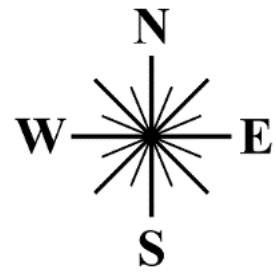




2014-15

ANNUAL REPORT



CENTRAL DARLING SHIRE COUNCIL



Contents

Our Shire	4
Our Mission.....	4
Our Values	4
Our Towns.....	5
Menindee	5
Ivanhoe	5
Wilcannia	6
White Cliffs.....	6
Tilpa	7
Sunset Strip	7
Message from the Administrator.....	8
From the Office of the General Manager.....	9
Management Team.....	10
Council’s Achievements in Implementing the Delivery Program.....	11
Human Resources.....	15
Organisational Structure.....	15
Gender Balance.....	16
Age of Workforce.....	16
Breakdown of employees by department	16
Training and Professional Development	17
Training & Professional Development	17
Equal Employment Opportunity.....	17
Corporate Governance	17
Legal Proceedings	17
Mayoral & Councillors Fees.....	17
Councillors Facilities & Expenses.....	17
Remuneration of the General Manager.....	18
Business Services.....	19
Income by Category	19
Income by Function	19
Expenses by Category	20
Expenses by Function	20
Business Services.....	21
Copy of Council’s Audited Financial Reports.....	21
Rates & Charges written off during the 2014-15 period.....	21
Central Darling Shire Council Awarded Contracts 2014-15.....	21
PPIP Act S33 Privacy & Personal Information Protection Act 1998	21
Government Information (Public Access) 2009 (GIPA) Act.....	21



Details of programs to promote services and access for people with diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds consistent with principles of multiculturalism	22
Special Variation Expenditure.....	22
Shire Services.....	23
Drinking Water Quality Testing	23
Food Inspections.....	24
Public Order & Safety.....	24
Companion Animals.....	24
Bushfire Hazard Reduction.....	25
Hazard Reduction Programs	25
Hazard Reduction Works.....	26
Fire Safety Awareness	26
Properties & Community Amenities.....	26
Properties.....	26
Caravan Parks.....	29
Victory Park Caravan Park, Wilcannia	29
Opal Pioneers Caravan Park, White Cliffs	29
Heritage.....	29
Swimming Pools	29
Town Planning.....	30
Development Applications	30
Environment	30
Climate Change	30
Domestic Waste Management	30
Waste Management.....	30
Community Services	32
Australia Day in Menindee	32
Australia Day in Wilcannia.....	32
Australia Day in Ivanhoe	33
Australia Day in White Cliffs.....	33
Ivanhoe Multi Service outlet.....	33
Menindee Transaction Centre.....	34
Menindee Civic Hall.....	34
Community Library	35
A Blue Light Disco	36
Employment and Succession Planning.....	36
Roads and Bridges	38
Public Road Network	38
State Highways.....	39



Report on RMCC Work 2014/15.....	39
Regional Roads.....	40
Local Roads.....	42
Bridges.....	42
Works on Private Land.....	42
Water, Sewer & Stormwater	42
Major Activities	43
Water	43
Sewer.....	43
Stormwater	43
Aerodromes.....	43
Boat Ramps	44
Footpaths, Kerbs, & Guttering.....	44
Footpaths.....	44
Kerbs and Gutter.....	44
Plant & Equipment.....	44
Business Undertakings.....	45
Competitive Neutrality	45
APPENDIX A - Provision of Facilities for use by Councillors and the Payment of Councillors.....	
APPENDIX B – Annual Financial Statements	



Our Shire

Central Darling Shire encompasses an area of over 53,000 square kilometres, making it the largest Local Government Area (LGA) in New South Wales. Conversely, population figures for the Shire are one of the lowest with 2,108 residents dispersed throughout and surrounding the towns of Ivanhoe, Menindee, Wilcannia and White Cliffs, and its localities of Darnick, Mossgiel, Sunset Strip and Tilpa.



The principal economic activities within the Shire include pastoral, horticultural, agricultural, mining and tourism. Rural grazing properties represent the largest land use within the Shire, accounting for 97% of the entire area.

The Central Darling Shire is bounded by the Shires of Bourke, Cobar, Carrathool, Balranald, Wentworth and the Unincorporated Area.

Our Mission

“Realising quality opportunities for all in the Central Darling Shire through Effective Leadership, Community Involvement and Facilitation of Services”.

Our Values

Through a collaborative approach and strong commitment, the values that will support our mission and guide us in achieving our visions are:

- Energising Leadership
- Customer Service and Contribution to Community
- Innovation and Continuous Improvement
- Equal Opportunity and Caring for Individuals
- Political Harmony
- Teamwork
- Ethical Behaviour



Our Towns

Menindee



Menindee is an oasis in the Outback, a beautiful spot to soak up the outback atmosphere with the convenience of modern services at your fingertips. Dubbed the first town on the Darling River, Menindee has a rich Indigenous and European history. Menindee is located close to Kinchega National Park where visitors can enjoy spectacular views of the Menindee Lakes and the Darling River, as well as close encounters with local with local wildlife.

Menindee is associated with bold explorers of the outback, Burke and Wills, Mitchell and Sturt, and the pastoral tradition of wool production and labouring paddle steamers transporting bales to market. Many travellers today are surprised to find great fields of grapevines and fruit under irrigation besides the Lakes that Major Mitchell originally named “Laidley’s Ponds”.

Ivanhoe



Ivanhoe is a town situated on the Cobb Highway 220 kilometres North West of Hay. The township provides visitors with a pleasant break to their journey in an outback pastoral community. Friendly people, clean amenities, landscaped recreational areas and a self-guided Heritage Trail, enable visitors to enjoy a short break and gain an insight into the town’s interesting past.

Retrace the exploits of bushrangers, the journeys of Cobb & Co and the advent of the railways as you follow the Ivanhoe Heritage Trail. Through tough times and good, flood and crippling drought, towns like Ivanhoe have earned their place in Australian history.



Wilcannia



Wilcannia has a rich and vibrant history. Once known as the “Queen City of the West”, it was the third largest shipping port in Australia. In the boom years of the 1880’s, sandstone was quarried locally for the beautiful buildings that stand today as a reminder of those heady days.

A short drive or walk around town will reveal the great sandstone buildings, historic centre Loft Bridge and old wharf that handled all that cargo so many years ago. Wilcannia has a large Aboriginal community, being the traditional home of the Barkandji people (Barka Meaning River).

White Cliffs



White Cliffs is unique! Precious seam opal was discovered in White Cliffs in the 1890’s and opal from this field was the first to be marketed overseas (giving White Cliffs the distinction of being known as Australia’s first Commercial Opal field).

To escape the high summer temperatures, early miners soon began to live in their working mines enjoying the constant underground temperature in the mid-twenties all year round. These were known as “dugouts” and became home for many miners.

Today, modern dugout homes provide a unique housing style for many White Cliffs residents with all the conveniences of any modern home but being environmentally friendly, little heating or cooling is required.



Tilpa



The origin of the name “Tilpa” may be found in the Barkandji word “thulpa”, which means “floodwaters”, for it is in the vicinity of Tilpa that the Darling River floods up to seventy kilometres wide in major floods.

The village of Tilpa came into existence in 1876 when Arthur Cotton opened a store. James Buckley built the Wee Wattah Hotel where the Tilpa Trading Post is now located in the same year.

By 1894, Cotton’s store was owned by David Jones & Co. who sold it to Edmond Perrott who turned it into a hotel named the Royal. This is the existing Tilpa Hotel.

In 1880 a Postal Receiving Office was opened in the store. Tilpa had a school from 1896 till its closure in 1945.

A punt served as the only means of crossing the Darling River at Tilpa until the bridge was completed in December 1963.

Sunset Strip



Sunset Strip was gazetted in 1965 as a village within the Central Darling Shire, 20 km north-west of Menindee, situated on the northern shore of Lake Menindee. A unique outback take on a holiday by the sea, Sunset Strip is a home-away-from-home for many Broken Hill residents needing a weekend escape. Sunset Strip can boast having its own Post Office and Community Hall with boating, fishing, golf and tennis being some of the activities available.



Message from the Administrator

In December 2013 the Minister for Local Government asked the Central Darling Shire Council to show cause as to why it should not be suspended for failing to comply with its legislative responsibilities in relation to the financial management of the organisation. The Council's financial position had been deteriorating steadily over recent years.

Following the Council's written submission to the Minister he decided, on 23 December 2013, to suspend the Council for a period of three months and to appoint an interim Administrator to perform the role and function of the governing body of the Council and Councillors under the Local Government Act. I was appointed as that Interim Administrator. My appointment as Interim Administrator was continued through both the second three month suspension and the subsequent period of the Public Inquiry. As I'm sure that you are aware, the councillors were dismissed in November of last year and I was appointed permanent Administrator.

A crucial part of my work as Administrator was to devise a "Recovery Plan" for the rehabilitation and recovery of the Council's finances. On assuming the role it was evident to me that the Council had no cash in the bank and was, in fact, operating on an overdraft facility for its daily operations. Clearly, this was not a sustainable position and jeopardized the future of the organisation and its capacity to deliver services and facilities to its citizens.

The Recovery Plan has formed the basis for my work, and the work of the Council staff, ever since in trying to return the Council organisation to some form of financial sustainability. Its key components are actions to introduce more fiscal discipline to the organisation, reduce costs and either improve the rate of return we receive on works carried out on behalf of third parties or to discontinue those works or services.

I am pleased to report that at the end of the 2014/2015 financial year a range of important milestones had been achieved towards that recovery:

- The Council budget has delivered a surplus for the 2014/2015 financial year
- The 2015/2016 budget projects an even greater annual surplus, and
- The Council's reliance on its bank overdraft has been eliminated and the organisation now operates with positive cash flow

The turnaround has been significant. In the 2013/2014 financial year (before the Administration period) the Council lost \$2.1 million. The \$1.1 million surplus for the year under review means that we have executed a \$3.2 million turnaround in just 12 months. It is an outstanding result and is a testament to the staff and management for their diligence and commitment to change; and to the residents for their understanding and willingness to try another way of doing things. All of this financial turnaround has been achieved without significant reductions in the levels of service delivered to our community.

There is much still to do. Further changes are necessary to ensure the security of the basic municipal services provided by the Council. Water, sewer and waste services are fundamental to good public health and safety and we will be focusing our efforts on these areas to ensure that not only do they meet their basic service objectives but that they are strong and self-reliant services that will stand the test of time.

My thanks go to General Manager, Michael Boyd, and his staff. I look forward to continuing to work side by side with them to make sure that our residents have good services at reasonable prices and a capacity to return, in the future, to a form of local democracy.

