



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

ANNUAL REPORT

2017/18

www.cmcc.nsw.gov.au



Disclaimer and Copyright

The information contained in this Annual Report including opinions, advice and representations ('the Content') has been formulated in good faith and with all due care, and is considered true and accurate at the time of publication. Castlereagh Macquarie County Council does not warrant or represent that the Content is free from errors or omissions or that it is exhaustive. Council does not accept any liability in relation to the quality or accuracy of the Content.

Council, its respective servants and agents accept no responsibility for any person acting on, or relying on, or upon the Content. To the extent permitted by law Council disclaims all liability for any loss, damage, cost or expense incurred or arising by reason of any person of any person using or relying on the Content or by reason or by any error, omission, defect or mis-statement (whether such error, omission or mis-statement is caused by or arises from negligence, lack of care or otherwise). Users of this Annual Report are reminded of the need to ensure that all information upon which they rely is up to date. Clarification regarding the currency of the Content can be obtained from Council.

You are permitted to copy, distribute, display and otherwise freely deal with the Content for any purpose, on the condition that you acknowledge Castlereagh Macquarie County Council as the source of the Content and attach the following statement to all uses of the Content © Castlereagh Macquarie County Council 2018. If you are seeking to use any Content for a commercial purpose, you must obtain permission from Council to do so.

This Annual Report is available electronically online at Castlereagh Macquarie County Council's website at: www.cmcc.nsw.gov.au
© Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Table of Contents

Contact Details.....	4
A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON	5
OUR VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT	6
Vision	6
Mission	6
REASON FOR OUR ANNUAL REPORT	7
WHO WE ARE	8
Elected Council	8
Administrative Support	8
Location	8
Core Business Activities	9
OUR AREA OF OPERATION	10
OUR COUNCILLORS	11
OUR ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE.....	13
Current Organisational Structure	13
COUNTY COUNCIL’S ROLE IN WEED CONTROL	14
INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING SUMMARY	15
Business Activity Strategic Plan	15
Four Year Delivery Programme	15
Annual Operational Plan and Budget	15
STATUTORY REPORTING INFORMATION	16
BIOSECURITY ACT 2015.....	20
WEEDS ACTION PROGRAM 2015-2020.....	21
EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY AWARENESS	22
HUDSON PEAR PROGRAMMES	23
PRIORITY WEEDS FOR CENTRAL WEST REGION	25
PRIORITY WEEDS FOR NORTH WEST REGION	47
ATTACHMENTS	71
Attachment A – Review of Functional Objectives – Outcomes for 2017/2018.....	72
Attachment B – Community surveys about the control of Hudson pear (<i>Cylindropuntia rosea</i>) including using biocontrol.....	89
Attachment C – Hudson Pear Survey: March 2018	103
Attachment D – Hudson Pear Survey: March 2018 (Education and awareness)	107
Attachment E – Council’s Financial Statements and Auditor General’s Report	109

Contact Details

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

77 Fox Street
WALGETT NSW 2832

Postal Address:

PO Box 664
WALGETT NSW 2832

**Please address all correspondence to the General Manager.*

Telephone: (02) 6828 1399

Facsimile: (02) 6828 1608

Office Hours

8:30am to 4:30pm weekdays

Chairperson:

Clr Doug Batten

General Manager:

Mr Don Ramsland

Email:

admin@walgett.nsw.gov.au

Website:

www.cmcc.nsw.gov.au

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council, as a single purpose Council, continues to successfully meet the requirements of our five constituent Councils in the enforcement of control of noxious plants on private lands and the control of these plants on State agency holdings and Council road reserves and lands.

The New South Wales Biosecurity Act 2015 effective from 1 July, 2017 has been instrumental in changing the environmental approach to weed control throughout the State. This has necessitated significant changes within our organisation in particular through the introduction of digital technology which, in turn has necessitated significant upskilling and training for our Authorised Weeds

Officers.

To this end I would like to acknowledge our staff, and in particular our new Senior Authorised Weeds Officer, M/s Andrea Fletcher for the manner in which she has accepted, embraced and led by example in introducing the necessary changes to give effect to the new legislation.

However, the continued upgrading of the reporting role of our Authorised Weeds Officers continues to be of concern because of the uncertainty it creates. We are working closely with our respective Local Land Services Boards, both North West and Central West, in seeking resolution of these issues.

A renewed commitment from all parties has seen a reinvigoration of the Hudson Pear Taskforce at Lightning Ridge. Under the Chairmanship of Mr Geoff Wise, and with considerable support of staff of the North West Local Land Services, a coordinated direction is emerging which will better enable the ongoing threat of Hudson Pear to the biosecurity of North Western NSW to be effectively contained.

Added to this is the recent introduction of biological controls after an extensive trial period.

Our 2017/18 financial statements of account confirm our ability to continue to operate in both a financial viably as well as environmentally sustainable manner, and through the efforts of our six fulltime staff and part time General Manager the County Council is well placed to meet its obligations to its constituent Councils well into the future.

Clr Doug Batten
Chairman

OUR VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

Vision

The prevention, elimination, minimisation and management of the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by weeds within the County District so that it does not become a significant factor limiting:

- agricultural productivity and
- the quality of the rural environment and
- the economic viability of rural communities within the County District.

Mission

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council's mission is to ensure all private and public landholders manage their holdings in such a way as to reach and maintain a sustainably low level of weed biosecurity risk.

This mission is to be shared by all those agencies striving to reduce biosecurity risks across the country, throughout the regions and locally with the constituent councils, landholders and the whole of the community living and residing within the County District.

To provide effective integrated weed management systems utilizing the latest technology to all constituent council areas fairly and equitably in accordance with the Biosecurity Act, 2015.

REASON FOR OUR ANNUAL REPORT

Our Annual Report is one of the key points of accountability between Council and our community. It is not a report that is submitted to the Office of Local Government or the State Government; rather it is a report to inform and update our community.

This report focuses on Council's implementation of the CMCC Delivery Programme 2017/2018 – 2020/2021 and Operational Programme 2017/2018. The CMCC Financial Statements for 2017/2018 and Audit Report are included in this report at **Attachment E – Financial Statements**.

This report also includes some information that is prescribed by the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. This information has been included in the Regulation because we believe that it is important for the community members to obtain knowledge about it – to help them gain a better understanding of how the Council has been performing both as a business entity and a community leader.

Below is the additional legislative basis for the development of our Annual Report:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993

The following is a summary of the requirements of Section 428 of the Act:

- Council must prepare an annual report within five months after the end of a financial year. The report will outline the Council's achievements in implementing its Delivery Program and the effectiveness of the principle activities undertaken in achieving the objectives at which those principle activities are directed.
- The annual report must contain Council's audited financial statements and notes and any information required by the Regulation or the Guidelines.
- A copy of the report must be posted on Council's website (www.cmcc.nsw.gov.au) and provided to the Minister and such other persons and bodies as the regulations may require.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (GENERAL) REGULATION 2005

Clause 217 of the Regulation requires the following information to be included in the annual report:

- Details (including the purpose) of overseas visits during the year by Councillors and staff
- Details of Chairman and Councillor fees, expenses and facilities
- Details of contracts awarded by the Council
- Amounts incurred in relation to legal proceedings
- Works carried out on private lands and financial assistance
- Details of external bodies, companies and partnerships
- A statement of the activities undertaken by the council during that year to implement its equal employment opportunity management plan
- Details of the General Manager's total remuneration
- Details of the total remuneration of all senior staff members employed during the year

WHO WE ARE

The Castlereagh Macquarie County Council is comprised of two distinct parts: the governing body and the administration.

Elected Council

As a County Council under the LGA 1993, CMCC is required to have a governing body made up of elected representatives of its Constituent Councils. Part 5 of the Local Government Act 1993 (*see note 1) outlines the formation and operation of County Councils. The application of LGA 1993 to CMCC is outlined in Section 400, LGA 1993.

Ten councillors including a Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson make up the governing body of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council. Each Constituent Council is represented by two councillors who are elected as representatives for a four year term.

Under the *Local Government Act 1993*, Councillors have a responsibility to:

- Participate in the determination of the budget
- Play a key role in the creation and review of Council policies, objectives and criteria relating to the regulatory functions, and
- Review Council's performance and the delivery of services management plans and revenue policies.

A councillor represents residents and ratepayers, provides leadership and guidance to the community, and facilitates communication between the community and Council. Council formerly would meet bi-monthly (even months) on the third Monday of each month commencing at 10:00am. However at the June 2017 meeting Council resolved to continue to meet in June and August and meet in November rather than both October and December and also meet in March.

Administrative Support

Administrative support is provided on an annual contract basis by Walgett Shire Council and an Administrative Officer employed by Walgett Shire Council is located within the Walgett Shire Council Offices at Walgett. The Administrative Officer performs a range of clerical and accounting functions as required by the General Manager.

The General Manager, who was also the General Manager of Walgett Shire Council up until 3 August, 2018, leads the administrative arm of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council and is responsible for the efficient and effective operation of the business and ensuring that the decisions of Council are implemented.

The General Manager reports to the fully elected Council.

Since the General Manager's retirement on 2 August, 2018 the CMCC General Manager's role has been remotely based.

Location

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council is a single purpose Council which is responsible for the fulfillment of its Constituent Councils obligations under the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015.

The County Councils governance is in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 (LGA 1993) with the County Council being first proclaimed in 1947.

The present area of operation of CMCC is the local government areas of Coonamble, Gilgandra, Warren, Walgett and Warrumbungle. These Councils are located in the Orana Region of Western New South Wales.

***Note 1:** Part 5, Local Government Act 1993 contained in Appendix A

Core Business Activities

The core role of the County Council is the prevention, elimination, minimisation and management of the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by weeds on both private and council controlled lands.

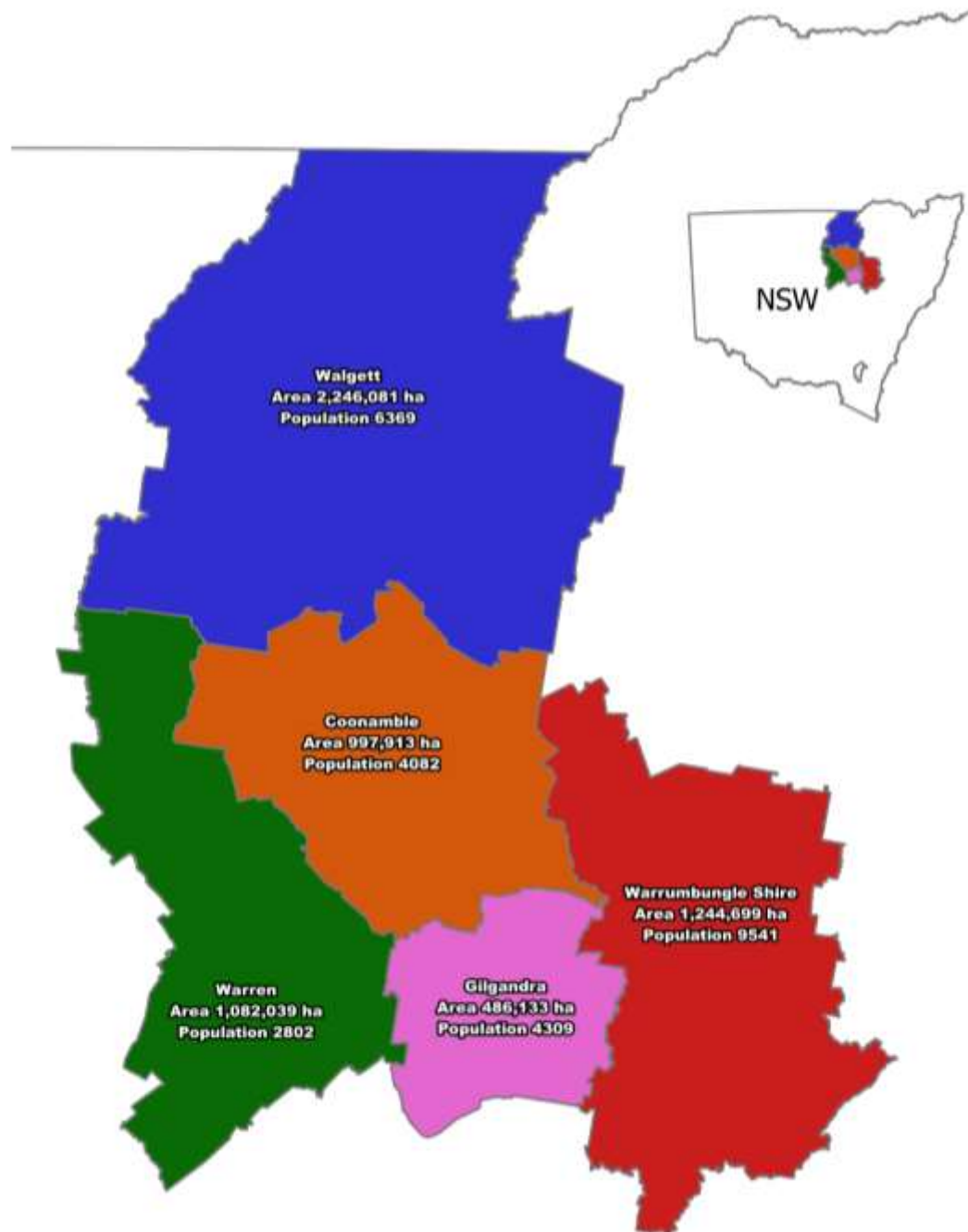
The diverse range of climatic conditions within the region exposes it to a large range of invasive plants which have the potential of establishing themselves within the region.

In NSW all plants are regulated with a general biosecurity duty to prevent, eliminate or minimise any biosecurity risk they may pose. Any person who deals with any plant, who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk, has a duty to ensure the risk is prevented, eliminated or minimized.

Government Grants

Council receives very limited Federal Government Grant Funding. However approximately one half of Council's income is sourced from State Government Grants which are administered jointly by the North West and Central West Local Land Services. Various other grants are accessed through NSW Department of Primary Industries and other government agencies.

OUR AREA OF OPERATION



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council's area of operation comprises an area of approximately 6,056,865 hectares with a population of around 27,000 people. The region has a diverse topographical range, from the Warrumbungle Range to the semi-arid regions of Lightning Ridge and contains an extensive area of National Parks and Nature Reserves.

OUR COUNCILLORS

DON RAMSLAND



0458 200 158
gm@cmcc.nsw.gov.au

CR DOUG BATTEN



02 6847 2057
mayor@gilgandra.nsw.gov.au

CR ANDREW BREWER



02 6847 3166 (W)
ClrABrewer@warren.nsw.gov.au

CR MARK BEACH



0427 335 400
ClrMBeach@warren.nsw.gov.au

CR GREG PEART



0429 485 885
cr.gpeart@gilgandra.nsw.gov.au

CR MANUEL MARTINEZ



0429 492 009
mmartinez@live.com.au

CR IAN WOODCOCK



0417 257 558
woody@wj.com.au

CR MICHAEL WEBB



0427 905 626
thawebbs@hotmail.com

CR BILL FISHER



0427 235 818
coorawong@esat.net.au

CR PETER SHINTON



02 6842 2055
Peter.Shinton@warrumbungle.nsw.gov.au

CR RAY LEWIS



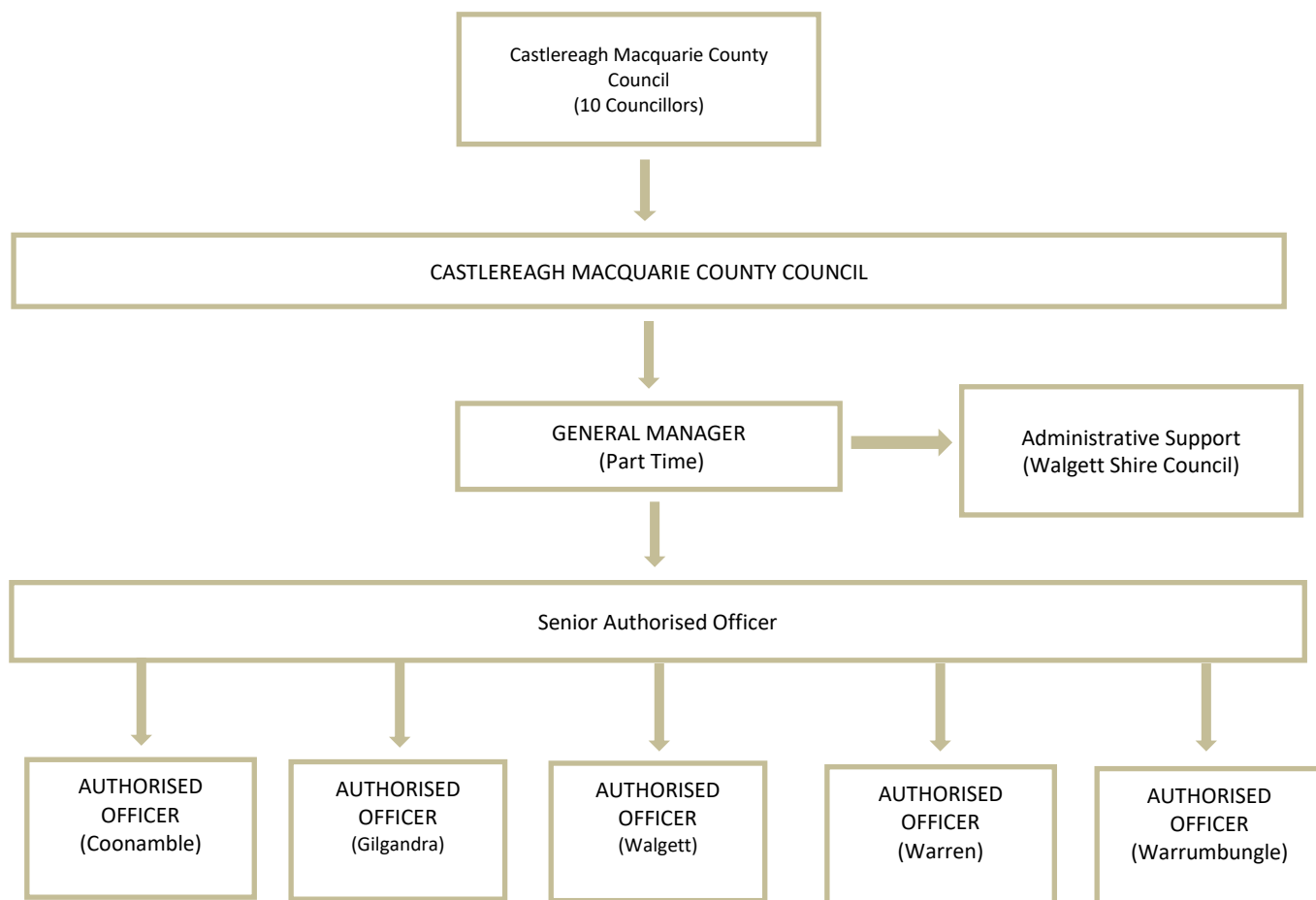
0427 460 376
Ray.Lewis@warrumbungle.nsw.gov.au

OUR ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The current staff structure of the Council consists of a part time General Manager, a Senior Authorised Officer, Five District Authorised Officers with administrative support provided on a contract basis by Walgett Shire Council.

The Council's current structure is outlined in the following table. Council resolved that its governance and organisational structure be reduced to six permanent staff through natural attrition in 2013-2014.

Current Organisational Structure



General Manager:

This position is part time and currently held by the General Manager of Walgett Shire Council Don Ramsland. The General Manager is responsible for the management of CMCC in accordance with the **LGA 1993**.

Senior Authorised Officer:

This position is a full time position with the Senior Authorised Officer being responsible for the day to day management of CMCC and supervision of District Authorised Officers. The position is based at our Coonabarabran Depot.

Authorised Officers:

These positions are on a full time/casual/contract basis with duties including but not limited to property inspections for the presence of noxious plants on private lands and Council controlled lands, raising community awareness through public awareness programs in their designated Shires.

COUNTY COUNCIL'S ROLE IN WEED CONTROL

The County Council is constituted under the Local Government Act 1993 and is specified as a Local Control Authority under the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015. It is a special (single) purpose authority formed to carry out the following functions, in relation to the land for which it is the local control authority.

- the prevention, elimination, minimisation and management of the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by weeds,
- to develop, implement, co-ordinate and review weed control programs,
- to inspect land in connection with its weed control functions,
- to keep records about the exercise of the local control authority's functions under this Act,
- to report to the Secretary about the exercise of the local control authority's functions under this Act.

INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING SUMMARY

Business Activity Strategic Plan

Council's Business Activity Strategic Plan (Plan) identifies Council's interpretation of its community's main priorities and aspirations for the future, addressing strategies for achieving the objectives in relation to invasive weeds management and control across our constituent council areas. This enables Council to improve agricultural sustainability, primary industry productivity and to deliver broad environmental outcomes for the County area for over the next ten years.

Council, as a small single purpose organization, has been mindful of its resource capacity and continues to act prudently to deliver the outcomes identified in its Plan.

The Plan is the foundation for the Annual Operational Plan and Budget, Four Year Delivery Programme and Resourcing Strategy comprising the Ten Year Financial Plan, Workforce Strategy and Asset Management Plan.

Four Year Delivery Programme

The Four Year Delivery Programme is a living, breathing document through which Council addresses the dynamic nature of invasive weed species and it's constantly evolving approach to weed management and control.

It is Council's aim to continue to improve the services it provides to the Constituent Council communities through the strategic objectives and principle activities identified in the Programme in a range of ways including effective governance, strategic planning, environmental management and economic sustainability.

Annual Operational Plan and Budget

The Annual Operational Plan and Budget provides the framework for Council's day to day operations and the ability to have funding available for them.

Key aspects include the undertaking of activities in relation to the Weeds Action Plan, private property inspections and routine administrative functions and staff supervision.

STATUTORY REPORTING INFORMATION

The following information is provided in order to comply with NSW legislation and associated regulatory requirements that a Council's annual report will address certain prescribed matters.

A. Performance of Principal Activities:

For the purposes of section 428 (1) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 397J of the Local Government Regulations (2005) Council's annual performance statement setting out achievements in implementing the delivery program and effectiveness of principal activities for the 2017/18 reporting period are outlined. Please refer to **Attachment A**.

B. Audited Financial Reports

For the purposes of section 428 (4) (a) of the Local Government Act (1993), Council's financial position as at 30th June 2018 for the financial year 2017/18 is attached and includes the Audit Reports prepared by the NSW Auditor General. Please refer to **Attachment E**.

C. State of the Environment

For the purposes of section 428A of the Local Government Act (1993), Council does not have a State of the Environment Report as such a report is produced by the constituent councils in connection with their respective community strategic plans. Please refer to the relevant Local Council Website for such reports.

