

Bogan

SHIRE COUNCIL

End of Term Report 2016-2021



Comfortable Country Living

Executive Summary

As the current extended term of Bogan Shire Council draws to a close in December 2021, there is a requirement to report on its progress in implementing its 2027 Community Strategic Plan. This Strategic Plan will then be reviewed by the incoming council to ensure it continues to be relevant and effective.

The 2027 Community Strategic Plan (CSP) was adopted by Council in April 2017 under the NSW Government's Integrated Planning and Reporting framework which sets out that all council planning should originate from a sound understanding of the community's expectations around priorities and service levels. The framework comprises a series of interrelated documents that together provide a rigorous, consistent approach to community planning across all NSW local councils, while also ensuring alignment with regional and state priorities.

The purpose of the CSP is to identify the community's main priorities and aspirations for the future and to plan strategies for achieving these goals. In doing this, the planning process considered issues and pressures that effect the community and the level of resources that will realistically be available to achieve these outcomes.

While Council has a custodial role in initiating, preparing and maintaining the CSP on behalf of the Bogan local government area, it is not wholly responsible for its implementation. Other partners such as State agencies and community groups have also been engaged in delivering the long term objectives of the plan.

The BSC 2027 Community Strategic Plan has five objectives with desired community focussed outcomes for each of these objectives. The objectives and desired outcome are as follows:

1. Social

An inclusive community that works together as is able to access services and opportunities to support our comfortable country living.

2. Infrastructure

Construct and Manage reliable and efficient community assets that provide access to quality services

3. Environmental

To support, enhance and preserve the environment of our shire through sound planning and management practices to ensure a sustainable, healthy and safe community.

4. Economic

A vibrant local economy with a diversity of successful businesses that provide local employment opportunities and contribute to a prosperous community.

5. Civic Leadership

Strong transparent and effective governance with an actively engaged community to ensure we remain Fit for the Future

Social



The Bogan Shire Medical Centre was opened in 2017 and is operated by Bogan Shire Council

Goal - An inclusive community that works together and is able to access services and opportunities to support our comfortable country living.

1.1 Social and Cultural

Outcome: Our community enjoys and actively participates in our rich culture, social environment and communal vibe.

Council has continued to support and create opportunities for community festivals, events and cultural activities through planning, marketing, direct involvement and various forms of assistance.

Australia Day: Every year Council has planned and implemented an Australia Day celebration. This has involved organising and conducting the celebration which includes community awards for citizenship, sporting achievement and successful local events, hosting an Australia Day ambassador, providing a venue and refreshments for the community and also other associated community activities such as cooking and colouring in competitions and providing free entry and activities at the Nyngan Swimming Pool.

In 2020 when the NSW Government placed restrictions on events due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Council held an Australia Day event outdoors at Larkin Oval, using grant funding to purchase six new shade shelters



We often celebrate citizenship ceremonies on Australia Day.

Christmas Lights and Rural Mailbox competitions: Council has conducted an annual Christmas Lights and Rural Mailbox competition whereby the community businesses and rural property owners are judged on their efforts and award prizemoney donated by community sponsors. The competition expanded in 2020 to include the Susan Bexon Memorial Nativity Scene prize.

Community Events at Nyngan Showgrounds:

Improved facilities at the Nyngan Showground have been used for community events including the Duck Creek Races, the Nyngan Show, the Nyngan Anzac Day Races and the Nyngan Ag Expo.

Local community organisations and events: Council has continued to support local community organisations and events in the Shire. These events include:

NAIDOC Week: Council supports NAIDOC week every year. It hosts the opening ceremony to which schools and community members are invited. Council also provides facilities, equipment and venues for the remainder of the activities.

The annual Nyngan Garden Club Markets: Council has provided a venue (Flood Memorial Park) and also chairs, tables and marquees to this event every year and advertises it on its website and Council Column.

Carols by Candlelight: Council provides a venue and equipment if needed. Council promotes the event on its website and Council Column.

Community events co-ordinated by the Nyngan Community Hub: Council provides a venue (Larkin Oval, O'Reilly Park, Davidson Park or Rotary Park) and equipment for the events which have included events for White Ribbon Day, Easter, Christmas and Harmony Day.

Bogan Shire Seniors Week: Council co-ordinates five days of community Seniors Week activities including the official morning tea and presentation of the Senior Citizen of the Year at the Nyngan Town Hall. Other activities have included concerts, lawn bowls, bingo, guided tours to the solar farm and Callubri Station, free entry to the Nyngan Museum, Community cooking, health checks and exercise sessions.



Totem skateboarding workshop during Youth Week.

Bogan Shire Youth Week: Council has obtained Youth Week grant funding each year to host a skateboarding workshop. Council has also co-ordinated other Youth Week activities including a Comedy Workshop, barefoot bowls, a BBQ and activities at Larkin Oval, and touch football.

StormCo youth activities: Council has provided the StormCo organisation with the Nyngan Town Hall for accommodation and activities. It has also provided venues and equipment for StormCo activities around Nyngan.

