

Community Strategic Plan 2040

Connected. Sustainable. Evolving.



Narrandera
Shire Council



**The Narrandera
Shire local
government area
sits within Wiradjuri
Country. Located
in the Riverina
region of New South
Wales, Australia,
covering an area of
approximately 3,800
square kilometres.**

Contents

Acknowledgement of Country

In the spirit of reconciliation, Narrandera Shire Council acknowledges and the Wiradjuri people as the traditional custodians of the land and pays respect to Elders past, present and future and we extend our respect to all Indigenous Australians in Narrandera Shire.

We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and continuing connection with the land and rivers. We also recognise the resilience, strength, and pride of the Wiradjuri community.

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Welcome

We are delighted to share our Community Strategic Plan with you and invite you to join us in achieving great outcomes for Narrandera Shire.

This Community Strategic Plan is an important document for the entire Narrandera Shire community. It captures our shared aspirations, priorities and values. It tells a story of what is important to us and the future we want for our community, through answering four key questions:

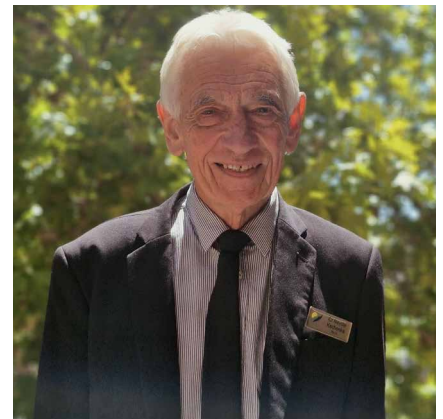
1. Where are we now?
2. Where do we want to be in 2040?
3. How will we get there?
4. How will we know when we have arrived?

Narrandera Shire Council has an important role as the custodian of this Community Strategic Plan. With the election of a new council in September 2024, NSW Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) legislation requires that we review and update our Community Strategic Plan to ensure it continues to reflect our community's aspirations and priorities. Just like you, we love Narrandera Shire and that is why looking towards tomorrow and planning for our future is so important.

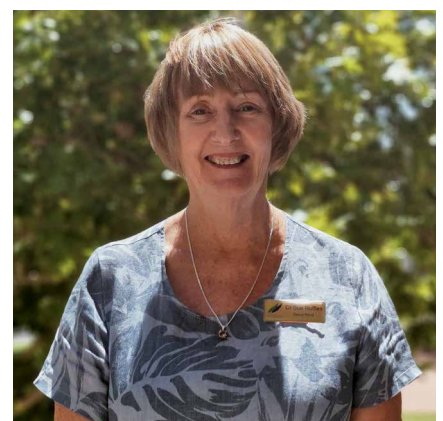
Various challenges and changes have emerged since we last reviewed our Community Strategic Plan. The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on how we live, work, and engage in community life have stabilised, and demographic shifts associated with the pandemic have reverberated through our local housing and labour markets. But with change comes opportunity, and this Community Strategic Plan provides us with a roadmap to overcome the challenges and seize the opportunities ahead of us.

While Narrandera Shire Council is responsible for developing this Community Strategic Plan; delivering our shared vision is not something we can achieve in isolation. Shared decision-making and effective working relations with a wide range of stakeholders – including government agencies, non-government organisations, business and, of course, our community – will be critical to our success.

Thank you for participating in the development of this Community Strategic Plan, and your ongoing feedback. We invite you to join us on this journey towards 2040 and help take this plan from vision to action.



Councillor Neville Kschenka
Mayor, Narrandera Shire Council



Councillor Sue Ruffles
Deputy Mayor, Narrandera Shire Council

Our community vision



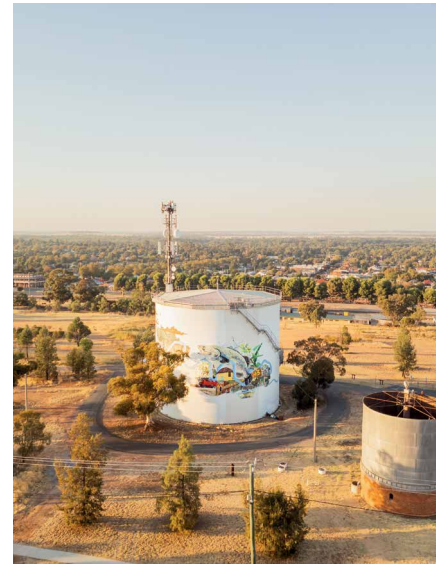
Connected

We are an inclusive community and foster strong and genuine connections. We work together and collaborate to plan for Narrandera Shire's future and achieve our shared vision. We are proud of our strong community spirit and want to be involved and engaged in local decision-making.



Sustainable

We value our beautiful natural environment and work hard to protect and conserve it for this generation, and generations to come. We understand that our resources are finite and must be managed wisely and efficiently.



Evolving

We believe Narrandera Shire offers the best of country living and want our community to be vibrant, thriving and resilient, well into the future. We look for opportunities and embrace change, champion new ideas, and celebrate solutions.