D. Miscellaneous Item - Members Fees, Expenses & Facilities

For the purposes of section 428 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 217 (1) (a) & (a1) of the Local Government Regulations (2005) Council's position in relation to the payment of fees and expenses or provision of facilities for the 2017/18 reporting period are set out below. Please refer to **www.cmcc.nsw.gov.au** for Council's Policy.

- a. There were no overseas visits undertaken during the year by Councillors, Council staff or any other persons representing the Council (including no visits sponsored by other organisations).
- b. The total cost during the year of the payment of the expenses of, and the provision of facilities to, Councillors in relation to their civic functions (as paid by the council, reimbursed to the Councillor or reconciled with the Councillor) was **\$ 16,227**
- c. The detailed breakdown for prescribed elements of the total cost is as follows:
 - i. The payment of meeting fees to Council Members as required under section 248 of the Local Government Act was **\$12,049**
 - ii. The payment of meeting fees to the Council Chairman as required under section 249 of the Local Government Act was **\$1,820**
 - iii. The payment of meeting attendance travel expenses to Council Members and the Council Chairman as per section 252 of the Local Government Act was **\$2,358**.
 - iv. The provision during the year of dedicated office equipment allocated to Councillors on a personal basis, such as laptop computers, mobile telephones and landline telephones and facsimile machines installed in Councillor's homes (including equipment and line rental costs and internet access costs but not including call costs) was **NIL**.
 - v. Telephone calls made by Councillors, including calls made from mobile telephones provided by the council and from landline

- telephones and facsimile services installed in a Councillors home was **NIL**.
- vi. The attendance of Councillors at conferences and seminars was **NIL**.
 - vii. The training of Councillors and the provision of skill development for Councillors was **NIL**.
 - viii. Interstate visits undertaken during the year by Councillors while representing the council, including the cost of transport, the cost of accommodation and other out-of pocket travelling expenses was **NIL**.
 - ix. Overseas visits undertaken during the year by Councillors while representing the council, including the cost of transport, the cost of accommodation and other out-of pocket travelling expenses was **NIL**.
 - x. The expenses of any spouse, partner (whether of the same or the opposite sex) or other person who accompanied a Councillor in the performance of his or her civic functions, being expenses payable in accordance with the Guidelines for the payment of expenses and the provision of facilities for Mayors and Councillors for Local Councils in NSW prepared by the Director-General from time to time was **NIL**.
 - xi. Expenses involved in the provision of care for a child of, or an immediate family member of, a Councillor, to allow the Councillor to undertake his or her civic functions was **NIL**.

E. Miscellaneous Item – AWARDING OF CONTRACTS

For the purposes of section 428 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 217 (1) (a2) of the Local Government Regulations (2005) Council did not award any contracts for work of value greater than \$150,000 for the 2017/18 reporting period.

F. Miscellaneous Item – LEGAL PROCEEDINGS For the purposes of section 428 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 217 (1) (a3) of the Local Government Regulations (2005) Council was not involved in any legal proceedings being taken by or against the Council.

G. Miscellaneous Item – PRIVATE WORKS - For the purposes of section 428 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 217 (1) (a4) of the Local Government Regulations (2005) Council's position in relation to undertaking private works for the 2017/18 reporting period is as follows: Council undertook various private works in relation to weed control on both public and private land during the year, on a cost-plus basis paid by the relevant agency/property owner. Council sets out the applicable rates and charges for private works in Council's fees and charges schedules. These rates are generally similar to the rates of contractors, as Council does not wish to unfairly compete with private enterprise. Council has not made any resolutions pursuant to Section 67 2(b), accordingly no public works have been subsidised by Council.

H. Miscellaneous Item – CONTRIBUTIONS TO OTHERS For the purposes of section 428 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 217 (1) (a5) of the Local Government Regulations (2005) Council did not make any contributions under section 356 of the Local Government Act to financially assist others during the 2017/18 reporting period.

I. Miscellaneous Item – CONTRIBUTIONS TO OTHERS For the purposes of section 428 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 217 (1) (a6) of the Local Government Regulations (2005) Council did not delegate to any external body the power to exercise functions on behalf

of the Council during the 2017/18 reporting period.

J. Miscellaneous Item – CONTROL OF OTHER ENTITIES - For the purposes of section 428 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 217 (1) (a7) of the Local Government Regulations (2005) Council did not hold a controlling interest in any corporations, partnerships, trusts, joint ventures, syndicates or other bodies during the 2017/18 reporting period.

K. Miscellaneous Item – PARTICIPATING IN OTHER ENTITIES For the purposes of section 428 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 217 (1) (a8) of the Local Government Regulations (2005) Council participated in other corporations, partnerships, trusts, joint ventures, syndicates or other bodies during the 2017/18 reporting period as follows:

- Macquarie Valley Weeds Advisory Committee
- Local Government NSW (LGNSW)
- Hudson pear Taskforce

L. Miscellaneous Item – EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT - For the purposes of section 428 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 217 (1) (a9) of the Local Government Regulations (2005) Council undertook limited activities, consistent with its small size, to implement its equal employment opportunity management plan during the 2017/18 reporting period as follows:

- Recruited to vacant positions through an open public process.
- Held regular consultative committee meetings including all staff.

M. Miscellaneous Item – GENERAL MANAGER REMUNERATION - For the purposes of section 428 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act (1993), and clause 217 (1) (b) & (c) of the Local Government Regulations (2005) Council provided total remuneration to the Part-time General Manager of **\$19,190** during the 2017/18 reporting period. This remuneration included salary, and any non-cash benefits and associated taxes as applicable. Council's organisation structure provides for the employment of the General Manager as the only Senior Staff position. The part-time General Manager was engaged under the Office of Local Government Standard Contract of Employment. The General Managers contract was performance based for a period of five (5) years

N. Miscellaneous Item – Rates & Charges For the purposes of clause 132 of the Local Government Regulations (2005) Council did not write-off any rates or charges during the 2017/18 reporting period.

O. GOVERNMENT INFORMATION - For the purposes of section 125 (1) of the Government Information (Public Access) Act (2009) and Clause 7 Schedule 2 of the Government Information (Public Access) Regulation (2018) the following report is provided about Government Information Public Access activity for the 2017/2018 reporting year. *Council did not receive any requests for the release of information under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA) during the 2017 – 2018 reporting period.*

P. DISCLOSURE OF PUBLIC INTERESTS For the purposes of section 31 of the Public Interests Disclosure Act (1994), the following report is provided about public interests disclosed by Councillors and / or designated persons. *The six monthly and annual reports were provided to the NSW Ombudsman in accordance with the Public Interest Disclosures Act (1994). There were no public interest disclosures either made or received during the reporting period 2017 – 2018.*

Q. COMPLIANCE WITH CODE OF CONDUCT - For the purposes of the reporting requirements under the model Code of Conduct the following report is provided regarding complaints about noncompliance with the Council code of conduct. *Council adopted a Code of Conduct and Procedures in October 2016 based on the Division of Local Government's then new Model Code of Conduct. There were no Code of Conduct complaints made about Councillors or the General Manager during the reporting period 2017 – 2018.*

R. PRIVACY & PERSONAL INFORMATION For the purposes of the reporting requirements relating to complaints about non-compliance with the privacy laws. *There were no complaints or other requirement for review of the conduct of Council under Part 5 of the Privacy & Personal Protection Act (1998) during the reporting period 2017 – 2018.*

BIOSECURITY ACT 2015

With the new Biosecurity Act 2015 coming into effect on 1 July 2017, a new landscape for the prevention, elimination, minimisation and management biosecurity risks in NSW has been created, including providing a greater level of powers to control authorities such as Castlereagh Macquarie County Council.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council (CMCC) is the local control authority for weeds biosecurity threats in the Shires of Warrumbungle, Gilgandra, Coonamble, Warren and Walgett. As the control authority it is responsible for an area of almost 60,000 square km.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council is taking this new responsibility very seriously. Weeds like Hudson Pear, Harrisia, Parkinsonia, Parthenium, Tiger Pear, Blackberry, St John's Wort, Silverleaf Nightshade and Blue Heliotrope can have a dramatic impact on our way of life. Council prefers to educate landholders on the problems these weeds cause and encourage them to take action to reduce the impacts of these weeds. Unfortunately, there are still some landholders that do not take these issues seriously enough and it is these people that Council is taking sterner action with. As a result a number of Biosecurity Directions have been issued by Council to landholders who are not doing their part.

It can be very disappointing to see landholders that are committed to taking appropriate action to control the weeds on their property but then see a neighbour taking little or no action at all. It is people like this that make it control measures difficult for the rest.

Whilst Council would rather see landholders use their money to control weeds on their properties, fines may be issued to landholders that do not control weeds on their property and these fines can be quite expensive.

There are a number of options available to landholders in controlling weeds but we advocate an integrated approach to weed management that involves a coordinated use of a variety of control methods, reducing reliance on herbicides, and increasing the chances of successful control through management or even eradication when early detection occurs.

With the increasing rates of herbicide resistance it is becoming increasingly important that a more integrated approach to weed management is used. The best way therefore to manage weeds is by combining herbicide use with non-chemical control options, including physical, biological and cultural control measures.

WEEDS ACTION PROGRAM 2015-2020

The NSW Weeds Action Program 2015-2020 (WAP1520) follows, and builds on, the successful implementation of the NSW Weeds Action Program 2010-2015.

It is a NSW Government initiative to reduce the impact of weeds and is guided by the NSW Biosecurity Strategy 2013-2021 (the Biosecurity Strategy) and the NSW Invasive Species Plan 2015-2020 (the ISP).

During the 2013-14 review of weed management in NSW, the Natural Resources Commission investigated several issues of community concern resulting in eight key recommendations. The Government response to the review was endorsed by Cabinet in September 2014. Implementation of the recommendations has required changes to the then existing regional delivery models.

The key recommendation relevant to WAP1520 was:

Recommendation 3: Ensure consistent and coordinated regional planning and local delivery:

3B - Replace the existing 14 regional weed advisory committees with 11 statutory regional weed committees comprising LCAs, public and private landholders, and community members as subcommittees to LLS, and aligned with LLS borders

3C - Provide a legislative basis for tasking the regional weed committees with developing regional plans and priorities for weeds and surveillance.

The NSW Government has been committed to implementing this recommendation and identified WAP1520 as a key driver to deliver these changes. The establishment of the new committees has been a high priority as they assist regional planning requirements under the NSW Biosecurity Act.

CMCC crosses two LLS regions – North West and Central West. To reduce administrative duplication, the county was originally a partner only in the Central West WAP1520 project with Orange City Council as the lead agency for the CW WAP 1520 project, coordinated by Macquarie Valley Weeds Advisory Committee. This has now changed and Council receives separate funding allocations from both the North West and Central West LLSs in respect of the constituent councils in their respective regions.

The WAP 15/20 targets the highest risk weeds, including:

- Through inspections and monitoring the prevention of new weeds becoming established,
- Through monitoring and control eliminating or preventing the spread of new weeds,
- Through targeted control programmes the protection of significant natural assets (endangered ecological communities, wetlands and major waterways),
- By targeting the weeds workforce and community improving capacity through awareness and education.

The county, along with all WAP partners and additional stakeholders with interests in weed management, is also working with the newly established Regional Weed Committees for both the North West and Central West regions. Both committees have now produced new Regional Strategic Weed Management Plans for each of their regions and these are detailed in this report.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY AWARENESS

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council has continued an active role in education and awareness which can be challenging as each of our five local government areas has different species and new incursions. I believe our range of diversity for weeds in our areas make us even more valued as Local Control Authorities. We also engage with requested enquiries to other councils, North West and Central West regarding weed identifications and bio types.

On a daily basis staff also offer education and awareness verbally and upon property inspections distribute the New South Wales Weed Control Handbook, Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan and the Glove box weed booklet.

This year CMCC staff participated at;

- Local P & A shows with NW / CW weeds trailer displaying DVD weed displays, weed specimen displays, brochures and discussions.
- Attended LLS Fox bait / feral animal talks (meeting landowners to discuss weeds)
- Field day attendance at the Australian Field Days, Orange and Ag Quip field days Gunnedah.
- Hudson Pear workshops (education on bio release) held in Lightning Ridge, Grawin and Cumborah. (An additional workshop attendance at the weekly Thursday Cumborah morning tea for the community and landowners who could not attend the workshops. 18 attended.
- Local newspaper advertising and media alerts: The advertising was campaigned to alert incoming weeds through hay followed with media from each officer focusing on weed relevance within their shire and advocating a local contact.
- LLS drought /hay workshops
- ABC radio – Hudson Pear
- Television interview for Hudson Pear “Only In Australia” (airing March 2019)



HUDSON PEAR PROGRAMMES

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council continues with dedication to target the prevention, elimination, minimisation and management of the spread of Hudson Pear. Bio security inspections are carried out on private properties, residential land, Crown Lands, TSRs, roadsides and Council controlled lands.

Private properties with a high density infestations of Hudson Pear have been instructed to manage their boundary fences with a 100 meter buffer leaving the core infestation for bio control. Several releases of the bio control agent have been made in the Lightning Ridge, Grawin and Cumborah areas showing promising results.

Education and awareness workshops have been held in Lightning Ridge, Grawin and Cumborah recently focusing on the release of Bio control. It is crucial that the spraying of Hudson pear continues.

Department of Primary Industries were successful gaining a grant of \$200K, with a possible extra \$100k to come. The funds will go towards building 2 temperature control mass rearing tunnels for the Hudson Pear Bio Control. The poly tunnels will be approx. 30 meters long x 10 meters wide each. Council is currently looking to secure a site in Lightning Ridge. The funds will also go to employ a person 3 days per week to monitor the site. This is the most welcoming news not only for the community and landowners but also the Hudson Pear Taskforce and CMCC.

The rearing facility for mass rearing Hudson Biocontrol demonstrated fantastic results. The rearing facility currently holds 60 tubs with 30 cladodes per tubs. 180 infected cladodes have been released into the field. Andrew McConnachie, from DPI Orange, inspected the site this month and was overwhelmed with the success.



PRIORITY WEEDS FOR CENTRAL WEST REGION

Note: this region includes the local council areas of Bogan (lower), Coonamble, Dubbo Regional, Forbes, Gilgandra, Lachlan, Narromine, Parkes, Warren, Warrumbungle and Weddin.

Weed	Duty
All plants	General Biosecurity Duty <i>All plants are regulated with a general biosecurity duty to prevent, eliminate or minimise any biosecurity risk they may pose. Any person who deals with any plant, who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk, has a duty to ensure the risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable.</i>
African boxthorn <i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>	Prohibition on dealings <i>Must not be imported into the State or sold</i>
Alligator weed <i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>	Prohibition on dealings <i>Must not be imported into the State or sold</i>
Alligator weed <i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>	Biosecurity Zone <i>The Alligator Weed Biosecurity Zone is established for all land within the state except land in the following regions: Greater Sydney; Hunter (but only in the local government areas of City of Lake Macquarie, City of Maitland, City of Newcastle or Port Stephens). Within the Biosecurity Zone this weed must be eradicated where practicable, or as much of the weed destroyed as practicable, and any remaining weed suppressed. The local control authority must be notified of any new infestations of this weed within the Biosecurity Zone</i>
Anchored water hyacinth <i>Eichhornia azurea</i>	Prohibited Matter <i>A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of</i>

prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Arrowhead

Sagittaria calycina var. *calycina*

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

This Regional Recommended Measure applies to all species of *Sagittaria*

Athel pine

Tamarix aphylla

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Athel pine

Tamarix aphylla

Regional Recommended Measure

Exclusion zone: all waterways and riparian areas in the region. Core infestation area: whole region except for the exclusion zone.

Whole region: The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

Exclusion zone: The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Core infestation area: Land managers should mitigate of plant being introduced to their land. Land managers reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets.

Bellyache bush

Jatropha gossypifolia

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Bitou bush

Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. *rotundata*

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Bitou bush

Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. *rotundata*

Biosecurity Zone

The Bitou Bush Biosecurity Zone is established for all land within the State except land within 10 kilometres of the mean high water mark of the Pacific Ocean between Cape Byron in the north and Point Perpendicular in the south.

Within the Biosecurity Zone this weed must be eradicated where practicable, or as much of the weed destroyed as practicable, and any remaining weed suppressed. The local control authority must be notified of any new infestations of this weed within the Biosecurity Zone

Black knapweed

Centaurea X moncktonii

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Black willow

Salix nigra

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Blackberry

Rubus fruticosus species aggregate

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

All species in the *Rubus fruticosus* species aggregate have this requirement, except for the varieties Black Satin, Chehalem, Chester Thornless, Dirksen Thornless, Loch Ness, Murrindindi, Silvan, Smooth Stem, and Thornfree

Blue heliotrope

Heliotropium amplexicaule

Regional Recommended Measure

Exclusion zone: Weddin local government area. Core infestation area: whole region except for exclusion zone.

Whole region: The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

Exclusion zone: The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Core infestation area: Land managers should reduce impacts from the plant on

priority assets. Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land.

Boneseed

Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. *monilifera*

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Boneseed

Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. *monilifera*

Control Order

Boneseed Control Zone: Whole of NSW
Boneseed Control Zone (Whole of NSW): Owners and occupiers of land on which there is boneseed must notify the local control authority of new infestations; immediately destroy the plants; ensure subsequent generations are destroyed; and ensure the land is kept free of the plant. A person who deals with a carrier of boneseed must ensure the plant (and any seed and propagules) is not moved from the land; and immediately notify the local control authority of the presence of the plant.

Boxing glove cactus

Cylindropuntia fulgida var. *mamillata*

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Boxing glove cactus

Cylindropuntia fulgida var. *mamillata*

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread from their land.

This Regional Recommended Measure applies to all species of *Cylindropuntia* except *Cylindropuntia rosea* (Hudson pear)

Bridal creeper

Asparagus asparagoides

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

***this requirement also applies to the Western Cape form of bridal creeper**

Bridal creeper

Asparagus asparagoides

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Land managers to reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets.

Bridal veil creeper

Asparagus declinatus

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Broomrapes

Orobancha species

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

All species of *Orobancha* are Prohibited Matter in NSW, except the natives *Orobancha cernuavar. australiana* and *Orobancha minor*

Burr ragweed

Ambrosia confertiflora

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

Cabomba

Cabomba caroliniana

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Cane cactus

Austrocylindropuntia cylindrica

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

All species in the *Austrocylindropuntia* genus have this requirement

Cape broom

Genista monspessulana

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Carrion flower

Orbea variegata

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

Cat's claw creeper

Dolichandra unguis-cati

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Cat's claw creeper

Dolichandra unguis-cati

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Land managers to reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets.

Chilean needle grass

Nassella neesiana

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Chilean needle grass

Nassella neesiana

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

Climbing asparagus

Asparagus africanus

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Climbing asparagus fern
Asparagus plumosus

Prohibition on dealings
Must not be imported into the State or sold

Common pear
Opuntia stricta

Prohibition on dealings
Must not be imported into the State or sold

Common pear
Opuntia stricta

Regional Recommended Measure
Whole region: Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Core infestations: Land managers should mitigate spread from their land.
***This Regional Recommended Measure applies to all species of Opuntia except for Opuntia ficus-indica (Indian fig)**

Coolatai grass
Hyparrhenia hirta

Regional Recommended Measure
Exclusion zone: whole region except for the core infestation area of the Warrumbungle and Coonamble Shire Council areas
Whole region: The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.
Exclusion zone: The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Core infestation area: Land managers should reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets. Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land.

East Indian hygrophila
Hygrophila polysperma

Regional Recommended Measure
Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

[Eurasian water milfoil](#)
Myriophyllum spicatum

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

[Fireweed](#)
Senecio madagascariensis

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

[Fireweed](#)
Senecio madagascariensis

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

[Flax-leaf broom](#)
Genista linifolia

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

[Frogbit](#)
Limnobium laevigatum

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

All species of *Limnobium* are Prohibited Matter

[Gamba grass](#)
Andropogon gayanus

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Giant reed

Arundo donax

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread from their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

Gorse

Ulex europaeus

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Grey willow

Salix cinerea

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Ground asparagus

Asparagus aethiopicus

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Harrisia cactus

Harrisia species

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

Hawkweeds

Hieracium species

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

All species in the genus *Hieracium* are Prohibited Matter

Honey locust

Gleditsia triacanthos

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread from their land. The plant

should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

[Hudson pear](#)
Cylindropuntia rosea

Prohibition on dealings
Must not be imported into the State or sold

[Hudson pear](#)
Cylindropuntia rosea

Regional Recommended Measure
Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

[Hydrocotyl](#)
Hydrocotyle ranunculoides

Prohibited Matter
A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

[Hygrophila](#)
Hygrophila costata

Regional Recommended Measure
Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

[Hymenachne](#)
Hymenachne amplexicaulis and hybrids

Prohibition on dealings
Must not be imported into the State or sold

[Hymenachne](#)
Hymenachne amplexicaulis and hybrids

Regional Recommended Measure
Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought,

sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

[Johnson grass](#)
Sorghum halepense

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread from their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

[Karoo thorn](#)
Vachellia karroo

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

[Kidney-leaf mud plantain](#)
Heteranthera reniformis

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

[Kochia](#)
Bassia scoparia

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Excluding the subspecies *trichophylla*

[Koster's curse](#)
Clidemia hirta

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of

prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Lagarosiphon

Lagarosiphon major

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Lantana

Lantana camara

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Long-leaf willow primrose

Ludwigia longifolia

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

Ludwigia

Ludwigia peruviana

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

Madeira vine

Anredera cordifolia

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Mesquite

Prosopis species

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

All species in the genus *Prosopis* have this requirement

Mesquite

Prosopis species

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

Mexican feather grass

Nassella tenuissima

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Miconia

Miconia species

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

All species of *Miconia* are Prohibited Matter in NSW

Mikania vine

Mikania micrantha

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

***all species in the genus *Mikania* are Prohibited Matter in NSW**

Mimosa

Mimosa pigra

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of

prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Mother-of-millions
Bryophyllum species

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread from their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

Parkinsonia
Parkinsonia aculeata

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Parkinsonia
Parkinsonia aculeata

Control Order

*Parkinsonia Control Zone: Whole of NSW
Parkinsonia Control Zone (Whole of NSW): Owners and occupiers of land on which there is parkinsonia must notify the local control authority of new infestations; immediately destroy the plants; ensure subsequent generations are destroyed; and ensure the land is kept free of the plant. A person who deals with a carrier of parkinsonia must ensure the plant (and any seed and propagules) is not moved from the land; and immediately notify the local control authority of the presence of the plant.*

Parthenium weed
Parthenium hysterophorus

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Parthenium weed
Parthenium hysterophorus

Prohibition on dealings

The following equipment must not be imported into NSW from Queensland: grain harvesters (including the comb or front), comb trailers (including the comb or front), bins used for holding grain during harvest operations, augers or similar for moving grain, vehicles used to transport grain harvesters, support vehicles driven in paddocks during harvest

operations, mineral exploration drilling rigs and vehicles used to transport those rigs, unless set out as an exception in Division 5, Part 2 of the Biosecurity Order (Permitted Activities) 2017

[Pond apple](#)
Annona glabra

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

[Prickly acacia](#)
Vachellia nilotica

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

[Prickly pears - Austrocyllindropuntias](#)
Austrocyllindropuntia species

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold
All species in the *Austrocyllindropuntia* genus have this requirement

[Prickly pears - Cyllindropuntias](#)
Cyllindropuntia species

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold
All species in the *Cyllindropuntia* genus have this requirement

[Prickly pears - Cyllindropuntias](#)
Cyllindropuntia species

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread from their land.
This Regional Recommended Measure applies to all species of *Cyllindropuntia* except *Cyllindropuntia rosea* (Hudson pear)

[Prickly pears - Opuntias](#)
Opuntia species

Prohibition on dealings
Must not be imported into the State or sold
Except for *Opuntia ficus-indica* (Indian fig)

[Prickly pears - Opuntias](#)
Opuntia species

Regional Recommended Measure
Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Land managers to reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets.
This Regional Recommended Measure applies to all species of *Opuntia* except for *Opuntia ficus-indica* (Indian fig)

[Rope pear](#)
Cylindropuntia imbricata

Prohibition on dealings
Must not be imported into the State or sold
All species in the *Cylindropuntia* genus have this requirement

[Rope pear](#)
Cylindropuntia imbricata

Regional Recommended Measure
Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread from their land. Land managers reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets.
This Regional Recommended Measure applies to all species of *Cylindropuntia* except *Cylindropuntia rosea* (Hudson pear)

[Rubber vine](#)
Cryptostegia grandiflora

Prohibited Matter
A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Sagittaria

Sagittaria platyphylla

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Sagittaria

Sagittaria platyphylla

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

This Regional Recommended Measure applies to all species of *Sagittaria*

Salvinia

Salvinia molesta

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Salvinia

Salvinia molesta

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

Scotch broom

Cytisus scoparius subsp. *scoparius*

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Serrated tussock

Nassella trichotoma

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Serrated tussock

Nassella trichotoma

Regional Recommended Measure

Exclusion zone: whole region except for the core infestation area that is bounded by the Central West Local Land Services boundary north along Burrendong Way to Stuart Town, east along Mookerawa Road to Burrendong Dam, and east

along Oak Creek, bounded by the Central West Local Land Services boundary

Whole region: The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

Exclusion zone: The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Core infestation area: Land managers should reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets. Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land.