Western Studio of Performing Arts: Council has provided a venue for the Western Studio of Performing Arts. When the Palais Theatre was deemed unsafe and demolished, Council provided the Nyngan Town Hall as an alternative.

Loop the Levee: The Dubbo Bike Users Group hosted a Loop the Levee community bicycle event in 2020. Council assisted by preparing the Levee, promoting the event and liaising with landholders who may have been affected. This event was planned again for 2021 but cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Heritage and Culture: Council continued to support the Nyngan Museum and the Mid State Shearing Shed Museum.

Council has utilised NSW Government Heritage and Tourism grant funding, as well as its own funds, to undertake a renovation of the Nyngan Museum during the past term. The rooms and outdoor shed formerly occupied by the Nyngan SES were renovated and are now used for an expanded Museum collection which includes a new pioneer kitchen area, records office, blacksmiths workshop, a small recreation of the Palais Theatre, a commercial precinct and a renovated Mines room. There is also an outdoor area which houses the old Coolabah gaol.

The Museum Committee has been dedicated to identifying, preserving and displaying European and Aboriginal Heritage items. Volunteers have been creating an online data base of the exhibit, which includes its origin and purpose.

The Museum has been used for community events including A Night at the Museum, Carers Week Morning Tea and Seniors Week Morning Tea.

Girilambone Railway Station: Council obtained NSW Government grant funding to renovate the derelict

Girilambone Railway Station buildings to use as a tourism asset. There will be free camping, facilities for catering, a small museum. The project will provide capacity for the Girilambone community.



Girilambone Railway Station under restoration in 2020.

Heritage Park: Council expanded Heritage Park to include a section reflecting Bogan Shire's Aboriginal heritage. There are three sections representing the three local Aboriginal nations. Local artist Priscilla Lord was engaged to design the totem animals and designs on the entrance.

Coolabah Hall: Council has used grant funding to renovate the Coolabah Hall. Improvements include a new toilet block, an awning, a renovated façade and air conditioning. The Hall is managed by a new section 355 committee.

Nyngan Fire Station and Garford Engine: Council used grant funding to install a new Perspex door on the front of the old Fire Station building, which is now used to house the historic Garford Fire Engine and other historical fire fighting memorabilia.

Midstate Shearing Shed: Council has continued to support the Midstate Shearing Shed museum. Building works have improved the safety and access to the Museum, and also closed off the underneath area to prevent unauthorised access.

Volunteering: Council values its volunteers. Volunteers continue to staff and manage the Nyngan Museum as a 355 committee of Council, and have also done weekday morning shifts at the Nyngan Museum, until the COVID-19 Pandemic in 2020. Council has also worked with Nyngan High School and community groups to implement a new volunteering scheme to encourage young people to become volunteers and also to assist those community organisations unable to recruit new volunteers. Students in years 9 and 10 now undertake volunteering in the community as part of the school curriculum. The project was impacted by the Covid 19 Pandemic in 2020/21.

Council has worked with volunteer groups to support their activities by providing venues, administrative assistance with writing grant applications. This includes recognition of National Volunteer week.



Tree planning with local school children

National Tree Day: Council has participated every year in National Tree Day (except in 2020 during the COVID-19 Pandemic). Students from Nyngan High School, St Joseph's School and Nyngan Public School have planted trees along Pangee Street, Nymagee Street, at Nyngan Showground and at the parking bay near the Truck and Travel service station.

Community Directory. Council produces and updates the Community Directory, both in hard copy and on the Council website. There is also a New Residents pack which provides information on waste and recycling services.

Bogan Shire Council Arts Fund. Bogan Shire Council has continued to support local arts projects through its community arts fund. Council has contributed \$10,000 per annum to this fund in most years. This fund has been used to pay membership to Outback Arts, and also given out as community grants for purposes such as an art exhibition and an art workshop.

Citizenship Ceremonies. Council conducts citizenship ceremonies as required.

1.2 Community Facilities

Outcome: Our community uses and values the educational, recreational and social opportunities provided by our community centres.



The façade of the Nyngan Pool got a facelift in 2019

Nyngan War Memorial Swimming Pool. Council has undertaken extensive renovations of the Nyngan war Memorial Swimming Pool over the past four years. This has included a new water splash play area, solar heating of the 50 metre pool, a new fibreglass surface in both pools to replace the aging tiles, an upgrade to the toilets and changerooms, new shade shelters and seating, a half basketball court, a water slide, a new disabled access chair, and the replacement of the return water line. There is also a new emergency defibrillator. A portable movie screen purchased by Council has been used to present outdoor screenings at the pool during school holidays.

Town Gardens. Council has created a dedicated horticulture team to look after our feature parks and the Nyngan Cemetery.

Parks and Playgrounds. Council has created a dedicated parks and community facilities team to look after the maintenance and upgrades to parks, other open spaces and playgrounds across the Shire.

O'Reilly Park: Shade sails have been placed over the skate park, Liberty Swing and the Playground equipment. New playground equipment has been installed. The existing toilet block was upgraded to include disabled facilities. An accessible BBQ and pathway were also included.

