premier venue? Might be worth listing.</p> <p>5. Lodgement</p> <p>Links not underlined properly or linked properly</p> <p>Suggested</p> <p>Please complete the form (provided below) and email it to qprc.communityfacilities@qprc.nsw.gov.au.</p> <p>For further information or assistance, contact QPRC Community Facilities via the email above or by phone on (02) 6285 6583.</p> <p>Page 4</p> <p>Updates required:</p> <p>257 Crawford Street</p> <p>Post to: QPRC Community Facilities</p> <p>Contact QPRC Community Facilities / or on 02 6285 6583</p> <p>Ensure proper links</p> <p>Names of venues to match the above</p> <p>General</p> <p>Considering staff are unable to waive fees, it is a big responsibility without oversight to provide free fees for a group for an eternity</p> <p>For example, the Queanbeyan Quilters used to apply for Category B and get the maximum amount of 3K and pay anything above that. Now they are Category H and get around 6K in free hire a year. Although, this is great for the Queanbeyan Quilters, it lacks proper oversight. For better transparency, it would be better to double or triple the amount in the Category B funding. As Category B grants are non-monetary – it would not have any financial impact. Then Council as a whole can consider the annual requests from worthy community groups through the annual Category B process. They can all be assessed at the same time and changes made from year to year.</p> <p>If Category B and Category H continue to operate together, the groups will just transition to the easier option of going through the Category H process without Council oversight.</p>

Draft Integrated Plans **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

#	Community Submission
41	Looks good - would be nice to give some more support to heritage buildings in the community but great work!
42	<p>Why is the council giving away money it doesn't have. Reduce our bills and get rid of this donations and grants program.</p> <p>Yes there too high. Wasn't long ago that rates when up by 25%+ and the number of councilors was increased and a pay rise provided for said councilors. Do what is right stop taking us for mugs</p>
43	<p>It's really difficult to provide feedback on these draft policies without spending hours deep-diving into the detail. It would be really useful for all future consultation processes for the Council to provide a summary/context document which describes why the policy is being reviewed (e.g. the policy is subject to annual review, or such and such issue caused the Council to review the policy) and what changes have been made between the previous version of the policy and the proposed policy.</p> <p>Re the Local Heritage Grants Policy -- given the difficulty in obtaining quotes and finding builders to perform residential building projects, the requirement that you don't start work until the grant has been approved is not appropriate. It would be better if you were required to apply for the grant prior to the works commencing, but the works being allowed to commence prior to the grant decision being made. Also the amount of work required to apply for the grant is not commensurate with the grant size. I've seen million-dollar grant applications require half the amount of detail you require. It's unreasonable.</p>
44	<p>On behalf of Braidwood Lions, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to Queanbeyan and Palerang Regional Council for again including our shed and plot of land in the draft list of donations to be made by QPRC during 2025-26.</p> <p>I see from Appendix 4 of the draft Operational Plan & Delivery Program 25-26 to 28-29 that the rates and charges forgone by this donation is worth \$3,570 next year. We would have to sell a huge number of sausages to raise that amount. As a result, we will be able to give much more support to our local community.</p> <p>We trust that this proposal will be adopted by Council, as it makes such a difference to organisations like Braidwood Lions.</p> <p>Thank you so much in anticipation.</p>
45	Refer written submission from Kano Jujitsu



BRAIDWOOD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

COMMENTS ON THE QPRC DRAFT INTEGRATED PLANS 2025-26

The Braidwood Community Association (BCA) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council (QPRC) Draft Integrated Plans for 2025-26.

SUMMARY

Draft Revenue Plan

- The third 18% increase in general rates as a result of the SRV will further exacerbate the hardship being suffered by households in QPRC and it is therefore even more important that Council delivers, and be seen to deliver, its services to ratepayers in an efficient, timely and cost-effective manner.
- The BCA welcomes the increase in the voluntary pensioner rebates and encourages QPRC to take all steps to bring this to the attention of eligible pensioner ratepayers.

Draft QPRC Operational Plan

- While the new presentation makes the Operational Plan easier to follow, it lacks some of the detail of the previous format. It is also very difficult to make comparisons with previous years.
- The previous Operational Plan not only had a wider range of indicators but targets as well. The BCA asks why the targets have been dropped and where are the indicators published?
- Regarding the BCA's six priority actions / projects:
 - 1) The draft Plan appears to contain a significant increase in road funding, including rural roads, which is very much supported by the BCA.
 - 2) Several important components are either complete or in progress which would allow the development of an overarching long-term strategic plan for Braidwood. The BCA encourages Council to complete the Braidwood Structure plan, the IWCMPs review, the development of the revised Development Control Plan arising from the Heritage Review in a timely manner.
 - 3) The BCA is disappointed that safeguarding Braidwood's water supply is delayed because the outcomes of the reviews of the IWCMP are now not expected to inform the Integrated Plans process until 2025-26 at the earliest, when initially it was flagged that this would be undertaken in 2023-24. The BCA urges Council to ensure that these reviews are completed in the coming year.
 - 4) As for 3 above, the harmonisation of water, sewage, and waste charges across QPRC is disappointingly delayed.
 - 5) The BCA is disappointed that it is now not possible to know if the budget for Environmental actions is going up or down as the information provided is no longer compatible with previous years. It is concerned that some of the actions under the Urban Forest and Cooling Strategy are being delayed to create savings in 2025-26. The BCA supports the proposals for an '*Annual report and status review of the Climate Change Action Plans and implementation of prioritised actions*' and a '*Review our Urban Forest and Cooling Strategy*'.
 - 6) The Operation Plan (and Delivery Program) is silent on the issue of Community Transport, despite it being included in the Community Strategic Plan. The BCA is very keen to engage in a dialogue with Council on the provision of better community transport in the Braidwood district.

- The BCA welcomes the current consultation on a pedestrian and cyclist priority list and the foreshadowed review of the Braidwood Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP).
- The BCA supports the intention to ‘*Implement the prioritised and Council actions from the Affordable Housing Strategy in partnership with the Government*’ and ‘*Update and review Affordable Housing Background Report and overarching Strategy*’, but questions why Council will only ‘*Investigate opportunities in Queanbeyan CBD to increase housing diversity and supply.*’ The BCA suggests this should state ‘*town centres*’.
- The draft Plan is silent on the issue of European wasps, with the BCA hopeful that Council will continue to have a budget allocation to continue controlling wasps throughout QPRC.