Siam weed

Chromolaena odorata

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Silverleaf nightshade

Solanum elaeagnifolium

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Silverleaf nightshade

Solanum elaeagnifolium

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Land managers to reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets.

Smooth tree pear

Opuntia monacantha

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Smooth tree pear

Opuntia monacantha

Regional Recommended Measure

Whole region: Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Core infestations: Land managers should mitigate spread from their land.

***This Regional Recommended Measure applies to**

all species of *Opuntia* except for *Opuntia ficus-indica* (Indian fig)

Snakefeather

Asparagus scandens

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Spiny burrgrass - longispinus

Cenchrus longispinus

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread from their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

Spiny burrgrass - spinifex

Cenchrus spinifex

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread from their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

Spongeplant

Limnobium spongia

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

All species of *Limnobium* are Prohibited Matter

Spotted knapweed

Centaurea stoebe subsp. *micranthos*

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Tiger pear
Opuntia aurantiaca

Prohibition on dealings
Must not be imported into the State or sold

Tiger pear
Opuntia aurantiaca

Regional Recommended Measure
Whole region: Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Core infestations: Land managers should mitigate spread from their land.
***This Regional Recommended Measure applies to all species of Opuntia except for Opuntia ficus-indica (Indian fig)**

Tropical soda apple
Solanum viarum

Control Order
*Tropical Soda Apple Control Zone: Whole of NSW
Tropical Soda Apple Control Zone (Whole of NSW): Owners and occupiers of land on which there is tropical soda apple must notify the local control authority of new infestations; destroy the plants including the fruit; ensure subsequent generations are destroyed; and ensure the land is kept free of the plant. A person who deals with a carrier of tropical soda apple must ensure the plant (and any seed and propagules) is not moved from the land; and immediately notify the local control authority of the presence of the plant on the land, or on or in a carrier.*

Velvety tree pear
Opuntia tomentosa

Prohibition on dealings
Must not be imported into the State or sold

Velvety tree pear
Opuntia tomentosa

Regional Recommended Measure
Whole region: Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Core infestations: Land managers should mitigate spread from their land.
This Regional Recommended Measure applies to all species of Opuntia except for Opuntia ficus-indica (Indian fig)

[Water caltrop](#)
Trapa species

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

All species in the *Trapa* genus are Prohibited Matter in NSW

[Water hyacinth](#)
Eichhornia crassipes

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

[Water hyacinth](#)
Eichhornia crassipes

Biosecurity Zone

The Water Hyacinth Biosecurity Zone applies to all land within the State, except for the following regions: Greater Sydney or North Coast, North West (but only the local government area of Moree Plains), Hunter (but only in the local government areas of City of Cessnock, City of Lake Macquarie, MidCoast, City of Maitland, City of Newcastle or Port Stephens), South East (but only in the local government areas of Eurobodalla, Kiama, City of Shellharbour, City of Shoalhaven or City of Wollongong).

Within the Biosecurity Zone this weed must be eradicated where practicable, or as much of the weed destroyed as practicable, and any remaining weed suppressed. The local control authority must be notified of any new infestations of this weed within the Biosecurity Zone

[Water lilies](#)
Nymphaea species

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

This Regional Recommended Measure applies to *Nymphaea mexicana* (Mexican water lily)

[Water soldier](#)
Stratiotes aloides

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of

prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Willows

Salix species

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

All species in the *Salix* genus have this requirement, except *Salix babylonica* (weeping willows), *Salix x calodendron* (pussy willow) and *Salix x reichardtii* (sterile pussy willow)

Witchweeds

Striga species

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

All species in the *Striga* genus are Prohibited Matter in NSW, except the native *Striga parviflora*

Yellow burrhead

Limnocharis flava

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

The content provided here is for information purposes only and is taken from the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and its subordinate legislation, and the Regional Strategic Weed Management Plans (published by each Local Land Services region in NSW). It describes the state and regional priorities for weeds in New South Wales, Australia.

PRIORITY WEEDS FOR NORTH WEST REGION

Note: this region includes the local council areas of Gunnedah, Gwydir, Liverpool Plains, Moree Plains, Narrabri, Tamworth and Walgett.

Weed	Duty
All plants	<p>General Biosecurity Duty</p> <p><i>All plants are regulated with a general biosecurity duty to prevent, eliminate or minimise any biosecurity risk they may pose. Any person who deals with any plant, who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk, has a duty to ensure the risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable.</i></p>
<p>African boxthorn <i>Lycium ferocissimum</i></p>	<p>Prohibition on dealings</p> <p><i>Must not be imported into the State or sold</i></p>
<p>African boxthorn <i>Lycium ferocissimum</i></p>	<p>Regional Recommended Measure</p> <p><i>Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread from their land. Land managers reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets.</i></p>
<p>African olive <i>Olea europaea</i> subsp. <i>cuspidata</i></p>	<p>Regional Recommended Measure</p> <p><i>Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread from their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.</i></p>
<p>Aleman grass <i>Echinochloa polystachya</i></p>	<p>Regional Recommended Measure</p> <p><i>Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.</i></p>

Alligator weed

Alternanthera philoxeroides

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Alligator weed

Alternanthera philoxeroides

Biosecurity Zone

The Alligator Weed Biosecurity Zone is established for all land within the state except land in the following regions: Greater Sydney; Hunter (but only in the local government areas of City of Lake Macquarie, City of Maitland, City of Newcastle or Port Stephens).

Within the Biosecurity Zone this weed must be eradicated where practicable, or as much of the weed destroyed as practicable, and any remaining weed suppressed. The local control authority must be notified of any new infestations of this weed within the Biosecurity Zone

Alligator weed

Alternanthera philoxeroides

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

Anchored water hyacinth

Eichhornia azurea

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Arrowhead

Sagittaria calycina var. *calycina*

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

Athel pine

Tamarix aphylla

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

[Bellyache bush](#)
Jatropha gossypifolia

Prohibition on dealings
Must not be imported into the State or sold

[Bellyache bush](#)
Jatropha gossypifolia

Regional Recommended Measure
Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

[Bitou bush](#)
Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. *rotundata*

Prohibition on dealings
Must not be imported into the State or sold

[Bitou bush](#)
Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. *rotundata*

Biosecurity Zone
The Bitou Bush Biosecurity Zone is established for all land within the State except land within 10 kilometres of the mean high water mark of the Pacific Ocean between Cape Byron in the north and Point Perpendicular in the south. *Within the Biosecurity Zone this weed must be eradicated where practicable, or as much of the weed destroyed as practicable, and any remaining weed suppressed. The local control authority must be notified of any new infestations of this weed within the Biosecurity Zone*

[Black knapweed](#)
Centaurea X moncktonii

Prohibited Matter
A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

[Black willow](#)
Salix nigra

Prohibition on dealings
Must not be imported into the State or sold

[Black willow](#)
Salix nigra

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread from their land.

[Blackberry](#)
Rubus fruticosus species aggregate

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

All species in the *Rubus fruticosus* species aggregate have this requirement, except for the varieties Black Satin, Chehalem, Chester Thornless, Dirksen Thornless, Loch Ness, Murrindindi, Silvan, Smooth Stem, and Thornfree

[Blackberry](#)
Rubus fruticosus species aggregate

Regional Recommended Measure

An exclusion zone is established for all lands in the region, except the core infestation area comprising the Gwydir Shire council, Liverpool Plains Shire council and Tamworth Regional council

Whole of region: The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Exclusion zone: Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land; land managers should mitigate spread from their land. Core infestation: Land managers reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets

[Blue hound's tongue](#)
Cynoglossum creticum

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

[Boneseed](#)
Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. *monilifera*

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Boneseed

Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. *monilifera*

Control Order

Boneseed Control Zone: Whole of NSW

Boneseed Control Zone (Whole of NSW): Owners and occupiers of land on which there is boneseed must notify the local control authority of new infestations; immediately destroy the plants; ensure subsequent generations are destroyed; and ensure the land is kept free of the plant. A person who deals with a carrier of boneseed must ensure the plant (and any seed and propagules) is not moved from the land; and immediately notify the local control authority of the presence of the plant.

Boxing glove cactus

Cylindropuntia fulgida var. *mamillata*

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Bridal creeper

Asparagus asparagoides

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

***this requirement also applies to the Western Cape form of bridal creeper**

Bridal veil creeper

Asparagus declinatus

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Broomrapes

Orobanche species

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

All species of *Orobanche* are Prohibited Matter in NSW, except the natives *Orobanche cernuavar. australiana* and *Orobanche minor*

Brown-top bent
Agrostis capillaris

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

Cabomba
Cabomba caroliniana

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Cabomba
Cabomba caroliniana

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

This applies to all species of *Cabomba* except for the native *Cabomba furcata*

Camel thorn
Alhagi maurorum

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

Cane cactus
Austrocylindropuntia cylindrica

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

All species in the *Austrocylindropuntia* genus have this requirement

Cape broom
Genista monspessulana

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Cape broom

Genista monspessulana

Regional Recommended Measure

An exclusion zone is established for all lands in the region, except the core infestation area comprising all Local Government Areas east of the Newell Highway
Whole of region: The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Exclusion zone: Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land; land managers should mitigate spread from their land; the plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. Core infestation: Land managers reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets

Cape tulip - one leaf

Moraea flaccida

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

Cape tulip - two-leaf

Moraea miniata

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

Cat's claw creeper

Dolichandra unguis-cati

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Chilean needle grass

Nassella neesiana

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Chilean needle grass

Nassella neesiana

Regional Recommended Measure

An exclusion zone is established for all lands in the region, except the core infestation area comprising the Tamworth Regional council
Whole of region: The plant should not be bought, sold,

grown, carried or released into the environment. Exclusion zone: Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land; land managers should mitigate spread from their land. Core infestation: Land managers reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets

Chinese violet

Asystasia gangetica subsp. *micrantha*

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

Climbing asparagus

Asparagus africanus

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Climbing asparagus fern

Asparagus plumosus

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Common pear

Opuntia stricta

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

East Indian hygrophila

Hygrophila polysperma

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

Eurasian water milfoil

Myriophyllum spicatum

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited

matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Fireweed

Senecio madagascariensis

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Flax-leaf broom

Genista linifolia

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Frogbit

Limnobium laevigatum

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

All species of *Limnobium* are Prohibited Matter

Gamba grass

Andropogon gayanus

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Gorse

Ulex europaeus

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Gorse

Ulex europaeus

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

Green cestrum
Cestrum parqui

Regional Recommended Measure

An exclusion zone is established for all lands in the region, except the core infestation area comprising the Gunnedah Shire council, Gwydir Shire council, Narrabri Shire council and Tamworth Regional council

Whole of region: The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Exclusion zone: Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land; land managers should mitigate spread from their land; the plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. Core infestation: Land managers reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets

Grey sallow
Salix cinerea

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Ground asparagus
Asparagus aethiopicus

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Harrisia cactus
Harrisia species

Regional Recommended Measure

An exclusion zone is established for all lands in the region, except the core infestation area, comprising the Gwydir Shire council and Moree Plains Shire council

Whole of region: The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Exclusion zone: Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land; the plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. Core infestation: Land managers reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets

This Regional Recommended Measure applies to *Harrisia martinii* and *Harrisia tortuosa*

Hawkweeds
Hieracium species

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

All species in the genus *Hieracium* are Prohibited Matter

Honey locust

Gleditsia triacanthos

Regional Recommended Measure

An exclusion zone is established for all lands in the region, except the core infestation area comprising the Gunnedah Shire council; Narrabri Shire council and Tamworth Regional council

Whole of region: The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Exclusion zone: Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land; the plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. Core infestation: Land managers reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets

Horsetails

Equisetum species

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

Hudson pear

Cylindropuntia rosea

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Hudson pear

Cylindropuntia rosea

Regional Recommended Measure

Whole of Region, excluding Core infestations within Walgett shire

Whole of Region: The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Within Exclusion Zone: Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. Within Core infestation: Land managers reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets. Core infestations should be contained and reduced in extent and outlier infestations should be continuously suppressed and destroyed.

Hydrocotyl

Hydrocotyle ranunculoides

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited

matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Hygrophila

Hygrophila costata

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

Hymenachne

Hymenachne amplexicaulis and hybrids

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Hymenachne

Hymenachne amplexicaulis and hybrids

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

Karoo thorn

Vachellia karroo

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Kidney-leaf mud plantain

Heteranthera reniformis

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

[Kochia](#)

Bassia scoparia

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Excluding the subspecies *trichophylla*

[Koster's curse](#)

Clidemia hirta

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

[Lagarosiphon](#)

Lagarosiphon major

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

[Lantana](#)

Lantana camara

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

[Leafy elodea](#)

Egeria densa

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

[Long-leaf willow primrose](#)

Ludwigia longifolia

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or

released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

Ludwigia

Ludwigia peruviana

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

Madeira vine

Anredera cordifolia

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Madeira vine

Anredera cordifolia

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Land managers reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets.

Mesquite

Prosopis species

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

All species in the genus *Prosopis* have this requirement

Mesquite

Prosopis species

Regional Recommended Measure

An exclusion zone is established for all lands in the region, except the core infestation area comprising the Walgett Shire council

Whole of region: The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Exclusion zone: Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land; the plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. Core infestation: Land managers reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets

[Mexican feather grass](#)
Nassella tenuissima

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

[Miconia](#)
Miconia species

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

All species of *Miconia* are Prohibited Matter in NSW

[Mikania vine](#)
Mikania micrantha

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

***all species in the genus *Mikania* are Prohibited Matter in NSW**

[Mimosa](#)
Mimosa pigra

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

[Mother-of-millions](#)
Bryophyllum species

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread from their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

This Regional Recommended Measure applies to *Bryophyllum delagoense*

Parkinsonia

Parkinsonia aculeata

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Parkinsonia

Parkinsonia aculeata

Control Order

Parkinsonia Control Zone: Whole of NSW

Parkinsonia Control Zone (Whole of NSW): Owners and occupiers of land on which there is parkinsonia must notify the local control authority of new infestations; immediately destroy the plants; ensure subsequent generations are destroyed; and ensure the land is kept free of the plant. A person who deals with a carrier of parkinsonia must ensure the plant (and any seed and propagules) is not moved from the land; and immediately notify the local control authority of the presence of the plant.

Parthenium weed

Parthenium hysterophorus

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Parthenium weed

Parthenium hysterophorus

Prohibition on dealings

The following equipment must not be imported into NSW from Queensland: grain harvesters (including the comb or front), comb trailers (including the comb or front), bins used for holding grain during harvest operations, augers or similar for moving grain, vehicles used to transport grain harvesters, support vehicles driven in paddocks during harvest operations, mineral exploration drilling rigs and vehicles used to transport those rigs, unless set out as an exception in Division 5, Part 2 of the Biosecurity Order (Permitted Activities) 2017

Pond apple

Annona glabra

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Prickly acacia

Vachellia nilotica

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

Prickly pears - Austrocyllindropuntias

Austrocyllindropuntia species

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

All species in the *Austrocyllindropuntia* genus have this requirement

Prickly pears - Cyllindropuntias

Cyllindropuntia species

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

All species in the *Cyllindropuntia* genus have this requirement

Prickly pears - Opuntias

Opuntia species

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Except for *Opuntia ficus-indica* (Indian fig)

Rhus tree

Toxicodendron succedaneum

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

Rope pear

Cyllindropuntia imbricata

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

All species in the *Cyllindropuntia* genus have this requirement

[Rope pear](#)

Cylindropuntia imbricata

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread from their land.

[Rubber vine](#)

Cryptostegia grandiflora

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

[Sagittaria](#)

Sagittaria platyphylla

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

[Sagittaria](#)

Sagittaria platyphylla

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. Plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

[Salvinia](#)

Salvinia molesta

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

[Salvinia](#)

Salvinia molesta

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. Plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

[Scotch broom](#)

Cytisus scoparius subsp. *scoparius*

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Scotch broom

Cytisus scoparius subsp. *scoparius*

Regional Recommended Measure

An exclusion zone is established for all lands in the region, except the core infestation area comprising all Local Government Areas east of the Newell Highway
Whole of region: The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Exclusion zone: Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land; land managers should mitigate spread from their land; the plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. Core infestation: Land managers reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets

Senegal tea plant

Gymnocoronis spilanthoides

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

Serrated tussock

Nassella trichotoma

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Serrated tussock

Nassella trichotoma

Regional Recommended Measure

An exclusion zone is established for all lands in the region, except the core infestation area comprising all Local Government Areas east of the Newell Highway
Whole of region: The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Exclusion zone: Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land; land managers should mitigate spread from their land; the plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. Core infestation: Land managers reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets

Siam weed

Chromolaena odorata

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited

matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

[Silverleaf nightshade](#)
Solanum elaeagnifolium

Prohibition on dealings
Must not be imported into the State or sold

[Silverleaf nightshade](#)
Solanum elaeagnifolium

Regional Recommended Measure
Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread from their land. Land managers reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets.

[Smooth tree pear](#)
Opuntia monacantha

Prohibition on dealings
Must not be imported into the State or sold

[Snakefeather](#)
Asparagus scandens

Prohibition on dealings
Must not be imported into the State or sold

[Spongeplant](#)
Limnobium spongia

Prohibited Matter
A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries
All species of *Limnobium* are Prohibited Matter

[Spotted knapweed](#)
Centaurea stoebe subsp. *micranthos*

Prohibited Matter
A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

St. John's wort
Hypericum perforatum

Regional Recommended Measure

An exclusion zone is established for all lands in the region, except the core infestation area comprising the Gunnedah Shire council, Gwydir Shire council, Liverpool Plains Shire council and Tamworth Regional council

Whole of region: The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Exclusion zone: Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land; land managers should mitigate spread from their land. Core infestation: Land managers reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets

Sweet briar
Rosa rubiginosa

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread from their land. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

Tiger pear
Opuntia aurantiaca

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold

Tiger pear
Opuntia aurantiaca

Biosecurity Zone

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. Land managers should mitigate spread from their land. Land managers reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

Tropical soda apple
Solanum viarum

Control Order

*Tropical Soda Apple Control Zone: Whole of NSW
Tropical Soda Apple Control Zone (Whole of NSW):
Owners and occupiers of land on which there is tropical soda apple must notify the local control authority of new infestations; destroy the plants including the fruit; ensure subsequent generations are destroyed; and ensure the land is kept free of the plant. A person who deals with a carrier of tropical soda apple must ensure the plant (and any seed and propagules) is not moved from the land; and*

immediately notify the local control authority of the presence of the plant on the land, or on or in a carrier.

Velvety tree pear
Opuntia tomentosa

Prohibition on dealings
Must not be imported into the State or sold

Water caltrop
Trapa species

Prohibited Matter
A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries
All species in the *Trapa* genus are Prohibited Matter in NSW

Water hyacinth
Eichhornia crassipes

Prohibition on dealings
Must not be imported into the State or sold

Water hyacinth
Eichhornia crassipes

Biosecurity Zone
The Water Hyacinth Biosecurity Zone applies to all land within the State, except for the following regions: Greater Sydney or North Coast, North West (but only the local government area of Moree Plains), Hunter (but only in the local government areas of City of Cessnock, City of Lake Macquarie, MidCoast, City of Maitland, City of Newcastle or Port Stephens), South East (but only in the local government areas of Eurobodalla, Kiama, City of Shellharbour, City of Shoalhaven or City of Wollongong). *Within the Biosecurity Zone this weed must be eradicated where practicable, or as much of the weed destroyed as practicable, and any remaining weed suppressed. The local control authority must be notified of any new infestations of this weed within the Biosecurity Zone*

Water hyacinth
Eichhornia crassipes

Regional Recommended Measure
An exclusion zone is established for all lands in the region, except the core infestation area comprising the Moree Plains Shire council
Whole of region: The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Exclusion zone: Land managers should mitigate the risk of new

weeds being introduced to their land; land managers should mitigate spread from their land; the plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. Core infestation: Land managers reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets

[Water lettuce](#)
Pistia stratiotes

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.