Davidson Park: The Bicentennial wall mural was damaged in an accident but fully repaired by a team of the original artists. This project included retrieving and cataloguing the 150 damaged tiles and inviting the community members who originally made them to remake them with the original artists. Council staff reinforced the original structure and re-built the wall. New garden beds were constructed in front of the CWA building and planted with standard roses and annuals, and turf laid throughout the area.

Rotary Park, Jack Hargreaves Park and the lower weir. Extensive upgrades have been done to this riverside area including the removal of weed vegetation, and the construction of cement and gravel pathways connecting Rotary Park to the Nyngan main street. Bollards and solar lighting have been placed around the pathways, picnic shelters and steps have been built, and turf laid on parkland adjacent to the end of Cobar Street, to be named Jack Hargreaves Park. Jack is our Toyko 2020 Olympics Gold Medallist rower in the men's coxless four. A fountain has been installed in the river in this area. New playground equipment, a shade shelter and accessible BBQ were installed at Rotary Park.



Teamster's rest park presided over by the Big Bogan.

Moonagee Park: Council has installed new playground equipment and rugby league goalposts in Moonagee Park.

Flood Memorial Park: Flood Memorial Park has been upgraded to serve as an attractive 24 hour free camping spot for travellers. There is a facility for caravans to dump sewage and a toilet block.

Centenary Park: The Centenary Park and fountain were revitalised to improve this space for our community and visitors. The fountain was modified to resolve problems with underground water leaks and partially planted out in the lower basin with flowers. A new fountain, concrete pathway with bench seat, feature trees and turf allows for improved pedestrian access and visual amenity.

Lions Park: Council has installed new playground equipment, a sheltered picnic table, and cricket nets and pitch at Lions Park.

Upper Weir: Council has developed the upper weir area. Invasive vegetation was cleared and the site levelled. A toilet block, garbage bin, fire pits, seating and a bird hide were installed.

Hermidale Park: Upgrades to Hermidale Park have included a toilet block, new perimeter fencing, repairs to the War Memorial, and new playground equipment and softfall.

Coolabah Bus Stop: A new public toilet block has been installed to service passing traffic in response to community need.



Prefabricated toilet block installed at Coolabah bus stop

Sportsgrounds and active recreational facilities: Council has carried out a regular maintenance program on the sports grounds and active recreational facilities to ensure they can be well utilised.

Larkin Oval: Larkin Oval has undergone extensive renovations and updates. These include new lighting towers, new fixed grandstands, a new canteen and announcer's box, a changeroom and shower block, and an electronic scoreboard. There is also lighting over the netball courts and two now have permanent hard surface.



The Larkin Oval netball courts were surfaced in 2020

Junior League Oval: New training lights have been installed at the Junior League Oval. Council has also upgraded the grandstands.

Hermidale Sports Ground: Council has utilised grant funding to build a new disabled toilet block and shower at Hermidale Sports Ground. It has also installed a defibrillator in the Gun Club Clubhouse, and eight new horse stalls.



An inviting trail linking the Early Learning Centre with Frank Smith Oval

Frank Smith Oval: Council has developed new pathways to connect the entrance of Frank Smith Oval on Terangion Street to Dandaloo Street. There is also a new shade shelter.

Nature Trail: Council has constructed a 900 metre Nature Trail linking the lower weir area to Moonagee Road. This involved clearing weedy vegetation, constructing a gravel pathway and steps up the levee. Council staff have also crafted bespoke garbage bins out of hollowed logs, and cut out steel animals to place along the pathway.

Community Halls and facilities: Council has continued to maintain community halls for public use.

Collerreina Hall. Council has installed air conditioning, new doors and an outside awning at the Collerreina Hall. The Hall is managed by a Section 355 Committee.

Coolabah Hall. Council has used grant funding to renovate the Coolabah Hall. Improvements include a new toilet block, an awning, a renovated façade and air conditioning. The Hall is managed by a new section 355 committee.

Youth and Community Centre: The CSP identified a need for a community youth centre. After extensive liaison with the community Bogan Shire Council applied for grant funding to build the Bogan Shire Youth and Community Centre. Construction is due to be completed early in 2022 and Council has funding to employ a dedicated youth officer. The airconditioned centre will include a full-size indoor sports hall, community meeting rooms, a recreation, room, study areas, gaming room, kitchen, and an outdoor recreational area and play equipment.



Bogan Shire Youth & Community Centre under construction

Nyngan Cemetery. Council staff have continued to maintain and make improvements to the Nyngan Cemetery. Council has restored, covered and fenced the historic Chinese Graves and burner area of the cemetery. There is a new perimeter fence, custom designed entrance gates (featuring components from a design by a community member), seating and a new moveable shade shelter. The current lawn cemetery area is almost full, and Council will soon begin work to build headwalls in a new section to the east. Council regularly waters and mows the lawn areas.