Greg Wright
Administrator



From the Office of the General Manager

Following my appointment as General Manager with the Shire in July 2014, it gives me great pleasure to report on the progress that has been made in the preceding 12 months.

The Annual Report provides an overview of Council's operations and performance during the previous 12 months, exemplifying the dedication and commitment by the staff of the Council under which can only be seen as challenging and difficult circumstances that continue to impact on the Council, the organisation and its staff.

In recent times, a number of staff, particularly senior staff, departed the organisation, and this lack of leadership and continuity created considerable uncertainty within the organisation. Fortunately, during the previous 12 months, the numbers of staff turnovers have diminished, albeit there have been some departures due mainly to personal and/or family reasons. On every occasion, the Council has re-assessed the need for replacement of the departing staff member, and on many occasions, has determined, that the required tasks can be achieved within the remaining staff allocations. In consequence, the Council has reduced its workforce primarily by natural attrition with the subsequent budget savings.

While addressing the Council's ongoing financial sustainability remains as the primary focus for the organisation, we have stringently implemented the critical issues highlighted in the Recovery Plan while ensuring that historic failures in legislative compliance have been corrected and a governance strategy set in place to ensure that the situation does not re-occur.

Considerable work has been undertaken by the Administrator and senior management in reviewing all functions, income and expenditure allocations of the Council. While this work is ongoing, the historic deficits have been curbed with a surplus achieved in 2014/15 and a projected surplus in excess of \$500,000 in 2015/16 as well. While this will assist in the short term, Council still needs to also address its historic failure to fund staff entitlements, restricted funds, and its cross subsidisation of water/sewer and waste management, as well as a number of governance issues.

Addressing these shortfalls will require continuing financial discipline within the organisation and I must acknowledge the leadership, advice and support from the Administrator, Mr Greg Wright, as well as the application, diligence, and commitment from Reece Wilson, as Director Shire Services, and Jacob Philp, as Director Business Services, and indeed the staff of the Council, towards the task of continuing to provide the appropriate level of services to the residents of the Shire with restricted available funding.

Michael Boyd

GENERAL MANAGER



Management Team



Greg Wright
Administrator



Michael Boyd
General Manager



Jacob Philp
Director Business Services



Reece Wilson
Director Shire Services



Council's Achievements in Implementing the Delivery Program

Delivery Program Performance Measures

The tables below show the Delivery Program measures that have been identified to assess the Council's performance in implementation of the Delivery Plan and Community Strategic Plan.

Outcome	Strategy	Performance Indicator
1.1 Closer cooperation and cohesion between community groups	1.1.1 Relevant and quality health and family support services for all members of our community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement annual community satisfaction survey
1.2 Improved community services and facilities	1.2.1 Health, improved aged care and disability services in collaboration with service providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous improvement program (as part of the operational plan- service level agreements)
1.3 Enhanced community spirit, cultural and arts awareness and pride	1.3.1 Culture and Art: Development of creative industries, culture and art	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain active membership with regional and state art organisations.
1.4 Improved opportunities for our communities	1.4.1 Youth, Sport and Recreation Options for the whole community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete Sport and Recreation options investigation and communicate to the community.
	1.4.2 Community housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain communication with community housing providers, Aboriginal Land Councils and Aboriginal Housing Office.
1.5 Enhanced public order and safety	1.5.1 Public safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alcohol Free Zones meet legislative requirements as per LGA



Outcome	Strategy	Performance Indicator
2.1 Expansion of industries and growth in businesses	2.1.1 Sustainable economic development of Shire towns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board memberships maintained
	2.1.2 Improved industry and business attraction, retention and growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategies prepared and presented to Council
2.2 Employment growth	2.2.1 Succession Planning - employment strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain relationships with job networks, Develop traineeship opportunities.
	2.2.2 Opportunities for the highest level of education and training for all members of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased number of locally offered traineeships and educational programs.
2.3 Improved infrastructure across the Shire	2.3.1 Enhance Tourism Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased dissemination streams of tourist information

Outcome	Strategy	Performance Indicator
3.1 Collaborative approach to environmental management and protection	3.1.1 Environmental education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State of the Environment report prepared
	3.1.2 Tree Planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free trees distributed as part of National Tree Day to Local residents
	3.1.3 Waste management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community satisfaction survey
	3.1.4 Weed management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weed infestations and target areas mapped, inspect treated plants and documents



3.2 Improved town entrances and streetscapes	3.2.1 Visually attractive and functional town entrances and streetscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Central Darling Shire Council's Local Heritage Strategy
	3.2.2 initiate streetscape projects in collaboration with business and the community to upgrade shopfronts linked to our built heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stages of restoration reported to Council
3.3 Safe and reliable water supplies and road networks for Shire communities	3.3.1 Stormwater is managed throughout each community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stormwater Management Plan to be reviewed tri-annually
	3.3.2 Safe and reliable water supply for Shire communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop integrated water management plan for each community
	3.3.3 Water testing and treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality Water Testing meets the NSW Health Standards
	3.3.4 Water supply management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All relevant water plans are reviewed
	3.3.5 Safe and reliable network of roads throughout the Shire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All roads throughout the shire meet RMS requirements
	3.3.6 Traffic management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Four traffic management meeting conducted per annum to review traffic issues
3.4 Improved infrastructure across the Shire	3.4.1 Maintain airports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance programs completed in accordance with CASA standards



	3.4.2 Council and community assets are maintained and managed responsibly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asset maintenance program developed and operational (see Asset Maintenance Program)
	3.4.3 Ensure that public toilet facilities are maintained to a standard acceptable to the wider community and visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prompt response to complaints about cleanliness
	3.4.4 Maintain cemeteries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support current committee structure
	3.4.5 Playgrounds are provided and maintained to meet community needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure funding for upgrades to playgrounds
3.5 Well planned towns in accordance with LEP and sound planning principles	3.5.1 Provide appropriate town planning policies and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop applications, inspections and certifications undertaken within legislative timeframes

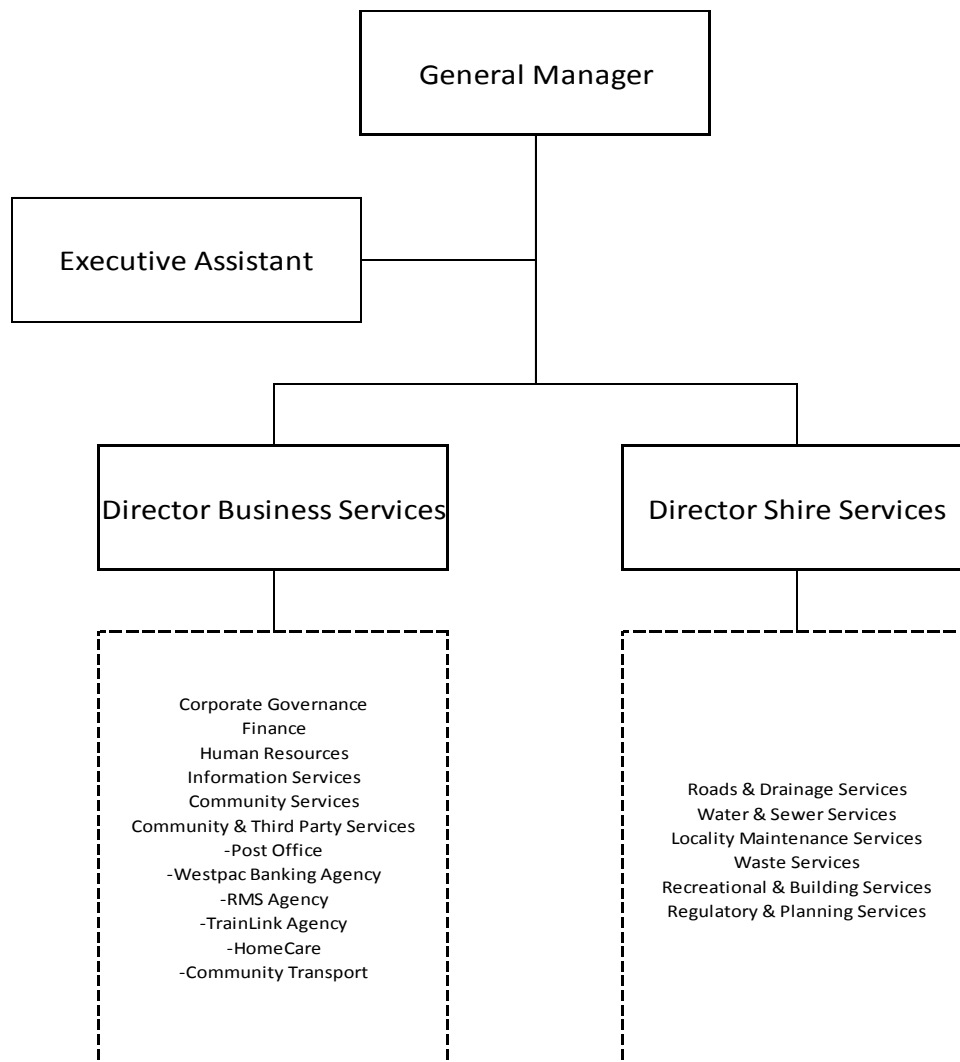
Outcome	Strategy	Performance Indicator
4.1 Effective communication and consultation with Shire communities	4.1.1 Effective communication and consultation with our community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend meetings as required
4.2 Efficient and effective services	4.2.1 Effective community service provision in the Shire through a strategic and collaborative approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information uploaded to CDSC website and is regularly updated
	4.2.2 A professional and cohesive organisational climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two training sessions per annum be provided
4.3 Skilled and informed councillors and staff	4.3.1 Leadership and community involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customer Surveys
4.4 Engaged leaders and volunteers in each community	4.4.1 Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend a minimum of four meetings per annum

Human Resources

As part of Council's requirements under the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, Council has prepared a Workforce Management Plan in order to develop the staffing and human resourcing needs to ensure effective and efficient delivery of services.