[Water lilies](#)
Nymphaea species

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

This Regional Recommended Measure applies to *Nymphaea mexicana* (Mexican water lily)

[Water soldier](#)
Stratiotes aloides

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

[Willows](#)
Salix species

Prohibition on dealings

Must not be imported into the State or sold
All species in the *Salix* genus have this requirement, except *Salix babylonica* (weeping willows), *Salix x calodendron* (pussy willow) and *Salix x reichardtii* (sterile pussy willow)

Witchweeds
Striga species

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

All species in the *Striga* genus are Prohibited Matter in NSW, except the native *Striga parviflora*

Yellow bells
Tecoma stans

Regional Recommended Measure

Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land. The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment. Notify local control authority if found.

Yellow burrhead
Limnocharis flava

Prohibited Matter

A person who deals with prohibited matter or a carrier of prohibited matter is guilty of an offence. A person who becomes aware of or suspects the presence of prohibited matter must immediately notify the Department of Primary Industries

The content provided here is for information purposes only and is taken from the *Biosecurity Act 2015* and its subordinate legislation, and the Regional Strategic Weed Management Plans (published by each Local Land Services region in NSW). It describes the state and regional priorities for weeds in New South Wales, Australia.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Review of Functional Objectives – Outcomes for 2017/2018

Attachment B – Community surveys about the control of Hudson pear (*Cylindropuntia rosea*) including using biocontrol

Attachment C – Hudson Pear Survey: March 2018

Attachment D – Hudson Pear Survey: March 2018 (Education and awareness)

Attachment E – Council’s Financial Statements and Auditor General’s Report

Council’s Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June, 2018 and Audit Report for the corresponding period are attached.

Attachment A – Review of Functional Objectives – Outcomes for 2017/2018

Note: In the following tables the column headed “BA & SO” provides in order, a reference to the Main Business Activity Priorities number and the Strategic Objective number from the Business Activity Strategic Plan.

1. Provide information to Council to allow decisions at Council Meetings				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Ensure Business Paper is ready for distribution.	2.3	GM	At least 7 days, but preferably 10 working days prior to the Council Meeting.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Provide recommendations to Council when possible.	2.3	GM	Include in business paper for Council's consideration.	

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met

2. Respond to Councillor inquiries related to the administration function				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Provide information to Councillors within Council's policy guidelines	2.3	GM	On day requested where possible, or within 5 working days (unless request requires detailed investigation).	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Provide written information as requested	2.3	GM	Within 5 working days (unless request requires detailed investigation)	

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met

3. Update Council policy register				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Update new or amended administration policies in Council's policy register.	2.3	GM	Within 14 days of adoption or amendment	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Review Council administration policies.	2.3	GM	Within 2 months of expiry of policy or every 2 years	

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met

4. Provide information to public in a timely and effective manner				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Ensure Council business papers are made available in hard copy at Council's office.	2.1	GM	At least 3 working days before the Council meeting.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Ensure other public information is made available at Council's office.	2.1	GM	As soon as practicable after it becomes public information.	
Ensure business papers are provided to constituent councils.	2.1	GM	Post to General Managers at the same time as Councillors' business papers.	
Ensure minutes, business papers and other information is posted to Council's website.	2.1	GM	As soon as practicable.	

Comment:

30.9.18 – targets met – with copies of business papers now being emailed to respective general managers when distributed to councillors

5. Ensure all statutory requirements are completed and financial returns and plans are completed and lodged by the due date				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Quarterly Budget Review Statements and Delivery Programme Review to Council.	2.2	GM	August, November, March and June Meetings.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Audited Financial Statements to Division of Local Government.	2.2	GM	By the end of November.	
Financial Data collection return.	2.2	GM	By date specified by Division of Local Government.	
Notice of meeting at which audited reports are to be presented.	2.2	GM	Prior to November meeting.	
Audited Financial Reports presented to public	2.2	GM	November meeting.	
Draft Operational Plan and Budget on public exhibition.	2.2	GM	Following March meeting.	
Operational Plan and Budget to be adopted	2.2	GM	June meeting	

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met

6. Ensure all other statutory returns are completed and lodged by the due date				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Pecuniary Interest Returns.	2.2	GM	30 September annually.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Council's Annual Report prepared and lodged with Division of Local Government	2.2	GM	30 November annually.	
Other returns as required by Division of Local Government, Department of Primary Industries, or others	2.2	GM	No later than return date specified	

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met – outstanding reports followed up as necessary. Now also included Related Third Party Declarations

7. Implementation of Council decisions				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Implement Council decisions following Council meeting	2.2	GM	Within 10 working days of Council Meeting For prosecutions, within 2 months of Council resolution	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met

8. Continue to ensure the provision of finance to Council from available sources				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Liaise with constituent councils regarding the level of Council contributions and the apportionment of contributions.	2.4	GM	Continuously.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Letter to Constituent Councils concerning Council's proposed Delivery Plan and Budget estimates for the forthcoming financial year, and the contribution sought from constituent councils.	2.4	GM	30 March.	
Application to Department of Primary Industries for grants under NSW Weeds Action Programme as necessary.	2.4	GM	As required under Weeds Action Programme 1520.	
Provide grant returns to Department of Primary Industries.	2.4	GM	As required under Weeds Action Programme 1520.	
Pursue opportunities for securing grant funds from other available sources.	2.4 & 1.4	GM	As required	

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met following up payment of 2018/19 WAP grant once announcement made by DPI

9. Continue current financial management direction and review Business Activity Strategic Plan and Delivery Programme				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Review Business Activity Strategic Plan.	2.1 & 2.4	GM	Continuously	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Review Delivery Programme.	2.1 & 2.4	GM	Continuously	
Provide adequate funds for employee leave entitlements.	2.3	GM	Maintain reserve of at least 50% of Long Service Leave liability	

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met – relevant IP&R documents to be reviewed by 31 December, 2018

10. Provide financial information and advice to Council				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Provide financial advice as required.	2.2 & 2.3	GM	At Council meetings	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Provide quarterly update on financial trends relating to Council's expenditure.	2.2 & 2.3	GM	At Council Meeting following end of quarter	

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met

11. Ensure that Council's Operational Plan and Budget is considered in order to allow adoption by 30 June each year				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Draft Plan to be presented to Council.	2.2	GM	March Meeting.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with

Draft Plan adopted to allow 28 day public exhibition.	2.2	GM	March Meeting.	target level.
Draft Plan to be adopted following consideration of any submissions received.	2.2	GM	June Meeting.	

Comment:

30.9.18 - targets to be met at March, 2019 meeting

12. Promote the Council's interests through participation with relevant organisations				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Participate in both NW LLS and Central West LLS Regional Weeds Advisory Committees activities through attendance at meetings and supply of information as required to assist the lobbying of State and Federal Governments.	1.1	GM	Attend meetings and provide information as requested.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met

13. Provide active support for LGNSW				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Provide information as requested by LGNSW to assist it to lobby governments.	3.1	GM	Information to be provided by the date requested.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with

Utilise the services of LGNSW to further Council's interests	3.1	GM	As and when required by Council.	target level.
--	-----	----	----------------------------------	---------------

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met

14. Actively pursue politicians to further Council's interests				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Invite politicians to attend Council meetings.	3.1	GM	At least 2 politicians to be invited to Council meetings annually.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Meet with State and Federal Politicians to promote the interests of Council.	3.1	GM	As required	

Comment:

30.9.18 – local state/federal members and agricultural portfolio ministers to be contacted and invited to inspect County area affected by drought

15. Minimise the risks associated with all functions of Council				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Identify new risks associated with Council's functions.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Analyse and prioritise all risks identified.	2.3	GM	Within 3 months after identification.	
Minimise exposure through rectification of risks.	2.3	GM	Within budget constraints.	

Update policy on the use of contractors.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.	
Review risk management policy.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.	
Update Risk Assessment re spraying from back of vehicles and consult WorkCover on proposal.	2.3	GM	When resources allow.	

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met

16. Ensure Council staff are aware of their rights and responsibilities in relation to WH&S , risk management and EEO				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Provide training to staff on relevant legislation.	2.3	GM	Ongoing as identified.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Provide training on EEO to staff.	2.3	GM	Ongoing as required.	
Provide staff with training on risk management.	2.3	GM	Ongoing as required.	
Review and update staff training programme.	2.3	GM	Annually.	
Review EEO Management Plan.	2.3	GM	As required	

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met

17. Maintain and update Council's records management system				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Monitor record keeping procedures to ensure that they provide the best method of maintaining an accurate record of Council's activities.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Review record keeping procedures with a view to updating and computerizing.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.	

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met but difficulties being encountered with availability of contract administration staff and conversion of files to enable remote access. New biosecurity legislation also creating additional workload and difficulties in recording information from remote field locations.

18. Implement system of information technology capable of providing information that is relevant and timely				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Monitor reporting system ability to provide information requirements.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Monitor technology improvements and assess future requirements.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.	
Update Council's computer system, both hardware and software, to ensure that it enhances management and record keeping (as resources allow).	2.3	GM	As required.	

Review Council's website and implement systems for expanding content and keeping content up to date.	2.1 & 3.2	GM	Ongoing.	
--	-----------	----	----------	--

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met but difficulties being encountered with availability of contract administration staff and conversion of files to enable remote access. New biosecurity legislation also creating additional workload and difficulties in recording information from remote field locations. Planning to arrange external contractor to update Council's website to improve response times/speed.

19. Compile accurate data on the condition of current Council assets				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Maintain assets register for all assets over \$1,000.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Monitor the condition of those assets	2.3	GM	Ongoing.	
Identify maintenance requirements for those assets.	2.3	GM	Ongoing.	
Cost maintenance requirements and incorporate into annual budget.	2.3	GM	As identified.	

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met but proposing to upgrade built assets information

20. Introduce a system for electronic mapping of priority weed infestations and the automation of Weeds Officers' reports				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Monitor the introduction of electronic mapping of priority weed infestations and the automation of Weeds Officers' reporting procedures.	1.3 & 2.3	GM/SWO	In conjunction with year 4 WAP 1520 and BIS.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Expand the introduction of electronic mapping of noxious weeds infestation and the automation of Weeds Officers' Reporting Procedures to the whole of Council's Area of Operations.	1.3 & 2.3	GM/SWO	In conjunction with year 4 WAP 1520 and BIS.	
Continue the training of staff in the use of the system in order to ensure its most efficient and effective use.	1.3 & 2.3	GM/SWO	Ongoing.	

Comment:

30.9.18 – targets met with allowance for technological issues with recording data in the field. Staff training to meet new biosecurity legislation in excess of current budget allowances and additional training still be identified by state agencies.

21. Compile data on Council's current vehicle and plant fleet – condition and usage				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Analyse Council's current vehicle and plant fleet and its activities and assess future vehicle and plant needs.	2.3	GM	Ongoing	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met

22. Ensure access to competitively priced chemicals for weeds control programmes				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Ensure access to competitively priced chemicals for weeds control programmes.	1.2	GM	As required	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met

23. Actively pursue the control of priority weeds along roadsides in Council's area				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Inspect roadsides prior to control works to ensure that control programmes are efficient and effective.	1.3	SWO	At least one week prior to spraying.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Carryout necessary control works in line with Council's Budget allocations.	1.3	SWO	As seasonal conditions / and available funding permit.	
Respond to reports of priority weeds on roadsides.	1.3	SWO	Carry out inspection within 7 days of notification.	
Carry out control works in accordance with Council's policy and budget allocations.	1.3	SWO	As required	

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met

24. Actively pursue the control of priority weeds on private lands				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Inspection of private lands to assist landowners to fulfill their legal responsibilities in relation to noxious weeds.	1.2 & 3.2	SWO	At least 240 (4x5x4x3) inspections per quarter.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Provide information to landowners on noxious weeds control	1.2 & 3.2	SWO	If not done at time of inspection then within 1 week.	
Respond to noxious weed complaints	1.2 & 3.2	SWO	Initial inspection within 10 working days.	

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met having regard to current staff availability.

25. Actively pursue the control of priority weeds on vacant Crown lands				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Inspect vacant Crown land parcels to facilitate application to DPI for funds for necessary control works.	1.2	SWO	Prior to submission of application.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Inspect vacant Crown lands to ensure obligations for priority weed control are being met.	1.2	SWO	As required as resources are available.	

Provide information to Department of Lands on priority weed control requirements	1.2	SWO	Within 10 working days of inspection.	
Respond to complaints for priority weeds on vacant Crown Land	1.2	SWO	Initial inspection within 10 working days.	

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met

26. Actively pursue the control of priority weeds on land held by Forests of NSW				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Inspect areas proposed to be clear felled in coming financial year.	1.2	SWO	Within 28 days of receipt of <i>Harvesting Plan of Operations</i> .	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Advise Forests NSW of proposed clear fell areas that are potential weeds risks.	1.2	SWO	Within 14 days of inspection.	
Follow up to ensure control work is carried out on potential weeds risks.	1.2	SWO	Prior to Spring each year.	
Inspect areas surrounding standing forests and “land bank” areas.	1.2	SWO	Ongoing as resources permit, or in response to complaints within 10 working days.	
Advise Forests NSW of areas that pose a risk of				

weeds spreading to adjoining land.	1.2	SWO	14 days after inspection.	
------------------------------------	-----	-----	---------------------------	--

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met

27. Actively pursue the control of priority weeds on other public authorities land				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Inspect lands of public authorities to ensure obligations for priority weeds control are being met.	1.2 & 1.3	SWO	Ongoing.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.
Provide information to public authority on priority weed control requirements.	1.2 & 1.3	SWO	Within 10 working days of inspection.	
Respond to complaints regarding priority weeds on lands of public authorities.	1.2 & 1.3	SWO	Initial inspection within 10 working days.	

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met

28. Conduct aerial spraying programmes for priority weeds				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Organise programmes for aerial spraying of Priority weeds throughout the year as seasonal conditions permit and demand requires.	1.2	GM/SWO	As required.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.

Publicise aerial spraying programmes in local media, and as occasion permits, to ensure maximum landholder participation.	1.2	GM/SWO	As required.	
Organise aerial spraying (involving all weeds officers) throughout Council's area in accordance with programmes.	1.2	SWO	In accordance with Programmes	

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met without need for aerial spraying.

29. Actively pursue regional resources sharing with neighbouring councils and other public authorities to provide cost benefits to Council in the provision of services				
Required Activity	BA & SO	Resp	Target	Performance Measure
Pursue resource sharing through regular interaction with nearby councils and other public authorities to discuss regional weed plans and coordinated approaches to weed control	1.1	GM	Liaise with appropriate members and officers of surrounding councils and other public authorities as required.	Satisfactory completion of task in accordance with target level.

Comment:

30.9.18 – all targets met through discussions at regional level

Attachment B – Community surveys about the control of Hudson pear (*Cylindropuntia rosea*) including using biocontrol

Community surveys about the control of Hudson pear including using biocontrol

Community surveys about the control of Hudson pear (*Cylindropuntia rosea*) including using biocontrol



Introduction

The purpose of these surveys is to guide community engagement in biocontrol and other control methods for Hudson pear. The Community-based social marketing framework will be used and this survey is part of the first steps, which are to prioritise and select targeted activities and determine the barriers and benefits to these activities.

Methods

Workshops on Hudson pear were conducted in the North West Region and at each meeting two paper surveys were distributed to attendants to fill in at the meeting (Appendix 1 and 2). After they had completed filling out the surveys they were invited to share their responses with the groups. On the 7 March 2018, 30 people attended the Grawin workshop 20 people completed survey 1 and twelve people completed survey 2 (many people left the meeting at lunch time and did not complete the second survey). On 8 March 2018, 18 people attended the meeting at Lightning Ridge and twelve people completed each survey.

The surveys were available online and have been distributed to Mining Associations, LLS staff Weeds Officers and the local landcare coordinator. Four people completed the survey online and one extra person emailed a copy of a written response to the education survey. This was included in the online data.

Unless otherwise stated, responses to open ended questions have been paraphrased and grouped.

1 NSW Department of Primary Industries, September September 2018 Wendy Gibney

Results of Survey 1: Control and Mapping

Demographics

Survey respondents were mostly landholder occupiers or miners (Table 1.1). Some respondents ticked more than one option. The "other" category included interested or concerned citizens, a mineral lease holder, a resident and a hobby prospector. Miners Association were the most common group to which respondents belonged followed by volunteer spray groups (Table 1.2). The "other" category for groups included tourist association and opal associations.

Table 1.1 Responses to multiple choice question about type of landholder or land user

	Lightning Ridge	Grawin	Online	Total
Landholder (occupier)	8	7	2	17
Landholder (absentee)	0	0	0	0
Land manager	2	3	0	5
Miner	4	9	3	16
Small business owner	2	0	0	2
Other	2	5	0	7

Table 1.2 Responses to multiple choice question about group membership

	Lightning Ridge	Grawin	Online	Total
Sustainability group	0	0	0	0
Landcare Group	0	1	0	1
Volunteer spraying group	3	5	1	9
Miners association	7	5	3	15
Other	2	1	0	3
None	0	2	1	3

Question 1 Are you clear on where you should spray and where you should leave Hudson pear for biocontrol?

Overall 25 out of 36 people said yes, 6 were unsure and five people said no (Figure 1.1).

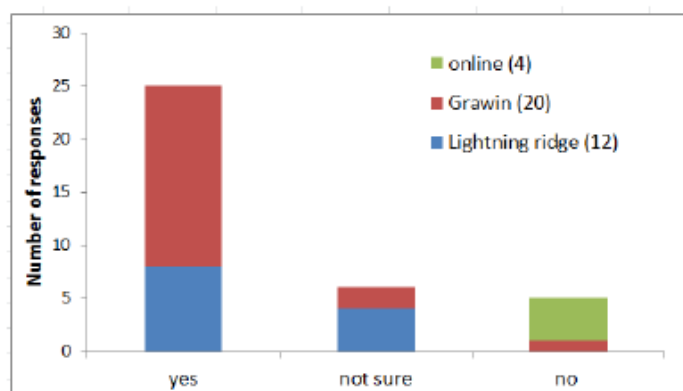


Figure 1.1 Responses to question 1

Question 2 What would make it clearer for you to know where to spray?

Although over 75% of people were clear on where to spray many still had suggestions on how to make it clearer. This included

- Maps (9)
- Buffer zones (2)
- Field discussions (1)
- Information (1)
- Specific information about distances bugs can travel and about the impacts of spraying plants with biocontrol. (1)

Question 3 How have you been controlling Hudson pear?

Spraying was the most common method of control (Figure 1.2). Many people especially those from Lightning Ridge were using more than one method of control.

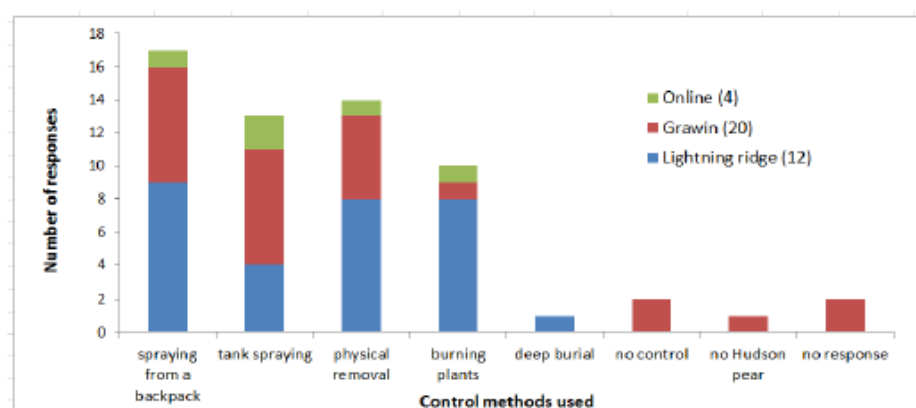


Figure 1.2 Control methods used on Hudson pear. Note that many people used more than one method.

Question 4 Are the methods you are using controlling Hudson pear well?

Twenty-six people responded with "moderately well" including all those using the permitted herbicides at the correct rate. Six people said "yes very well", of these six people one was using roundup; one using physical removal; two were using a variety of methods including herbicide and physical control; two people were using physical control and burning. Of the two people who said "no", one was just using burning and another either digging it out or using straight roundup.

Question 5 What do you use to spray Hudson pear?

Most people who sprayed were using the type and rates according to those allowed on Permit PER14442. Five people from Grawin were using off permit rates or herbicides (Figure 1.3).

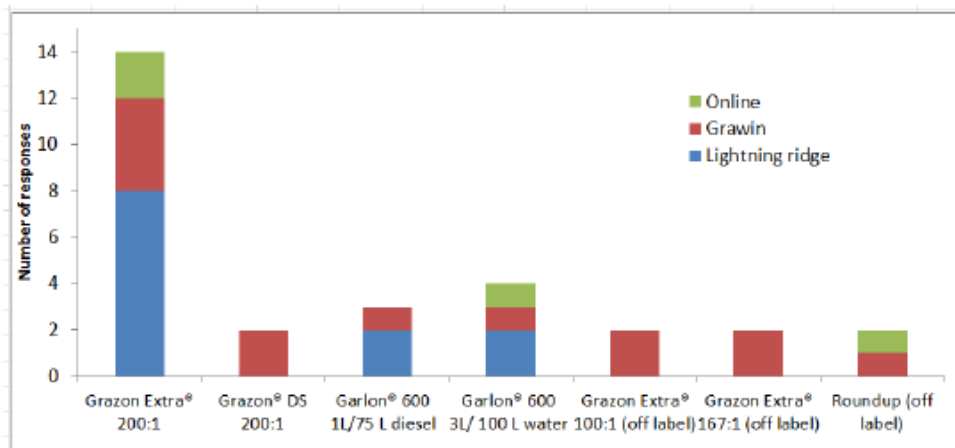


Figure 1.3 Herbicides used on Hudson pear

Question 6 If you are mixing the herbicide with water do you add a wetter or uptake oil to the mix?

Of everyone that was using herbicide; four were not using any oil or wetter, two from Grawin, one from Lightning Ridge and one online response. Two from Grawin were using wetter at another rate. Overall 19 people were using oil at the prescribed rates.

Question 7 Are you adding any marker dye to the spray mix?

Of everyone that was using herbicide; three were not using any dye. Overall 19 people were using dye at the prescribed rate and 3 were using it at another rate (not specified). Two herbicide users did not respond to this question.

Question 8 Please tell us anything you think is difficult about spraying or any concerns you have about spraying

The most common concern related to finding or missing small plants. The issues are listed below with the number of responses for each statement in parenthesis.