Nyngan Library. Council’s strategy has been to focus on community needs to provide quality facilities and access to printed and online information and other sources. In 2018 the Nyngan Library received a \$105,000 NSW State Library grant. This was used for the installation of new air conditioning, eight new public computers, a new multi-purpose printer/photocopier/scanner, an e-kiosk, children’s touch screen computer table, portable dividing walls, new lighting and window blinds.

The Library has continued to receive the Local Government Priority Grant each year. This funding has been used to buy five new computers and also resources for library programs and workshops.

Library staff have a regular program for young library users such as special craft sessions in the holidays, and a regular story time session. Staff visit the Bogan Shire ELC weekly and the Preschool around twice per term to do Short Time sessions.

The Library has continued to participate in events such as national Simultaneous Story Time and Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea. Other events have included morning teas for seniors, and workshops for young people on 3D printing and belt making.

During the COVID-19 Lockdown the Library expanded its home delivery service. Staff made up craft packs for children and young readers.



The Library continues to be an active member of the North Western Regional Library Service Partnership.

Nyngan Showgrounds. Council has made significant improvements to the Nyngan Showground and Racecourse for the purpose of community events. This includes new perimeter fencing; a new building for jockeys, stewards and the secretary at race days; shelters for gatekeepers at the three entrances along Hoskins street; painting and improvements to the Walker Pavilion; new flooring and display boards in the Wye Pavilion; the new Rodney Robb arena for the Nyngan Pony Club and Nyngan Show Society; and resealed the internal roads.



New Jockey Rooms—Nyngan racecourse

1.3 Inclusive Communities

Outcome: Children, older people and people with disabilities are supported, feel secure, valued and are engaged in our community.

Bogan Shire Early Learning Centre: The Bogan Shire Early Learning Centre provides a centre-based day care and educational service for children as 0-5 in the Bogan Shire. It is licensed for 43 children in two rooms and open for 50 weeks a year from 7.30am-6pm. Since

opening in 2016 the ELC has grown to the extent there is now a waiting list for younger children and babies.

Bogan Shire Council has applied for grant funding to increase the size of the centre. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the ELC remained open to the children of essential workers.

Bogan Bush Mobile: Bogan Bush Mobile transferred its headquarters to the new ELC when the centre was opened in 2016. This service has undergone significant changes to bring it into scope. Where previously the service travelled to small centres across the region to provide two hourly playgroup sessions, it now offers child care sessions in those areas.



Bogan Bush Mobile vehicle in a rural setting

Bogan Shire Youth and Community Centre: The CSP identified a need for a community youth centre. After extensive liaison with the community Bogan Shire Council applied for grant funding to build the Bogan Shire Youth and Community Centre. Construction is due to be completed early in 2022 and Council has funding to employ a dedicated youth officer. The airconditioned centre will include a full-size indoor sports hall, community meeting rooms, a recreation, room, study

areas, gaming room, kitchen, and an outdoor recreational area and play equipment.

Youth: Council has continued to provide opportunities for young people to be actively engaged in the development, design and planning of educational and other programs, services and infrastructure in which they are a stakeholder or user group. When seeking options for grant funding, Council carried out extensive community engagement with schools and the school community. It was decided to build a youth centre, on a location and to a design nominated by the youth. Council also engages with youth to plan and implement programs for Youth Week. Each year Council has applied for grant funding for Youth Week activities.

Community: Council has continued to work with the community and Government agencies to understand issues and lobby Government to address them.

Examples include:

- Before and After School Care
- Train Speeds through Nyngan
- Water Security for residents, mining and rural landholders
- The retention of the rail maintenance branch at Nyngan
- A fair and effective internet network including NBN and Satellite.
- Public access and a viewing platform at the Nyngan Solar Farm.

Disability Inclusion Action Plan. Council engaged with the community in 2017 to develop and adopt a Disability Inclusion Action Plan. There has been additional disabled car parking in the main street and other public areas and improvements made to toilet blocks for disabled access. In 2021 Council installed a new disabled access chair into the Nyngan War Memorial Swimming Pool.

Seniors Week: Council has actively supported Seniors' week every year by organising a sponsoring a week of activities. This includes co-ordinating the Senior Citizen of the Year Awards, hosting a morning tea and other activities in conjunction with community organisations. Activities have included movies, concerts, free health checks, exercise in the park, a church service, excursions to the solar farm and Callubri Station, bingo, free entry to the Museum, cooking demonstrations and lawn bowls.

Bogan Shire Seniors Living. In 2020 Council completed and opened the Bogan Shire Seniors Living Project. This project used NSW Government grant funding to build four accessible units on the corner of Dandaloo and Cobar streets, formerly the site of the Nyngan Preschool and Bogan Bush Mobile. There are three two bedroom units and one single bedroom unit. Community members eligible to receive the Australian Age Pension, and who had resided in the Bogan Shire for 10 years or more were eligible to apply for residency. The units are currently full.



Bogan Shire Seniors Living units are managed by Bogan Shire Council

In 2019 following the demolition of the Palais Theatre, Council resolved to make available that site to an organisation for the purpose of building more seniors accommodation.