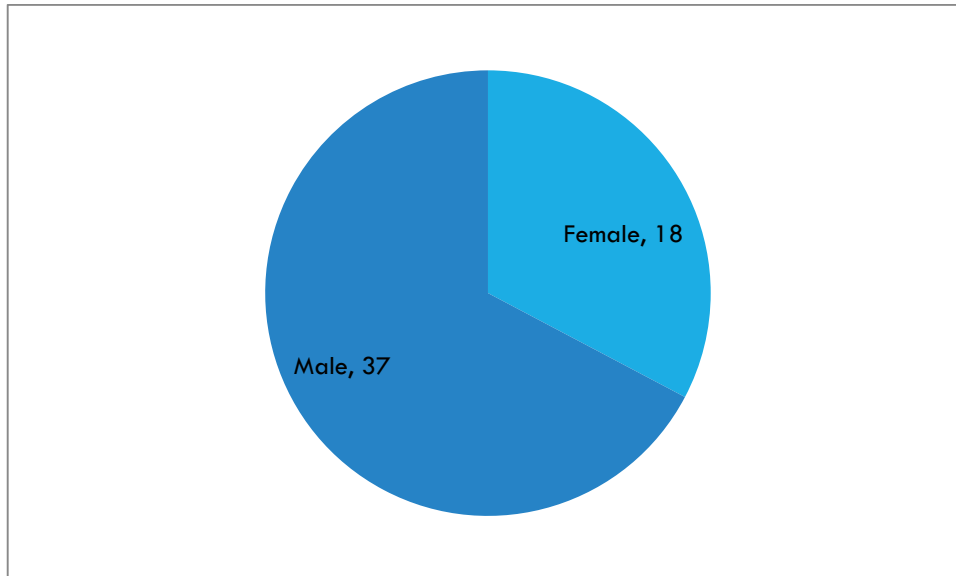
Currently the recruitment and selection process is managed by the General Manager. Formal staff training exercise relating to Work Health & Safety was undertaken by key staff this financial year. Individual staff members undertook various training courses specific to their needs as required.

Organisational Structure

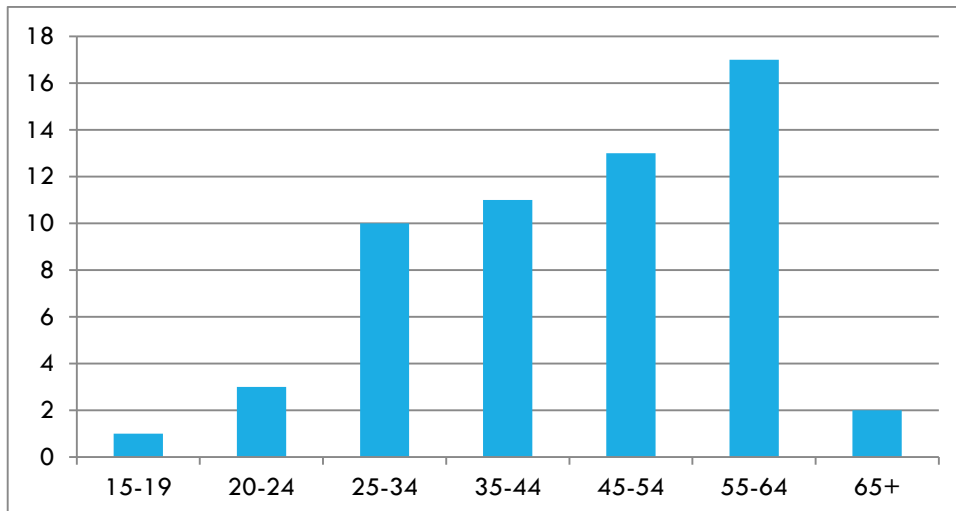




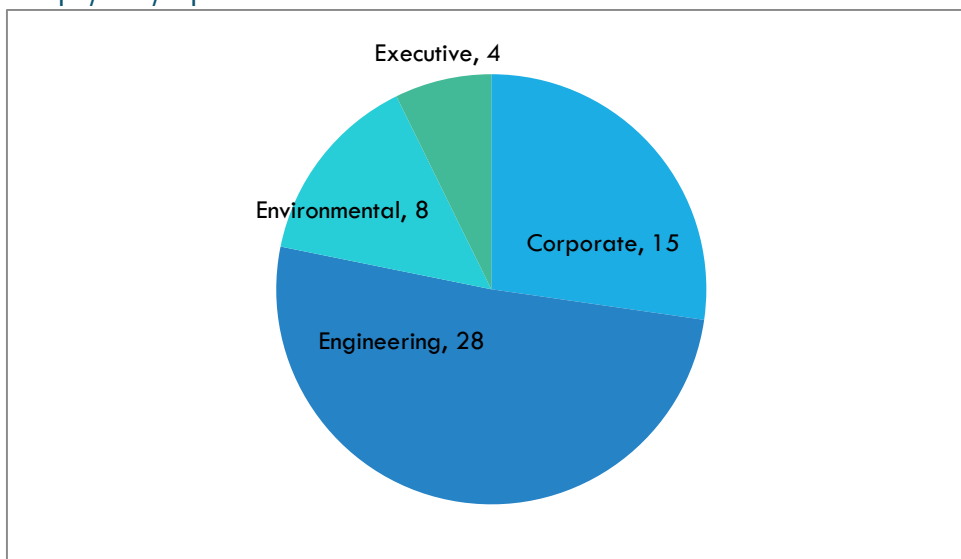
Gender Balance



Age of Workforce



Breakdown of employees by department





Training and Professional Development

Council values its existing staff and offers training for the professional development of employees. During the reporting period Council staff also attended a number of training courses as listed:

Training & Professional Development	
Rangers Conference	Surf Lifesaving Bronze Medallion Training
Water Treatment Operation	Dangerous Goods
Yellow, Blue and Red Traffic Control Planning	Small Plant maintenance
Chemical Dosing Systems Training	Gas Chlorine
Asset Edge (Reflect)	Ongoing Toolbox Talks
ChemCert Training	CivilCAD

Equal Employment Opportunity

Council's EEO Management Plan covers all aspects required under legislation. This includes plans for redeployment, retraining, retrenchment and redundancy. Council has ensured that the EEO Management Plan has been adhered too; however, no specific activities have been undertaken in relation to this plan.

Corporate Governance	
Performance Requirement	Assessment
Ensure pecuniary interest returns are completed	Completed and presented to Council
Complete and present Annual Financial Report	Completed and presented to OLG
Complete and present Annual Management Plan	Completed and adopted by Council
Complete and present Annual Report	Completed and presented to OLG

Legal Proceedings	
30 June 2015	Summary of Legal Proceedings
Total Expenditure	\$7,823.04

Mayoral & Councillors Fees	
Fee	Amount
Mayoral	N/A
Councillors	N/A
Administrator	\$112,823

No Councillors, Council Staff or any other persons representing Council partook in any overseas visits.

Councillors Facilities & Expenses		
(i)	Provision of dedicated office equipment allocated to councillors	\$347
(ii)	Attendance of Councillors at conferences & seminars	Nil
(iii)	Training of Councillors & provision of Skill development	Nil
(iv)	Interstate visits by Councillors	Nil
(v)	Expenses of any spouse or partner	Nil



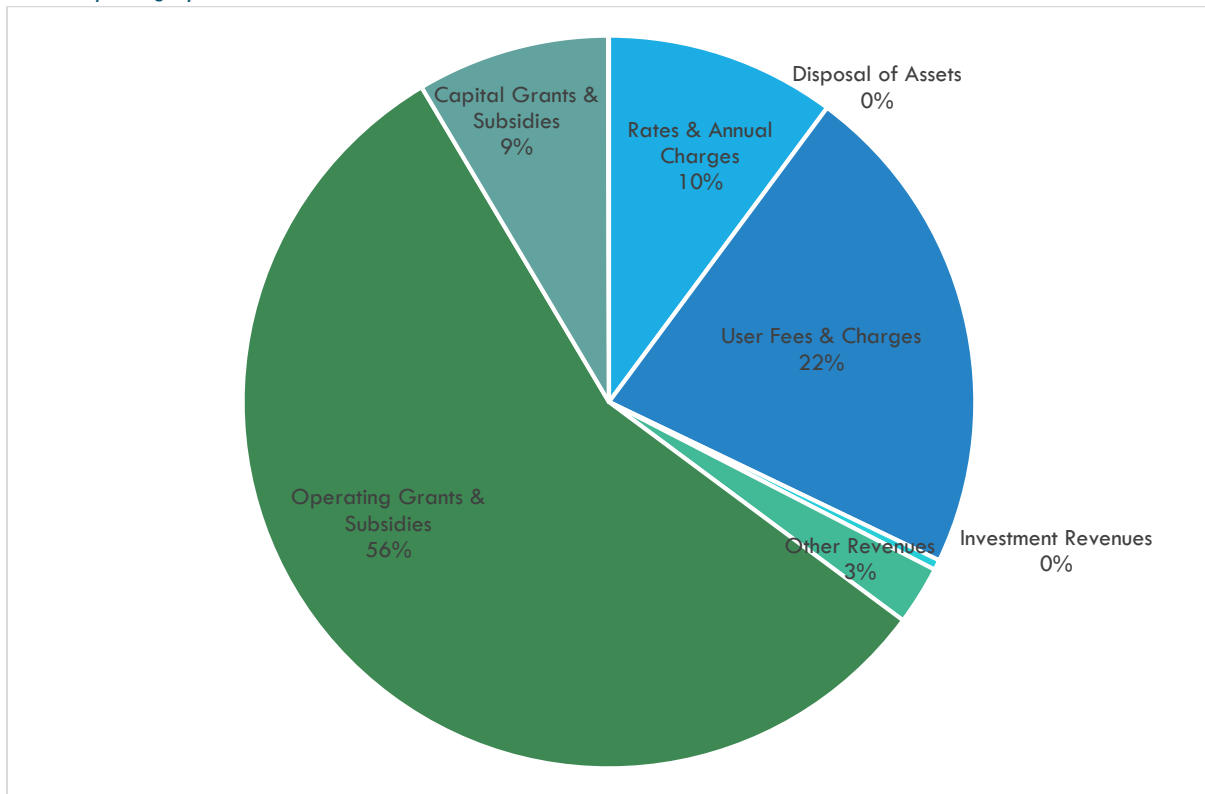
A copy of Council's S252 policy, Provision of Facilities for use by Councillors and the Payment of Councillors' Expenses can be seen at Appendix A.