Draft QPRC Delivery Program 2025-29

- The Delivery Program contains a very ambitious investment program of \$618 million in capital works over the four-year period, an increase in QPRC’s assets by nearly 25%.
- This will inevitably significantly increase the depreciation allowance and borrowing costs and hence put upwards pressure on rates and charges paid by residents (see comments on the LTFP below).
- There are some actions which have been foreshadowed for Braidwood but are not included in the Delivery Program which the BCA asked to be added. Namely:
 - 1) New Braidwood Cemetery, with the Structure Plan process suggesting the current Cemetery is fast reaching capacity.
 - 2) Development of the Braidwood Heritage Interpretation Plan and Review of the Braidwood Development Control Plan as part of the implementation of the 15 Year Review of Braidwood’s Heritage Listing recommendations.
 - 3) Braidwood Depot Relocation and development of the site for affordable housing and parking which has been on the agenda since at least 2020-21.
- There is no Delivery Program Financial Summary as in previous Delivery Programs, notably no draft budget position for all funds over the four-year outlook. This is a significant reduction in transparency. The BCA requests that this be rectified in the final Delivery Program.
- There are no total costs given in the listings of projects by Directorates over the draft Program or in total for QPRC by year. This reduces transparency and makes it more difficult to understand what is happening in aggregate. The BCA suggests project information be presented in a more user-friendly form, including with project numbers, and the reinstatement of Annex 1 of the previous Delivery Program.

Draft QPRC Long Term Financial Plan 2025-35

- The BCA is concerned by the statement ‘*The Council has not yet achieved a financially sustainable position*’ (p10). It is unclear whether this is the situation as at 2024-25 or is the situation going forward. The BCA believes it would be prudent to amend the text to clarify which it is.
- From the modelling scenarios presented, the BCA reluctantly agrees that there should be a third and final 18% SRV increase in rates in 2025-26, before reverting to the rate peg increase of 2.5% for future years.
- From the budgets presented, the investment program will lead to a total increase in annual borrowing and depreciation costs of \$19.3m by the end of the Delivery Program, which equates to \$637 per household.
- The BCA is aware that grants are being sought but urges Council to redouble its efforts to get grants to reduce borrowing costs.

Draft QPRC Workforce Management Plan

- The BCA fully supports the Draft QPRC Workforce Management Plan but notes from the long list of ‘weaknesses’ in the SWAT analysis there is a long way to go before the aspirations are met.

DRAFT REVENUE PLAN FOR 2025-26

Special Rates Variation

General rate charges are proposed to increase by a further 18% in 2025-26, the third and final such increase. The cost-of-living crisis is still very much with us and while the reasons for this significant rate increase are well understood, it must be acknowledged that this increase will further exacerbate the hardship being suffered by many households in the LGA.

In this environment it is even more important that Council delivers, and is seen to deliver, its services to ratepayers in an efficient, timely and cost-effective manner.

Annual charges

Annual charges are set to generally increase by 3.9%, with the exception of the annual charge for the Queanbeyan Sewerage Scheme which will increase by 6.0%, which is required because of the upgrade of the Queanbeyan Sewerage Treatment Plant.

This will slightly reduce the disparity of charges between Palerang and Queanbeyan, with Palerang residents paying on average \$573 more per residential dwelling than those in Queanbeyan (see Attachment 1).

The BCA appreciates that the disparity can only be addressed when the reviews of Queanbeyan and Palerang Integrated Water Cycle Management Plans (IWCMPs) have been completed, when charges could then be harmonised, with single Water and Sewerage schemes for QPRC.

Pensioner rebates

The draft Operational Plan highlights that Council will provide an extra voluntary rebate of \$50 to all pensioners in QPRC (up by \$10), in addition to the compulsory rebates for general rates, domestic waste, water charges, sewerage charges to all eligible pensioner ratepayers. This brings the total maximum pensioner rebate to \$475 per annum.

The BCA welcomes this proposal. The BCA also encourages QPRC to take all steps to bring this to the attention of eligible pensioner ratepayers, including the rebates being more prominent in Rates and Charges Notices.

Community Service Obligations

The BCA is surprised that in the discussion on CSOs, expenditure on Economic Development and Tourism (p50) is considered to be 100% CSO with no private benefit at all, when even environment activities are considered to have 15-25% private benefit. The BCA suggests that this should be reviewed as there is clearly private benefit. While for Strategic Planning there is a 90-95% CSO and a 15-20% private benefit. The BCA asks how does the total benefit exceed 100% in this instance?

DRAFT OPERATIONAL PLAN FOR 2025-26

General Comments

The presentation of the draft Operational Plan has been changed significantly. While the new presentation makes it easier to follow, it lacks some of the detail of the previous format. The helpful annex on Road Maintenance is not given. Also, project numbers are no longer given so it is more difficult to know how the proposed projects relate to existing projects.

The budget is also now presented by Directorates and Branches, when previously it was by the Pillars in the Community Strategic Plan and by Program links. While there is broad alignment between the two, it does mean that comparisons with previous years are difficult because of this change.

Moreover, the budgets for each Branch are now presented in a different way so comparisons with previous Operational Plans budgets are simply not possible. This means that there is no way of knowing the direction or extent of change of expenditure at this level.

The draft Operational Plan is also combined with the draft Delivery Program, which was previously a separate document and contained more information than given this time. The Delivery Program has a different role to play to the Operational Plan in the Integrated Planning process and unless it is intended to provide an updated Delivery Program in future Operational Plans this is a retrograde step.

The previous Operational Plan not only had a wider range of indicators but targets as well. The BCA asks why have the targets been dropped and where are the indicators published?

Braidwood and District Projects in the Draft Plan

The BCA is pleased to see that there are 26 separate projects in the Braidwood district for 2025-26 in the Draft Capital Works Program (see Attachment 2) for a total cost of \$21.7m.