1.4 EDUCATION

Outcome: Access to opportunities for education at all levels.

Council has continued to support all schools in our Shire through various initiatives, awards and scholarships. Council representatives attend all end-of-year presentation days. Significant initiatives continued to develop the relationship between the Nyngan High School and Tongling Middle School in China. The COVID-19 Pandemic prevented exchanges in 2020 and 2021.

Nyngan Show Day: Council has lobbied on behalf of local schools for students to be allowed a half day public holiday.

Traineeships: Council continued to support young people through offering apprenticeships in trades including Metal Fabrication, Automotive Engineering, Carpentry, Water Treatment Operations and Horticulture as well as traineeships in Early Education and Care, Building Surveying, Business Administration and Information Technology. These are advertised within the local community and marketed towards those about to finish secondary school or to young people wanting to gain a trade certification or commence a career path into these fields.

In addition, Council has also employed people in Graduate roles in Human Resources and Health and Building Surveying.

School Careers Day: Bogan Shire Council attends the annual Nyngan High School Careers Day to promote career opportunities and traineeships available through Council

1.5 Public Health

Outcome: Our community has access to the medical services, facilities and programs to enhance and protect our health.

Bogan Shire Medical Centre. In 2017 the Bogan Shire Medical Centre (BSMC) was constructed and opened. The BSMC was partially funded by a Federal Government grant, and includes four consult rooms, a procedure room, reception, waiting room and amenities.

Council resolved to operate the BSMC as a bulk billing facility.

The Practice currently includes two GPs and nursing staff as well as a number of visiting allied and specialist health care providers.

A pathology service operates from the centre five mornings a week.



The fully-fitted Treatment Room at the Bogan Shire Medical Centre

In 2020, an ultrasound machine was purchased using grant funding and is operated by a local sonographer.

In 2020 further grant funding was awarded to Council to extend the BSMC building to include additional consult rooms and a dedicated pathology space.

Council collaborated with the Western NSW Primary Health Network and Rural Doctor's Network to address the health needs of our community.

In 2021 during the COVID-19 pandemic, the BSMC vaccinated more than 1,000 Bogan Shire residents. This service was delivered in addition to the regular medical services provided by the centre.

Doctor housing and surgeries. Council continues to provide accommodation to general practitioners in Nyngan. In 2020 Council received NSW Government funding to build more housing which can be used for clinical staff.

Dental Service: Council has continued to support the Nyngan Dental service with the provision of a premises.

1.6 Emergency Services

Outcome: Our fire, police and ambulance services provide effective, efficient services to the community to protect property and the safety of our community

Fire services: Council's strategy is to ensure people within Nyngan and the surrounding villages are protected from fire-related incidents. In Nyngan this included the donation of council land to Fire and Rescue NSW to build a new fire station at the John Hoare OAM Industrial Park. In rural areas, the Mayor and council staff liaise with the RFS through participation in the local service level agreement meetings to ensure local input into the RFS's decision making.

Ambulance Service: Council continues to advocate for provision of a 24 hour Ambulance Service for the Shire.



The new Fire and Rescue NSW building in Nyngan

SES: Council donated land and constructed a new shed in the John Hoare OAM Industrial Park.

Hazard reduction program: Council has continued with its hazard reduction program. This includes removing fire risk around areas such as the Nyngan Waste and Recycling Facility and maintaining the flood levee bank.

Community Safety: Council has continued to lobby the NSW Government for police numbers to be maintained in the Bogan Local Government Area. It has also continued its commitment with NSW Police to contribute to the provision of housing (where possible) for police officers. Council works closely with Nyngan police to ensure our community remains safe.



Nyngan members of the NSW Police with Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC, Governor of New South Wales, on the occasion of her visit to Nyngan

Infrastructure



Cooneybar Road Re-Sheeting

Goal - construct and manage reliable and efficient community assets that provide access to quality services.

2.1 Transport networks

Outcome: our well constructed and maintained transport network enables safe and efficient movement of people and freight through the Shire.

Road networks. Maintaining and improving the road network throughout the Bogan Shire is an ongoing commitment which accounts for approximately 35 per cent of Council's budget. Council is responsible for the maintenance of 1245km of local roads (174km sealed and 1071km unsealed); 238km of regional roads (138 km sealed and 100 km unsealed) and 261km of State highway (all sealed).



Merryanbone Road

Council employs 23 staff for roadworks, including four grader teams for construction and maintenance and highway work undertaken on behalf of the NSW Government. In 2021 Council employed an additional three grader teams under contract to carry out works funded by the NSW Government's Flood and Storm Damage Restoration Program.

Over the past five years Council has constructed 14km of new road and resheeted 120km of gravel road.

Key achievements have included the continuation of the

bitumen seal on the seal on Cockies road, Pangee Road, and Colane Road.



Mitchell Highway construction on behalf of the RMS

There have been extensive repairs to the unsealed road network following four years of drought, followed by extensive flood damage. In 2020 and 2021 Council focussed on preparing harvest routes after a wet winter.