- Missed plants or finding all plants especially small ones (8)
- Access to plants in thick scrub (5)
- Not having chemcert (4)
- Not getting good coverage over plants (3)
- Cost of herbicide (2)
- Time taken for herbicide to work (2)
- spines are left behind and they can injure wildlife and humans (2)
- Impacts of herbicide on native flora and fauna (2)
- Regrowth/ doesn't kill all the plant (2)
- Too many plants (2)
- Labour intensive (1)
- Cost of chemcert (1)
- Access to herbicide (1)
- Potentially spreading Hudson pear via vehicle used when spraying. (1)
- Neighbours not doing anything (1)
- Getting volunteers (1)
- Large areas (1)
- Hot days (1)
- Not efficient enough for eradication (1)
- Use of herbicide measuring right dose (1)
- Time taken to spray nearly every weekend 2 to 3 backpacks (1)

Question 9 What do you think is good about spraying Hudson pear?

Most responses related to the fact that herbicide controls Hudson pear and stops it spreading.

Collated responses were:

- Kills it/controls it so good/ its deadly/ effective (11)
- Stops the spread (5)
- Nothing (2)
- You can see where you have been (1)
- Knowing you are doing something (2)
- "cold beer after 5 hours" (1)

Question 10. Do you have any concerns about biocontrol being used for Hudson pear?

Twenty-seven people had no concerns, 10 out of 12 from Lightning Ridge and 14 out of 20 at Grawin and two out of four online. Two people added positive comments about the biocontrols being thoroughly researched and planned. One person was conditional that they had no concerns as long as it was released on their property. Concerns that were raised included:

- the biocontrol getting out of control (not being host specific) (3)
- people leaving all control to biocontrol (1)
- effectiveness of dispersion especially in areas where the infestations are just scattered (1)
- biotypes of Hudson pear not being impacted by the bugs (1)
- concerns about effectiveness of biotype (1)
- not being monitored well enough in the field to give it the best chance to work (1)

Question 11. What do you think will be good about releasing biocontrol agents (bugs) on Hudson pear?

Most of the responses relate to the biocontrols ability to control the plant. Two people mentioned eradication in their responses. Responses on the benefits were:

- controlling plants (21)
 - kills plants/ gets rid of plants (5)
 - help/ improve the situation (3)
 - widespread control (3)
 - controls small plants (2)
 - long term control (2)
 - works while I sleep (1)
 - controls where people do nothing (1)
 - effective (1)
 - makes it manageable (1)
 - good for thick infestations (1)
 - good if it works (1)
- save time (2)
- save costs/ labour (2)
- environmental benefits (2)
- knowing you are doing something (1)

Question 12 Are you interested in helping collecting and releasing the bugs?

Overall 30 out of 36 people want to be involved in collecting and releasing biocontrol agents. Everyone at Lightning Ridge wanted to be involved and for Grawin only one person said no and 2 people did not respond. One out of four said yes online.

Question 13 What do you think will be difficult or challenging about collecting and releasing the bugs? Barriers to collecting and releasing biocontrol agents were:

- Nothing (6)
- Lack of knowledge (4)
 - About how to handle and transport (1)
 - About right places to release (1)
 - General knowledge comment (1)
 - Need training (1)
- Handling/spikes (3)
- Time (2)
- Coordination with the whole of the community/ community awareness (2)
- Labour (1)
- Costs (1)
- Resources (1)
- Getting to the release site (1)
- Getting into the core infestation (1)
- Getting permission from land/claim owners to do it on their land (1)
- Not spraying plants with bugs on them (1)
- Getting to the release site (1)
- Keeping biotypes separate (1)
- Keeping records (1)

Question 14. What do you think will be worthwhile about collecting and releasing the bugs?

Most responses related to helping spread the bugs for improved control. Collated responses were:

- Better control/ better outcomes / faster control over a bigger area (6)
- Increasing the spread of the bug (5)
- Help with eradication/ getting rid of the weed (3)
- Local's knowledge (1)
- Good if it works (1)
- "start of winning the war" (1)

Question 15. Are you interested in helping with monitoring and reporting?

Twenty-eight out of 36 people want to be involved in monitoring and reporting.

Question 16 What do you think will be difficult or challenging about monitoring and reporting?

Time was the most common barrier. Collated barriers to monitoring and reporting were:

- Time (6)
- Nothing/ no problems (4)
- Resources/costs (2)
- Covering large areas (1)
- Labour (1)
- Getting everyone to participate (1)
- Not being here in summer (1)
- Need training (1)
- Don't like paperwork prefer easy to use app (1)
- Regular mapping updates (1)
- Weather (1)
- No internet (1)
- Access to land/ claim holder sites (1)

Question 17 What do you think will be good about helping with monitoring and reporting?

Knowing the results of the biocontrol and gaining knowledge about biocontrol were the most common benefits. Collated benefits were:

- Knowing what is and isn't working/ seeing results (7)
- Gaining knowledge/ information / learning about biocontrol (5)
- Knowing you are doing something (3)
- Getting constructive feedback for management strategies/ guide future practices (3)
- Helps with control/ rid of plant (3)
- Involvement in the front line / being part of it (2)
- Helps coordination/ the more help the better (2)
- Protect downstream interests (1)
- People on site (1)

Question 18 Please share any concerns you have about helping with the mapping of Hudson pear?

Most people did not respond to this question. Of those that did their responses were

- None (7)
- Updating maps regularly (2)
- Accuracy (1)
- Need education to map (1)
- Permission to enter land (1)
- Difficult (1)

Responses that were not specifically answering the question included *Other people in denial when it is on their property* and *Great idea*.

Question 19 What do you think is difficult or challenging about helping with mapping Hudson pear at a community workshop?

Most people did not respond to this question. Of those that did their responses were

- Nothing/ all good (6)
- Accuracy (3)
- Getting other people to do it/ to workshops/ working together (3)
- Time (2)
- Lack of knowledge
- Putting maps together (1)
- Getting people to admit the weed is on their property (1)

Question 20 What do you think is difficult or challenging about letting your weeds officer know about any new plants that you see on properties or on the roadside?

Not knowing who or how to contact their weeds officer are the most significant barriers (Table 1.3). Other responses included “you would need a lot of weeds officers” “easy access to contacts”

Table 1.3 Responses to Question 20 Note that some people made more than one choice

Choices	Lightning Ridge	Grawin	Online	Total
I do not know who my weeds officer is	2	6	3	8
I do not know how to contact the weeds officer	3	6	4	9
It is difficult to get accurate details about where I saw the plants	2	1	0	3
Other	4	3	1	7
None	1	1	0	2
No response	3	9	0	12

Question 21

There was a very positive response to the value of mapping everyone in Lightning Ridge and 13 at Grawin said yes. Overall 22 people out of 36 responded positively. Only one person said no. Four people at Grawin and two online did not respond. Full unedited comments are listed below:

Lightning Ridge

- *If you have a good map of the area you can plan your attack – progress and work out where to release the bug*
- *More input is better outcome*
- *It would be excellent to have the extent of Hudson pear mapped accurately*
- *Accurate mapping essential to show success or lack of, should help with continued funding for research.*
- *To see where it is going to pop up in the area and if control methods are working*
- *To be able to see distribution and extent of infestation*
- *Measure spread and or reduction in area and density*

Grawin

- *Accurate mapping essential to show success or lack of, should help with continued funding for research.*
- *More accurate map*
- *If it control it*
- *From today's discussion Hudson pear has spread to some far areas but some nearby areas has not had a consistent spread*

Online

- *To know where the attack or release is happening*
- *Just go for a drive and you will see it*

Question 22 *Do you have any concerns about drones being used to map Hudson pear?*

Overall there were very few concerns about using drones. Ten out of 12 people in Lightning Ridge said no or none and 16 out of 20 people in Grawin had no concerns. Only one person online responded and they had no concerns but for the next question stated *"Maybe sighting plants but local knowledge is best"*. The concerns that were raised were: Drones being shot down, Drones not seeing plants in heavily timbered areas and drones not spotting small plants.

Question 23 *What do you think would be good about using drones to map Hudson pear?*

There were positive responses about better and more accurate maps and better access if drones were used. Collated responses were:

- Better maps and monitoring/ better accuracy with maps (9)
- Access better (7)
- Can cover large area (3)
- Cheaper (2)
- Faster (1)
- Drones wont spread plants (1)
- Can find new plants (1)
- Good tool (1)
- Easier than walking (1)

Questions 24 *If there was an online mapping tool available how likely would you be to use it?*

Questions 25 *If there was a phone app mapping tool available how likely would you be to use it?*

The results to these questions were similar with 15 people very likely and 11 likely to use an online tool and 15 people very likely and 10 likely to use a phone app (Figure 1.4).

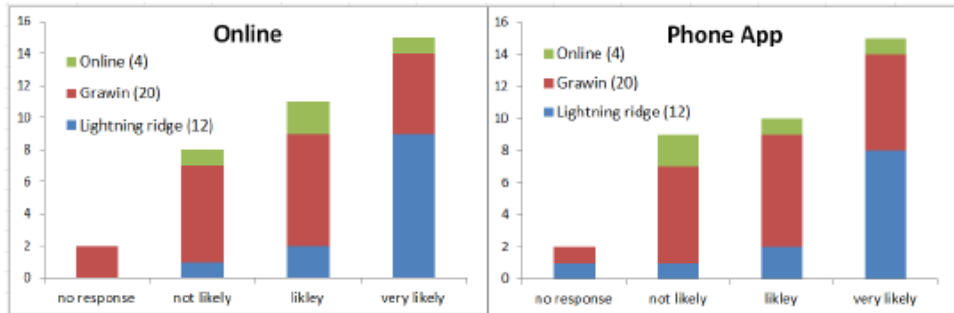


Figure 1.4 Likelihood of people using mapping tools

Question 26 *What do you think would be difficult or challenging about using an online mapping tool or phone mapping app?*

Barriers to using technology for mapping were:

- Technology deficient or computer illiterate (5)
- Would need to be simple or need to be taught or must be user friendly (5)
- Network coverage (2)
- No barriers (5)
- Not much (1)

Question 27 *Do you see any value in having an online mapping tool or phone mapping app?*

Eighteen people said yes they saw value in it though two said yes conditionally. One condition was if internet or phone coverage was available and one was if the system was intuitive and easy to use. Three people said no or not really. One person thought it was a waste of money. Another comment was that any mapping would be good.

Results survey 2. Education and Awareness

Question 1 What do you want to learn more about?

Learning about biocontrol and mapping were the most popular choices (Figure 2.1). Eighteen out of 28 people indicated they wanted to learn how to collect and release biocontrol. The "other" category included two responses one requesting updates on progress and results and one about responsibilities of landowners, miners CMCC and LLS.

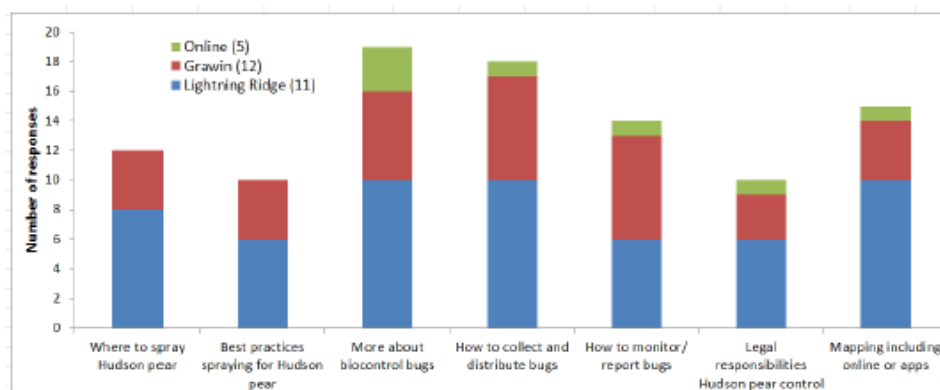


Figure 2.1 Responses relating to what people want to learn.

Question 2 How do you like to learn?

Clearly the preferred method of learning is through field days and practical workshops followed by community meetings (Figure 2.2). There were no "other" responses.

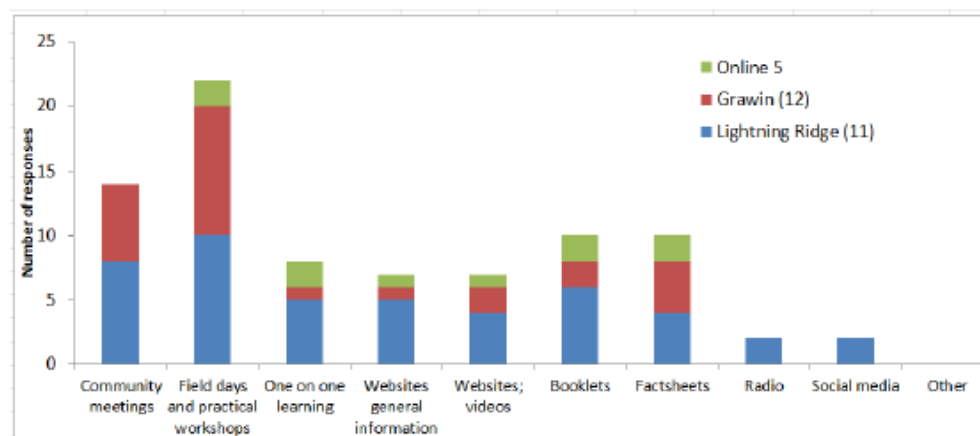


Figure 2.2 Preferred learning methods

Question 3 *If you ticked meetings, workshops or field days, do you have a preferred time?*

Eighteen people responded to this question (Table 2.1) and weekday mornings suit the most number of people.

Table 2.1 Responses to best times for workshops or field days.

Day and time	No. of responses
Anytime/ no preference	7
Weekdays mornings	4
Weekdays anytime	3
Mornings	3
Weekends	2
Weekend mornings	1
Evenings	1
Anytime except Tuesday	1

Question 4 *Would you like to do a course for a Chemcert certificate?*

Seventeen out of 28 people want to do Chemcert training, this included nine from Grawin and six from Lightning Ridge and two from online surveys. Eleven people have not done any Chemcert training and five want to do the refresher course.

Question 5 *What do you think would help encourage other people to start controlling Hudson pear?*

Many people ticked multiple methods. Three methods were equally preferred: posters, pamphlets in rates notices and signs (Figure 2.3). Other suggestions included compliance issues through weeds officer inspections, fines, shaming and claim lease inspections.

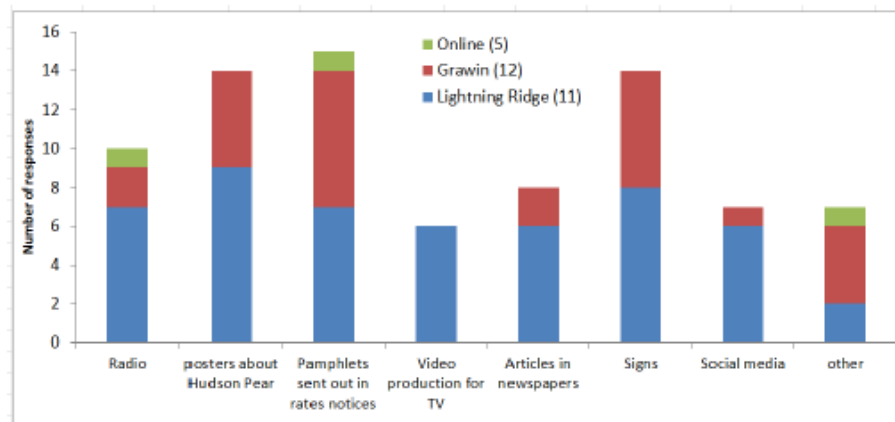


Figure 2.3 Responses to the multiple choice question about how to encourage others to control Hudson pear

Additional comments

There is always too much talking and not enough being done this should have been done years ago there is just so much Hudson pear now I don't know how you are going to get it under control, you would need an army of workers, and that's something you haven't got. But I do think land owners should be made to do their bit and not leave it up to everyone else.

Discussion

The community was surveyed about their involvement in the following activities:

1. Assisting with mapping, which in turn includes the following behaviours-
 - a. Looking for Hudson pear
 - b. Contacting their local weeds officer
 - c. Using an online mapping tool
 - d. Using phone app mapping tool
2. Continuing to spray in areas that do not have biocontrol. Which requires-
 - a. Using the correct herbicides with an oil or wetter and dye
 - b. Having an up to date chemcert certificate
 - c. Knowing where biocontrol agents are and to not spray those areas
3. Assisting with the collection and spreading of the biocontrol agents
4. Assisting with monitoring and reporting the success of the biocontrol agents

The barriers and benefits for each of these activities is summarised below. It is important to note that people who completed the surveys were mostly already active in managing Hudson pear so the survey results do not reflect the barriers of people who are currently doing nothing.

1. Assisting with mapping

All of the people who did the survey were aware of, and could identify Hudson pear. However, it is likely that there are still many people in the community who still need to learn how to identify this weed. A major barrier for reporting new infestations of Hudson pear is not knowing who their weeds officer is or how to contact them.

Most people saw value in mapping and were either likely or very likely to use a phone app or online mapping tool. The potential barriers was not knowing how to use them so there would need to be training on how to use these tools and they should be simple to use.

2. Spraying

With regards to spraying, the main barriers were missing small plants and difficult access in thick scrub. Although these barriers for spraying cannot easily be overcome, in the long term it is possible that the biocontrol will be able to control these small missed plants and plants that are difficult to get to. The barriers that can be addressed with regards to spraying include: providing Chem cert training and ensuring best practice. Most respondents were using the correct herbicide, with a wetter and dye and covering all of the plant but there were six off label uses, four not using oil or a wetter. Also not getting good coverage on plants and regrowth were listed as barriers.

Another issue is knowing where biocontrols are to prevent spraying in those areas. Most people who attended workshops were clear on where to spray and where to leave for biocontrols though all that responded online said they were not clear. Mapping and buffer zones could help overcome this barrier.

3 and 4 Biocontrol

There were very few concerns about the use of biocontrol and 30 out of 36 people want to help with the collection and distribution of the agents and 28 out of 36 want to help with monitoring and reporting. Most of the barriers listed can be overcome with training.

Draft recommendations

It would be good to discuss these as a group to work out the details of the strategies but broadly speaking here are some recommendations:

1. Promote information about who the weeds officers are and how to contact them.
2. If an online mapping tool or app is developed, they should be easy to use and training on how to use them should be provided.
3. Provide a local Chemical Certificate course.
4. Develop fact sheets on using the correct herbicide rates and additives.
5. Provide information (especially maps) about where not to spray with regards to buffer zones around biocontrol release sites.
6. Provide training on how to collect, release, monitor and report on biocontrols. The preference is for practical workshops, field days or meetings on weekday mornings.
7. Posters, pamphlets and signs were the ways the local community preferred to encourage other people to start controlling Hudson pear. It would be best to use motivational messaging techniques when doing this.

Attachment C – Hudson Pear Survey: March 2018

Hudson Pear Survey: March 2018

Spraying

1. We have talked about both spraying and using biocontrol this morning. Are you clear on where you should spray and where you should leave Hudson pear for biocontrol?
☐ Yes ☐ Not sure ☐ No
2. What would help make this clearer for you so you know where to spray?
3. How have you been controlling Hudson pear?

<input type="checkbox"/> Spraying from backpack	<input type="checkbox"/> Burning plants
<input type="checkbox"/> Tank spraying	<input type="checkbox"/> Deep burial
<input type="checkbox"/> Physical removal	<input type="checkbox"/> No control
4. Are the methods you are using controlling Hudson pear well?
☐ Yes very well ☐ No
☐ Moderately well
Comments _____
5. What do you use to spray Hudson pear?
☐ Grazon Extra® Rate: 500 mL per 100 L of water (or 50 mL per 10 L of water)
☐ Grazon® DS Rate : 500 mL per 100 L of water (or 50 mL per 10 L of water)
☐ Garlon® 600 Rate: 1 L per 75 L of diesel (or 200 mL per 15 L of water)
☐ Garlon® 600 Rate: 3 L per 100 L of water (or 300 mL per 10 L of water)
☐ Other herbicides or different rates please give details _____

6. If you are mixing the herbicide with water do you add a wetter or uptake oil to the mix?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes as per the label	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes other rate _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable (diesel used)
7. Are you adding any marker dye to the spray mix?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes as per the label	<input type="checkbox"/> No, why not? _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes other rate _____	
8. Please tell us anything you think is difficult about spraying or any concerns you have about spraying.

9. What do you think is good about spraying Hudson pear?

Biocontrol

10. Do you have any concerns about biocontrol being used for Hudson pear?

11. What do you think will be good about releasing biocontrol agents (bugs) on Hudson pear?

12. Weeds officers will be working with the community to help spread the bugs. Are you interested in helping to collect and release the bugs?

☐ Yes (go to question 13) ☐ No (go to question 15)

13. What do you think will be difficult or challenging about collecting and releasing the bugs?

14. What do you think will be worthwhile about collecting and releasing the bugs?

15. Are you interested in helping with monitoring and reporting?

☐ Yes (go to question 16) ☐ No (go to question 18)

16. What do you think will be difficult or challenging about monitoring and reporting?

17. What do you think will be good about helping with monitoring and reporting?

Mapping and reporting

18. Please share any concerns you have about helping with the mapping of Hudson pear?

19. What do you think is difficult or challenging about helping with mapping Hudson pear at a community workshop?

20. What do you think is difficult or challenging about letting your weeds officer know about any new plants that you see on properties or on the roadside?

- ☐ I do not know who my weeds officer is
- ☐ I do not know how to contact the weeds officer
- ☐ It is difficult to get accurate details about where I saw the plants
- ☐ Other

21. Do you see any value in contributing to mapping of Hudson Pear?

22. Do you have any concerns about drones being used to map Hudson pear?

23. What do you think would be good about using drones to map Hudson pear?

24. If there was an online mapping tool available how likely would you be to use it?

☐ not likely ☐ likely ☐ very likely

25. If there was a phone mapping app available how likely would you be to use it?

☐ not likely ☐ likely ☐ very likely

26. What do you think would be difficult or challenging about using an online mapping tool or phone mapping app?

27. Do you see any value in having an online mapping tool or phone mapping app?

How would you describe yourself?

☐ Landholder (occupier)

☐ Miner

☐ Landholder (absentee)

☐ Small business owner

☐ Land manager

☐ Other _____

Are you a member of any community groups?

☐ Sustainability group

☐ Miners association

☐ Landcare Group

☐ Other

☐ Volunteer spraying group

Please give the name of the group/group/s _____

Any other comments?