The largest projects being Nerriga Rd, Ningee Nimble (MR92) - Reconstruction Part Funding (\$6.7m plus \$1.5m), Braidwood Landfill rehabilitation (\$5m), Braidwood Drainage Design (\$3.1m), Braidwood 88 Wallace St - Placemaking & Carpark (\$1.7m plus \$0.7m), and Braidwood Swimming Pool upgrades (\$1m).

The BCA also understands that Council staff, as they did last year, will be presenting a separate Carryover Report around the end of the financial year of current projects, like unfinished projects in the [Braidwood Major Projects Update](#), and will be rolling the uncompleted projects into the 2025-26 Operational Plan.

Priority Issues and Projects for Braidwood and surrounding district

In the lead-up to the 2024 Queanbeyan and Palerang Regional Council elections the BCA undertook a survey of residents on a range of possible priority projects/issues to be progressed during the current term of Council. The results identified 6 priority projects/issues which most of the elected councillors signed up, in one form or another, to progressing.

The BCA's assessment of the Draft Plan against these priorities are as follows.

1. Better maintenance of rural roads

The draft Plan appears to contain a significant increase in road funding, including rural roads, which is very much supported by the BCA.

We say 'appears' because there seems to be a change in the names of some of the budget lines for roads and there are new budget lines which were not given before. But assuming that there is a like for like comparison, funding for roads should increase by nearly 27%. This is due mainly to a 53% in *Road to Recovery* Budget and the introduction of two new Regional Road budget lines (see attachment 3).

The BCA notes the *Local Roads Renewal - Reseals and Resurfacing* budget is increasing by 25% which directly addresses the BCA's number one priority, with the BCA very appreciative of this commitment.

The BCA is very pleased that Council decided to increase the number of road crews from two to four this financial year. This gives the capacity to make real progress on improving the maintenance of the LGA's roads.

2. Long-term strategic plan for Braidwood

A number of important components are either complete or in progress. Once all are complete, they will allow the development of an overarching long-term strategic plan for Braidwood.

The completed components are the Braidwood Community Plan and the 15 Year Review of Braidwood's Heritage Listing. Those in progress include the Braidwood Structure Plan and the IWCMP review. The development of the Braidwood Heritage Interpretation Plan and a revised

Development Control Plan arising from the Heritage Review are still to commence and are needed for there to be clarity on Heritage issues.

The BCA encourages Council to complete all these reviews in a timely manner.

3. Securing Braidwood's water supply

The BCA is disappointed that the outcomes of the reviews of the IWCMP are now not expected to inform the Integrated Plans process until 2025-26 at the earliest, when initially it was flagged that this would be undertaken in 2023-24. The BCA urges Council to ensure that these reviews are completed in the coming financial year.

4. Harmonisation of water, sewage, and waste charges across QPRC

As for 3 above, the BCA urges Council to ensure that the IWCMP reviews are completed in the coming financial year.

5. Environmental enhancement

As stated above, it is now not possible to know if the budget for Environmental actions is going up or down as the information is no longer compatible with previous years.

The BCA is concerned by the observation in the Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) that there will be a '*Staged implementation of the Urban Forest and Cooling Strategy*' (p23), as part of the budget cuts made in the next year's budget, although the savings made are not specified.

The BCA supports the proposals for an '*Annual report and status review of the Climate Change Action Plans and implementation of prioritised actions*' and a '*Review our Urban Forest and Cooling Strategy*' (p66).

6. Community Transport

The Operation Plan (and Delivery Program) are silent on the issue of Community Transport, despite it being an identified priority in the Community Strategic Plan.

Given the age profile of Braidwood's population and its relative isolation, access to transport is important to enable community members to access necessary services in larger centres. The BCA is aware of a demand for subsidised community transport for Braidwood residents. Medical transport to larger centres is limited and most residents rely on friends and relatives to drive them to essential medical appointments and treatment. Our senior residents have identified a need for transport to larger centres for shopping and social outings. There is no public transport and limited private bus transport from Braidwood to regional cities.

The BCA has researched the Community Transport system operated by Eurobodalla Shire Council and other Councils. This is funded from a number of sources and provides a successful model that could be followed by QPRC.

The BCA is very keen to engage in a dialogue with Council on the provision of better Community Transport in the Braidwood district.

Other issues

Paths and Pedestrian Refuges

The BCA notes that Council is currently [consulting](#) on a pedestrian and cyclist priority list. The BCA welcomes this consultation and the foreshadowed review of the Braidwood Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP).

Paths are an important issue for Braidwood and a priority for all ages of the community, in particular older persons (some with significant mobility issues, with an increasing usage of mobility scooters), children and teenagers. Braidwood has the highest percentage (12.3%) of people who walk or cycle compared to the rest of the LGA¹.

In addition to completing the network of paths within Braidwood and the installation of pedestrian refuges, the BCA considers a recreational path around the outskirts of Braidwood

¹ p49 of the QPRC Draft Local Strategic Planning Statement "Towards 2040".

for the benefit of residents and visitors as a priority for the community, including the concreting of the currently washed out gravel path along Bombay Road to Garvey Street.

There is a need to have better and safer access to footpaths from roads. This issue has been raised many times by our residents, especially those who use mobility scooters or walking frames. We believe this would only require a small investment in concrete verges at intersections.

Affordable Housing

The BCA notes that Council intends to '*Implement the prioritised and Council actions from the Affordable Housing Strategy in partnership with the Government*' and '*Update and review Affordable Housing Background Report and overarching Strategy*' (p67). The BCA welcomes these statements.

The draft Plan also states Council will '*Investigate opportunities in Queanbeyan CBD to increase housing diversity and supply.*' (p67). The BCA questions why this should be limited to the Queanbeyan CBD and suggests this should state '*town centres*'.

In this respect, the BCA notes the Affordable Housing Working Group has discussed opportunities in Braidwood to increase housing supply and diversity.

Affordable Housing is a major issue and is only getting worse. The focus of these activities must be to find and implement solutions to this pressing issue, in collaboration with other levels of Government and other stakeholders.

Council's commitment to affordable housing as part of the long-term redevelopment of the Council depot site will not be acted on for many years, as there is no projected funding for this project in the Delivery Program.