Part of the
Narrandera CBD –
East Street at sunset

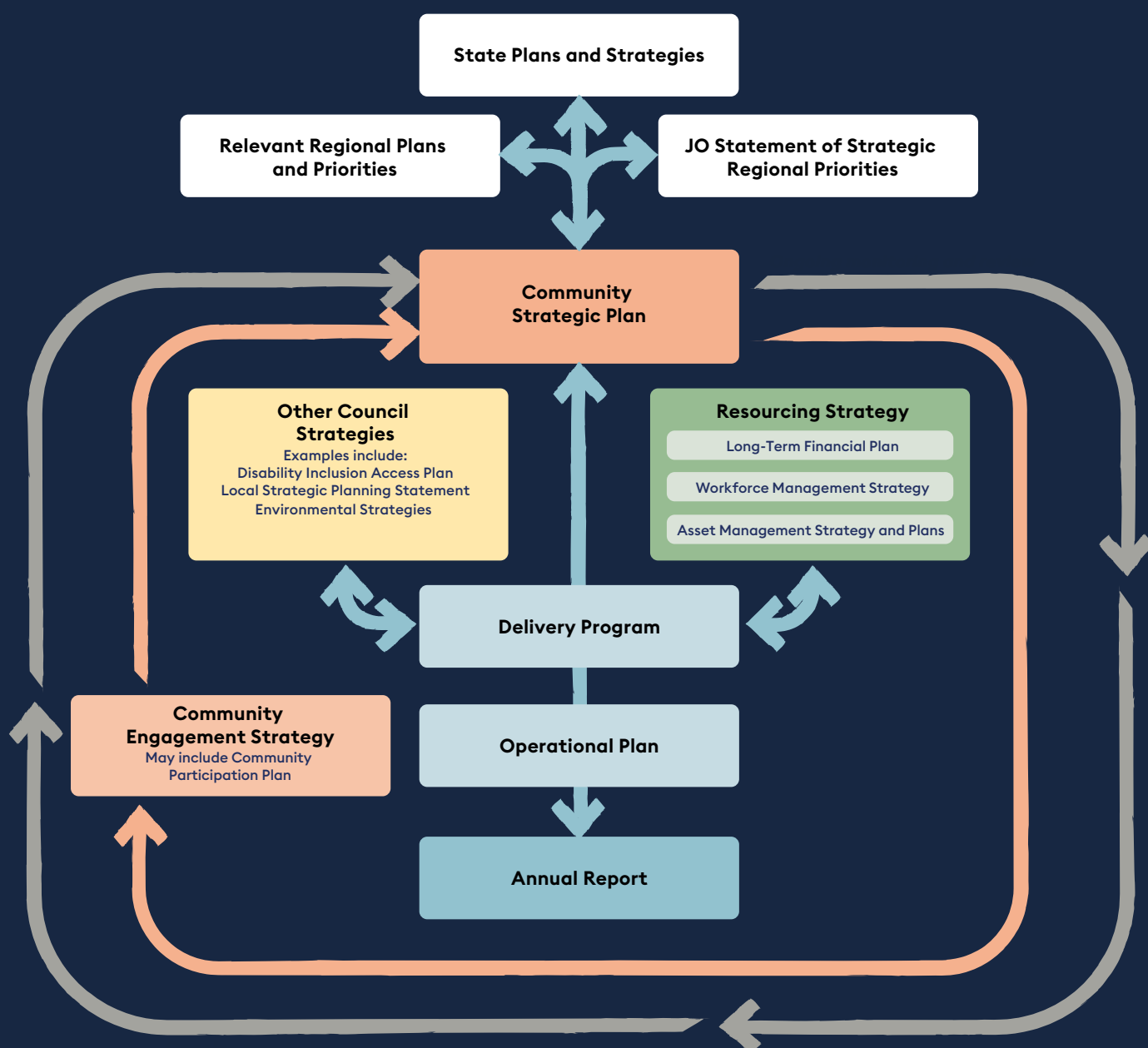
Integrated planning and reporting

This Community Strategic Plan documents the shared vision, aspirations and values of our community. It serves as a long-term plan for Narrandera Shire to 2040 and identifies the key priorities and strategies for achieving our vision.

Under the *Local Government Act 1993*, Narrandera Shire Council is required to undertake long-term strategic planning, informed by comprehensive community engagement, known as the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework. This process supports Council in developing a clear vision for our community's future and provides a roadmap for delivering community priorities in a sustainable manner.

The Community Strategic Plan sits at the heart of our IP&R framework and informs all long-term planning for the future of the Narrandera Shire local government area. While Council has a custodial role to play in preparing and reporting on this plan, all members of our community – as well as other stakeholders, such as State and Federal Governments – have a role to play in achieving our vision and strategic priorities.

Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) framework



Community Strategic Plan

The Community Strategic Plan is the highest-level plan that Council prepares through its IP&R framework. The purpose of the Community Strategic Plan is to identify the community's main priorities and aspirations for the future and to plan strategies for achieving these goals. All other strategies developed as part of the IP&R framework relate to, and support, the Community Strategic Plan.

Community Engagement Strategy

The Community Engagement Strategy outlines how Council engages with the Narrandera Shire community and other stakeholders to develop the Community Strategic Plan, as well as other plans, policies, programs and key activities undertaken from time-to-time.

Delivery Program

The Delivery Program is prepared by the incoming governing body and identifies the principal activities and functions to be undertaken by Council to perform all its functions – including the strategies established by the Community Strategic Plan – using the resources identified in the Resourcing Strategy. All plans, projects, activities, and funding allocations made by Council over its four-year term must be directly linked to the Delivery Program.

Resourcing Strategy

The Resourcing Strategy demonstrates how the four-year Delivery Program and annual Operational Plans will be resourced from an asset, financial and workforce perspective. The Resourcing Strategy comprises three individual, but related, plans: the Strategic Asset Management Plan, Long-Term Financial Plan, and Strategic Workforce Management Plan.

Operational Plans

Annual Operational Plans support the four-year Delivery Program. The Operational Plan outlines the individual projects and actions that will be undertaken in a specific financial year to achieve the commitments made in the Delivery Program. The Operational Plan includes Council's Budget for that financial year, and details the rates, fees and charges to be levied by Council during that year.

Informing strategies

Council develops a range of other strategies to inform our IP&R framework and guide the priorities and actions in our four-year Delivery Program and annual Operational Plan. Some strategies, such as our Economic Development Strategy and Destination Management Plan, are externally focused, whereas others, such as our ICT Strategy, are internally focused.

Reporting our progress

Reporting is a key element of the IP&R framework. We use a variety of tools to report our progress in achieving this Community Strategic Plan and implementing the Delivery Program, as well as our financial performance against the annual Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan.

Quarterly Budget Review (QBR) Statements

Council prepares a Quarterly Budget Review Statement three times each year (first, second and third quarters) which shows, by reference to the estimate of income and expenditure set out in the statement of Council's Revenue Policy in the Operational Plan for the relevant year; a revised estimate of the income and expenditure for that year.