Thank you

Attachment D – Hudson Pear Survey: March 2018 (Education and awareness)

Hudson Pear Survey: March 2018 (Education and awareness)

1. What do you want to learn more about?

- ☐ Where to spray Hudson pear
- ☐ Best practices spraying for Hudson pear
- ☐ More about biocontrol bugs
- ☐ How to collect and distribute bugs
- ☐ How to monitor and report bugs
- ☐ Legal responsibilities for controlling Hudson pear
- ☐ Mapping including online or apps
- ☐ Other, please list

2. How do you like to learn?

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community meetings | <input type="checkbox"/> Booklets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Field days and practical workshops | <input type="checkbox"/> Factsheets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> One on one learning | <input type="checkbox"/> Radio |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Websites: general information | <input type="checkbox"/> Social media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Websites: videos | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please list | |

3. If you ticked meetings, workshops or field days, do you have a preferred time?
(e.g. prefer mornings or prefer weekdays)

4. Would you like to do a course for a Chemcert certificate?

- ☐ Yes I have not done this before
- ☐ Yes a refresher course
- ☐ No I am up to date
- ☐ No I do not want to do this

Hudson Pear Survey March 2018 (Education and Awareness)

5. What do you think would help encourage other people to start controlling Hudson pear?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Radio | <input type="checkbox"/> Articles in newspapers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Posters about Hudson Pear | <input type="checkbox"/> Signs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pamphlets sent out in rate notices | <input type="checkbox"/> Social media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Video production for TV use | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

6. How would you describe yourself?

- ☐ Landholder (occupier)
- ☐ Landholder (absentee)
- ☐ Land manager
- ☐ Miner
- ☐ Small business owner
- ☐ Other _____

7. Are you a member of any community groups?

- ☐ Sustainability group
- ☐ Landcare Group
- ☐ Volunteer spraying group
- ☐ Miners association
- ☐ Other

Please give the name of the group group/s _____

8. Do you have any further comments or ideas about education and awareness?

Thank you

Attachment E – Council’s Financial Statements and Auditor General’s Report

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2018

To provide effective integrated weed management
systems utilizing the latest technology to all
Constituent councils fairly and equitably



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

General Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Contents	Page
1. Understanding Council's Financial Statements	2
2. Statement by Councillors and Management	3
3. Primary Financial Statements:	
– Income Statement	4
– Statement of Comprehensive Income	5
– Statement of Financial Position	6
– Statement of Changes in Equity	7
– Statement of Cash Flows	8
4. Notes to the Financial Statements	9
5. Independent Auditor's Reports:	
– On the Financial Statements (Sect 417 [2])	43
– On the Conduct of the Audit (Sect 417 [3])	46

Overview

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council is constituted under the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) and has its principal place of business at:

77 Fox Street
WALGETT NSW 2832

Council's guiding principles are detailed in Chapter 3 of the LGA and includes:

- principles applying to the exercise of functions generally by council,
- principles to be applied when making decisions,
- principles of community participation,
- principles of sound financial management, and
- principles for strategic planning relating to the development of an integrated planning and reporting framework.

A description of the nature of Council's operations and its principal activities are provided in Note 2(b).

Through the use of the internet, we have ensured that our reporting is timely, complete and available at minimum cost. All press releases, financial statements and other information are publicly available on our website:
<http://www.cmcc.nsw.gov.au>.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

General Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Understanding Council's financial statements

Introduction

Each year, individual local governments across New South Wales are required to present a set of audited financial statements to their council and community.

What you will find in the statements

The financial statements set out the financial performance, financial position and cash flows of Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2018.

The format of the financial statements is standard across all NSW Councils and complies with both the accounting and reporting requirements of Australian Accounting Standards and requirements as set down by the Office of Local Government.

About the Councillor/Management Statement

The financial statements must be certified by senior staff as 'presenting fairly' the Council's financial results for the year and are required to be adopted by Council – ensuring both responsibility for and ownership of the financial statements.

About the primary financial statements

The financial statements incorporate five 'primary' financial statements:

1. The Income Statement

Summarises Council's financial performance for the year, listing all income and expenses.

This statement also displays Council's original adopted budget to provide a comparison between what was projected and what actually occurred.

2. The Statement of Comprehensive Income

Primarily records changes in the fair value of Council's Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment.

3. The Statement of Financial Position

A 30 June snapshot of Council's financial position indicating its assets, liabilities and "net wealth".

4. The Statement of Changes in Equity

The overall change for the year (in dollars) of Council's "net wealth".

5. The Statement of Cash Flows

Indicates where Council's cash came from and where it was spent. This statement also displays Council's original adopted budget to provide a comparison between what was projected and what actually occurred.

About the Notes to the Financial Statements

The Notes to the Financial Statements provide greater detail and additional information on the five primary financial statements.

About the Auditor's Reports

Council's annual financial statements are required to be audited by the NSW Audit Office. In NSW the auditor provides 2 audit reports:

1. an opinion on whether the financial statements present fairly the Council's financial performance and position, and
2. their observations on the conduct of the audit, including commentary on the Council's financial performance and financial position.

Who uses the financial statements?

The financial statements are publicly available documents and must be presented at a Council meeting between seven days and five weeks after the date of the Audit Report.

The public can make submissions to Council up to seven days subsequent to the public presentation of the financial statements.

Council is required to forward an audited set of financial statements to the Office of Local Government.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

General Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Statement by Councillors and Management

made pursuant to Section 413(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)* (as amended)

The attached General Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)* (as amended) and the regulations made thereunder,
- the Australian Accounting Standards and other pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board
- the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these financial statements:

- present fairly the Council's operating result and financial position for the year,
- accord with Council's accounting and other records.

We are not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 19 September 2018.



Councillor Peter Shinton
Councillor
30 October 2018



Councillor Michael Webb
Deputy Chairperson
30 October 2018



Mr Don Ramsland
General Manager
30 October 2018



Mr Don Ramsland
Responsible Accounting Officer
30 October 2018

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Income Statement

for the year ended 30 June 2018

Original unaudited budget 2018	\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2018	Actual 2017
Income from continuing operations				
<i>Revenue:</i>				
38	User charges and fees	3a	61	38
5	Interest and investment revenue	3b	7	6
117	Other revenues	3c	101	113
806	Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	3d,e	881	796
<i>Other income:</i>				
20	Net gains from the disposal of assets	5	11	5
986	Total income from continuing operations		1,061	958
Expenses from continuing operations				
688	Employee benefits and on-costs	4a	548	592
20	Materials and contracts	4b	17	22
30	Depreciation and amortisation	4c	31	27
220	Other expenses	4d	168	225
958	Total expenses from continuing operations		764	866
28	Operating result from continuing operations		297	92
28	Net operating result for the year		297	92
28	Net operating result attributable to Council		297	92
Net operating result for the year before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes				
28			297	92

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

page 4

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Statement of Comprehensive Income
for the year ended 30 June 2018

\$ '000	Notes	2018	2017
Net operating result for the year (as per Income Statement)		297	92
Other comprehensive income:			
Amounts that will not be reclassified subsequently to the operating result		–	–
Amounts that will be reclassified subsequently to the operating result when specific conditions are met		–	–
Total comprehensive income for the year		297	92
 Total comprehensive income attributable to Council		 297	 92

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

page 5

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Statement of Financial Position
as at 30 June 2018

\$ '000	Notes	2018	2017
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6a	602	414
Receivables	7	62	46
Inventories	8	32	17
Total current assets		696	477
Non-current assets			
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	9	263	228
Total non-current assets		263	228
TOTAL ASSETS		959	705
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Payables	10	24	24
Provisions	11	116	159
Total current liabilities		140	183
Non-current liabilities			
Total non-current liabilities		—	—
TOTAL LIABILITIES		140	183
Net assets		819	522
EQUITY			
Accumulated surplus	12	635	338
Revaluation reserves	12	184	184
Total equity		819	522

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

page 6

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Statement of Changes in Equity
for the year ended 30 June 2018

	2018	2018	2018	2017	2017	2017
	Accumulated	IPP&E	Total	Accumulated	IPP&E	Total
\$ '000	surplus	revaluation	equity	surplus	revaluation	equity
		reserve			reserve	
Opening balance	338	184	522	246	184	430
Net operating result for the year	297	–	297	92	–	92
Other comprehensive income	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total comprehensive income	297	–	297	92	–	92
Equity – balance at end of the reporting period	635	184	819	338	184	522

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

page 7

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Statement of Cash Flows
for the year ended 30 June 2018

Original unaudited budget 2018	\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2018	Actual 2017
Cash flows from operating activities				
	<u>Receipts:</u>			
38	User charges and fees		61	38
5	Investment and interest revenue received		7	6
806	Grants and contributions		867	878
117	Bonds, deposits and retention amounts received		—	—
—	Other		99	101
	<u>Payments:</u>			
(688)	Employee benefits and on-costs		(591)	(591)
(20)	Materials and contracts		(32)	(27)
(220)	Other		(168)	(220)
38	Net cash provided (or used in) operating activities	13b	243	185
Cash flows from investing activities				
	<u>Receipts:</u>			
20	Sale of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment		11	5
	<u>Payments:</u>			
(120)	Purchase of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment		(66)	(64)
(100)	Net cash provided (or used in) investing activities		(55)	(59)
Cash flows from financing activities				
	<u>Receipts:</u>			
	Nil			
	<u>Payments:</u>			
—	Repayment of borrowings and advances		—	(50)
—	Net cash flow provided (used in) financing activities		—	(50)
(62)	Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		188	76
400	Plus: cash and cash equivalents – beginning of year	13a	414	338
338	Cash and cash equivalents – end of the year	13a	602	414

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

page 8

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Contents of the notes accompanying the financial statements

Note	Details	Page
1	Basis of preparation	10
2(a)	Council functions/activities – financial information	12
2(b)	Council functions/activities – component descriptions	13
3	Income from continuing operations	14
4	Expenses from continuing operations	16
5	Gains or losses from the disposal of assets	19
6(a)	Cash and cash equivalent assets	20
6(b)	Restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments – details	20
7	Receivables	21
8	Inventories and other assets	22
9	Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	23
10	Payables and borrowings	24
11	Provisions	25
12	Accumulated surplus, revaluation reserves, changes in accounting policies, changes in accounting estimates and errors	27
13	Statement of cash flows – additional information	27
14	Contingencies and other liabilities/assets not recognised	28
15	Financial risk management	31
16	Material budget variations	35
17	Fair value measurement	37
18	Related party transactions	38
19(a)	Statement of performance measures – consolidated results	39
	Additional council disclosures (unaudited)	
19(b)	Statement of performance measures – consolidated results (graphs)	40
20	Council information and contact details	42

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 1. Basis of preparation

These financial statements were authorised for issue by Council on 30/10/2018.

Council has the power to amend and reissue these financial statements.

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Australian Accounting Interpretations, the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)* and Regulations, and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting. Council is a not-for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing these financial statements.

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

Specific budgetary amounts have been included for comparative analysis (to actuals) in the following reports and notes:

- Income statement
- Statement of cash flows
- Note 16 – Material budget variations

and are clearly marked .

(a) Historical cost convention

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and certain classes of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment and investment property.

(b) Significant accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Council's accounting policies.

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on the Council and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

Council makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year include:

- (i) estimated fair values of property, plant and equipment – refer Note 9,
- (ii) employee benefit provisions – refer Note 11.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 1. Basis of preparation (continued)

Significant judgements in applying the Council's accounting policies

(i) Impairment of receivables

Council has made a significant judgement about the impairment of a number of its receivables in Note 7.

Monies and other assets received by Council

(a) The Consolidated Fund

In accordance with the provisions of Section 409(1) of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*, all money and other assets received by Council is held in the Council's Consolidated Fund unless it is required to be held in the Council's Trust Fund.

Cash and other assets of the following entities have been included as part of the Consolidated Fund:

- General purpose operations

(b) The Trust Fund

In accordance with the provisions of Section 411 of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)* (as amended), a separate and distinct Trust Fund is maintained to account for all money and other assets received by the Council in trust which must be applied only for the purposes of, or in accordance with the trusts relating to those monies. Trust monies and other assets subject to Council's control have been included in these reports.

A separate statement of monies held in the Trust Fund is available for inspection at the Council office by any person free of charge.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which that are recoverable from, or payable to the taxation authority are presented as operating cash flows.

New accounting standards and interpretations issued not yet effective

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the current reporting period and which have not been applied.

As at the date of authorisation of these financial statements, Council does not consider that any of those standards are likely to have a material impact on the Council's future financial statements, financial position, financial performance or cash flows.

Council has not elected to apply any pronouncements before their operative date in these financial statements.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 2(a). Council functions/activities – financial information

Functions/activities	Income, expenses and assets have been directly attributed to the following functions/activities. Details of these functions/activities are provided in Note 2(b).									
	Income from continuing operations		Expenses from continuing operations		Operating result from continuing operations		Grants included in income from continuing operations		Total assets held (current and non-current)	
	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
Governance	2	–	18	20	(16)	(20)	–	–	–	–
Administration	19	33	256	228	(237)	(195)	–	–	–	–
Environment	1,040	925	490	618	550	307	346	289	958	705
Other	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Total functions and activities	1,061	958	764	866	297	92	346	289	959	705

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 2(b). Council functions/activities – component descriptions

Details relating to the Council's functions/activities as reported in Note 2(a) are as follows:

GOVERNANCE

Includes costs related to Council's role as a component of democratic government, members' fees and expenses, subscriptions to local authority associations, meeting of Council and policy-making committees, public disclosure (e.g. GIPA) and legislative compliance.

ADMINISTRATION

Includes corporate support and other support services and any Council policy compliance.

ENVIRONMENT

Includes priority/noxious plants and insect/vermin control, other environmental protection.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 3. Income from continuing operations

\$ '000	2018	2017
(a) User charges and fees		
Other user charges and fees		
(i) Fees and charges – statutory and regulatory functions (per s.608)		
Private works – section 67	52	32
Weeds certificates	4	4
Total fees and charges – statutory/regulatory	56	36
(ii) Fees and charges – other (incl. general user charges (per s.608))		
Sundry sales	5	2
Total fees and charges – other	5	2
TOTAL USER CHARGES AND FEES	61	38

Accounting policy for user charges and fees

User charges and fees are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided.

(b) Interest and investment revenue (including losses)

Interest		
– Cash and investments	7	6
TOTAL INTEREST AND INVESTMENT REVENUE	7	6
Interest revenue is attributable to:		
Unrestricted investments/financial assets:		
General Council cash and investments	7	6
Total interest and investment revenue recognised	7	6

Accounting policy for interest and investment revenue

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest rate at the date that interest is earned.

(c) Other revenues

Insurance claim recoveries	8	9
Plant income	93	104
TOTAL OTHER REVENUE	101	113

Accounting policy for other revenue

Council recognises revenue when the amount of revenue can be reliably measured, it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the Council and specific criteria have been met for each of the Council's activities as described below. Council bases its estimates on historical results, taking into consideration the type of customer, the type of transaction and the specifics of each arrangement.

Miscellaneous sales are recognised when physical possession has transferred to the customer which is deemed to be the point of transfer of risks and rewards.

Other income is recorded when the payment is due, the value of the payment is notified, or the payment is received, whichever occurs first.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 3. Income from continuing operations (continued)

\$ '000	2018 Operating	2017 Operating	2018 Capital	2017 Capital
(d) Grants				
Specific purpose				
Noxious weeds	346	289	–	–
Total specific purpose	346	289	–	–
Total grants	346	289	–	–
Grant revenue is attributable to:				
– State funding	346	289	–	–
	346	289	–	–
(e) Contributions				
Other contributions:				
Cash contributions				
Hudson pear contributions	21	–	–	–
Other councils – joint works/services	514	507	–	–
Total other contributions – cash	535	507	–	–
Total other contributions	535	507	–	–
Total contributions	535	507	–	–
TOTAL GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	881	796	–	–

Accounting policy for contributions

Control over grants and contributions is normally obtained upon their receipt (or acquittal) and is valued at the fair value of the granted or contributed asset at the date of transfer.

Where grants or contributions recognised as revenues during the financial year were obtained on condition that they be expended in a particular manner or used over a particular period and those conditions were un-discharged at reporting date, the unused grant or contribution is disclosed above.

A liability is recognised in respect of revenue that is reciprocal in nature to the extent that the requisite service has not been provided at reporting date.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 4. Expenses from continuing operations

\$ '000	2018	2017
(a) Employee benefits and on-costs		
Salaries and wages	448	459
Employee leave entitlements (ELE)	53	74
Superannuation	29	39
Workers' compensation insurance	6	8
Training costs (other than salaries and wages)	9	9
Protective clothing	2	2
Other	1	1
TOTAL EMPLOYEE COSTS EXPENSED	548	592

Number of 'full-time equivalent' employees (FTE) at year end	6	6
--	---	---

Accounting policy for employee benefits and on-costs

Employee benefit expenses are recorded when the service has been provided by the employee.

Retirement benefit obligations

All employees of the Council are entitled to benefits on retirement, disability or death. Council contributes to various defined benefit plans and defined contribution plans on behalf of its employees.

Superannuation plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense as they become payable. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in the future payments is available.

Council participates in a Defined Benefit Plan under the Local Government Superannuation Scheme, however, when sufficient information to account for the plan as a defined benefit is not available and therefore Council accounts for its obligations to defined benefit plans on the same basis as its obligations to defined contribution plans, i.e. as an expense when it becomes payable – refer to Note 14 for more information.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 4. Expenses from continuing operations (continued)

\$ '000	2018	2017
(b) Materials and contracts		
Auditors remuneration	10	10
Depot expense	7	12
<u>TOTAL MATERIALS AND CONTRACTS</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>22</u>

Auditor remuneration

During the year the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by the auditor of Council, related practices and non-related audit firms

Auditors of the Council – NSW Auditor-General:

(i) Audit and other assurance services

Audit and review of financial statements	10	10
Remuneration for audit and other assurance services	10	10
<u>Total Auditor-General remuneration</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>Total Auditor remuneration</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 4. Expenses from continuing operations (continued)

\$ '000	Notes	2018	2017
(c) Depreciation, amortisation and impairment			
Depreciation and amortisation			
Plant and equipment		26	15
Office equipment		5	5
Infrastructure:			
– Buildings (non-specialised)		–	7
Total depreciation and amortisation costs		31	27
<u>TOTAL DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION AND IMPAIRMENT / REVALUATION DECREMENT COSTS EXPENSED</u>		<u>31</u>	<u>27</u>

Accounting policy for depreciation, amortisation and impairment expenses

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation and amortisation are calculated using the straight line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives. Useful lives are included in Note 9 for IPPE assets.

Impairment of non-financial assets

Other assets are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets (cash-generating units). Non-financial assets that suffered an impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

Impairment losses for revalued assets are firstly offset against the amount in the revaluation surplus for the class of asset, with only the excess to be recognised in the Income Statement.

Impairment of financial assets

Council assesses at the end of each reporting period whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired. A financial asset or a group of financial assets is impaired and impairment losses are incurred only if there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the asset (a 'loss event') and that loss event (or events) has an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset or group of financial assets that can be reliably estimated.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 4. Expenses from continuing operations (continued)

\$ '000	2018	2017
(d) Other expenses		
Advertising	4	2
Bad and doubtful debts	–	40
Bank charges	1	–
Computer software charges	6	21
Member expenses – chairperson's fee	2	4
Member expenses – member's fees	11	21
Member's expenses (incl. chairperson) – other (excluding fees above)	2	2
Insurance	49	49
Office expenses (including computer expenses)	1	4
Plant expenses	73	57
Printing and stationery	–	1
Subscriptions and publications	2	–
Telephone and communications	9	10
Other	8	14
TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES	168	225

Accounting policy for other expenses

Other expenses are recorded on an accruals basis as the Council receives the goods or services.

Note 5. Gains or losses from the disposal of assets

Plant and equipment	9	
Proceeds from disposal – plant and equipment	11	5
Less: carrying amount of plant and equipment assets sold/written off	–	–
Net gain/(loss) on disposal	11	5
NET GAIN/(LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OF ASSETS	11	5

Accounting policy for disposal of assets

The gain or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has irrevocably passed to the buyer and the asset is derecognised.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 6(a). Cash and cash equivalent assets

\$ '000	2018	2017
Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash on hand and at bank	485	300
Cash-equivalent assets		
– Short-term deposits	117	114
Total cash and cash equivalents	602	414

Accounting policy for cash and cash equivalents

For Statement of Cash Flow presentation purposes, cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand; deposits held at call with financial institutions; other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value; and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities on the Statement of Financial Position.

Note 6(b). Restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments – details

	2018 Current	2018 Non-current	2017 Current	2017 Non-current
\$ '000				
Total cash, cash equivalents and investments	602	–	414	–
attributable to:				
Internal restrictions (refer below)	157	–	119	–
Unrestricted	445	–	295	–
	602	–	414	–

\$ '000	2018	2017
Details of restrictions		
Internal restrictions		
Plant and vehicle replacement	9	9
Employees leave entitlement	113	110
Carry over works	35	–
Total internal restrictions	157	119
TOTAL RESTRICTIONS	157	119

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 7. Receivables

\$ '000	2018		2017	
	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
Purpose				
Government grants and subsidies	14	–	–	–
Net GST receivable	48	–	45	–
Other debtors	–	–	1	–
Total	62	–	46	–
<u>TOTAL NET RECEIVABLES</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>–</u>

There are no restrictions applicable to the above assets.

Accounting policy for receivables

Recognition and measurement

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They are included in current assets, except for those with maturities greater than 12 months after the reporting date which are classified as non-current assets. Loans and receivables are included in receivables (Note 7) in the Statement of Financial Position. Receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

Cash flows relating to short-term receivables are not discounted if the effect of discounting is immaterial.

Impairment

For loans and receivables the amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows (excluding future credit losses that have not been incurred) discounted at the financial asset's original effective interest rate. The carrying amount of the asset is reduced and the amount of the loss is recognised in profit or loss.

Collectability of receivables is reviewed on an on-going basis. Debts that are known to be uncollectible are written off by reducing the carrying amount directly. An allowance account (provision for impairment of receivables) is used when there is objective evidence that Council will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default or delinquency in payments (more than 30 days overdue) are considered indicators that the receivable is impaired. When a receivable for which an impairment allowance had been recognised becomes uncollectable in a subsequent period it is written off against the allowance account. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against other expenses in the Income statement.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 8. Inventories and other assets

\$ '000	2018		2017	
	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
(a) Inventories				
Inventories at cost				
Stores and materials	32	–	17	–
Total inventories at cost	32	–	17	–
TOTAL INVENTORIES	32	–	17	–

Externally restricted assets

There are no restrictions applicable to the above assets.

Accounting policy

Raw materials and stores, work in progress and finished goods

Raw materials and stores, work in progress and finished goods are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Costs are assigned to individual items of inventory on basis of weighted average costs. Costs of purchased inventory are determined after deducting rebates and discounts. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

Inventory held for distribution

Inventory held for distribution is held at cost, adjusted where applicable for any loss of service potential.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 9. Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

Asset class	as at 30/6/2017			Asset movements during the reporting period		as at 30/6/2018		
	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount	Additions new assets	Depreciation expense	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount
\$ '000								
Plant and equipment	359	266	93	66	(26)	379	246	133
Office equipment	34	12	22	–	(5)	30	13	17
Land:								
– Operational land	4	–	4	–	–	4	–	4
Infrastructure:								
– Buildings – non-specialised	287	178	109	–	–	287	178	109
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIP.	684	456	228	65	(31)	700	437	263

Renewals are defined as the replacement of existing assets (as opposed to the acquisition of new assets).