Remuneration of the General Manager

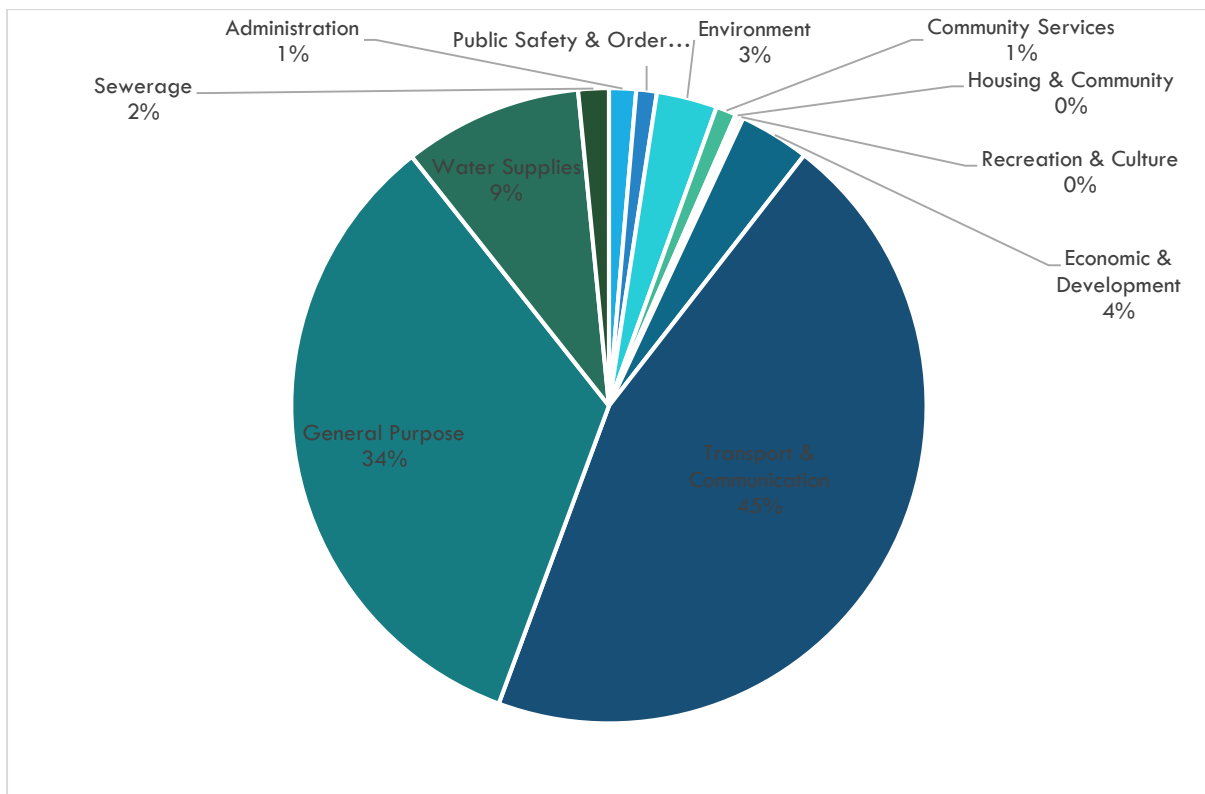
Remuneration of the Acting and Interim General Managers	
General Manager	\$146,453
Provision of Housing, Superannuation and Vehicle for the General Manager	\$43,547



Business Services
Income by Category

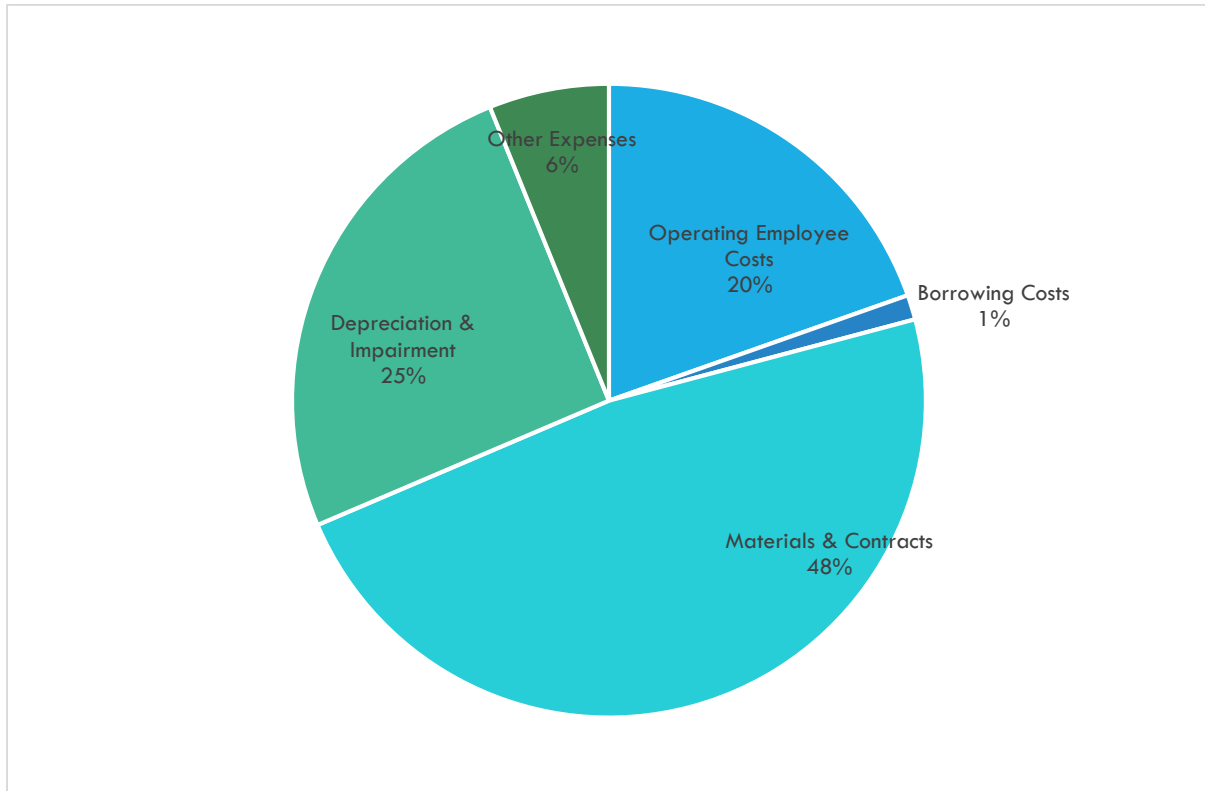


Income by Function
\$15,493,000

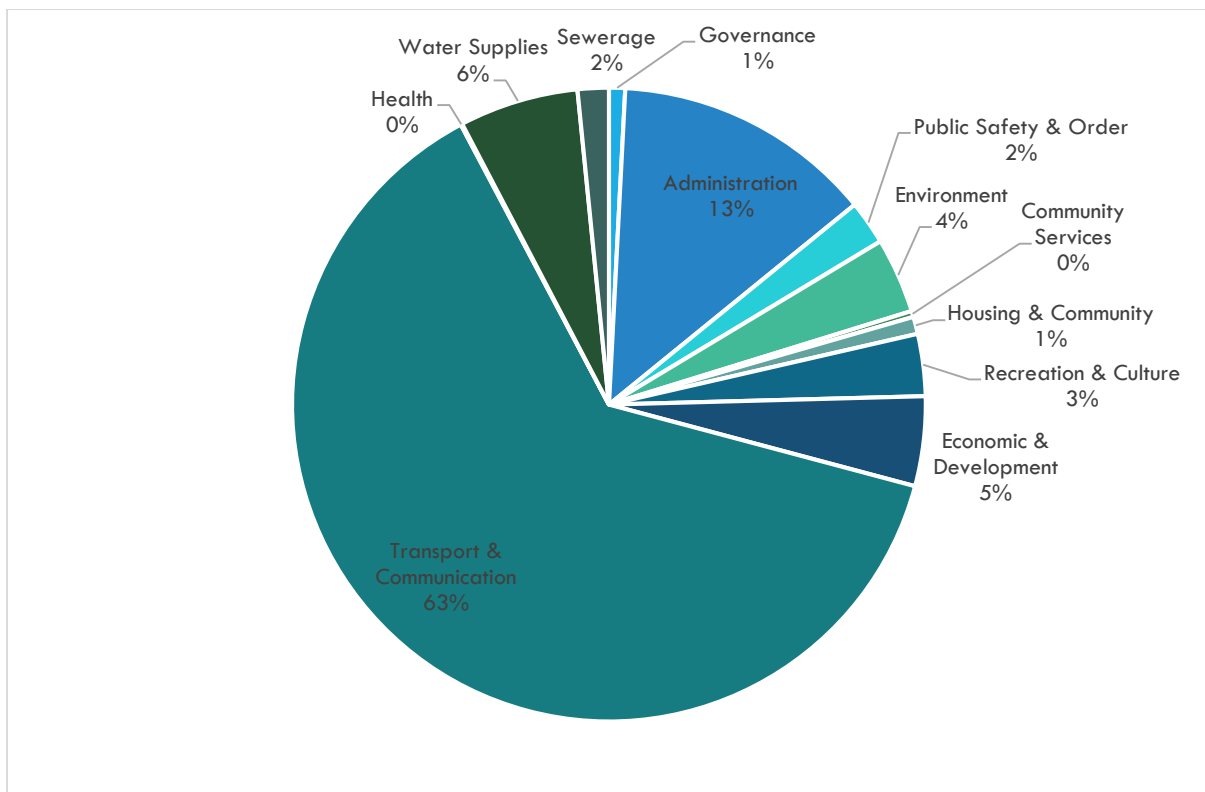




Expenses by Category



Expenses by Function
\$14,351,000





Business Services

Corporate Services	
Performance Requirement	Assessment
Complete Grants Commission return	Completed
Complete FBT Returns	Completed
Complete all GST Returns	Completed
Complete Pensioner Concession Claims	Completed
Submit salary details for workers compensation	Completed
Submit details for annual insurance assessment	Completed and submitted to Jardine Lloyd Thompson
Maintain solid relations with local media	Press releases, public notices, information and newsletters distributed as and when required to all local media authorised by the Administrator or General Manager
Meeting of targets within Management Plan	All targets met as required
Levy Rates	Rates levied quarterly
Levy water accounts	Water accounts levied quarterly
Levy sundry debtor accounts	Accounts levied monthly

Copy of Council's Audited Financial Reports

See Appendix B: Audited Financial Statements 2014-15

Rates & Charges written off during the 2014-15 period

Rates & Charges written off during the 2014-15 period	
Interest	\$1,011.09
Amalgamations	\$6.87
Property or Licence cancellations	\$3,319.79
Levied in error	\$12,893.63
Hardship	Nil
Total	\$19,386.98

Central Darling Shire Council Awarded Contracts 2014-15

Nil contracts awarded.

PPIP Act S33 Privacy & Personal Information Protection Act 1998

In accordance with Section 33 of the Privacy and Personal Information & Protection Act 1998, Council must include in its annual report a statement of the action taken in complying with the requirements of the Act.

Council has adopted the Model Privacy Management Plan and its Public Officer is available for contact on privacy matters. Council will review the Plan as more experience is gained from its implementation.

Government Information (Public Access) 2009 (GIPA) Act

Council received no applications under the Government Information (Public Access) 2009 (GIPA) Act. There was no contravention by Council of an information protection principle or of a privacy code of practice, or disclosure of personal information kept in a public register under Part 5 Section 33. There were no Freedom of Information activities outstanding from the 2014-15 financial year.



Details of programs to promote services and access for people with diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds consistent with principles of multiculturalism.

At the 2011 Census, Central Darling Shire's population totalled 2,108 with 38% of the population being from Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage. This is a significant number compared to the 6.8% of residents who are from a non-English speaking background. Due to this low number it is neither practical nor economically viable for Council to place a strong emphasis on the non-English speaking community.