Delivery Program Progress Reports

Every six months, Council prepares a report detailing our progress in achieving the principal activities detailed in the Delivery Program.

Annual Reports

Within five months of the end of each financial year, Council prepares an Annual Report, which includes a copy of our audited financial reports. The Annual Report details our progress in implementing the Delivery Program and the activities we have undertaken to deliver on the objectives of the Community Strategic Plan.

State of our Shire Report

Tabled at the first meeting of the newly elected council, the State of our Shire Report provides an update on our progress in implementing the Community Strategic Plan over the Council term, as well as the results and outcomes the implementation of the Community Strategic Plan has had for our community.



Our Narrandera Shire

Situated on the Murrumbidgee River at the heart of the Riverina region of south-west New South Wales, the Narrandera Shire local government area is strategically located between Sydney and Melbourne and offers the best of country living.

Located at the intersection of the Newell and Sturt Highways, Narrandera Shire is well connected to the Riverina's major regional centres of Albury, Griffith, and Wagga Wagga. The Narrandera-Leeton Airport, located on the outskirts of Narrandera, is serviced by Regional Express Airlines with regular return flights to Sydney.

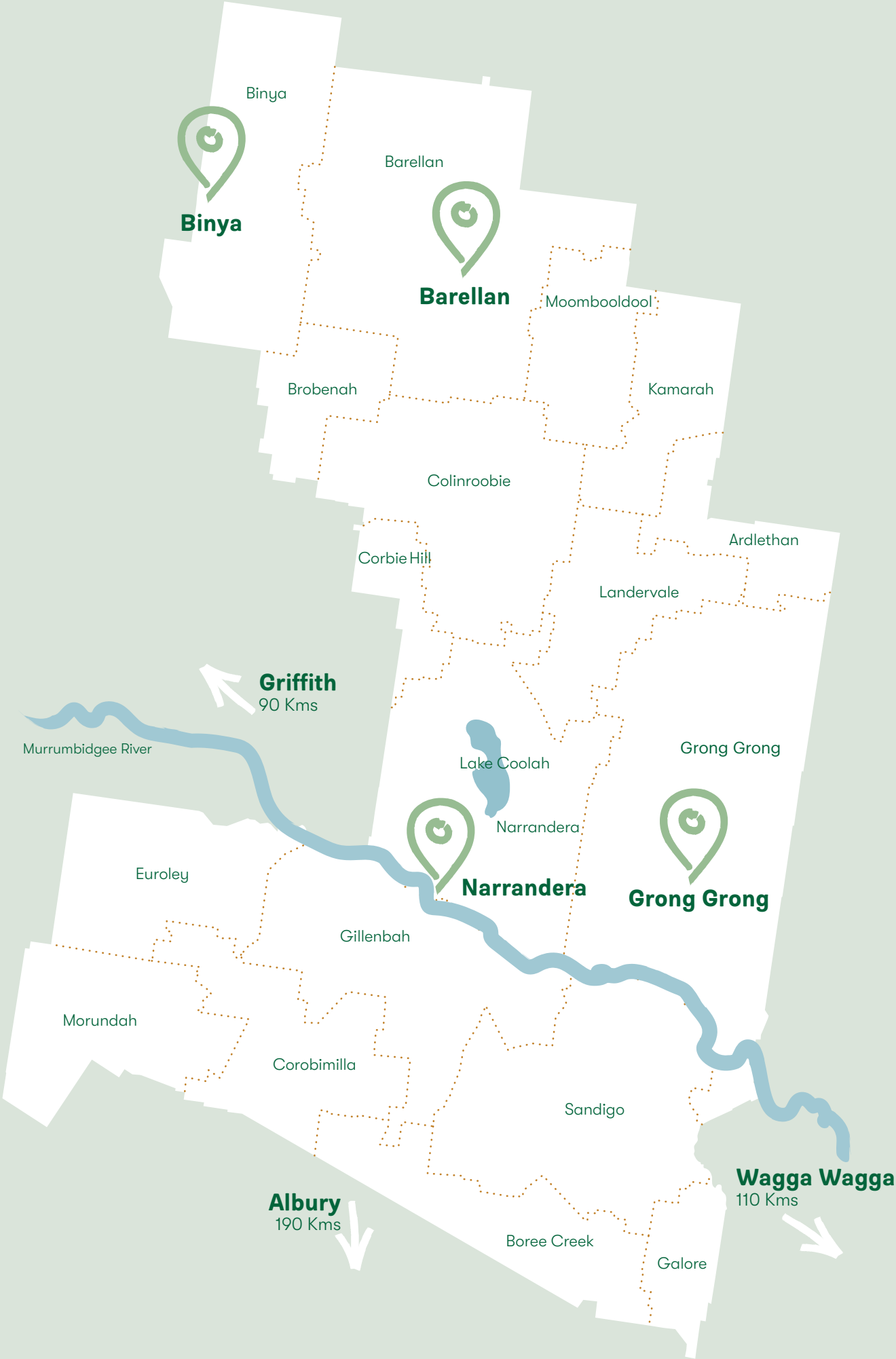
Home to a permanent resident population of approximately 5,700 people, Narrandera Shire covers an area of around 4,118 square kilometres and offers a unique combination of rural, agricultural and natural landscapes. Narrandera Shire includes the township of Narrandera and rural villages of Barellan, Binya and Grong Grong, as well as 15 other rural localities.

Narrandera Shire has a strong Indigenous heritage, with the Wiradjuri people having lived in the region for thousands of years. Today, around 12.7 per cent of residents identify as either Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, significantly higher than the New South Wales average of 3.4 per cent.

Narrandera, which serves as the administrative centre and the key commercial and services hub of the Shire, is a key regional hub with a rich historical heritage. European settlement dates from the 1830s, with land along the Murrumbidgee River used

mainly for farming. The village of Narrandera was established in the 1860s with significant growth seen in the 1880s due to the arrival of the railway and timber milling. Narrandera and areas along the Murrumbidgee River again saw significant growth when the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area was developed allowing land to be used for more intensive farming such as rice and citrus fruits.