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 9. Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

Accounting policy for infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment are held at fair value. Independent valuations are performed at least every five years, however the carrying amount of assets is assessed at each reporting date to confirm that it is not materially different from current fair value.

Increases in the carrying amounts arising on revaluation are credited to the asset revaluation reserve. To the extent that the increase reverses a decrease previously recognising profit or loss relating to that asset class, the increase is first recognised as profit or loss. Decreases that reverse previous increases of assets in the same class are first charged against revaluation reserves directly in equity to the extent of the remaining reserve attributable to the class; all other decreases are charged to the Income Statement.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the income statement during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Land is not depreciated. Depreciation on other assets is calculated using the straight line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Plant and equipment	Years	Buildings	Years
Office equipment	5 to 10	Buildings: masonry	50 to 100
Office furniture	10 to 20	Buildings: other	20 to 40
Computer equipment	4		
Vehicles	5 to 8		

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date. Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with carrying amount. These are included in the Income statement.

Note 10. Payables and borrowings

\$ '000	2018		2017	
	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
Payables				
Accrued expenses:				
– Other expenditure accruals	24	–	24	–
Total payables	24	–	24	–
TOTAL PAYABLES AND BORROWINGS	24	–	24	–

Payables and borrowings relating to restricted assets

There are no restricted assets (external or internal) applicable to the above payables and borrowings

Accounting policy for payables and borrowings

Payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Council prior to the end of financial year that are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 11. Provisions

\$ '000	2018		2017	
	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
Provisions				
Employee benefits:				
Annual leave	43	–	40	–
Long service leave	73	–	119	–
TOTAL PROVISIONS	116	–	159	–

(a) Provisions relating to restricted assets

There are no restricted assets (external or internal) applicable to the above provisions

\$ '000	2018	2017
(b) Current provisions not anticipated to be settled within the next twelve months		
The following provisions, even though classified as current, are not expected to be settled in the next 12 months.		
Provisions – employees benefits	50	50
	50	50

(c) Description of and movements in provisions

ELE provisions			
2018	Annual leave	Long service leave	Total
At beginning of year	40	119	159
Additional provisions	22	6	28
Amounts used (payments)	(19)	(52)	(71)
Total ELE provisions at end of year	43	73	116
ELE provisions			
2017	Annual leave	Long service leave	Total
At beginning of year	39	119	158
Additional provisions	30	9	39
Amounts used (payments)	(29)	(9)	(38)
Total ELE provisions at end of year	40	119	159

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 11. Provisions (continued)

Accounting policy for provisions

Provisions are recognised when Council has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation, and the amount has been reliably estimated.

Where there are a number of similar obligations, the likelihood that an outflow will be required in settlement is determined by considering the class of obligations as a whole. A provision is recognised even if the likelihood of an outflow with respect to any one item included in the same class of obligations may be small.

Provisions are measured at the present value of management's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date. The discount rate used to determine the present value reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability. The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as interest expense.

Employee benefits

Short-term obligations

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and accumulating sick leave expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service are recognised in respect of employees' services up to the end of the reporting period and are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. The liability for annual leave and accumulating sick leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables.

Other long-term employee benefit obligations

The liability for long service leave and annual leave that is not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period using the projected unit credit method.

Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures, and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

The obligations are presented as current liabilities in the Statement of Financial Position if the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 12. Accumulated surplus, revaluation reserves, changes in accounting policies, changes in accounting estimates and errors

Nature and purpose of reserves

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment revaluation reserve

The infrastructure, property, plant and equipment revaluation reserve is used to record increments / decrements of non-current asset values due to their revaluation.

Note 13. Statement of cash flows – additional information

\$ '000	Notes	2018	2017
(a) Reconciliation of cash assets			
Total cash and cash equivalent assets	6a	602	414
Less bank overdraft		–	–
Balance as per the Statement of Cash Flows		602	414
(b) Reconciliation of net operating result to cash provided from operating activities			
Net operating result from Income Statement		297	92
Adjust for non-cash items:			
Depreciation and amortisation		31	27
Net losses/(gains) on disposal of assets		(11)	(5)
+/- Movement in operating assets and liabilities and other cash items:			
Decrease/(increase) in receivables		(16)	70
Decrease/(increase) in inventories		(15)	(5)
Increase/(decrease) in other accrued expenses payable		–	5
Increase/(decrease) in employee leave entitlements		(43)	1
Net cash provided from/(used in) operating activities from the Statement of Cash Flows		243	185

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 14. Contingencies and other liabilities/assets not recognised

The following assets and liabilities do not qualify for recognition in the Statement of Financial Position, but their knowledge and disclosure is considered relevant to the users of Council's financial report.

LIABILITIES NOT RECOGNISED:

1. Guarantees

(i) Defined benefit superannuation contribution plans

Council participates in an employer-sponsored defined benefit superannuation scheme and makes contributions as determined by the superannuation scheme's trustees.

Member councils bear responsibility of ensuring there are sufficient funds available to pay out the required benefits as they fall due.

While the scheme's most recent full actuarial review indicated that the net assets of the scheme were sufficient to meet the accrued benefits of the scheme's defined benefit member category, member councils are required to make contributions in future years where the scheme goes into deficit (as has occurred in previous years).

The Local Government Superannuation Scheme however is unable to provide Council with an accurate estimate of any share of the net deficit and accordingly Council has not recorded any net liability from its defined benefit scheme obligations in accordance with AASB 119.

Future planned contributions being made to the defined benefit scheme to rectify past (and projected) deficit positions will be recognised as an expense when they become payable – similar to the accounting for defined contributions plans.

Member councils are treated as Pooled Employers for the purposes of AASB119. Pooled Employers are required to pay standard employer contributions and additional lump sum contributions to the Fund.

The standard employer contributions were determined using the new entrant rate method under which a contribution rate sufficient to fund the total benefits over the working life-time of a typical new entrant is calculated. The current standard employer contribution rates are:

Division B	1.9 times employee contributions
Division C	2.5% salaries
Division D	1.64 times employee contributions

The additional lump sum contribution for each Pooled Employer is a share of the total additional contributions of \$40.0 million per annum from 1 July 2017 for 4 years to 30 June 2021, apportioned according to each employer's share of the accrued liabilities as at 30 June 2017. These additional lump sum contributions are used to fund the deficit of assets to accrued liabilities as 30 June 2017.

The adequacy of contributions is assessed at each triennial actuarial investigation and monitored annually between triennials.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 14. Contingencies and other liabilities/assets not recognised

(i) Defined benefit superannuation contribution plans (continued)

As stated above, each sponsoring employer is exposed to the actuarial risks associated with current and former employees of other sponsoring employers and hence shares in the associated gains and losses.

However, there is no relief under the Fund's trust deed for employers to walk away from their defined benefit obligations. Under limited circumstances, an employer may withdraw from the plan when there are no active members, on full payment of outstanding additional contributions. There is no provision for allocation of any surplus which may be present at the date of withdrawal of the entity.

There are no specific provisions under the Fund's trust deed dealing with deficits or surplus on wind-up.

There is no provision for the allocation of any surplus which may be present at the date of withdrawal of an employer.

The plan is a defined benefit plan. However, each sponsoring employer is exposed to the actuarial risks associated with current and former employees of other sponsoring employers and hence shares in the associated gains and losses (to the extent that they are not borne by members). As such, there is not sufficient reliable information to allow each sponsoring employer to account for its proportionate share of the defined benefit obligation, sub-group assets and costs associated with the sub-group in the same way as it would for a single employer sponsored defined benefit plan.

The amount of Council employer contributions to the defined benefit section of the Fund and recognised as an expense and disclosed as part of superannuation expenses at Note 4 (a) for the year ending 30 June 2018 was \$43,357.98

The last valuation of the Fund was by the Actuary, Mr Richard Boyfield, FIAA on 12 December 2017, relating to the period ended 30 June 2017.

Council's expected contributions to the Fund for the next annual reporting period is \$43,152.04

The estimated employer reserves financial position for the Pooled Employers at 30 June 2018 is:

Employer reserves only *	\$ millions	Asset Coverage
Assets	1,817.8	
Past Service Liabilities	1,787.5	101.7%
Vested Benefits	1,778.0	102.2%

* excluding member accounts and reserves in both assets and liabilities.

The key economic long term assumptions used to calculate the present value of accrued benefits are:

Investment return	6.0% per annum
Salary inflation *	3.5% per annum
Increase in CPI	2.5% per annum

* Plus promotional increases

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 14. Contingencies and other liabilities/assets not recognised

(i) Defined benefit superannuation contribution plans (continued)

The contribution requirements may vary from the current rates if the overall sub-group experience is not in line with the actuarial assumptions in determining the funding program, however any adjustment to the funding program would be the same for all sponsoring employers in the Pooled Employers group.

Please note that the estimated employer reserves financial position above is a preliminary calculation and once all the relevant information has been received by the Funds Actuary, the 2018 triennial review will be completed around December 2018.

Council's additional lump sum contribution is around 0.03% of the total additional lump sum contributions for all Pooled Employers (of \$40m each year from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2021) provides an indication of the level of participation of Council compared with other employers in the Pooled Employer sub-group.

(ii) Statewide Limited

Council is a member of Statewide Mutual, a mutual pool scheme providing liability insurance to local government.

Membership includes the potential to share in either the net assets or liabilities of the fund depending on its past performance. Council's share of the net assets or liabilities reflects Council's contributions to the pool and the result of insurance claims within each of the fund years.

The future realisation and finalisation of claims incurred but not reported to 30/6 this year may result in future liabilities or benefits as a result of past events that Council will be required to fund or share in respectively.

(iii) StateCover Limited

Council is a member of StateCover Mutual Limited and holds a partly paid share in the entity.

StateCover is a company providing workers compensation insurance cover to the NSW local government industry and specifically Council.

Council has a contingent liability to contribute further equity in the event of the erosion of the company's capital base as a result of the company's past performance and/or claims experience or as a result of any increased prudential requirements from APRA.

These future equity contributions would be required to maintain the company's minimum level of net assets in accordance with its licence requirements.

(iv) Other guarantees

Council has provided no other guarantees other than those listed above.

2. Other liabilities

Third party claims

The Council is involved from time to time in various claims incidental to the ordinary course of business including claims for damages relating to its services.

Council believes that it is appropriately covered for all claims through its insurance coverage and does not expect any material liabilities to eventuate.

page 30

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 15. Financial risk management

\$ '000

Risk management

Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks including (1) price risk, (2) credit risk, (3) liquidity risk and (4) interest rate risk.

The Council's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the Council.

Council does not engage in transactions expressed in foreign currencies and is therefore not subject to foreign currency risk.

Financial risk management is carried out by Council's finance section under policies approved by the Council.

A comparison by category of the carrying amounts and fair values of Council's financial assets and financial liabilities recognised in the financial statements is presented below.

	Carrying value		Fair value	
	2018	2017	2018	2017
Financial assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	602	414	–	414
Receivables	62	46	–	46
Total financial assets	664	460	–	460
Financial liabilities				
Payables	24	24	–	24
Total financial liabilities	24	24	–	24

Fair value is determined as follows:

– Cash and cash equivalents, receivables, payables – are estimated to be the carrying value that approximates market value.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 15. Financial risk management (continued)

\$ '000

Council's objective is to maximise its return on cash and investments whilst maintaining an adequate level of liquidity and preserving capital.

Council's finance area manages the cash and Investments portfolio with the assistance of independent advisors.

Council has an investment policy which complies with the *Local Government Act 1993* and Ministerial Investment Order 625. This policy is regularly reviewed by Council and its staff and a monthly Investment report is provided to Council setting out the make-up and performance of the portfolio as required by Local Government regulations.

The risks associated with the investments held are:

- Price risk – the risk that the capital value of Investments may fluctuate due to changes in market prices, whether there changes are caused by factors specific to individual financial instruments or their issuers or are caused by factors affecting similar instruments traded in a market.
- Interest rate risk – the risk that movements in interest rates could affect returns and income.
- Credit risk – the risk that the investment counterparty will not complete their obligations particular to a financial instrument, resulting in a financial loss to Council – be it of a capital or income nature.

Council manages these risks (amongst other measures) by diversifying its portfolio and only purchasing investments with high credit ratings or capital guarantees.

Council also seeks advice from independent advisers before placing any funds in cash equivalents and investments.

(a) Market risk – price risk and interest rate risk

The following represents a summary of the sensitivity of Council's Income Statement and accumulated surplus (for the reporting period) due to a change in either the price of a financial asset or the interest rates applicable.

It is assumed that the change in interest rates would have been constant throughout the reporting period.

	Increase of values/rates		Decrease of values/rates	
	Profit	Equity	Profit	Equity
2018				
Possible impact of a 1% movement in interest rates	6	6	(6)	(6)
2017				
Possible impact of a 1% movement in interest rates	4	4	(4)	(4)

page 32

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 15. Financial risk management (continued)

\$ '000

(b) Credit risk

Council's major receivables comprise (i) contributions and (ii) user charges and fees.

The major risk associated with these receivables is credit risk – the risk that debts due and payable to Council may not be repaid in full.

Council manages this risk by monitoring outstanding debt and employing stringent debt recovery procedures.

There are no significant concentrations of credit risk, whether through exposure to individual customers, specific industry sectors and/or regions.

The level of outstanding receivables is reported to Council quarterly and benchmarks are set and monitored for acceptable collection performance.

Council makes suitable provision for doubtful receivables as required.

There are no material receivables that have been subjected to a re-negotiation of repayment terms.

A profile of Council's receivables credit risk at balance date follows:

	2018	2017
	Other receivables	Other receivables
(i) Ageing of receivables – %		
Current (not yet overdue)	66%	78%
Overdue	34%	22%
	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>
(ii) Ageing of receivables – value	2018	2017
Other receivables		
Current	41	36
0 – 30 days overdue	15	10
31 – 60 days overdue	5	–
> 61 days overdue	1	–
	<u>62</u>	<u>46</u>

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 15. Financial risk management (continued)

\$ '000

(c) Liquidity risk

Payables and borrowings are both subject to liquidity risk – the risk that insufficient funds may be on hand to meet payment obligations as and when they fall due.

Council manages this risk by monitoring its cash flow requirements and liquidity levels and maintaining an adequate cash buffer.

Payment terms can (in extenuating circumstances) also be extended and overdraft facilities utilised as required.

Borrowings are also subject to interest rate risk – the risk that movements in interest rates could adversely affect funding costs and debt servicing requirements. Council does not presently have any borrowings.

The contractual undiscounted cash outflows (ie. principal and interest) of Council's payables and borrowings are set out in the maturity table below:

\$ '000	Subject to no maturity	≤ 1 Year	payable in:		Total cash outflows	Actual carrying values
			1 – 5 Years	> 5 Years		
2018						
Trade/other payables	–	24	–	–	24	24
Total financial liabilities	–	24	–	–	24	24
2017						
Trade/other payables	–	24	–	–	24	24
Total financial liabilities	–	24	–	–	24	24

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 16. Material budget variations

\$ '000

Council's original financial budget for 17/18 was adopted by the Council on 26 June 2017 and is not required to be audited.

While the Income Statement included in this General Purpose Financial Report must disclose the original budget adopted by Council, the *Local Government Act 1993* requires Council to review its financial budget on a quarterly basis, so that it is able to manage the various variations between actuals versus budget that invariably occur throughout the year.

This note sets out the details of material variations between Council's original budget and its actual results for the year as per the Income Statement – even though such variations may have been adjusted for during each quarterly budget review.

Note that for variations* of budget to actual :

Material variations represent those variances that amount to 10% or more of the original budgeted figure.

F = Favourable budget variation, U = Unfavourable budget variation

\$ '000	2018 Budget	2018 Actual	2018 Variance*		
REVENUES					
User charges and fees Reflects additional private works undertaken	38	61	23	61%	F
Interest and investment revenue Reflects increased income on cash and investment reserves	5	7	2	40%	F
Other revenues Reflects decreased income from plant operations	117	101	(16)	(14%)	U
Operating grants and contributions Reflects additional income received from operating grants	806	881	75	9%	F
Net gains from disposal of assets Reflects drop in profit from the sale of plant as per the Plant Replacement Programme following a decision not to replace a second vehicle in 2017/18.	20	11	(9)	(45%)	U

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 16. Material budget variations (continued)

\$ '000	2018 Budget	2018 Actual	2018 Variance* -----		
EXPENSES					
Employee benefits and on-costs	688	548	140	20%	F
Reflects savings in employee overheads including a vacancy at Coonabarabran not replaced until January, 2018					
Materials and contracts	20	17	3	15%	F
Reflects savings in materials, including bulk purchases of chemicals, purchased from local suppliers.					
Depreciation and amortisation	30	31	(1)	(3%)	U
Other expenses	220	168	52	24%	F
This item includes plant operating expenses including major repairs to one vehicle's engine which had to be replaced owing to fuel issues and other operating savings due to strategic timing of plant replacement.					

Budget variations relating to Council's Cash Flow Statement include:

Cash flows from operating activities	38	243	205	539.5%	F
Reflects additional income sourced during the year.					
Cash flows from investing activities	(100)	(55)	45	(45.0%)	F
Reflects variation in plant purchases in 2017/18.					

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 17. Fair value measurement

\$ '000

The Council measures the following asset and liability classes at fair value on a recurring basis:

– Property, plant and equipment

The fair value of assets and liabilities must be estimated in accordance with various accounting standards for either recognition and measurement requirements or for disclosure purposes.

AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement requires all assets and liabilities measured at fair value to be assigned to a 'level' in the fair value hierarchy as follows:

Level 1: Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

(1) The following table presents all assets and liabilities that have been measured and recognised at fair values:

Fair values:		Fair value measurement hierarchy			Total
		Level 1 Quoted prices in active mkts	Level 2 Significant observable inputs	Level 3 Significant unobservable inputs	
2018	Date of latest valuation				
Recurring fair value measurements					
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment					
Plant and Office Equipment	30/06/17	–	150	–	150
Operational Land	30/06/13	–	4	–	4
Buildings (non specialised)	30/06/13	–	109	–	109
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment		–	263	–	263
2017					
Recurring fair value measurements					
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment					
Plant and Office Equipment	30/06/17	–	115	–	115
Operational Land	30/06/13	–	4	–	4
Buildings (non specialised)	30/06/13	–	109	–	109
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment		–	228	–	228

(2) Transfers between level 1 and level 2 fair value hierarchies

During the year, there were no transfers between level 1 and level 2 fair value hierarchies for recurring fair value measurements.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 18. Related party transactions

\$ '000

a. Key management personnel

Key management personnel (KMP) of the Council are those persons having the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the council, directly or indirectly.

The aggregate amount of KMP compensation included in the Income Statement is:

Compensation:	2018	2017
Short-term benefits	43	40
Total	43	40

b. Other transactions with KMP and their related parties

Council has determined that there were no other KMP or related party transactions.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 19(a). Statement of performance measures – consolidated results

\$ '000	Amounts 2018	Indicator 2018	Prior periods 2017	2016	Benchmark
Local government industry indicators – consolidated					
1. Operating performance ratio					
Total continuing operating revenue ⁽¹⁾ excluding capital grants and contributions less operating expenses	286	27.24%	9.13%	16.97%	> 0.00%
Total continuing operating revenue ⁽¹⁾ excluding capital grants and contributions	1,050				
2. Own source operating revenue ratio					
Total continuing operating revenue ⁽¹⁾ excluding all grants and contributions	169	16.10%	16.47%	18.41%	> 60.00%
Total continuing operating revenue ⁽¹⁾	1,050				
3. Unrestricted current ratio					
Current assets less all external restrictions ⁽²⁾	696	7.73x	3.59x	2.63x	> 1.5x
Current liabilities less specific purpose liabilities ^(3,4)	90				
4. Debt service cover ratio					
Operating result ⁽¹⁾ before capital excluding interest and depreciation/impairment/amortisation	317	0.00x	2.28x	1.84x	> 2x
Principal repayments (Statement of Cash Flows) plus borrowing costs (Income Statement)	–				
5. Rates, annual charges, interest and extra charges outstanding percentage					
Rates, annual and extra charges outstanding	–	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10%
Rates, annual and extra charges collectible	–				
6. Cash expense cover ratio					
Current year's cash and cash equivalents plus all term deposits	602	9.13 mths	5.6 mths	4.1 mths	> 3 mths
Monthly payments from cash flow of operating and financing activities	66				

Notes

⁽¹⁾ Excludes fair value adjustments and reversal of revaluation decrements, net gain/(loss) on sale of assets and the net share of interests in joint ventures and associates.

⁽²⁾ Refer Notes 6-8 inclusive.

Also excludes any real estate and land for resale not expected to be sold in the next 12 months.