Throughout the Council towns there are a number of State and Federal Government funded services who provide for the Indigenous population and Council has over the 2014-15 reporting year has received funding to auspice the services of the Community Buses, Meals on Wheels and Home Care.

Requirement	Assessment
Statement of external bodies that exercised functions delegated by Council	Council has 13 s355 Committees that exercise functions of Council
Statement of all companies in which Council held a controlling interest	Nil
Statement of partnerships, co-operatives and other joint ventures	Council has a number of partnerships with varying groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ryde City Council • NetWaste • Regional Development Australia • Western Shires of NSW • Westpac • Roads and Maritime Services • TrainLink • Australia Post
Details of activities to develop and promote services and programs that provide for the needs of children	Whilst Council support all local Schools and Youth Groups, the Council's Social Plan expired in 2009. The needs of activities and services for the youth of the Shire will be identified as part of the Community Strategic Planning Process.
Report on the Council's performance in relation to access and equity activities to meet residents' needs outlined in Council's Management Plan	Principal Activity achievements listed throughout report.

Special Variation Expenditure

Council has no special variation.



Shire Services

Drinking Water Quality Testing

Health	
Performance Requirement	Assessment
Undertake water samples (microbiology) for potable water supplies	Samples taken weekly/fortnightly
Undertake water samples (microbiology) for swimming pools	Taken monthly during swimming season
Undertake routine chlorine residual readings	Weekly
Undertake blue-green algae sampling along river	As required

Sampling of drinking water quality is carried out within the towns of Wilcannia, Ivanhoe and White Cliffs. The frequency of sampling is different in each town however the sample parameters are the same, with most samples tested for microbiology and chemistry. The below tables demonstrate the sampling pattern, the number of samples collected and the number of non-compliant results identified.

Town	Frequency	No of Sites Sampled	Samples Collected
Wilcannia	Weekly	12	- Microbiology - Chemistry – biannually
Ivanhoe	Fortnightly	11	- Microbiology - Chemistry – biannually
White Cliffs	Fortnightly	7	- Microbiology - Chemistry – biannually
Wilcannia Aboriginal Water and Sewage Program including Mallee and Warrali precincts	Monthly	2	- Microbiology- Ongoing - Chemistry -Finished - Disinfection-by-products- Finished - Pesticide-Finished

No of Samples Collected	Microbiology	Chemistry
Wilcannia	62	3
Ivanhoe	26	1
White Cliffs	22	2



No of Non-Compliant Results	Microbiology	Chemistry
Wilcannia	0	0
Ivanhoe	0	0
White Cliffs	0	0

Food Inspections

Health	
Performance Requirement	Assessment
To provide level of services as per Category B	Ongoing task
To implement food premises inspections to Category B level	Completed in 4 th Quarter
To investigate complaints to Category B level	Ongoing task

Central Darling Shire Council is classified as Category B under the Food Regulation Partnership as per agreements with NSW Food Authority. Under this arrangement food premises are inspected annually.

The following table demonstrates Council food premises activities over the past 12 months. During the reporting period one business required a second inspection and was found to be satisfactory. On re-inspection it complied with the Food Act 2003 and Food Regulation 2010.

No of inspections undertaken	No of food outlets	No of non-compliance	No of food business requiring re-inspection
21	21	0	0

Public Order & Safety

Companion Animals

Health	
Performance Requirement	Assessment
To implement companion animal control measures	Ongoing task
To encourage registrations and micro chipping	Ongoing task
To assist with de-sexing clinics and education programs as required	RSPCA de-sexing clinic



Animal Control in Central Darling is an ongoing issue. Constant monitoring and control measures are needed to deal with roaming and straying animals including both dogs and cats. Council partnered with RSPCA, NSW Health and Remote Service Delivery providers to undertake a Dog Health & Desexing Program. This program provided a free service to community members located in Ivanhoe to treat companion animals in the form of worming, flea treatments and desexing. During the program held in November 2013, 60 -70 dogs and cats were treated and desexed. This was an excellent achievement and greatly assists Council to control companion animals through less puppies being born and left to roam around the township.

Other activities Council has undertaken to assist animal control within the Shire include provision of dog and cat traps to local residents (on a loan basis) to capture roaming animals, assist residents to surrender animals and rehome/remove as required, tend to injured animals and seek veterinary care as required through RSPCA in Broken Hill. Information items have been provided to educate local residents on animal control matters per the local newspaper and on rates notices.

Council has lodged relevant returns to the Office of Local Government as required being pound data collection returns and dog attack data. The amount of funding spent relating to companion animal management and activities was \$84,139. At this stage it has not been deemed necessary to allocate specific off leash areas within any Shire towns.

Animal Control Statistics for 2014/2015

Month	Seized & Impounded	Returned to owner	Surrendered	Dumped	Euthanised	Stolen	Re-homed	In Pound at end of month
July 2014	10	2	8	0	0	0	8	0
Aug 2014	10	2	2	0	0	0	2	0
Sept 2014	8	2	4	0	2	0	4	0
Oct 2014	16	2	12	0	2	0	12	0
Nov 2014	12	2	9	0	1	0	9	0
Dec 2014	19	3	16	0	2	0	16	0
Jan 2015	6	1	6	0	0	0	6	0
Feb 2015	8	1	0	0	5	0	0	0
Mar 2015	9	2	7	0	7	0	0	0
April 2015	14	2	9	0	3	0	9	0
May 2015	8	2	3	0	3	0	3	0
June 2015	10	0	0	0	2	0	3	0
Total	130	21	76	0	27	0	72	0

Bushfire Hazard Reduction

Hazard Reduction Programs

The Central Darling Bush Fire Management Committee has a significant role to play in the development of hazard reduction activities and funding priorities and holds regular meetings to discuss any issues or concerns.

Hazard reduction work carried out in the Central Darling Shire over the past year included mechanical works, such as grading and slashing, as well as a number of prescribed burns. The priority for works will be around villages and towns.



Hazard Reduction Works

NSW Rural Fire Service – Far West Team (Incorporating Central Darling District)

- Asset protection zones maintained around all townships and villages, including Wilcannia, Ivanhoe, Tilpa, White Cliffs, Menindee, as well as small communities such as Sunset Strip and Copi Hollow.
- Asset protection zones implemented around the 2 Wilcannia discreet Aboriginal communities.
- Fire trail maintenance works within the Mallee Bush Fire Prevention Scheme area and other registered fire trails.

A total of \$211,125 of external hazard reduction funds were sought and allocated through the Government funding process.

Central Darling Shire Council

- Roadside slashing.
- Maintained asset protection zone around Central Darling Waste depots.

National Parks

- Reserve fire trail maintenance.
- Strip burning along strategic fire trails.

Fire Safety Awareness

Community awareness activities are carried out as part of the NSW Rural Fire Service community education program; this is updated annually with community events, media activities and other activities carried out in accordance with Service protocols. Some examples include:

- Display at the Kilfera Field Day with information available.
- School & Community groups visits
- Brigade open day activities.

Properties & Community Amenities

Properties

Environmental	
Performance Requirement	Assessment
Issue temporary licences for Crown Land as required	2 temporary licences issued in reporting period
Submit financial statements for Crown Land as required	Financial statements submitted
Support National Tree Day through tree allocations to local communities	Tree Day held in all Shire communities
Maintain all public parks, sporting facilities and public toilets to an acceptable community standard	All amenities maintained as per budgetary allocations
Manage Local Heritage Funding Program pending funding support from NSW Heritage Office	Continuing program with 5 projects funded in reporting period

Crown Land – Council is Trust Manager of a large portfolio of Crown Land within the Central Darling LGA. This land has been gazetted for many differing purposes of use. At this stage, Council is responsible for 52 Crown land parcels scattered across all towns, villages and localities.



Crown Land Properties Managed by Council in 2012/13 – facility and purpose of use			
Reserve/Facility	Reserve Number	Location	Purpose of use
Bourke & Wills Park	28962	Menindee	Oval, swimming pool
Burke Park	630012	Wilcannia	Showground
Crick Park	82520	Menindee	Public Recreation
Darnick Community Reserve	230084	Darnick	Community Purposes
Emmdale Emergency Reserve	1001363	Emmdale	Airstrip
Ivanhoe Aerodrome	85153	Ivanhoe	Aviation
Ivanhoe Bushfire Brigade	83244	Ivanhoe	Bushfire Brigade
Ivanhoe Recreation Grounds	83596	Ivanhoe	Recreation
Ivanhoe Regeneration Reserve	85989	Ivanhoe	Regeneration
Ivanhoe Rubbish Depot	84487	Ivanhoe	Rubbish Depot
Ivanhoe Water Supply	78333	Ivanhoe	Water Supply
Lake Menindee Plantation Res.	86859	Sunset Strip	Plantation, tourism purposes
Menindee Aerodrome	230056	Menindee	Aviation
Menindee Common Reserve	64609	Menindee	Camping, access
Menindee Common Reserve	64899	Menindee	Addition – commonage
Menindee Common Reserve	71522	Menindee	Common
Menindee Fire Brigade	78117	Menindee	Fire Station
Menindee Racecourse	84041	Menindee	Racecourse
Menindee Regeneration Res.	88474	Menindee	Regeneration
Tilpa Reserve	1004528	Tilpa	Cemetery
Menindee Reserve	13524	Menindee	Works Depot
Wilcannia Reserve	19334	Wilcannia	Common
White Cliffs Reserve	24554	White Cliffs	Cemetery
Menindee Reserve	28978	Menindee	Cemetery
White Cliffs Reserve	38958	White Cliffs	Not Known
Ivanhoe Reserve	3966	Ivanhoe	Plantation & Cemetery
Ivanhoe Reserve	3967	Ivanhoe	Not Known
Menindee Reserve	87753	Menindee	Rubbish Depot
Ivanhoe Reserve	87826	Ivanhoe	Trucking & stock yards
Tilpa Reserve	88701	Tilpa	Public Recreation
White Cliffs Reserve	91119	White Cliffs	Rubbish Depot
Menindee Rubbish Depot	90833	Menindee	Rubbish Depot
White Cliffs Rubbish Depot	97755	White Cliffs	Rubbish Depot
Wilcannia Rubbish Depot	90899	Wilcannia	Rubbish Depot
Sturt Park Reserve	630016	Wilcannia	Recreation
Sunset Strip Bushfire Brigade	230091	Sunset Strip	Bushfire Brigade purposes
Sunset Strip Rubbish Depot	97736	Sunset Strip	Rubbish Depot
Tilpa Airport	96846	Tilpa	Aviation
Trida Public Hall	85640	Trida	Public Hall
Victory Park Caravan Park	1004988	Wilcannia	Recreation
White Cliffs Aerodrome	86808	White Cliffs	Aviation purposes
White Cliffs Gymkhana Res	30642	White Cliffs	Racecourse
White Cliffs Regeneration Res	89857	White Cliffs	Regeneration
White Cliffs Water Supply	97857	White Cliffs	Water Supply
Wilcannia Common Reserve	77322	Wilcannia	Commonage
Wilcannia Effluent Ponds	91299	Wilcannia	Sanitary Purpose
Wilcannia Golf Course	87463	Wilcannia	Golf Course
Wilcannia Public Recreation Res	85567	Wilcannia	Recreation
Wilcannia Regeneration Res	87409	Wilcannia	Regeneration



Wilcannia Septic Tank Pumpout	90900	Wilcannia	Sanitary Depot
Wilcannia Urban Services	230082	Wilcannia	Fire Brigade
William Murray Memorial Park		Menindee	Recreation

Public Buildings/Council Owned or Managed Facilities – Council owns many buildings across the Shire primarily related directly to its operations and staff accommodation. There are 211 buildings and structures in total. These buildings consist of houses, flats, work depots, administration buildings, Rural Transaction Centres, Community Halls, bushfire sheds and buildings, SES buildings, public toilets, sporting ovals, swimming pool amenities, roadside shelters, animal pounds, filtration plants and various other sheds.