The Murrumbidgee River affords Narrandera Shire a unique combination of agricultural, rural, and natural landscapes. The area is renowned for its cultural significance, including several heritage-listed buildings that reflect its development over time. Agriculture has always been a cornerstone of the Shire's economy, with fertile soils along the Murrumbidgee River supporting the production of a range of crops, including cotton, rice, cereals, and various horticultural products. Livestock farming, particularly sheep and cattle, also plays an important role in the local economy. In recent years, Narrandera Shire has supported a growing visitor economy, with visitors drawn to the natural beauty of the area, our historical and cultural attractions, and our rich Wiradjuri heritage.



Community and economic profile

Population

5,698



Demographic

Median age 44 years

Families 1,422

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians 12.7%

Born overseas 15.8%



Household / income

Median weekly income \$1,184

Dwellings 2,687

Median monthly mortgage repayments \$1,000

Median weekly rent \$200

Average household size
2.3 people



Family structure

Couples without children 44%

Couples with children 34.7%

One-parent families 19.5%

Other family structure 1.8%



Qualifications

Vocational 17.9%

Advanced diploma or diploma
6.4%

Bachelor or higher degree 10.7%



Economics

Economic output \$741 million

Labour force 52.2%

Exports \$320 million

Businesses 563



Top industries

(by employment)

1. Agriculture, forestry and fishing
2. Health care and social care
3. Education and training
4. Construction
5. Public administration and safety



Developing our Community Strategic Plan

Guiding principles

Social justice

Social justice is recognition and action to support the rights of all people. All people have equal economic, social and cultural rights, regardless of gender, age, race, ethnicity, class, religion, disability or sexuality. Everyone should have the opportunity for personal development and be able to fully participate in society without discrimination.

Development of this Community Strategic Plan has been guided by the social justice principles of access, equity, participation, and rights:

Equity

There should be fairness in decision-making and prioritising and allocating resources, particularly for those in need.

Access

All people should have fair access to services, resources and opportunities to improve their quality of life.

Social justice

Participation

Everyone should be given genuine opportunities to participate in decisions which affect their lives.

Rights

Equal rights should be established and promoted, with opportunities provided for all people from all backgrounds.

The Quadruple Bottom Line (QBL)

The Quadruple Bottom Line (QBL) addresses social (community), environmental, economic, and civic leadership (governance) considerations in an integrated manner. The social justice principles, together with the QBL,

ensures a balanced approach is applied to all aspects of this Community Strategic Plan and provides an integrated framework for decision-making towards 2040 and beyond.



Our leadership

Our Shire has strong, responsible and trusted leadership.



Our community

Our community is connected, vibrant and healthy.



Our environment

Our natural and built environments are valued, well-managed and liveable.



Our economy

Our economy is thriving, diverse and provides opportunities for businesses, workers and visitors.



Our infrastructure

Our infrastructure is reliable, efficient, and meets our needs.

Planning in Partnership

The United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. Australia is one of 193 countries that committed to the goals in September 2015 as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

There are 17 SDGs which aim to increase global well-being through addressing some of society's key challenges including climate change, economic and gender inequality, sustainable consumption and innovation. Many of the goals are relevant to local governments. Goal 11, to "Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable", is particularly relevant to local government planning.

Individuals, communities, businesses and all levels of government must work together to achieve these goals by 2030. Each strategic outcome in this Community Strategic Plan works towards a number of these goals.



Federal, State and Regional Plans

Various Federal, State and Regional strategies, plans, programs and initiatives were considered in developing this Community Strategic Plan. These included:

Federal

- Biodiversity and Conservation Strategy
- National Cultural Policy
- National Digital Economy Strategy
- National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)
- National Road Safety Strategy
- Renewable Energy Target Scheme
- Social Inclusion Agenda

State

- Future Transport Strategy
- NSW Biodiversity Strategy
- NSW Child Safe Standards
- NSW Disability Inclusion Plan
- NSW Domestic and Family Violence Plan
- NSW Housing Affordability Strategy
- NSW Koala Strategy
- NSW State Health Plan
- Smart and Skilled Program
- State Infrastructure Strategy
- Visitor Economy Strategy

Regional

- Destination Riverina Murray Destination Management Plan
- Regional Development Australia (RDA) Riverina Strategic Priorities
- Riverina and Murray Joint Organisation (RAMJO) Statement of Regional Priorities
- Riverina and Murray Joint Organisation (RAMJO) Disaster Risk Reduction
- Riverina Murray Regional Plan
- Western Riverina Regional Economic Development Strategy (2023 Update)

Community engagement

How you participated

Over 250 people from Narrandera Shire participated in the development of this Community Strategic Plan, through a comprehensive community consultation program delivered between October and December 2024. Our community contributed their thoughts and opinions through an online survey, pop-up sessions, individual submissions, targeted stakeholder meetings, and workshops held at Barellan, Grong Grong and Narrandera. In preparing this plan, we reviewed the findings of other community consultations along with demographic data and population forecasts published by both the State and Federal Governments.

What we asked

- How do you feel about the vision in the endorsed Community Strategic Plan?
- What significant shifts or changes have you noticed in the community since we last reviewed our Community Strategic Plan?
- Is anything missing from the Community Strategic Plan?
- What makes our community a great place to live?
- What do you think are the main challenges facing our community?
- Have you seen anything in another local government area that would work well in our community, such as a facility, attraction, service, or event?
- What is one thing you would like to see achieved in our community in the next 10 years?
- Where do you think Narrandera Shire Council should be prioritising its efforts?
- How important are certain NSW Government services, such as police, education, health care, public transport and Service NSW?