Contract works on the state highways included continued rehabilitation work on sections of the Mitchell Highway East and West of Nyngan.



The runway and apron at the Nyngan Airport was resealed

Streetscape: In Nyngan there has been a focus on extending and improving pedestrian access with the construction of shared pathways. A pathway now links the Nyngan CBD to the river and Rotary Park, along Nymagee street. The network was extended in 2021 with a pathway around the lower weir, and access steps over the levee bank.

Electric vehicle charging station. Council has made land available for an electric vehicle charging station to be installed by NRMA.

2.2 Rail Services

Outcome: Our Rail Connection remains a cost effective and reliable alternative for freight transport.

Freight rail. Council has continued to lobby State Government and John Holland Rail to maintain and improve reliable freight transport network. In 2021 the rail maintenance contract was awarded to UGL, which announced it would close its Nyngan base. Council has been lobbying to keep the Nyngan base, which employs seven people, to ensure the continued safety and upkeep of the local railway infrastructure.

Rail Crossing and rail safety: Council lobbied for safety improvements to be made at the Moonagee and Hoskins Street Rail crossings. The Moonagee street crossing has been upgraded to include a boom gate and lights. Council has also campaigned extensively to the NSW Government reduce train speeds through the Nyngan township.

Railway Infrastructure: Council has successfully lobbied the NSW Government and John Holland Rail for improvements to be made to the overhead pedestrian bridge in Nyngan. These safety improvements were carried out in 2020. John Holland Rail also upgraded the fencing along the rail corridor in the town precinct to restrict unauthorised access onto the track.

2.3 Water

Outcome: we have access to a secure water supply that is well managed to provide us with a reliable, safe and cost effective service as well as a raw water supply to villages.

Council ensures it remains compliant with strategic business plans for water through a program of continual capital improvements. It has continued to provide a financially viable, efficient, permanent potable water supply that meets the requirements of the community. Council reports quarterly to the NSW Department of Health and also submits an annual report on the Drinking Water Management Plan.

The Water Asset Management Plan is used to develop the annual water budget and make improvements to water supplies.

This term of Council coincided with a record breaking three-year drought which resulted in the drying up of Burrendong Dam, and level 5 water restrictions placed on all town residents. The village water storages were also empty for most of 2019. Council worked with the State Government to undertake significant upgrades to local water infrastructure. These included:

- The construction of a 650 ML off river storage dam
- Investigations into the location of an emergency water supply bore
- The sinking of an emergency water supply bore on the Old Warren Road
- Preparations to build a second 650 ML off-river storage.

Council facilitated discussions between Aeris Resources and the NSW Government to build a pipeline to connect the mine site at Hermidale to the Nyngan-Cobar water line. Previously the mine has accessed its water allocation via the creek system but

in 2019 drought made this route unviable. This prevented the mine from having to close due to water shortage.



Nyngan's new emergency water storage

Council carted water to the villages throughout 2019 when their storages dried up. Drinking water was also made available to rural residents whose household supplies were dry.



A temporary weir being installed on the Bogan River during the drought

Our program to replace aging water mains in Nyngan has continued and the raw water supply has been extended to Larkin Oval, O'Reilly Park and the Nyngan Showground.

2.4 Sewerage

Outcome: We have a reliable, safe and cost-effective sewerage network.

In accordance with the Sewer Asset Management Plan, Council has undertaken ongoing replacement and improvements to the Nyngan sewerage system. There has been routine ongoing testing and reporting of this system to ensure compliance with the sewer Treatment Plant license conditions.

Over the past five years Council has de-sludged the settlement lagoons, upgraded fencing around the plant, installed the SCADA technology to plant and pump stations and made available re-use water. Throughout 2021 Council undertook extra sewage testing as part of COVID-19 surveillance.

2.5 Communications Networks

Outcome: The community has access to the latest communication infrastructure and technology to facilitate communications for learning, business and providing services to our community.

NBN: 2017 saw the introduction of the National Broadband Network (NBN) to Nyngan. Unfortunately, perhaps because of the use of outdated mapping, the NBN Co had not included several areas of Nyngan in the rollout including Council's Early Learning Centre, John Hoare OAM business park, some houses and businesses and the Nyngan Showground. Council made representation to the NBN Co as well as to the Minister for Communication and were able to get the majority of these sites included in the rollout.



Bogan River Nature Trail constructed in 2021.

Goal - To support the current and long-term liveability of our Shire by enhancing and protecting our environment through sound urban planning, managing our waste stream and sewerage services, and providing potable water supplies that are economically sustainable, reliable and environmentally responsible.

3.1 Built Environment

Outcome: Our Shire is enhanced through respectful planning processes and facilitation of development in accordance with statutory requirements.

Long term sustainability: Council has conducted periodic reviews of its planning instruments to ensure land use planning supports the long term sustainability of the local community and economy.

Solar panels on Council buildings: Council resolved in 2017 to utilise the roof spaces of its civic buildings for solar panels. This was to reduce utility costs for Council and therefore ratepayers, and also to switch to a cleaner form of energy.