Council Owned or Managed Facilities		
Facility Type	Number of Buildings	Locations
Staff Houses and flats	15	Wilcannia
Community Housing	6	Menindee
Community Halls	7	Darnick, Wilcannia, Ivanhoe, Menindee, White Cliffs, Sunset Strip, Tilpa
ATCO's	3	Wilcannia, Menindee, Ivanhoe
SES Sheds	4	Wilcannia, Menindee, Ivanhoe, White Cliffs
Bushfire Brigade	6	Wilcannia, Ivanhoe, Menindee, White Cliffs, Sunset Strip, Tilpa
Rural Transaction Centres	1	Menindee
Multiservice Outlets	1	Ivanhoe
Administration Buildings	1	Wilcannia (Council Chambers – heritage listed)
Customer Service Centre	1	Wilcannia
Works Depots	4	Menindee, Wilcannia, Ivanhoe and White Cliffs
Athenaeum	1	Wilcannia
Old Heritage Buildings/Sites	2	Wilcannia (Post Office, Knox & Downs)
Caravan Parks	2	Wilcannia and White Cliffs
Public Toilets	6	Wilcannia, Menindee, Ivanhoe
Ovals, sports grounds	4	Wilcannia, Menindee, Ivanhoe, Tilpa
Swimming Pools	4	Wilcannia, Menindee, Ivanhoe and White Cliffs
Cemeteries	5	White Cliffs, Tilpa, Menindee, Ivanhoe & Wilcannia
Water Filtration Plants	3	Wilcannia, White Cliffs & Ivanhoe
Waste Depots	7	White Cliffs, Tilpa, Ivanhoe, Wilcannia, Menindee, Sunset Strip & Copi Hollow

The above list is not exhaustive and does not include smaller buildings attached or associated with these main facilities. Three of the above listed items notably the Old Wilcannia Post Office, the Wilcannia Council Chambers and the Knox & Downs building are heritage listed sites within Wilcannia.

The Old Wilcannia Post Office building has had some renovations undertaken to the exterior of the building and inside the main front room, however still requires extensive works to the residential section and to the yard. Funding to continue the works is required and to date Council has not been successful in obtaining additional funding. The building is currently being utilised for Post Office purposes as intended.



Caravan Parks

Victory Park Caravan Park, Wilcannia

Situated on the banks of the Darling River at Wilcannia is Victory Park Caravan Park, set amongst majestic gum trees. During the reporting period this caravan park was under the control of the Central Darling Shire Council and operated as such, Council received a grant for \$40,000 to refurbish the existing amenities.

Opal Pioneers Caravan Park, White Cliffs



Situated in the opal mining town of White Cliffs is Central Darling Shire Council's Opal Pioneer Caravan Park. The park has had upgrades to its power system and a dump point has been installed due to the increase in tourism numbers. The park has modern amenities. Rainwater tanks have also been installed at various locations within the grounds. This park is managed by a S355 Committee of Council being the White Cliffs Community Association.

Heritage

Council is actively involved in preservation of heritage items and assisting owners of local heritage items to retain and conserve buildings and items of heritage significance on a regular basis. Council has a Heritage Strategy that includes the provision of a Heritage Advisory Service and a Local Heritage Fund. Council receives funding from the NSW Heritage Office for these programs.

During 2014-15, Council's Heritage Advisor visited the Shire and met with local residents on 4 occasions at no cost to the residents.

The Heritage Strategy continues to be a worthwhile program for delivery across the Shire and has been in progress since 2008.

Swimming Pools

Council owns, manages and operates 4 public swimming pool facilities across the Shire. These facilities are located in Wilcannia, Menindee, Ivanhoe and White Cliffs. Within each facility are a large pool and a small toddlers wading pool, apart from White Cliffs which only has one large pool operational. Council's public swimming pools are relatively aged, and require ongoing works to keep operational. White Cliffs has the newest pool being constructed in late 2012. Council employs Casual Pool Lifeguards each year to supervise its swimming pools. These employees are trained in First Aid, Bronze Medallion and Royal Lifeguard Licence. Extensive works have been undertaken to manage risks at our pools in the areas of signage and supervisory activities.

Council is mindful of the extensive summer heat, and has installed large shade sails over its pools in all locations. The amenities are all in average condition including Ivanhoe which received extensive works to bring the facility up to basic standard.

The pools are open from mid- November to March/April each year. The hours of operation are limited to 3pm to 6pm on school days, and 3pm to 8pm on weekends and school holidays.



Town Planning

Development Applications

Council receives a number of Development Applications (DAs) each year for a wide range of development varying from residential to commercial work. Council receives in the vicinity of 20-30 DAs per year, in the 2014-15 reporting period Council has received 25 DAs. The table below provides a breakdown on the types of DAs received, and the total value of these three main categories of development. Development in the Central Darling LGA is mainly in the townships of Wilcannia and Menindee; however development in the other towns and in rural settings has occurred as well. Most DAs lodged with Council are for smaller residential developments, however at least a couple of times a year Council receive applications for larger developments. Council supports Complying Development Certificates when possible. Over the reporting period 0 Complying Development Certificate applications were lodged with Council for development in Wilcannia. As part of the DA process Council has also issued 11 Construction Certificates and 4 Occupation Certificates.

DA Categories and Values for 2012/13 reporting period		
Development Category	Number of DAs related to this Category	Total Value of Category
Residential	8	\$1,430,148
Commercial	13	\$21,739,193
Rural	2	\$177,000
Signs	2	\$1,500
Total	25	\$23,347,841

Information about planning agreements

Central Darling Shire Council has not entered into any planning agreements for the reporting period.

Section 67 – Work carried out on Private Land

Central Darling Shire council has had no Section 67 works completed for the reporting period.

Environment

Climate Change

Over recent years increased focus is being placed on climate change and what this means for the local environment and local communities. To date, Council has had minimal input into climate change and the possible effects on the local area and the operations of Council, due to lack of funding & resources.

Domestic Waste Management

Waste Management

S428(2)(b) Asset Management	
Performance Requirement	Assessment
Continue to improve Menindee & Wilcannia Waste Depots	Ongoing
Implement improvements to Ivanhoe Waste Depot	Completed
Source contracts through NetWaste for sale of recyclables	Contracts continually being sourced.



Council manages and operates 7 waste depots across the Shire. Each waste depot consists of a landfill, with Wilcannia, Menindee and Ivanhoe also having broader recycling streams. Council's waste depots are located in Wilcannia, Menindee, Ivanhoe, Sunset Strip, White Cliffs and Tilpa. Due to numerous complaints regarding illegal burning over past years, Council introduced restricted access to its waste depots in Menindee, Wilcannia & Ivanhoe. This means these waste depots are manned by a Waste Operator during opening hours and open 4 days a week on Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday for 3 hours per day with an extra 2 hours on Saturday afternoons. The larger recycling streams provide for separation of large wastes, such as scrap metal, tyres, green waste, timber products, and concrete products. It is often difficult to keep these lines defined, as many dumpers do not segregate their wastes, and often the wrong materials end up in the wrong areas. This is an ongoing challenge for Council.

Future recycling opportunities are very difficult to secure due to distance and freight costs. The option to further refine recycling lines into glass, plastic, cans and other streams is not currently viable and Council does not have available funds to introduce these changes.

Council provides kerbside collection services to the towns of Wilcannia, Menindee and Ivanhoe. Collection is via 240L wheelie bins and garbage trucks and is provided to 795 residential and commercial properties.



Community Services

Community Services	
Performance Required	Assessment
Ensure the Ivanhoe Multi Service Outlet is operating to funding guidelines	Ongoing
Ensure the Menindee Transaction Centre is maintained to community expectations	Ongoing
Continue to support the Community Working Parties of the Shire in achieving their action plans	Ongoing
Assist community groups to stage regular and ongoing events	Assistance given on an as need basis

Australia Day in Menindee

Michael Boyd, General Manager, CDSC with Dennis Standley awarded the recipients for the 2015 Australia Day Awards

Menindee Fishing Challenge (Event of the Year)

Adrian Dalby (Joint Citizen of the Year)

Barry Fowler (Joint Citizen of the Year)

Deanna Pinal (Young Citizen of the Year)



Michael (Left), Dennis (Centre) Tim Walter MFC (Right)



Michael (Left), Deanna (Centre), and Dennis (Right)



Adrian (Left), Michael & Dennis (Centre) and Barry (Right)

Australia Day in Wilcannia

St Johns Church Air Conditioning Fundraising Drive (Event of the Year)

Kevin Cattermole (Joint Citizen of the Year)

Evelyn Dutton (Young Citizen of the Year)



Australia Day in Ivanhoe

Michael Williams MP with Jacob Philp, Director Business Services, CDSC awarded the recipients for the 2015 Australia Day Awards



Jacob (Left), Winifred (Centre) and Michael (Right)



Jacob (Left), Heather McGinty (Left Centre) Mark (Right Centre) Michael (Right)

125 Years of Education at Ivanhoe Central School (Event of the Year) (Mark Dansmore & Heather McGinty)

Winifred Linnett (Citizen of the Year)

Australia Day in White Cliffs

White Cliffs Underground Arts Festival (Event of the Year)

Cree Marshall (Citizen of the Year)

Ivanhoe Multi Service outlet

Throughout the last financial year the Ivanhoe MSO has continued to provide support to our MSO/HACC Clients and the wider Ivanhoe community by providing Community Transport (local and distance), Social Support, Meals on Wheels, and Yard Maintenance Services along with the general day to day CDSC enquiries at the Office.