What we heard

Strengths

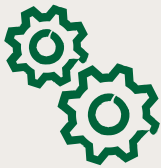
In planning for Narrandera Shire's future, a strengths-based approach revealed our community's most valued aspects. Our beautiful natural environment, and in particular the Murrumbidgee River and surrounding bushland and koala habitat, is highly valued. Our peaceful rural lifestyle provides plenty of space and a family-friendly environment, and our quality sporting, community and recreation facilities support active and healthy lifestyles. Our strong community spirit is celebrated, and the valuable work our community groups and dedicated volunteers perform in our community is appreciated.

Challenges

Community feedback identified several key challenges within the Narrandera Shire. Our local population is ageing and declining, and there are concerns that this is being driven by limited job options and employment opportunities, especially for young people. Housing affordability and availability is a key concern, especially for key workers and retirees. Improving access to health, medical and mental health services is seen as a critical priority. Social and public safety issues – including family violence, homelessness, crime and vandalism – were also cited as challenges.

Community priorities

Our community told us that Narrandera Shire could be enhanced through:



Infrastructure and connectivity

Improving water, roads, paths, public spaces, digital communications and public transport.



Health and community services

Improving access to GPs, mental health services, aged care, and childcare.



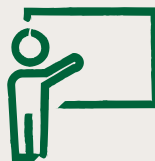
Council performance

Ensuring transparent decision-making and improving Council's financial sustainability, digital services, and community engagement process.



Economic growth

Diversifying local industries, supporting local businesses, and promoting tourism, retail and hospitality.



Education and training

Strengthening education, expanding vocational training and tertiary access to improve workforce readiness.



Events and entertainment

Expanding family-friendly events, providing more recreational options for young people, and developing our local night-time economy.



Environment

Expanding renewable energy projects, championing resource recovery, increasing tree canopy cover and protecting koala habitats.



Housing

Increasing affordable and diverse housing options to address homelessness, support ageing in-place, and support workforce growth.

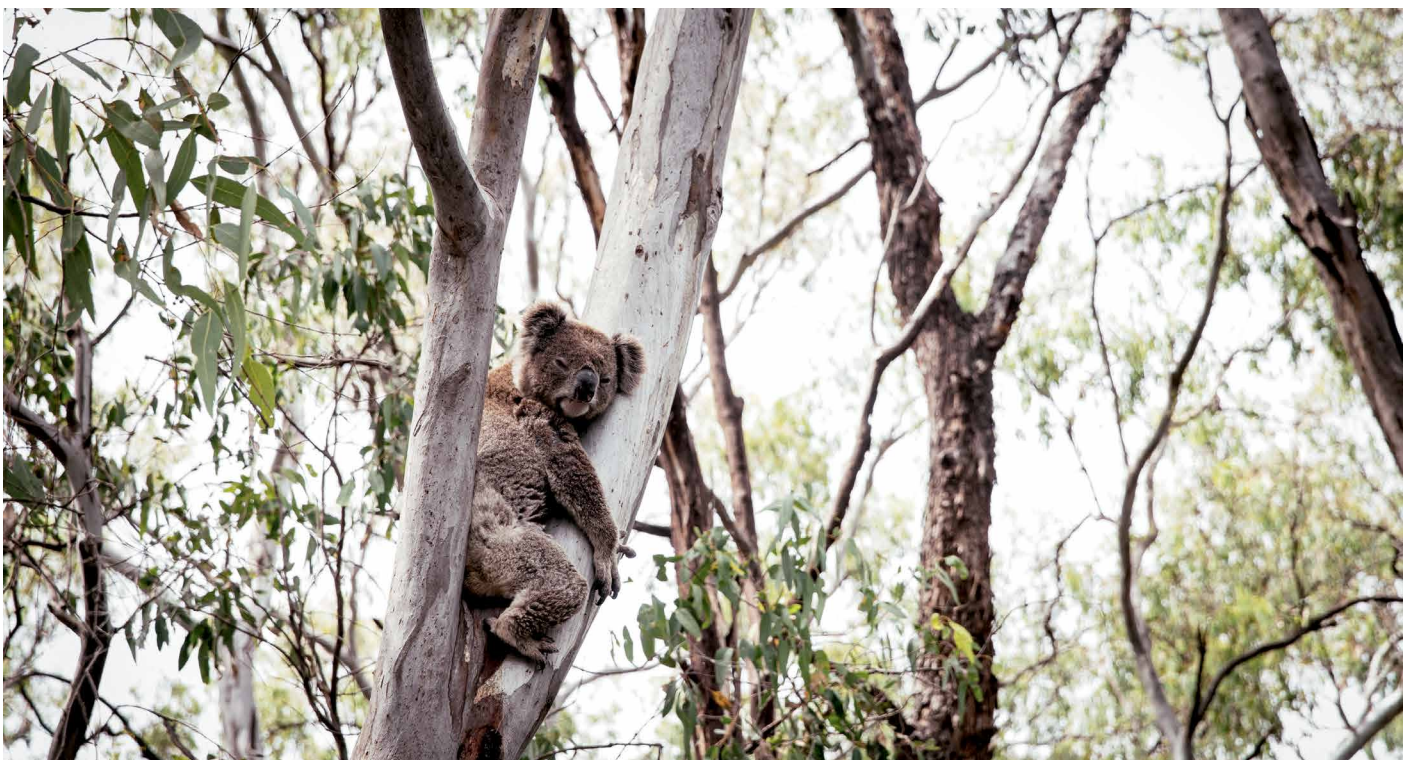
Achieving our Community Strategic Plan

Narrandera Shire Council is committed to understanding our community's priorities, concerns and needs in critical services, programs, facilities and events.