Solar panels on the Council Chambers roof.

Affordable range of housing: Council has undertaken consultation with significant employers including the local mining industry regarding the future demand for housing in the community.

In 2021 in response to a housing shortage in the community Council applied for grant funding to develop a housing subdivision along Oxley Street with around 30 house lots. Council has also explored and acted upon the need for affordable seniors living in the Shire, and

has built four units for this purpose. Council has also obtained grant funding to build accommodation for doctors or other hard to recruit professionals.

Compliance with Local Environmental Plan legislation. Council has developed a draft Local Environment Management Plan. Heritage controls have been incorporated into the LEMP and the DCP, and sustainability controls have been incorporated into the LEP

Safe, healthy and well maintained buildings. In accordance with relevant health and safety legislations, Council conducts regular inspections on the community's buildings to ensure they comply with the NSW Building Certification Scheme. Council investigated concerns and complaints in relation to overgrown allotments and buildings in a state of disrepair. In 2018 Council used grant funding to engage an engineer to inspect the awnings of buildings in the Nyngan CBD. A report was made available to the owners of these buildings.

Planning Portal: As of 1 July 2021 throughout NSW, Development Applications (DA's), Complying Development Certificates (CDC's) and Post Consent Certificates such as Construction Certificates along with Occupation Certificates are now required to be lodged electronically through the Online Service provided by the NSW Planning Portal.

Council has assisted community members with the new online portal by setting up a computer set up in the front foyer of Council's Development and Environmental Services office for the community to lodge the relevant applications via the online portal with staff available to assist where necessary.

Flood Management Plan: Council has developed and implemented flood management plans into the LEP and DCP for all urban flood areas. Council continues to



Nyngan Waste Management and Resource Recovery Facility has been progressively upgraded and brought to standard.

inspect and maintain its levee bank and also stormwater infrastructure.

3.2 Waste and Recycling

Outcome: Our waste stream is effectively managed, reducing waste to landfill and maximising resource recovery through recycling.

Council has continued with its kerbside household waste and recycling collection. The recyclables picked are taken each fortnight to Gilgandra for sorting and then sent for processing into recycled products.

Over the past five years Council has made significant upgrades to its waste and recycling services. These have included a number of upgrades at the Nyngan Waste and Resource Management Facility to meet the licence conditions of the Environment Protection Agency.

- The facility is now staffed, has CCTV cameras and designated opening hours.
- Purchased a new, bigger landfill compactor which enables better compaction of the landfill waste and will significantly extend the life of the Facility.

- Designated specific area for recyclable materials such as scrap metals, mattresses and tyres, and improved the greenwaste and concrete/masonry drop-off areas to better manage the stockpiles and improve resource recovery from these materials.
- Purchased a new garbage truck under the plant replacement schedule which has a greater capacity to allow more efficient use of the truck.
- Revised the Landfill Environment Management Plan to adopt better landfilling practices and better reflect future plans for the facility.



New landfill cells have been constructed at the Facility

In 2021 Council applied for grant funding to fund further works and improvements at the Nyngan Waste and Resource Management Facility including to:

- Excavate further landfill space
- Construct a shed/shop to be used for future repurposing of reusable/recoverable/recyclable materials rather than see them go to landfill.
- Plant a tree screen around the perimeter of the landfill, and
- Purchase litter fencing to help control the problem of windblown rubbish escaping the landfill tipping/filling areas.

The three village landfills in the LGA continue to operate as uncontrolled facilities during this term maintained by Council with areas also provided for the separation of scrap metals. All of these facilities are now reaching capacity.

Council continues to be an active member of NetWaste, the regional waste management group of 26 western councils, including supporting innovative recycling ventures such as the annual Waste to Art competition, as well as participating in regional contracts for the collection, processing and recycling or reuse of scrap metals, mattresses, tyres, greenwaste, concrete and masonry, drumMuster and the collection and safe disposal of hazardous household chemical



Bogan Shire Council carries out an annual native fish stocking program in the Bogan River

3.3 Natural Environment

Outcome: Our open space areas are protected and appropriately managed to preserve their valued use and biodiversity whilst minimising the impact of pollution and weeds on the environment.

Provision of safe, high-quality playgrounds and parks.



The Shire's natural environment is preserved and protected—Nyngan Upper Weir recreational area

Council departments carry out routine maintenance on local reserves and recreational areas to ensure they are well used by the community.

Over the past five years Council has embarked on an ambitious program to capitalise on the Bogan River by cleaning away weeds and vegetation around the upper and lower weir areas and developing recreational spaces for the community. The upper weir now has walking paths, a bird hide, a toilet block, fire pits, seating and a garbage bin. This area is a popular free camping site.

The lower weir, which includes an area to be named in honour of Olympic gold medallist, Jack Hargreaves, has walking paths, picnic shelters, steps to the river, solar lighting, landscaping, and a fountain. In 2020 Council received a \$25,000 NSW Premiers grant which it has used to build a 900 metre Nature Trail, connecting the lower weir to the Moonagee road.