The MSO Office is a friendly place where our MSO Clients and Ivanhoe residents or travellers can get information on various subjects ranging from community services, local road conditions to native flora and fauna, maps and local history brochures. All CDSC Public Notices are displayed and general CDSC information is available. There is also a small lending library of magazines, novels, CD's, DVD's and videos for everyone.

We have been approved to have the Centrelink Access Point for this area operating in the MS Office which provides direct online Centrelink Services and telephone services to Centrelink. Our staff are on hand to help and of our customers who may find it difficult to speak over the phone or have lengthy forms to fill in.

Medical/Social Trips

Our CDSC MSO Community Bus is an essential service and a popular trip away for clients as well as other community members for shopping, medical appointments, and social outings to Griffith and Hay. Local shopping trips are available each day of the week with the most popular days being Tuesday's and Thursday's. Community Transport for NSW and ADHC (HACC) NSW fund all these services for remote and isolated Communities and CDSC auspice this funding.

MSO Volunteers

Keith Anderson, Lili Kitione, Ron Maiden and Peter Robertson has taken on this Volunteer Bus Driver position who has proved to be a part of the MSO team.

Barbara Clayton and Lili Kitione were the MSO volunteers for the Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels – Ivanhoe

Meals on Wheels is available from the Correctional Services kitchen Monday to Fridays (even Christmas and Easter day and other public holidays). Meals are being delivered between 4pm and 5pm each day. This important service is funded by ADHAC (HACC) and auspiced by CDSC.



Seniors Broadband

Again, this year we have been able to supply two Seniors Broadband computers which are available for use by our clients and the Ivanhoe Community. Our volunteer tutors are Ashley Bourke, Tammie McMaster and Margie Barter.

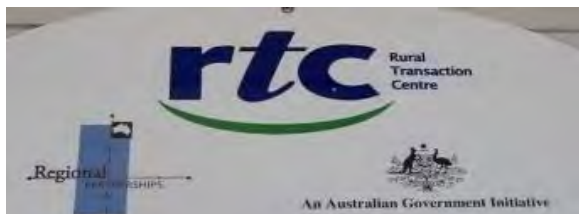
Social Support

The MSO Office has offered homecare and social support to the elderly and other people that are in the need of help in this area.

Our MSO/HACC clients enjoy morning teas on a regular basis which gives them a chance to chat and catch up with friends. Ivanhoe MSO always celebrates Seniors Week with the MSO having a special morning tea for local seniors. At the end of the year we have a Christmas Luncheon which is always a lot of fun and a good way to celebrate together.



Menindee Transaction Centre



The Transaction Centre is a presence for the Central Darling Shire Council in Menindee as part of the Community and Economic Development sector of Council.

The majority of Council dealings can be dealt with at the Centre, but we are only a phone call away to Wilcannia if the need arises.

The Centre is always a hive of activity and we are eager to hear of new ideas and technology use for the Community.

Please feel free if you are in Menindee to call into the Centre to view the facilities.

- **Centrelink Agency** for lodgment of forms, phone contact, and identification needs etc. 9.30am-12.30pm Monday — Friday
- **Room Hire** - available for meetings or appointments
- **Hall Hire** - Menindee Civic Hall for meetings, functions and courses
- **All secretarial needs** – Word processing, laminating, photocopying, shredding, printing
- **Contact Centre** for many Community Service Organisations in Broken Hill – Legal Centre, CentaCare, Community Corrections, Trustee and Guardian, Lifeline and St. Vincent de Paul.

Menindee Civic Hall

Is the venue for a number of functions held by the community throughout the year with a highlight being Beckler's Botanical Bounty group of enthusiastic botanical artists who have returned for the fifth annual visit to collect plant specimens that were identified by the Burke & Wills Expedition Botanist Beckler back in 1860s. It was originally a 5year project which has seen some 40+ plants identified, collected, painted and stored in both the Melbourne and Sydney Herbariums; a final exhibition will be held in Bendigo at a later time. Meanwhile, as a lasting thank you gift a donation of a smaller exhibition to the

Community exhibition at the Visitor Centre.



Menindee was made. The will be housed Menindee Information



Community Library

The Menindee Children's Centre students and staff are regular visitors to the Centre for **book reading** sessions. Keeping in line with the pre-school curriculum theme the book titled 'Cuddly Koala' was read and craft activities held. The pre-schoolers (and staff) enjoy their visits especially in the warmer weather when ice-blocks finish off the session!



With an ever increasing donation of books being received there has become the need to expand the **non-fiction/reference section** of the Library. Thanks to Deanna Pinal who volunteered her time after finishing her Yr 12 studies this section is now catalogued in line with the Dewey Decimal System. Reading is integral to the continued learning of all in our community and thanks to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation we are continuing to receive a great selection of books to make this happen.

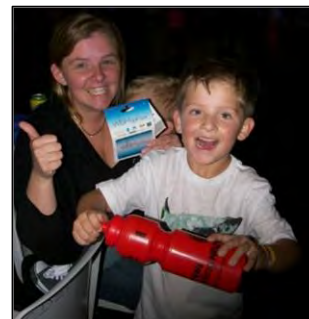


Thanks to the Men-in-dee Shed members the library shelving has been reinforced to support the 2,000+ books now housed in the Library.





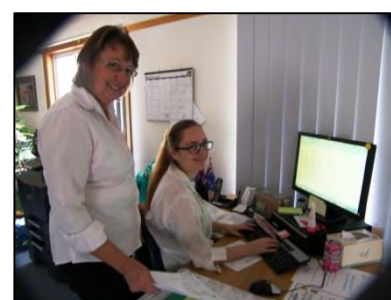
A **Blue Light Disco** was held to celebrate **Youth Week** and was a great success with 60 school age children + parents and younger siblings having lots of fun dancing to the music of DJ Rowena from the Broken Hill PCYC. Funding for the event was received from Central Darling Shire Council and NSW Education and Communities.



A number of **Morning Teas** are held throughout the year either at the Centre or in **conjunction with other community groups**. Below left is a photo of a Thank You morning tea to celebrate *Volunteer Week held in May*. The photo in the middle shows Deanna Pinal serving morning tea to our 'young at heart' members of the community during *Seniors Week in March*. *Australia's Biggest Morning Tea* has been held for the past 8 years with over \$5,000 being raised in the community. On average 45 morning tea orders are delivered to various businesses and government departments who are unable to attend a themed gathering on the day at the Pensioner Hall.



Employment and Succession Planning During the current financial year the need arose to employ a Casual Admin Assistant at the Transaction Centre to cover staff leave. With her Yr. 12 studies and School Based Trainee Certificate II completed at the Centre, Deanna Pinal was the ideal candidate for the position. Deanna is continuing in a Traineeship capacity undertaking Certificate III in Business Admin.



Following on from the construction of the BMX Track in the Burke & Wills Oval/Park grounds in late 2013-14; funding over a two-year period has allowed for a 40m x 20m covered cemented area to be built providing the community with a venue that can host a multitude of events ranging from sporting to entertainment to accommodation. This Multi-Purpose Centre will be an ongoing work space to incorporate all facets of use.

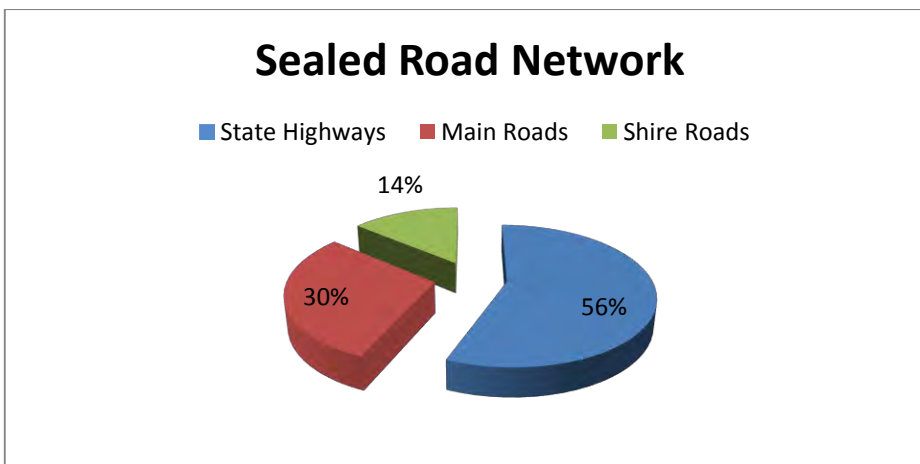
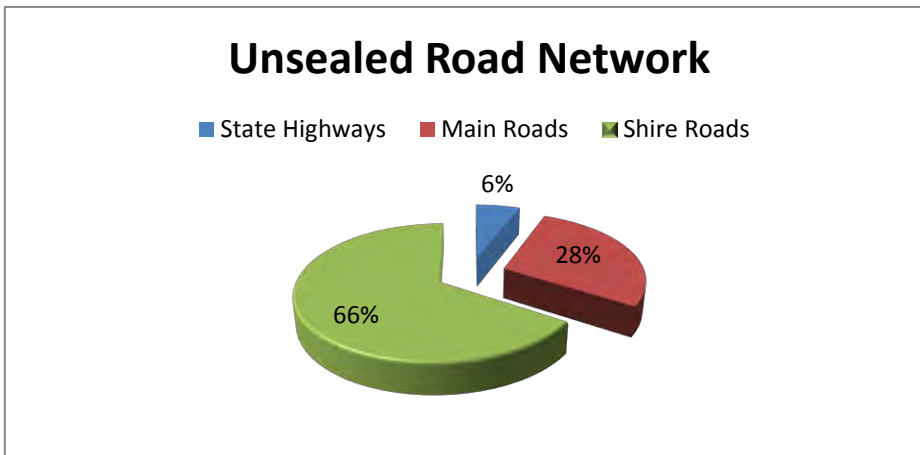
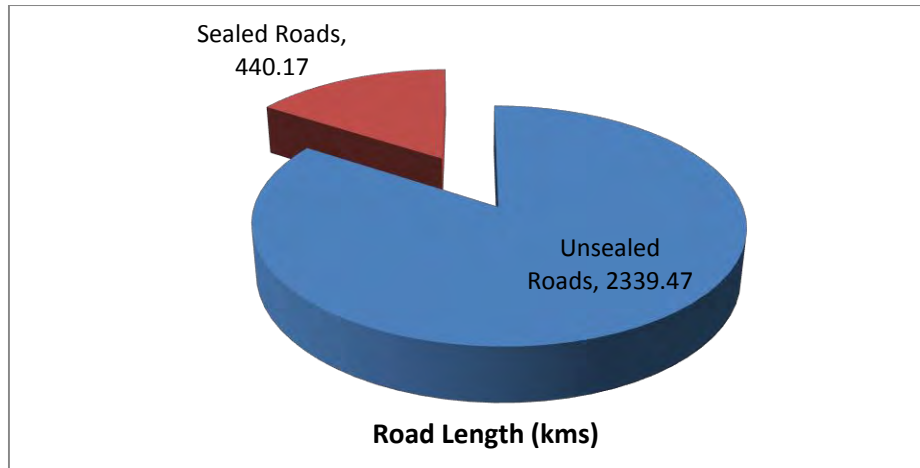


Central Darling Shire registered for, and took part in, the **Australia's Biggest Garage Sale Trail**. In Menindee some locals held their Garage Sale at their own residence while others took advantage of the great space of the Multi-Purpose Centre to have a stall at a community site.