European Wasps

The wasp problem in Braidwood has diminished this year, suggesting that the action taken by Council and Braidwood European Wasp Offensive (BEWO) has had an impact. Nevertheless, a lot of wasps were caught during the autumn when the new Queens left the home nests. This suggests that we need to continue to be vigilant in the coming years. The draft Plan is silent on the issue of wasps, with the BCA hopeful that Council will continue to have a budget allocation to continue controlling wasps throughout QPRC (in 2024-25 it was of \$28,000).

DRAFT QPRC DELIVERY PROGRAM 2025-29

The BCA notes that the Delivery Program involves \$618 million in capital works over the four-year period (p4), which is an increase in QPRC's assets by nearly 25% (current assets being \$2.5 billion). This is a very ambitious investment program, with just 2 projects (Queanbeyan Sewage Treatment Plant Upgrade and Q2B Bulk Water Pipeline projects) accounting for 47% of this total and just 8 projects for nearly 60% of the total (see Attachment 3).

The BCA notes that Council has not yet formally voted to approve the Q2B pipeline.

QPRC staff and Councillors will need to be on the top of their game to manage such a huge investment over such a short period.

An increase in assets and associated loans of this order of magnitude will also significantly increase the depreciation allowance and borrowing costs and hence put up upwards pressure on rates and charges paid by residents (see comments in the LTFP below).

The BCA also notes that while there is significant expenditure in the Braidwood District in 2025-26, it drops off rapidly in the outlook years to zero specific projects in 2028-29. The BCA appreciates that this may be because Council is yet to approve any projects for the Braidwood District for 2028-29 and few for elsewhere in the LGA, but this does undermine the value of the Delivery Program.

The BCA notes that there are some actions which have been foreshadowed but are not included in the Delivery Program. Notably:

- 1) New Braidwood Cemetery (p35) with the Structure Plan process suggesting the current Cemetery is fast reaching capacity.
- 2) Review of the Braidwood Development Control Plan (p66 & 68) as part of the implementation of the 15 Year Review of Braidwood's Heritage Listing recommendations. The BCA notes with thanks that Council at its meeting on 25 May 2025 approved a contribution of \$50,000 from the Heritage Reserve Fund towards the Braidwood Heritage Interpretation Plan, another key recommendation from the 15 Year Review.
- 3) Braidwood Depot Relocation and development of the site for affordable housing and parking which has been on the agenda since 2020-21. The BCA acknowledges this is a long-term action, but notes Council staff are already working on all the preliminary requirements for this project with consultants engaged to provide concept plans and ideas for the redevelopment of the site.

There is no Delivery Program Financial Summary as in previous Delivery Programs, notably no draft budget position for all funds over the four-year outlook. This is a significant reduction in transparency. The BCA requests that this be rectified in the final Delivery Program.

There are no totals given in the listings of projects by Directorates over the draft Program or in total for QPRC by year (although we acknowledge there is one in the LTFP but you have to know to look there). This reduces transparency and makes it more difficult to understand what is happening in aggregate. The BCA suggests project information be presented in a more user-friendly form, including with project numbers and reinstating Annex 1 of the previous Delivery Program.

DRAFT QPRC LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2025-35

The BCA notes the problematic financial situation of QPRC outlined, which led to the Special Rate Variation (SRV) and the actions being taken to curtail cost and seek productivity improvements.

The BCA is concerned by the statement '*The Council has not yet achieved a financially sustainable position*' (p10). It is unclear whether this is the situation as at 2024-25 or is the situation going forward. The BCA believes it would be prudent to amend the text to clarify which it is.

In this iteration of the LTFP, it appear the main purpose of the modelling is to compare three scenarios: 1) current proposal of the third and final year of the 18% SRV; 2) reduced services (a rate increase of 12% with reduced asset renewal and operational expenditure); and 3) significantly reduced services (a rate increase of 3.9% with an even greater reduced asset renewal and operational expenditure). The BCA notes that measured against Council's objectives, only scenario 1 '*more closely meets these objectives*'.

From the modelling scenarios presented, the BCA reluctantly agrees that there should be a third and final 18% increase in rates in 2025-26, before reverting to the rate peg increase of 2.5% for future years.

The LTFP also gives insights into the impact of the ambitious investment program on the ongoing costs to the budget and additional charges to residents.

The Delivery Program (Annex 2) has debt rising by \$123m over 4 years, while the LTFP uses the assumption that debt rises by \$175m over the 10 years. This is a huge increase when compared with debt levels at the end of June 2024 of 149m. While the Debt Service Ratio remains above the benchmark of >2.0x, it only just does in 2029 at 2.5. Should there be cost blow outs, which have to be financed by more debt, during the management of the various large projects envisaged then the outcome may easily be worse.

In the base line data given in the LTFP, the cost of servicing loans across the four funds is expected to increase in the four years of the Delivery Program from \$6.3m in 2025-26 to

\$14.2m in 2028-29, an increase of \$7.8m or 124%. While the total depreciation allowance increases from \$97m in 2025-26 to \$108.5m in 2028-29, an increase of \$11.4m or 11.8%.

This is a total increase in borrowings and depreciation costs of \$19.3m, which equates to \$637 per household.

The BCA is aware that grants are being sought but urges Council to redouble its efforts to get grants to reduce borrowing costs.

DRAFT QPRC WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2025-29

The BCA continues to be impressed by the dedication of Council staff and their willingness to engage with the Community.

The BCA fully supports the Draft QPRC Workforce Management Plan but notes from the long list of 'weaknesses' in the SWAT analysis there is a long way to go before the aspirations are met.

The BCA acknowledges the challenges QPRC has in attracting and retaining quality workers, given the competition from other employers in the region, notably from the ACT. It supports the desire to build internal capacity and reduce the number of contract staff. It also supports expanding the opportunities for the employment and training of local youth.

The BCA appreciates the commitment to maintaining services in Braidwood.

The BCA is very pleased to see it reiterated that additional resources are being provided for Road Maintenance works in this Plan.

Thank you for your consideration.