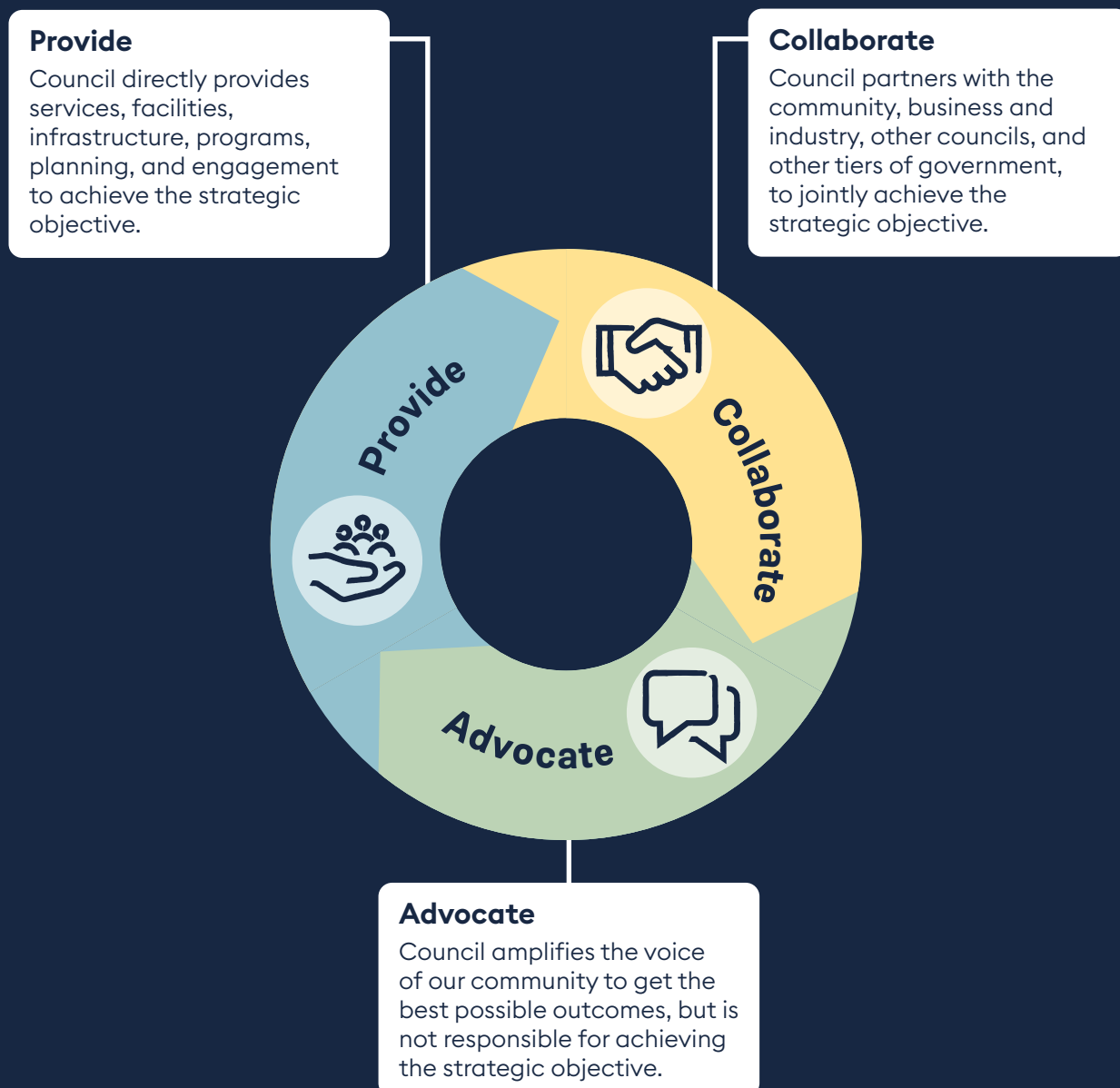
However, all levels of government, as well as businesses, industry groups, community groups and individuals, share responsibility for achieving our Community Strategic Plan.

Council plays a key role in providing essential services and infrastructure to the community. Where Council has a direct service responsibility, it will work with the community to determine appropriate service levels, balancing expectations with financial sustainability. These service levels are outlined in Council's strategic documents, including the Delivery Program and Resourcing Strategy.

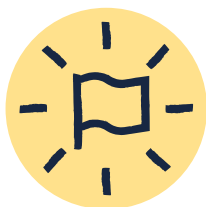
Meeting service expectations is challenging within limited resources, particularly as local councils increasingly take on responsibilities previously managed by other levels of government. Expanding or maintaining services may require additional funding, and Council must prioritise investment to ensure long-term sustainability. While Council leads in service provision, achieving the community's vision relies on shared responsibility.



This Community Strategic Plan outlines Council's role in the delivery of each priority, described using the following terms:



Our plan on a page



Our leadership

Objective

1. Our Shire has strong, responsible and trusted leadership.

Strategies

1.1. Model bold and transparent leadership.

<i>Lead agency:</i> Council	<i>Council's role:</i> Provide, Collaborate
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1.2. Engage diverse voices to plan for the future.

<i>Lead agency:</i> Council	<i>Council's role:</i> Provide
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1.3. Demonstrate good governance.

<i>Lead agency:</i> Council	<i>Council's role:</i> Provide
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1.4. Deliver efficient and responsive civic services.

<i>Lead agency:</i> Council	<i>Council's role:</i> Provide
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Our community

Objective

2. Our community is connected, vibrant and healthy.

Strategies

2.1. Champion respect and wellbeing so everyone feels safe.

<i>Lead agency:</i> State Government	<i>Council's role:</i> Advocate
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2.2. Promote active and healthy living.

<i>Lead agency:</i> Council	<i>Council's role:</i> Provide
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2.3. Strengthen social connections, cultural identity, and inclusion.

<i>Lead agency:</i> Community	<i>Council's role:</i> Advocate, Collaborate
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2.4. Deliver accessible and quality health and community services.