Roads and Bridges
Public Road Network





Asset Management	
Performance Requirement	Assessment
Ensure all roads within the Shire are maintained	Ongoing maintenance grading program reviewed monthly
Acquit grant funds as required	Funds acquitted with the RMS
Maintain Routine Maintenance Council Contract	Ongoing with RMS

The following is a summary of the works undertaken on the State, Regional and Shire road network with the Shire in the 2014/2015 financial year.

State Highways

Under Council's Routine Maintenance Council Contract (RMCC), Council is responsible for 387km of State Highway which includes both sealed and unsealed sections. The majority of funding was expended on construction, reseals, heavy patching, new grids and approaches, formation grading and re-sheeting.

Report on RMCC Work 2014/15

Total budgeted cost paid to Council for RMCC ordered work:	\$1,195,965
Council's expenditure for RMCC ordered work:	\$1,171,282
Total budgeted cost paid to Council for RMCC routine work:	\$796,152
Council's expenditure for RMCC routine work:	\$796,152

List of jobs done under this routine work:

- Routine inspection
- Pothole repair
- Edgebreak repair
- Formation grading
- Shoulder grading
- Litter & debris removal
- Ground vegetation control
- Control saplings within clear zone
- Stock grids & races maintenance
- Stockpile sites maintenance
- Rest area – Service
- Rest area – Repair
- Clean culverts
- Minor repair culverts
- Minor repair headwalls and/or wingwalls
- Guide post maintenance
- Replace minor signs
- Maintain major signs



Description of Works Orders received as part of RMCC	Value after Variation	Status
SH21 Gravel resheet	\$175,230	Complete
SH8 Heavy patching	\$109,998	Complete
SH21 Spray sealing	\$515,892	Complete
SH21 Cobb Highway Grid replacement	\$89,920	Complete
SH8 Barrier Highway Spray sealing	\$224,057	Complete
SH8 Wilcannia Bridge drainage	\$91,039	Incomplete – 60%
SH8 Guardrail replacement	\$18,772	Complete
SH8 Rest area bins	\$2,000	Complete
SH8 Batter works	\$60,372	Complete
SH8 Woody weed	\$18,458	Complete
SH21 Scour Protection works	\$15,162	Incomplete – 0%
TOTAL WORK ORDER VALUES =	\$1,320,900	

Regional Roads

Council maintains 790km of Regional (or Main) Roads within the Shire. Funding received included \$2,545,000 from Regional Road Block Grant, \$350,000 from Roads to Recovery and \$400,000 from Regional Roads Repair Program

Expenditure of the Block Grant included maintenance grading works, construction and resealing works.

Construction projects included 3.5km of reconstruction and seal on the Balranald Rd MR67 which leaves approximately 7km remaining within the Shire. The Menindee-Ivanhoe Rd MR433 received REPAIR program funding to complete 100km of grid replacements and reconstruction and sealed approaches.

Reseals were carried out in this financial year in the following locations:



MR67 Balranald Rd 3.0km

Expenditure of the Roads to Recovery was allocated and completed on the Pooncarie Rd, MR68C. The shaping and capping works included reconstruction of the sand hill areas by blending clay based material with natural sandy loam to improve road safety.





Local Roads

Council maintains 1600km of Local Roads within the Shire. Funding received from Federal Assistance Grant totalled \$1,480,000 and an additional \$350,000 allocated from Roads to Recovery.

The majority of local road expenditure included maintenance grading works and reconstruction works.

Roads to Recovery allocation of \$350,000 was utilised on SR1 Wilcannia-Tilpa east Rd (\$135,000) to reconstruct and gravel causeway approaches to the 2 new bridges, White Cliffs town streets (\$215,000) to reconstruct and seal Morrison Street.

Town Street routine maintenance works are ongoing and include kerb and gutter cleaning on a weekly basis, tree and ground vegetation maintenance, street sweeping and sign maintenance.

Bridges

Routine maintenance carried out on Council owned bridges included visual inspections, vegetation control and minor repairs. Recent bridge replacements have seen 50% of Council owned bridges replaced within the Shire, as per Council's Asset Management Plan all dilapidated timber bridges have now been replaced.

Works on Private Land

Council carried out private tendered works for the NSW Public Works – Contract 1301115, Darling Basin Drilling Program in 2014/15. The two sites were located at "Tiltagoonah" within Cobar Shire and "Meena Murtee" within Central Darling Shire. The purpose and nature of the works entailed site rehabilitation works for drill pads (CO2 deep drilling operations that were carried out by 3rd parties.)

Council received \$149,492 in Private Works income, the majority of which resulted from works above.

Water, Sewer & Stormwater

Asset Management	
Performance Requirement	Assessment
Maintain consistency of primary treated water to town of White Cliffs	Ongoing
Maintain consistency of potable and raw water supplies to Ivanhoe and Wilcannia	Ongoing
Ensure that the current standard of sewerage collection is maintained	Ongoing



Major Activities

Wilcannia Water Supply and Sewerage Services continue to benefit from the Aboriginal Communities Water Supply and Sewerage Program and the Remote Communities Water Supply and Sewerage Program funded predominantly by the Commonwealth Government.

The Aboriginal Communities Water Supply and Sewerage Program continues to provide funding for ongoing operational support for the Mallee and Warrali Aboriginal Estates in the amount of \$121k for routine maintenance and repairs. These funds are implemented in accordance with the Service Agreement between Council and the NSW Office of Water.

The \$3.3Mil Wilcannia Water Supply and Sewerage Augmentation Contract (2012), funded by the Remote Communities Water Supply and Sewerage Program, continued with completion of the Wilcannia WTP Upgrade and the Wilcannia Filtered Reservoir Relining.

The works described as the Wilcannia Water Supply and Sewerage Augmentation (2012) contract – Civil Works were awarded to PFC Constructions. These works commenced in May 2014 and were completed in February 2015

Water

Potable (treated) and raw (untreated) water supplies continued to be provided to the townships of Wilcannia and Ivanhoe in accordance with NSW Office of Water and Department of Health regulations and guidelines in conjunction with a testing regime undertaken by Council operators in consultation with these government agencies.

Wilcannia and Ivanhoe Water Supply is sourced from a combination of river and bore supplies. In the past year, Wilcannia was serviced predominately from Darling River flows and Ivanhoe has been serviced from Morrisons Lake Reservoir fed from Willandra Creek.

White Cliffs is serviced by a reticulated non-potable filtered water supply and is sourced from surface runoff collected in large off-line ground tanks. Typical operational issues are reticulation leakage from agricultural grade poly pipe network and low pressure issues. Main leakages are repaired as they arise. Water pressure issues are predominantly the responsibility of householders at White Cliffs where a header tank is to be provided by each dwelling/dugout.

Menindee Water Supply is managed by Essential Water pursuant to Water Management (General) Regulation (2011) and related to the establishment of the now redundant Broken Hill Water Board.

Sewer

Wilcannia Sewerage Services is comprised of a Common Effluent Collection System which collects domestic sewage from connected properties and discharges to the Wilcannia Sewerage Treatment Plant (Oxidation Ponds). The recent Civil Works Upgrades included the sewer systems in the Aboriginal precincts of Mallee and Waralli being converted to full gravity sewer systems. The 2 existing pump stations at Warralli were replaced with one single pump station and 2 new lift wells were installed in the Mallee.

Ivanhoe, Menindee and White Cliffs residents manage generated sewerage with on-site facilities.

Stormwater

Stormwater infrastructure throughout the townships of Wilcannia, Ivanhoe, Menindee and White Cliffs were maintained including cleaning of the gross pollutant traps in Wilcannia and Menindee. Council is investigating funding opportunities to replace the stormwater outlets into the Darling River at Wilcannia (which have structurally failed).

Aerodromes

Council maintains 6 airstrips within the Shire being Wilcannia, White Cliffs, Tilpa, Emmdale, Menindee and Ivanhoe.



\$56,250 was expended on Pavement M&R, Buildings, toilets, fences, Lighting, grounds M&R and energy costs.

Council received 50% funding to complete the Tilpa aerodrome fence replacement at a total cost of \$64,000.

Boat Ramps

Council maintains one boat ramp completed in Menindee 2012/13.

Council received 50% funding to construct a new boat ramp in the village of Tilpa at a total cost of \$86,000.

Footpaths, Kerbs, & Guttering

Footpaths

The townships of Wilcannia, Ivanhoe and Menindee have extensive footpath networks. The footpath network in the urban areas are predominantly concrete but also is comprised of gravel and in-situ earth sections. \$25,411 was expended on footpath repairs in Wilcannia, Ivanhoe and Menindee.

The extent of the footpath network in each township is summarised below:

- Wilcannia 4895m
- Ivanhoe 2189m
- Menindee 1312m

Council has completed the Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan (PAMP) which was placed on public exhibition and adopted by Council. From this plan, staff can produce a footpath replacement/ repair program and reference the document in order to apply for additional funding.



Kerbs and Gutter

The townships of Wilcannia, Ivanhoe and Menindee's extensive kerb and gutter infrastructure was maintained. Limited repairs were carried out in this financial year.

Plant & Equipment

Council replaced a Ride on Lawn Mower (\$13,350)

Council replaced the Construction Gangers Isuzu Ute (\$24,930)

Council replaced 2 No. Pump trailers (\$10,536)

Various running costs are attributed to plant maintenance throughout the year. The following is a breakdown of that expenditure which totals \$550,822



- Fuel \$250,202
- Repairs and maintenance \$153,581
- Tyres \$28,543
- Oil \$2,306
- Parts \$13,679
- Insurance \$78,321
- Registration \$16,854
- Miscellaneous \$7,336



Business Undertakings

Competitive Neutrality

The Division of Local Government's July 1997 guidelines 'Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses: A Guide to Competitive Neutrality' outlines the process for identifying and allocating costs of activities and provide a standard of disclosure requirements. These disclosures are reflected in Council's pricing and/or financial reporting systems and include taxation equivalents, Council subsidies, rate of return on investments in business units and dividend paid. In relation to competitive neutrality Council provide the following:

- "Category 1" Business Units have total annual operating revenues that exceed \$2 million.
Council has no Category 1 Business Units.
- "Category 2" Business Units have totaled annual operating revenues that do not exceed \$2 million.
Council has no Category 2 Business Units.