Submitted by Sue Murray
BCA President
On behalf of the Braidwood Community Association
13 June 2024



BRAIDWOOD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Attachment 1

Queanbeyan and Palerang charges

	Queanbeyan					Palerang					Difference (Palerang - Queanbeyan)				
	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Water access	\$283	\$290	\$303	\$317	\$329	\$556	\$570	\$596	\$689	\$623	\$273	\$280	\$293	\$372	\$294
Water Usage ¹	\$698	\$715	\$748	\$782	\$812	\$621	\$636	\$666	\$690	\$696	-\$77	-\$78	-\$82	-\$92	-\$115
Total Water	\$981	\$1,005	\$1,051	\$1,099	\$1,141	\$1,177	\$1,206	\$1,262	\$1,379	\$1,319	\$196	\$202	\$211	\$280	\$179
Sewerage	\$736	\$769	\$819	\$872	\$923	\$1,133	\$1,161	\$1,214	\$1,268	\$1,317	\$397	\$392	\$395	\$396	\$394
General Waste	\$80	\$166	\$225	\$234	\$243	\$362	\$307	\$225	\$234	\$243	\$282	\$141	\$0	\$0	\$0
Domestic Waste	\$315	\$328	\$343	\$355	\$369	\$315	\$328	\$343	\$355	\$369	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Stormwater	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$25	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sum	\$2,137	\$2,293	\$2,463	\$2,585	\$2,701	\$3,012	\$3,027	\$3,069	\$3,261	\$3,273	\$875	\$735	\$606	\$676	\$573

¹ Water usage assumed at 167kL, the targeted usage for Palerang (Queanbeyan current targeted usage is 40% higher at 233kL)



BRAIDWOOD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Attachment 2

QPRC Draft Capital Works Program 2025-26 for Braidwood and District (2622)

Project description	Total Expenditure	Source of Funds (\$'000)							BCA Comment
		General Revenue (Rates)	Grants and Contributions	Internal Reserves	Other External Reserves	Developer Contributions	Sale of Assets	Proceeds from Borrowings	
Community									
Braidwood Pool Plant Room Replacement	875	875							
Braidwood Pool UV sanitiser	83	83							
Braidwood Showground upgrade of electrical supply	208	208							To make good previous substandard work?
Connection									
Braidwood Saleyards upgrades	42			42					
Roads									
Nerriga Rd, Ningee Nimble (MR92) - Reconstruction Part Funding	1,500				1,500				
Majors Creek Bridge Realignment - Design	100	100							
Arahuen Road - Saleyard to Cooma Road Intersection - Design	50					50			
Mongarlowe - Clyde St, Northangera Rd Realignment - Design	130	130							
Nerriga Rd, Ningee Nimble (MR92) - Reconstruction Part Funding	6,700		6,300		400				
Cooma Rd Stage 3 - Jinden Realignment - Design	67					67			
Arahuen Road - Arahuen - Rehabilitation	501				501				
Neringla Road - Braidwood - Rehabilitation	270				270				Should this be Arahuen?
Little River Road - Braidwood - Rehabilitation	115				116				
Bridges									
Jerrabattgulla Creek Bridge (Hereford Hall Rd) - Construction	5	5							Can you construct a bridge for \$5,000? Typo?
Tantulean Creek Bridge (Little River Rd) - Construction	5	5							Can you construct a bridge for \$5,000? Typo?
Jerrabattgulla Creek Bridge (Jerrabattgulla Rd) - Construction	15	15							Can you construct a bridge for \$15,000? Typo?
Regional Roads									
Nerriga Rd Nadgengutta Causeway (MR92) - Design	150					150			
Parking									
Braidwood 88 Wallace St - Placemaking & Carpark	694	193		501					
Braidwood Carpark	1,700		1,700						
Sormwater									
Braidwood Drainage Design	3,120	3,120							
General Waste									
Braidwood Landfill rehabilitation	4,967			4,967					
Nerriga Landfill rehabilitation	104			104					
Construct Nerriga Waste Transfer Station	104			104					
Majors Creek Bin Compound Upgrades	26			26					
Arahuen Bin Compound Upgrades	26			26					
Palerang Sewer Scheme									
Braidwood SPS#1 - Upgrade pump set	135				135				
Total Braidwood & District	21,692	4,734	8,000	5,770	2,922	267	0	0	
QPRC Total	148,655	20,482	50,022	12,208	52,302	5,152	750	7,739	
Braidwood as % of QPRC Total	14.6%	23.1%	16.0%	47.3%	5.6%	5.2%	-	-	
QPRC less Braidwood & District	126,963	15,748	4,208	46,532	49,380	4,885	750	-	

Note: Estimated Eastern Palerang population is 3158 in 2024, which is 4.7% of QPRC population.

Attachment 3

Transport and Facilities Capital Works Program

Program	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	% change			
						2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
						on 2024-25	on 2025-26	on 2026-27	on 2027-28
Local Roads Rehabilitation	\$1,599,000	\$1,700,000	\$1,748,000	\$1,796,000	\$1,847,000	6.3%	2.8%	2.7%	2.8%
Local Roads Renewal - Reseals and Resurfacing	\$3,202,000	\$4,000,000	\$4,108,000	\$4,218,000	\$4,332,000	24.9%	2.7%	2.7%	2.7%
Local Roads Renewal					\$7,371,000				
Local Roads Resheeting Program	\$513,000	\$600,000	\$616,000	\$633,000	\$650,000	17.0%	2.7%	2.8%	2.7%
Road to Recovery Budget	\$1,589,000	\$2,444,000	\$2,903,000	\$3,055,000	\$3,461,000	53.8%	18.8%	5.2%	13.3%
Regional Road Reseals		\$394,000	\$410,000	\$427,000	\$445,000		4.1%	4.1%	4.2%
Regional Roads Renewals - Block Grant		\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$6,903,000</i>	<i>\$8,744,000</i>	<i>\$9,375,000</i>	<i>\$9,702,000</i>	<i>\$17,661,000</i>	<i>26.7%</i>	<i>7.2%</i>	<i>3.5%</i>	<i>82.0%</i>