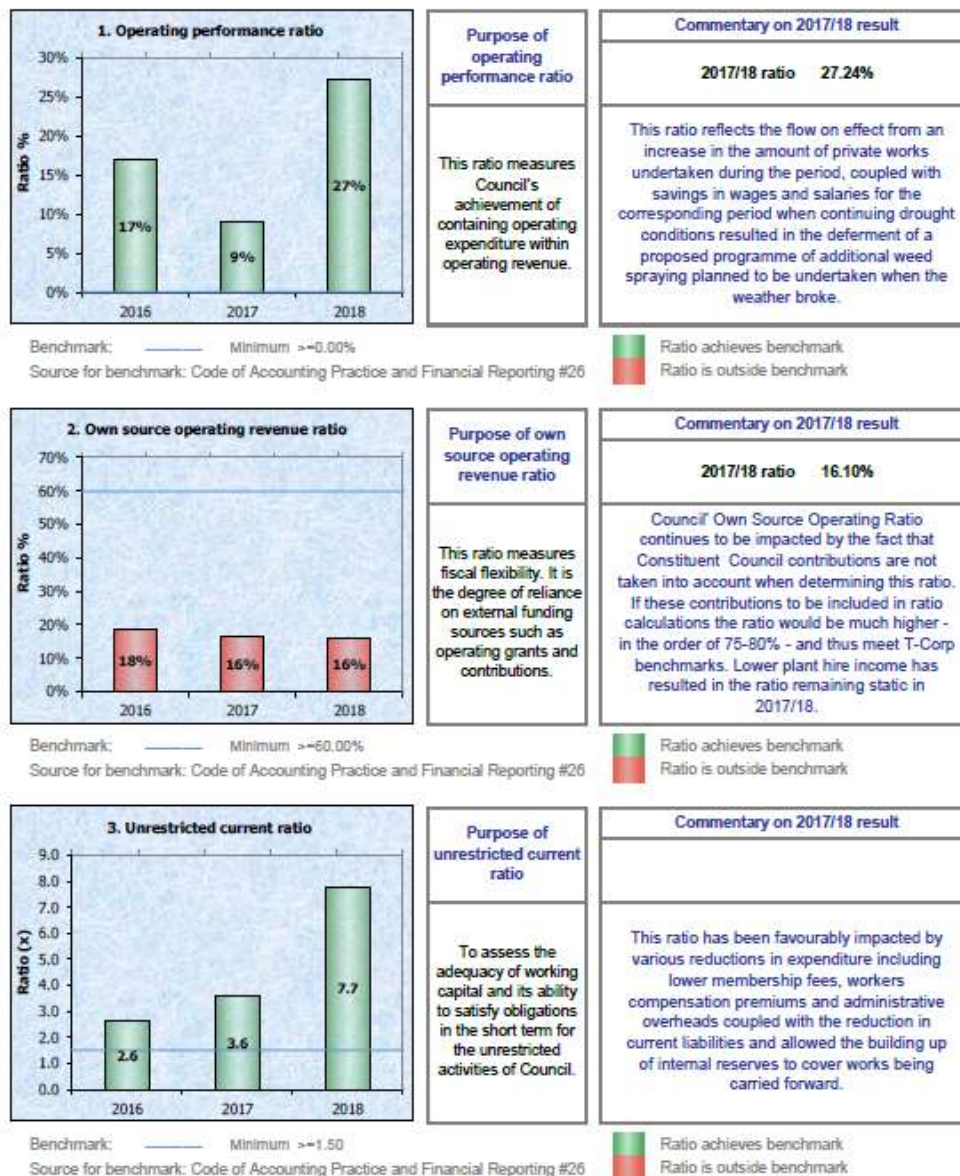
⁽³⁾ Refer to Notes 10 and 11.

⁽⁴⁾ Refer to Note 10(b) and 11(b) – excludes all payables and provisions not expected to be paid in the next 12 months (incl. ELE).

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018

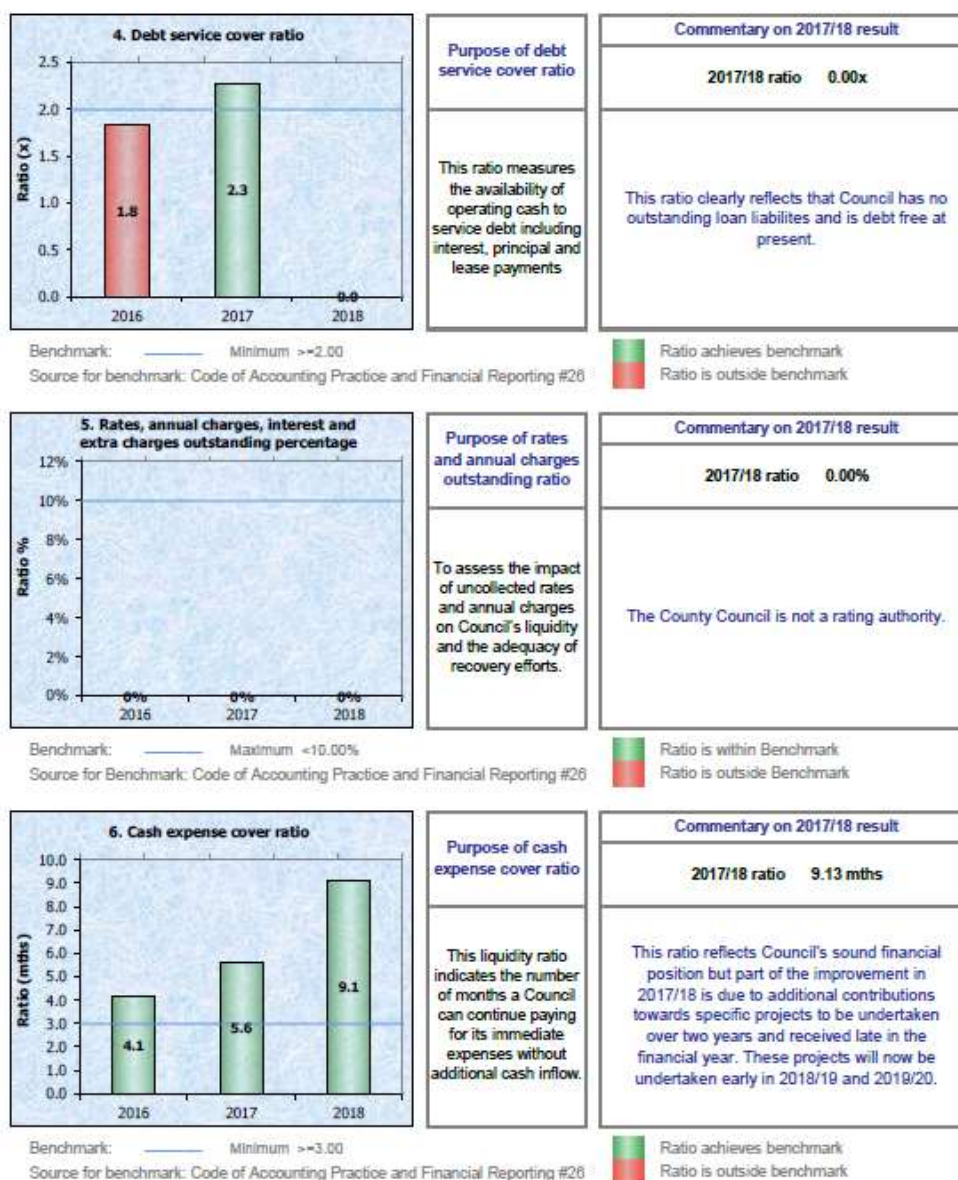
Note 19(b). Statement of performance measures – consolidated results (graphs)



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 19(b). Statement of performance measures – consolidated results (graphs)



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 20. Council information and contact details

Principal place of business:

77 Fox Street
WALGETT NSW 2832

Contact details

Mailing address:

PO Box 664
WALGETT NSW 2832

Opening hours:

8.15 am to 4.30 pm
Monday to Friday

Telephone: 02 6828 1399

Facsimile: 02 6828 1608

Internet: <http://www.cmcc.nsw.gov.au>

Email: mail@cmcc.nsw.gov.au

Officers

GENERAL MANAGER

Mr Don Ramsland

RESPONSIBLE ACCOUNTING OFFICER

Mr Don Ramsland

PUBLIC OFFICER

Mr Don Ramsland

AUDITORS

Audit Office of NSW
Level 156, 1 Margaret Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Elected members

MAYOR

Councillor Doug Batten

COUNCILLORS

Clr Michael Webb
Clr Bill Fisher
Clr Greg Peart
Clr Peter Shinton
Clr Ray Lewis
Clr Ian Woodcock
Clr Manuel Martinez
Clr Mark Beach
Clr Andrew Brewer

Other information

ABN: 89 539 779 958



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Report on the general purpose financial report

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

To the Councillors of the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial report of Castlereagh Macquarie County Council (the Council), which comprise the Income Statement and Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2018, the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2018, the Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the Statement by Councillors and Management.

In my opinion,

- the Council's accounting records have been kept in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Chapter 13, Part 3, Division 2 (the Division)
- the financial report:
 - has been presented, in all material respects, in accordance with the requirements of this Division
 - is consistent with the Council's accounting records
 - presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council as at 30 June 2018, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards
- all information relevant to the conduct of the audit has been obtained
- no material deficiencies in the accounting records or financial report have come to light during the audit.

My opinion should be read in conjunction with the rest of this report.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under the standards are described in the 'Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report' section of my report.

I am independent of the Council in accordance with the requirements of the:

- Australian Auditing Standards
- Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 'Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants' (APES 110).

I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with APES 110.

Parliament promotes independence by ensuring the Auditor-General and the Audit Office of New South Wales are not compromised in their roles by:

- providing that only Parliament, and not the executive government, can remove an Auditor-General
- mandating the Auditor-General as auditor of councils
- precluding the Auditor-General from providing non-audit services.

I believe the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Other Information

Other information comprises the information included in the Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2018, other than the financial report and my Independent Auditor's Report thereon. The Councillors are responsible for the other information. At the date of this Independent Auditor's Report, the other information I have received comprise the Special Schedules (the Schedules).

My opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information. Accordingly, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion on the other information.

In connection with my audit of the financial report, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or my knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude there is a material misstatement of the other information, I must report that fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

The Councillors' Responsibilities for the Financial Report

The Councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Local Government Act 1993*, and for such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Councillors are responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting except where the Council will be dissolved or amalgamated by an Act of Parliament, or otherwise cease operations.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

My objectives are to:

- obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error
- issue an Independent Auditor's Report including my opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but does not guarantee an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect material misstatements. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions users take based on the financial report.

A description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. The description forms part of my auditor's report.

My opinion does *not* provide assurance:

- that the Council carried out its activities effectively, efficiently and economically
- on the Original Budget information included in the Income Statement, Statement of Cash Flows, and Note 16 Material budget variations
- on the Special Schedules. A separate opinion has been provided on Special Schedule 2 - Permissible income for general rates
- about the security and controls over the electronic publication of the audited financial report on any website where it may be presented
- about any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the financial report.



Caroline Karakatsanis
Director, Financial Audit Services

30 October 2018
SYDNEY

Mr Don Ramsland
General Manager
Castlereagh Macquarie County Council
PO BOX 664
WALGETT NSW 2832

Contact: Caroline Karakatsanis
Phone no: 02 9275 7143
Our ref: D1814587/1815

30 October 2018

Dear Mr Ramsland

**Report on the Conduct of the Audit
for the year ended 30 June 2018
Castlereagh Macquarie County Council**

I have audited the general purpose financial statements of the Castlereagh Macquarie County Council (the Council) for the year ended 30 June 2018 as required by section 415 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act).

I expressed an unmodified opinion on the Council's general purpose financial statements.

This Report on the Conduct of the Audit (the Report) for the Council for the year ended 30 June 2018 is issued in accordance with section 417 of the Act. This Report should be read in conjunction with my audit opinion on the general purpose financial statements issued under section 417(2) of the Act.

INCOME STATEMENT

Operating result

	2018 \$000	2017 \$000	Variance %
Grants and contributions revenue	881	796	↑ 10.7
Operating result for the year	297	92	↑ 222.8

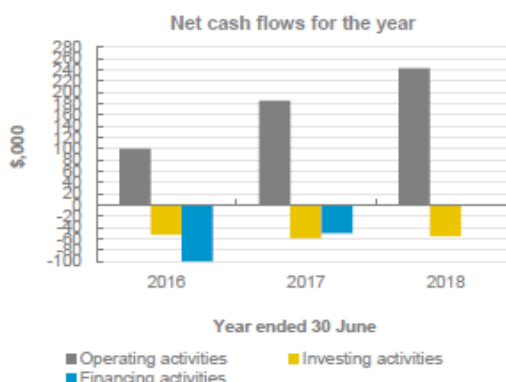
Council's operating surplus of \$297,000 including the effect of depreciation and amortisation expense of \$31,000 was \$205,000 higher than the 2016–17 result. The major reasons behind the increase are \$85,000 increase in grants and contributions revenue and a \$57,000 (25 per cent) reduction of 'other expenses' for the year.

Grants and contributions revenue of \$881,000 increased by \$85,000 (10.7%) in 2017–2018 due to:

- an additional \$7,000 of council member contributions in 2017-18
- receipt of \$62,000 grant for weed projects that were not received in 2016-17
- \$21,000 in contributions for the Hudson pear weed project.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

- The level of net cash flows from operations has steadily increased each year from 2016.
- Net cash outflows for investing activities (PP&E purchases) and financing activities (borrowing repayments) are relatively low.



FINANCIAL POSITION

Cash and Investments

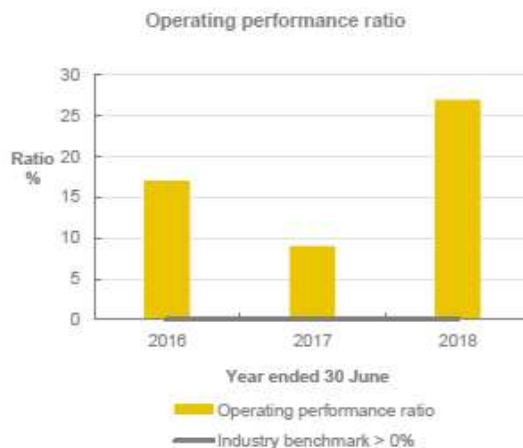
Cash and Investments	2018	2017	Commentary
	\$000	\$000	
Internal restrictions	157	119	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internally restricted cash and investments have been restricted in their use by resolution or policy of Council to reflect identified programs of works and any forward plans identified by Council. Internally restricted cash remains relatively low. • Council has increased its unrestricted cash and investments balance from the prior year. This is aided by funding for extra projects undertaken for the 2017-18, and ongoing surpluses from operations
Unrestricted	445	295	
Cash and investments			

PERFORMANCE RATIOS

The definition of each ratio analysed below is included in Note 19 of the Council's audited general purpose financial statements.

Operating performance ratio

- The 'operating performance ratio' measures how well council contained operating expenditure within operating revenue (excluding capital grants and contributions, fair value adjustments, and reversal of revaluation decrements). The benchmark set by the Office of Local Government (OLG) is greater than zero per cent.
- The increase for 2018 is a direct result of an increase in grants and contributions revenue as mentioned above, coupled with savings in other expenses and wages and salaries.



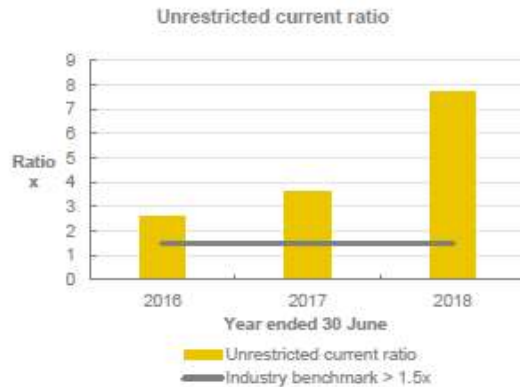
Own source operating revenue ratio

- The 'own source operating revenue ratio' measures council's fiscal flexibility and the degree to which it relies on external funding sources such as operating grants and contributions. The benchmark set by OLG is greater than 60 per cent.
- Council's own source operating is impacted as the contributions made by member councils are not taken into account when calculating this ratio. Lower plant income for the year has caused the ratio to remain steady



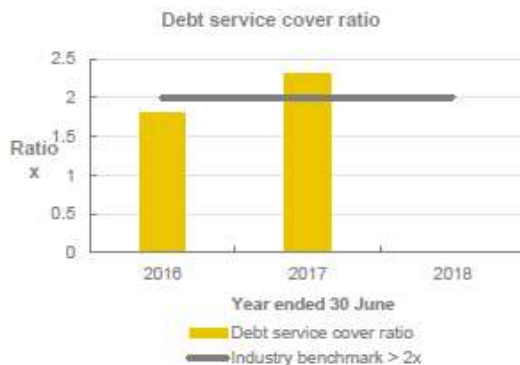
Unrestricted current ratio

- The 'unrestricted current ratio' is specific to local government and represents council's ability to meet its short-term obligations as they fall due. The benchmark set by OLG is greater than 1.5 times.
- The ratio indicates that Council has \$7.73 of unrestricted assets available to service every \$1.00 of its unrestricted current liabilities, inclusive of loan repayments and creditors. This level is well above the industry benchmark, and indicates Council has sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when they fall due.



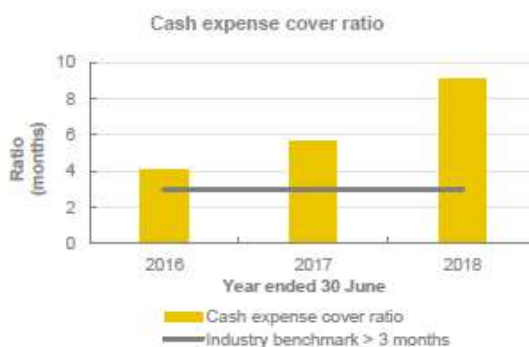
Debt service cover ratio

- The 'debt service cover ratio' measures the operating cash to service debt including interest, principal and lease payments. The benchmark set by OLG is greater than two times.
- Council has no outstanding loans and is debt free at 30 June 2018.



Cash expense cover ratio

- This liquidity ratio indicates the number of months the council can continue paying for its immediate expenses without additional cash inflow. The benchmark set by OLG is greater than three months.
- The improvement in 2017-18 is a result of additional contributions for specific projects being received late in the financial year with the work to be undertaken in 2018-19 and 2019-20.



OTHER MATTERS

New accounting standards implemented

AASB 2016-2 'Disclosure Initiative – Amendments to AASB 107'

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2017

This Standard requires entities to provide disclosures that enable users of financial statements to evaluate changes (both cash flows and non-cash changes) in liabilities arising from financing activities.

As Council does not have any borrowings, it does not affect the Council this year.

Legislative compliance

My audit procedures did not identify any instances of non-compliance with legislative requirements or a material deficiency in the Council's accounting records or financial reports. The Council's:

- accounting records were maintained in a manner and form to allow the general purpose financial statements to be prepared and effectively audited
- staff provided all accounting records and information relevant to the audit.



Caroline Karakatsanis
Director, Financial Audit Services

cc: Chair, Mr Doug Batten
Tim Hurst, Chief Executive of the Office of Local Government

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

SPECIAL SCHEDULES
for the year ended 30 June 2018

To provide effective integrated weed management
systems utilizing the latest technology to all
Constituent councils fairly and equitably



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Special Schedules for the year ended 30 June 2018

Contents	Page
Special Schedules ¹	
Special Schedule 1	Net Cost of Services 2
Special Schedule 2	Permissible income for general rates n/a
Special Schedule 2	Independent Auditors Report n/a
Special Schedule 3	Water Supply Operations – incl. Income Statement n/a
Special Schedule 4	Water Supply – Statement of Financial Position n/a
Special Schedule 5	Sewerage Service Operations – incl. Income Statement n/a
Special Schedule 6	Sewerage Service – Statement of Financial Position n/a
Notes to Special Schedules 3 and 5	n/a
Special Schedule 7	Report on Infrastructure Assets n/a

¹ Special Schedules are not audited (with the exception of Special Schedule 2).

Background

- (i) These Special Schedules have been designed to meet the requirements of special purpose users such as;
- the NSW Grants Commission
 - the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS),
 - the NSW Office of Water (NOW), and
 - the Office of Local Government (OLG).
- (ii) The financial data is collected for various uses including;
- the allocation of Financial Assistance Grants,
 - the incorporation of Local Government financial figures in national statistics,
 - the monitoring of loan approvals,
 - the allocation of borrowing rights, and
 - the monitoring of the financial activities of specific services.

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Special Schedule 1 – Net Cost of Services
for the year ended 30 June 2018

\$'000				
Function or activity	Expenses from continuing operations	Income from continuing operations		Net cost of services
		Non-capital	Capital	
Governance	–	–	–	–
Administration	–	–	–	–
Public order and safety				
Fire service levy, fire protection, emergency services	–	–	–	–
Beach control	–	–	–	–
Enforcement of local government regulations	–	–	–	–
Animal control	–	–	–	–
Other	–	–	–	–
Total public order and safety	–	–	–	–
Health	–	–	–	–
Environment				
Noxious plants and insect/vermin control	764	1,054	–	290
Other environmental protection	–	–	–	–
Solid waste management	–	–	–	–
Street cleaning	–	–	–	–
Drainage	–	–	–	–
Stormwater management	–	–	–	–
Total environment	764	1,054	–	290
Community services and education				
Administration and education	–	–	–	–
Social protection (welfare)	–	–	–	–
Aged persons and disabled	–	–	–	–
Children's services	–	–	–	–
Total community services and education	–	–	–	–
Housing and community amenities				
Public cemeteries	–	–	–	–
Public conveniences	–	–	–	–
Street lighting	–	–	–	–
Town planning	–	–	–	–
Other community amenities	–	–	–	–
Total housing and community amenities	–	–	–	–
Water supplies	–	–	–	–
Sewerage services	–	–	–	–

Castlereagh Macquarie County Council

Special Schedule 1 – Net Cost of Services (continued)
for the year ended 30 June 2018

\$'000

Function or activity	Expenses from continuing operations	Income from continuing operations		Net cost of services
		Non-capital	Capital	
Recreation and culture				
Public libraries	–	–	–	–
Museums	–	–	–	–
Art galleries	–	–	–	–
Community centres and halls	–	–	–	–
Performing arts venues	–	–	–	–
Other performing arts	–	–	–	–
Other cultural services	–	–	–	–
Sporting grounds and venues	–	–	–	–
Swimming pools	–	–	–	–
Parks and gardens (lakes)	–	–	–	–
Other sport and recreation	–	–	–	–
Total recreation and culture	–	–	–	–
Fuel and energy	–	–	–	–
Agriculture	–	–	–	–
Mining, manufacturing and construction				
Building control	–	–	–	–
Other mining, manufacturing and construction	–	–	–	–
Total mining, manufacturing and const.	–	–	–	–
Transport and communication				
Urban roads (UR) – local	–	–	–	–
Urban roads – regional	–	–	–	–
Sealed rural roads (SRR) – local	–	–	–	–
Sealed rural roads (SRR) – regional	–	–	–	–
Unsealed rural roads (URR) – local	–	–	–	–
Unsealed rural roads (URR) – regional	–	–	–	–
Bridges on UR – local	–	–	–	–
Bridges on SRR – local	–	–	–	–
Bridges on URR – local	–	–	–	–
Bridges on regional roads	–	–	–	–
Parking areas	–	–	–	–
Footpaths	–	–	–	–
Aerodromes	–	–	–	–
Other transport and communication	–	–	–	–
Total transport and communication	–	–	–	–
Economic affairs				
Camping areas and caravan parks	–	–	–	–
Other economic affairs	–	–	–	–
Total economic affairs	–	–	–	–
Totals – functions	764	1,054	–	290
General purpose revenues ⁽¹⁾		7		7
Share of interests – joint ventures and associates using the equity method	–	–	–	–
NET OPERATING RESULT ⁽²⁾	764	1,061	–	297

(1) Includes: rates and annual charges (including ex gratia, excluding water and sewer), non-capital general purpose

(2) As reported in the Income Statement

grants, interest on investments (excluding externally restricted assets) and interest on overdue rates and annual charges



Castlereagh Macquarie County Council
PO Box 664, Walgett NSW 2832



P. 02 6828 1399
F. 02 6828 1608



www.cmcc.nsw.gov.au

Photos © NSW Department of Primary Industries