<i>Lead agency:</i> State Government	<i>Council's role:</i> Advocate, Provide
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Our environment

Objective

3. Our natural and built environments are valued, well-managed and liveable.

Strategies

3.1. Protect and enhance our natural environment, biodiversity and waterways.

Lead agency: State Government
Council's role: Advocate, Provide

3.2. Plan and develop a functional built environment.

Lead agency: Council
Council's role: Provide

3.3. Inform and enable our community to reduce our ecological footprint.

Lead agency: Council
Council's role: Provide, Collaborate

3.4. Build resilience to climate change, natural shocks and disasters.

Lead agency: State Government
Council's role: Advocate, Provide



Our economy

Objective

4. Our economy is thriving, diverse and provides opportunities for businesses, workers and visitors.

Strategies

4.1. Enhance Narrandera Shire's appeal as a great place to live, learn, work and invest.

Lead agency: Council
Council's role: Collaborate

4.2. Grow tourism by showcasing Narrandera Shire's attractions, events and experiences.

Lead agency: Tourism businesses
Council's role: Advocate, Collaborate

4.3. Support local businesses and industry to enable innovation and economic expansion.

Lead agency: Businesses
Council's role: Advocate

4.4. Attract strategic investment and partnerships to create local jobs and business opportunities.

Lead agency: Council
Council's role: Provide



Our infrastructure

Objective

5. Our infrastructure is reliable, efficient and meets our needs.

Strategies

5.1. Improve our road network and transport infrastructure to ensure safety and connectivity.

Lead agency: Council
Council's role: Provide

5.2. Provide reliable waste, water, sewerage and stormwater infrastructure.

Lead agency: Council
Council's role: Provide

5.3. Improve public and community transport options to enhance access to regional centres.

Lead agency: State Government
Council's role: Advocate, Collaborate

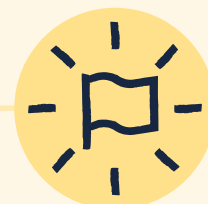
5.4. Improve our internet and telecommunications infrastructure.

Lead agency: Federal Government
Council's role: Advocate



Our Community Strategic Plan

Our leadership



Objective – Where do we want to be in 2040?

1. Our Shire has strong, responsible and trusted leadership.

Strategies – How will we get there?	Lead	Council's role
1.1. Model bold and transparent leadership.	Council	Provide, Collaborate
1.2. Engage diverse voices to plan for the future.	Council	Provide
1.3. Demonstrate good governance.	Council	Provide
1.4. Deliver efficient and responsive civic services.	Council	Provide

Related Sustainable Development Goals



Everyone	Partners
What you can do to help achieve our objective	Who can help achieve our objective
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend or watch online Council meetings Join a Council-facilitated committee Participate in community consultations Provide feedback on Council's services, projects, programs and events Visit Council's website and engage with Council via social media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal and State Members of Parliament Local Government NSW Local Government Professionals NSW Local and regional media NSW Office of Local Government Riverina and Murray Joint Organisation Residents

Outcomes – How will we know we’ve arrived?

Measure	Source	Baseline	Target
Narrandera Shire Council Operating Performance Ratio	OLG Your Council Report (2024)	16.1	Steady
Narrandera Shire Council Infrastructure Backlog Ratio		6.7	Decreasing
Elected female Councillors		33%	Increasing
Access to Local Government Services Index	University of Canberra Regional Wellbeing Survey (2023)	4.2	Increasing
Community Involvement Index		3.3	Increasing
Equity and Inclusion Index		4.4	Decreasing



“We’d like more opportunities to have our say on decisions that affect the community.”

“There’s frustration with slow progress on big projects – we need better long-term planning.”

“The Council needs to be more proactive and less reactive. It often seems to respond to a handful of vocal people instead of looking at the bigger picture.”

“We don’t feel heard. Communication from the Council is limited, and there’s not enough consultation with the community.”

“Council needs to modernise – its website is outdated, and a lot of forms are still on paper. Other councils are way ahead in digital services.”



Our community



Objective – Where do we want to be in 2040?

2. Our community is connected, vibrant and healthy.

Strategies – How will we get there?	Lead	Council's role
2.1. Champion respect and wellbeing so everyone feels safe.	State Government and Council	Advocate
2.2. Promote active and healthy living.	Council	Provide
2.3. Strengthen social connections, cultural identity, and inclusion.	Community	Advocate, Collaborate
2.4. Deliver accessible and quality health and community services.	State Government	Advocate, Provide

Related Sustainable Development Goals



Everyone	Partners
What you can do to help achieve our objective	Who can help achieve our objective
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report crime or anti-social behaviour to Police or Crime Stoppers • Report graffiti to Narrandera Shire Council • Join a sporting club or take up a sport • Volunteer or join a service club or not-for-profit organisation • Attend community events, festivals and celebrations • Join Western Riverina Libraries and visit the Narrandera Library • Support and promote multiculturalism • Get to know your neighbours • Learn about local history, including our Aboriginal culture and heritage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community groups and service clubs • Gundyarri Narrandera Aboriginal Corporation • Narrandera Local Aboriginal Land Council • NSW Department of Communities and Justice • NSW Department of Family and Community Services • NSW Health • Regional Development Australia Riverina • Sporting clubs and associations • Western Riverina Arts • Western Riverina Libraries

Outcomes – How will we know we’ve arrived?

Measure	Source	Baseline	Target
Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage and Disadvantage (SEIFA)	Australian Bureau of Statistics (2021)	910	Increasing
Percentage of Narrandera Shire community volunteering		21.2%	Steady
Community Wellbeing Index	University of Canberra Regional Wellbeing Survey (2023)	5.5	Increasing
Loneliness Index		2.5	Decreasing
Access to Health, Education and Childcare Index		3.3	Increasing
Crime and Safety Index		4.7	Decreasing



“We need more for young people to do in town. Losing more young people once they leave school is a real issue.”

“There’s a growing problem with social isolation, particularly for older people.”

“We have such a strong, welcoming community where people genuinely look out for each other.”

“Narrandera is such a charming country town; it’s got so much personality, and everyone is really friendly.”

“Our parks and sporting facilities are great, but we need more investment in upkeep and accessibility.”



Our environment



Objective – Where do we want to be in 2040?