BRAIDWOOD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Attachment 4

QPRC Draft Capital Works Program 2025-26 - 2028-29 - projects over \$10million

Project description	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	Total
Queanbeyan Sewage Treatment Plant Upgrade	27,500	71,408	71,560	21,126	191,594
Q2B Bulk Water Pipeline - Survey, Investigation, Design	4,978	54,926	39,879		99,783
Old Cooma Road - Edwine Lane Parkway to Queenbar - Design	245	11,989	13,970		26,204
Jerrabomberra Reservoir No 2	12,553	12,553			25,106
Dunns Creek Road - Design and Land acquisition - Stage 1	6,000	16,780			22,780
Monaro St upgrade	13,546	2,000			15,546
Queanbeyan Water Meter Replacement Program	3,120	3,120	3,120	3,120	12,480
Nerriga Rd, Ningee Nimble (MR92) - Reconstruction Part Funding	6,700	3,300			10,000
Total	74,642	176,076	128,529	24,246	365,467
% of QPRC Total	50%	79%	77%	29%	59%

Attachment 5

QPRC Draft Capital Works Program 2025-26 - 2028-29 for Braidwood and District (2622)

Project description	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	Total
Braidwood Pool Plant Room Replacement	875				875
Braidwood Pool UV sanitiser	83				83
Braidwood Showground upgrade of electrical supply	208				208
Braidwood Saleyards upgrades	42	43	461		546
Braidwood Recreational Ground Flood Mitigation Works		156			156
Nerriga Rd, Ningee Nimble (MR92) - Reconstruction Part Funding	1,500				1,500
Majors Creek Bridge Realignment - Design	100				100
Araluen Road - Saleyard to Cooma Road Intersection - Design	50				50
Mongarlowe - Clyde St, Northangera Rd Realignment - Design	130				130
Nerriga Rd, Ningee Nimble (MR92) - Reconstruction Part Funding	6,700	3,300			10,000
Cooma Rd Stage 3 - Jinden Realignment - Design	67				67
Araluen Road - Araluen - Rehabilitation	501				501
Neringla Road - Braidwood - Rehabilitation	270				270
Little River Road - Braidwood - Rehabilitation	115				115
Jerrabattgulla Creek Bridge (Hereford Hall Rd) - Construction	5				5
Tantulean Creek Bridge (Little River Rd) - Construction	5				5
Jerrabattgulla Creek Bridge (Jerrabattgulla Rd) - Construction	15				15
Nerriga Rd Nadgengutta Causeway (MR92) - Design	150				150
Braidwood 88 Wallace St - Placemaking & Carpark	694	1,360			2,054
Braidwood Carpark	1,700	300			2,000
Braidwood Drainage Design	3,120	3,120			6,240
Shoalhaven Pump station and rising main		728			728
Braidwood Water Treatment Plant renewal		335			335
Braidwood Landfill rehabilitation	4,967				4,967
Majors Creek landfill rehabilitation		697			697
Araluen Landfill rehabilitation		684			684
Nerriga Landfill rehabilitation	104	904			1,008
Construct Nerriga Waste Transfer Station	104				104
Majors Creek Bin Compound Upgrades	26				26
Araluen Bin Compound Upgrades	26		336		362
Braidwood SPS#1 - Upgrade pump set	135				135
Total Braidwood & District	21,692	11,627	797	0	34,116
QPRC Total	148,534	220,402	165,019	84,222	618,177
Braidwood as % of QPRC Total	14.6%	5.3%	0.5%	0.0%	5.5%



Jerrabomberra Residents Association Inc.

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SUBMISSION: 2025 JRA Submission to the QPRC Operational Plan & Delivery Program 25-26 to 28-29

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the QPRC 2025- 26 Draft Integrated Plans.

While this marks the final year of the 18% Special Rate Variation, we are concerned that the proposed increase of 5.9% to the Queanbeyan sewer annual charge and a 3.9% increase for all other annual charges will significantly affect residents already struggling with the current cost-of-living crisis. We are also concerned about the proposed \$7.7 million new loans to support two major projects: the Monaro Street upgrade and the first year of the Bulk Water Pipeline from Queanbeyan to Bungendore.

Construction of a new sewage treatment plant represents critical community infrastructure that we recognise as a high priority, the present plant having exceeded its operational lifespan. Given that the community will bear the cost of the loan exceeding \$60 million for this essential project, QPRC should not commit to any additional borrowing until this infrastructure project is completed.

We strongly oppose the plan requiring the entire LGA to shoulder the loan costs for the Bungendore water pipeline infrastructure. This project targets increased future development in Bungendore and should be funded through developer contributions rather than general ratepayer funds.

QPRC staff must explore all alternatives to avoid using loan funding for the Monaro Street upgrade.

Jerrabomberra Traffic campaign. We welcome the Jerrabomberra Traffic campaign and require its completion by the end of 2025. While implementation has been slow, this initiative is vital to improving safety for all Jerrabomberra residents.

Jerrabomberra Community Centre. We are pleased to see the proposed upgrade of the Community Centre's kitchen and toilets. The original part of the building is overdue for refurbishment.

We also request that:

- The surrounding gardens be upgraded with irrigation and maintained regularly, including the car park garden beds.
- Additional funding be allocated to improve the centre's aesthetics. Although the centre is designated as an "Emerald Hall," its fittings are outdated and neglected.
- Lighter, more user-friendly tables and chairs be provided.
- Audio induction loops are installed in the two large meeting rooms to support residents with hearing loss.

David Madew Oval. We support the proposed amenities upgrades. We also request that a light switch for the toilet block be installed in an accessible location. Each year at Carols@Jerra, lighting in the toilets has been an ongoing issue.

Dunns Creek Road. While we support Stage 1 of Dunns Creek Road, we are deeply disappointed and concerned that the NSW government funding secured in 2019 for studies, route selection, and land acquisition will no longer be allocated to these essential tasks. The JRA worked with the then Member for Monaro, John Barilaro, to secure funding for this critical infrastructure project.

At the time, Mr. Barilaro emphasised the project's importance, stating it would "not only make life easier for residents in Googong, but it will take traffic out of Jerrabomberra and provide a more direct link for many residents to the Monaro Highway and Canberra's south." This funding was intended to advance the project to its next developmental stage.

QPRC's failure to undertake the work and expend this funding allocation as initially intended represents a major and concerning disappointment and raises questions about the Council's commitment to delivering on secured funding agreements.

Carols@Jerra. Carols@Jerra is a much-loved annual event hosted by the JRA. We request that it be formally included in QPRC's cultural program to help offset costs, particularly sound and lighting, which total approximately \$10,000.

Gifted developer infrastructure of \$27.2 million. With significant growth across Queanbeyan, substantial amounts of developer-gifted infrastructure will continue to be transferred to Council ownership as various developments are completed. QPRC must establish a comprehensive policy that allocates the ongoing costs of this infrastructure directly to the communities that benefit from it through targeted special rate charges, like the existing model used for the Googong recycled water plant.

Consider Tralee as an example: this development features smaller residential lots with extensive community infrastructure provided in shared spaces, including dog parks, community orchards, and other amenities. While Tralee residents pay lower general rates due to smaller land values, they receive significantly more gifted community infrastructure than established areas. It is inequitable for the entire LGA to subsidise the ongoing maintenance and operational costs of infrastructure that specifically serves these new developments.

The Long-Term Financial Plan identifies this infrastructure cost-shifting issue as a growing concern and requires immediate policy attention to ensure fair and sustainable funding arrangements.

Emergency Services Levy. We recommend separating the Emergency Services Levy on rates notices, similar to water and waste charges, for greater transparency for rate payers.

Protecting our Environment. We strongly support the \$130,000 allocated over each of the next four years to implement the Mount Jerrabomberra Management Plan. The mountain is a significant natural, cultural, and ecological asset. For many of us, it's more than just a backdrop—it's a place of history, connection, and pride, and we're committed to protecting it for future generations.

We also request:

- Funding for the ongoing maintenance of Stringybark and Copperfield Reserves, including weed control and dam upkeep. Volunteers maintain these areas, but QPRC has a stewardship role that must not be overlooked.
- Reactivation of the Lake Jerrabomberra water quality program. The lake is central to our community and is vital for birdlife and aquatic vegetation.

Recreational Amenities Jerrabomberra residents are active and love their dogs. We request the installation of combined water bubblers/dog drinking fountains at:

- Edwin Land Parkway near the dog waste bin
- Environa Drive near the dog waste bin

Typos.

Typo – page 4 –Dunns Creek, connection to the ACT- missing Dunns Creek Road

Typo page 77 Cater for a growing and changing
populationCreate commercial and industrial

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide this feedback.

Kind regards



Margot Sachse
President
Jerrabomberra Residents Association
12th June 2025



Landcare Inc
PO Box 848 Queanbeyan 2620

The General Manager
Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council
256 Crawford Street
QUEANBEYAN 2620

Councillors

**Submission: Draft Integrated Management Plans for 2025-2026 and
ensuing years.**

Key responses:

1. Queanbeyan Landcare strongly supports the allocation of \$130k pa for at least the next 4 years to address priorities under the Mt Jerrabomberra Plan of Management and suggests that these should include the following:
 - a. preventing and remediating active erosion sites in gullies and on trails, including restricting access where needed (specific examples are included below);
 - b. invasive weed removal;
 - c. systematic cool/cultural burning to reduce severe fires in future; and
 - d. encouraging litter removal and discouraging dumping of soil, garden waste and general rubbish.

Queanbeyan Landcare has an active volunteer group (Friends of Mt Jerrabomberra & Stringy Bark Reserve) that could actively contribute to these activities and help reduce costs.

2. We note the very limited budget allocation (updating the heat map data) for implementation of the Urban Cooling Strategy and re-emphasise our keenness to assist Council staff with on-ground plantings under this Strategy, including through seeking external grants and volunteering.

We suggest that QPRC follows the initiative of Councils such as Wollongong and Shoalhaven which actively foster community greening programs allowing Landcare/Bushcare members to plant street trees, and actively encourage and support (training, supervision) volunteering by community groups to work alongside council staff on public lands.

<https://www.shellharbour.nsw.gov.au/environment/caring-bushland> ;

<https://www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/environment/trees-and-plants/urban-greening>

3. We urge Council to consider allocating some resources towards promoting and coordinating feral pest (in particular feral pigs and deer) and invasive weed control on Council-controlled and neighbouring private lands.

4. We note the planned funding under the Urban Rivers and Catchments Grant of \$719k, \$369k, \$350k over the next 3 years and re-emphasise our keenness to assist with propagation and re-establishment and maintenance of local riparian species.

Further Detail:

We are writing to you on behalf of Queanbeyan Landcare in relation to the Draft Integrated Plans for 2025-2026 and beyond. We are also writing to you about our members' continuing concern for the management of natural and semi-natural areas under control by Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council. There is the need for a permanent, trained natural landscapes management team to improve planning, coordination, and ongoing maintenance. Council must have the resources to work constructively with the many (willing) jurisdictions, organisations, and community groups to manage and protect these resources and ecosystem networks, and also to maintain the existing goodwill of the community.

Mount Jerrabomberra: For these reasons, Landcare welcomes the proposed expenditure of \$130,000 pa towards signage and other reserve management for Mount Jerrabomberra over the next four years, presumably matched with staff time. Mount Jerrabomberra was gifted to our community and Council has the responsibility to manage this focal natural feature under the Mount Jerrabomberra Plan of Management, to protect the special biodiversity and heritage values and address fire risk. The community has shown its interest by the very significant and growing passive recreation of the area. Priorities listed by our members include:

1. Water management of fire trails – recent rain has seen significant erosion of some gullies and trails within the reserve. This issue needs addressing as a priority and rectification. A case in point is at the top of Temora Place where past erosion control measures need maintenance and rectification. Contour banks have been filled with sediment and gullying has occurred.
 2. Unauthorised trail bike access – an ongoing issue that is seeing management trails being damaged by riding when wet and burnouts taking place. Gate at the top of Temora PI is off its hinges which needs repair and has been reported a number of times with no action taking place. When was the last audit undertaken on access points limiting trail bike access by QPRC? The access point at the SCAR is of concern for trail bikes accessing the pump track and the reserve as well.
 3. Mountain Bike (MTB) trails - some of these are established and well designed, however others are not. Remediation is necessary and armouring of the trails is required as is water management to stop gullying on these trails.
 4. Dumping - some residents are dumping soil and green waste onto the reserve. Advice is required on how to report this and to who. A related issue is a small number of residents planting outside of their properties - advice is required on who to report to etc.
 5. The retention basin at the top of Temora Place has an actively eroding head leading into the Ngambri land which is making a walking track dangerous to use - remediation is now required.
 6. SCAR Dog park entrance – the access point into the reserve from the SCAR dog park needs remediation as this is difficult on foot and is being eroded, with active gully erosion nearby.
- *Queanbeyan Landcare is committed to continue to work with the Council and community in actions to promote and protect the Mountain.*