3. Our natural and built environments are valued, well-managed and liveable.

Strategies – How will we get there?	Lead	Council's role
3.1. Protect and enhance our natural environment, biodiversity and waterways.	State Government	Advocate, Provide
3.2. Plan and develop a functional built environment.	Council	Provide
3.3. Manage water and waste wisely for long-term sustainability.	Community	Provide
3.4. Build resilience to climate change, natural shocks and disasters.	State Government	Monitor, Provide

Related Sustainable Development Goals



Everyone	Partners
What you can do to help achieve our objective	Who can help achieve our objective
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce, reuse and recycle waste • Bin your litter or take it home • Compost kitchen and green waste • Use water wisely and follow water restrictions • Report noxious weeds • Report illegal waste dumping and polluting • Manage invasive weeds and species on private property • Consider sustainable design principles, energy efficiency and water efficiency when building or renovating your home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narrandera Landcare Inc. • Riverina Local Land Services • NSW Department of Planning and Environment • NSW Environment and Heritage • NSW National Parks and Wildlife Services • NSW State Emergency Service • NSW Rural Fire Service

Outcomes – How will we know we’ve arrived?

Measure	Source	Baseline	Target
Total CO2e emissions	Snapshot Climate – Australian Emissions Profiles (2023)	183,000 tonnes	Decreasing
Residual Waste of Total Waste Collected	OLG Your Council Report (2024)	73%	Decreasing
Value of Development Applications determined		\$10.9 million	Increasing
Landscape and Aesthetics Index	University of Canberra Regional Wellbeing Survey (2023)	5.5	Increasing
Perceived Environmental Health Index		4.1	Decreasing
Size of Narrandera Koala population	NSW National Parks & Wildlife (2024)	290	Increasing



“We need more trees in town for shade and cooling. It gets way too hot in summer.”

“The Murrumbidgee River, Lake Talbot, and Rocky Water Holes are amazing, but they are underutilised. We could do so much more with these natural assets.”

“Koalas are a big part of our identity. We should be doing more to protect their habitat.”

“Our natural environment is a huge asset. We need to protect our bushland, river, and wildlife.”



Our economy



Objective – Where do we want to be in 2040?

4. Our economy is thriving, diverse and provides opportunities for businesses, workers and visitors.

Strategies – How will we get there?	Lead	Council's role
4.1. Enhance Narrandera Shire's appeal as a great place to live, learn, work and invest.	Council	Collaborate
4.2. Grow tourism by showcasing Narrandera Shire's attractions, events and experiences.	Tourism businesses	Advocate, Collaborate
4.3. Support local businesses and industry to enable innovation and economic expansion.	Businesses	Advocate
4.4. Attract strategic investment and partnerships to create local jobs and business opportunities.	Council	Provide

Related Sustainable Development Goals



Everyone	Partners
What you can do to help achieve our objective	Who can help achieve our objective
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support local business – buy locally and employ locally • Use local and regional service providers • Be friendly to visitors and tourists • Offer training and professional development opportunities in your business • Consider taking on an apprentice, trainee, cadet or student for work placement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Destination Riverina Murray • Murrumbidgee Trails • Narrandera Business Group • Regional Development Australia (RDA) Riverina Region • Schools • TAFE NSW and training providers • Tourism operators and accommodation providers

Outcomes – How will we know we’ve arrived?

Measure	Source	Baseline	Target
Labour force	Australian Bureau of Statistics (2021)	54.1%	Increasing
Number of active registered businesses		563	Increasing
Narrandera Shire Gross Regional Product (GRP)	National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (2023)	\$407 million	Increasing
Visitors to Narrandera Shire	Tourism Research Australia (2022)	91,000	Increasing
Community Economic Wellbeing Index	University of Canberra Regional Wellbeing Survey (2023)	4.1	Increasing
Access to Telecommunications Index		4.3	Increasing



“Narrandera needs more industries beyond agriculture to provide diverse job opportunities.”

“We need to attract more industry and employment opportunities to retain young people and bring in new residents.”

“The tourism potential here is huge, but we need better promotion and infrastructure to attract visitors.”

“Young people leave town because there aren’t enough jobs to keep them here.”

“Retail and dining options are limited. We need more variety to keep people shopping and eating locally.”



Our infrastructure



Objective – Where do we want to be in 2040?

5. Our infrastructure is reliable, efficient and meets our needs.

Strategies – How will we get there?	Lead	Council's role
5.1. Improve our road network and transport infrastructure to ensure safety and connectivity.	State Government and Council	Provide, Collaborate
5.2. Provide reliable waste, water, sewerage and stormwater infrastructure.	Council	Provide
5.3. Improve public and community transport options to enhance access to regional centres.	State Government and Council	Provide, Collaborate
5.4. Improve our internet and telecommunications infrastructure.	Federal Government	Advocate

Related Sustainable Development Goals



Everyone	Partners
What you can do to help achieve our objective	Who can help achieve our objective
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use public transport where possible • Drive safely and responsibly • Report local infrastructure faults and maintenance requests to Council • Advocate to local parliamentarians for improved telecommunications infrastructure and services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airlines • National Broadband Network (NBN) • Telecommunications providers • Transport for NSW

Outcomes – How will we know we’ve arrived?

Measure	Source	Baseline	Target
Sealed road network	Narrandera Shire Council (2025)	444km	Increasing
Boil water alerts		0	Steady
Road crashes in Narrandera Shire	NSW Centre for Road Safety (2023)	8	Decreasing
Regular air services from Narrandera to Sydney	Regional Express Airlines (2025)	Daily	Steady
Regular train services from Narrandera to Sydney	Transport for NSW (2025)	Thrice weekly	Steady
Access to Telecommunications Index	University of Canberra Regional Wellbeing Survey (2023)	4.3	Increasing



*“Water quality is a recurring problem.
The taste and supply need to be improved.”*

*“Public transport doesn’t
connect us to the
services we need.”*

*“We need more footpaths
and pedestrian crossings to
make getting around safer.”*

*“Dark intersections and poorly
lit areas are safety risks.”*

*“Public transport is lacking.
We need better connections
to Wagga and Griffith.”*





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and Fauna Reserve

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Narrandera
Shire Council