Urban Forest Cooling Strategy: Landcare also welcomes the allocation of resources towards reviewing (including updating heat map data) and implementing the 2021 Urban Forest Cooling Strategy for the main population centres, as a direct response to climate change impacts. It is noted that Council will be reviewing planting schemes with this in mind. Queanbeyan Landcare urges that our members and the community are given opportunities to be involved in this process. Sea level and global atmosphere temperatures in the last 20 months or so are now consistently well above average for every month, a cause for global action.

We understand that a position will be allocated for carrying this Strategy, in line with the Strategy itself, although we are unable to find this reference in the draft Management Plan.

Asset renewal and Stormwater: Landcare also acknowledges Council's broad commitment to asset renewal programs and reviewing asset standards, and also a substantial allocation for stormwater improvements, in the context of climate change.

Council (and Community) Climate Change Action Plan: Landcare notes the commitment in the Draft Plan for further energy sustainability initiatives and annual reporting on the implementation of the Plan.

Biosecurity Policy - Feral Animals: Landcare understands that there is an annual allocation of \$5000 (?) towards the control of feral animals although we are unable to find this in the Draft Plan. The Biosecurity Policy makes no reference to feral animals, only referring to the impact of invasive plant species on the "high conservation value of natural reserves." There is an increasing number of reports of feral animals across the LGA including on the 4,900ha of Council-controlled land, which QPRC has both a legal obligation to control under the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015, and a social obligation in being a responsible neighbour. This also applies to invasive weed control.

- *Best practice pest control requires resources for coordination, planning and risk management, working with a range of stakeholders in community-based programs (eg Local Land Services' Feral Fighters groups). Landcare groups within the LGA are an ideal, but under-utilised, resource for this type of program.*

Urban Rivers and Catchment Program: The need for a permanent natural resource team will be increased by the new work planned along the Queanbeyan River under with the Urban Rivers and Catchment grant funding of \$1.9 million.

- *Queanbeyan Landcare members look forward to working with Council and Molonglo Conservation Group in implementing this worthwhile project on the Queanbeyan River, in addition to partnering in National Tree Day plantings in this and later years.*

Permanent Natural Resources Team: The Queanbeyan and Palerang Council area is unusual in that it contains many natural areas with varied ecosystems and plant associations, including woodlands, forest, grasslands, wetlands, and heathlands. These are set in landscape features of regional ecological and landscape significance including escarpment zones, river corridors, Council reserves, roadsides, and numerous Crown land reserves coming under closer Council responsibility.

These natural and associated social and historical assets within the catchments of the Queanbeyan and Molonglo rivers and Upper Shoalhaven River areas are increasingly valued by residents and visitors. There is a growing recognition of the economic and intrinsic value of our natural environment, not only as a resource, eg for high quality water, recreational and spiritual inspiration but also habitat. Council's 2008 Biodiversity Study illustrates the vital connectivity of our natural

vegetation systems across the region, including threatened species and threatened ecosystems. This justifies long term investment in its proper management and care.

Climate change provides an ever-increasing demand on managing our landscapes for adaptability, resilience and liveability. There are huge challenges ahead, including the relentless spread of invasive plants and feral pests, which if left unchecked, will generate ongoing and increasing costs to Council and the community.

Council must have the resources to work constructively with the many (willing) jurisdictions, organisations, and community groups to manage and protect these resources and ecosystem networks and to also maintain the existing goodwill and cooperation of the community.

More Resources: Queanbeyan Landcare recommends that Council approach the ACT Government once again, putting another case for directing a portion of the approximately \$3.5million Water Abstraction Charge revenue paid by Council residents each year towards catchment management actions across the Queanbeyan and Molonglo Rivers and Jerrabomberra Creek catchments. This becomes a reliable, annual allocation to support a permanent natural resource team. In order to support this case, it will be important to document the catchment management activities undertaken by Council working with the community.

Yours sincerely,



Ian Johnsson & Tom Baker
Queanbeyan Landcare
11th May 2025

Michael Douros
Director
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Date: 13 June 2025

To:
The Councillors
Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
10 Majara Street
Queanbeyan NSW 2620

Subject: Draft Donations Policy and 2025–26 Annual Donations

Dear Councillors,

On behalf of the Kano Jujutsu Institute Limited - Queanbeyan, I write to extend our sincere gratitude to the Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council for including a general rate category C donation for our organisation in the Draft Operational Plan, as part of the Draft Donations Policy and 2025–26 Annual Donations framework.

We wish to commend the Councillors for their continued recognition and support of community-based, not-for-profit organisations such as ours. For over 30 years, the Kano Jujutsu Institute - Queanbeyan has been proud to serve the Queanbeyan-Palerang community by providing a safe, inclusive, and affordable environment for individuals of all ages to engage in traditional martial arts, develop confidence, discipline, and resilience, and foster strong community connections.

Your acknowledgement of our efforts and the financial challenges that non-profit sporting organisations regularly face sends a powerful message of support. This proposed donation is not only deeply appreciated—it is vital. It ensures we can continue to offer high-quality programs, maintain safe facilities, and deliver outcomes that align closely with Council's own goals of health, wellbeing, and community engagement.

We also extend our thanks to Council staff involved in the development of the Draft Donations Policy. The professionalism and community consultation that has shaped this draft policy reflect the Council's ongoing commitment to inclusivity, sustainability, and grassroots initiatives.

Thank you once again for your recognition and support. We look forward to working collaboratively with the Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council in the coming year to build a stronger, healthier, and more connected community.

Yours faithfully,

Michael Douros
Director
Kano Jujutsu Institute Limited