Council has continued to maintain and improve its existing parks, with new playground equipment at Moonagee, Rotary, O'Reilly, Lions, Davidson, and Hermidale Parks. Shade sails have been added to

playgrounds at O'Reilly, Lions and Moonagee Parks. There are also new toilet blocks at Hermidale, Girilambone and Coolabah.

Litter Reduction: There are new garbage bins along the main street CBD area and along its new pathways and recreation areas to prevent littering.

Preservation of the natural environment: Council has continued to maintain and improve reserves in the Shire. Asbestos has been cleaned up from Council's old depot site and the former landfill area on the TSR has been filled in. Council has continued to implement a dedicated noxious weeds eradication program in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 2015. This includes participation on the Central West Regional Weeds Committee and on the Macquarie Valley Weeds Advisory Council. Council regularly inspects for listed noxious weeds on public and private property and undertakes action to eradicate them. An All Terrain Vehicle has been purchased to assist with this effort, and training provided.



In 2020 and 2021 Council made representation to the Transport for NSW to control Mexican Poppy along the rail corridor

3.4 Health, Safety and Regulation.

Outcome: Council meets its compliance and regulatory obligations concerning public health.

Local Liquor Accord: Council has continued to provide information regarding new liquor license applications, and make submissions to the State Government as required.

Safe Food Standards: Council undertakes annual inspections of food premises to ensure food handlers comply with standards.



Nyngan's animal pound.

NSW Companion Animals Act: Council has an ongoing management and control of companion animals as per the Companion Animals Act 1998. Council has improved public awareness of companion animal control including lifetime registration. Council rangers carry out enforcement activities relating to dog control measures.

Economic



Bogan Shire Council installed a new fuel tank at the Nyngan Airport to encourage more air traffic and provide a service to local aviators

Goal - A vibrant local economy with a diversity of successful businesses that provide local employment opportunities and contribute to a prosperous community.

4.1 Local Industries and Business.

Outcome: Local industries, including tourism, and the business that support them continue to grow and prosper.

Council has continued to work with local businesses to identify issues and develop initiatives to actively encourage the establishment of sustainable economic growth and local employment opportunities. Council has maintained a relationship with Regional Development Orana for this purpose, as well as attending and participating in the Local Economic Development Officer network.

Council has continued to make available land for industrial businesses, with almost all available lots in the John Hoare OAM Business Park now taken. New businesses have included a car wash and laundromat; bulk fuel supplier; agricultural retailer, and storage facility.



Council established the John Hoare OAM Business Estate

Council has continued to implement its streetscape masterplan. In 2018 Council used drought grant funding to rejuvenate the CBD and make it visually more appealing to visitors and residents. Council liaised with building owners and arranged for a colour consultant to provide

a colour scheme and a painter to repaint their facades. Council applied for grant funding to upgrade the paved footpaths in the CBD.

An architect devised a new plan for future investment and infrastructure which accounts for tourism, heritage and community assets. It will see upgrades to Davidson Park, the Railway precinct and Teamsters Rest.

Council also arranged for business owners to attend a free visual merchandising workshop and continues to encourage a vibrant CBD through initiatives such as the Christmas Lights competition, the decorating of the trees in the street, and Christmas flags on street poles.

Other initiatives have included a free social media workshop for business owners to better market themselves online, free business assessment funded by a grant, and A Night at the Museum, where the local business sector was invited to learn more about the value of tourism to the Bogan Shire.

Council has continued its policy of shopping locally where possible and in the best interests of council.



A pair of Bogan Shire's prize-winning rams.

Agricultural Businesses: Council has continued to maintain relationships with local agricultural businesses and lobby on behalf of issues.

Mining Businesses. Council has continued to maintain relationships with mining companies to explore opportunities for mutual benefit and lobby on behalf of local issues. In 2019 when water was scarce. Council constructed a pipeline to the Aeris Mine at Hermidale to connect it to the Nyngan-Cobar pipeline. Council is also working with the local mining industry to alleviate the current housing shortage which is viewed as a growth constraint.

4.2 Tourism

Outcome: Bogan Shire is regarded as a welcoming and attractive place for people to live and visit, producing services, cultural experiences and recreational opportunities.

Tourism strategy. Council has developed a business plan and tourism strategy for the Nyngan Visitor Information Centre and achieved accreditation through Destination NSW and the Tourism Group.

The VIC is open 7 days a week for a minimum of 38 hours a week, including 4 hours on each weekend day. Accreditation has enabled the VIC to utilise the yellow I signage. A flagpole was erected and a yellow flag raised. Council updates the Official Tourist Guide each year and distributes it to surrounding regions and to local businesses. Council promotes Nyngan and the Bogan Shire in print media, on appropriate websites and via social media platforms. In 2019 Nyngan was featured on ABC TV program Backroads, and has also had cameos on recent productions of Farmer Wants a Wife and Movin' to the Country.

Council lobbied AGL to build a viewing platform at its solar farm near Nyngan and also negotiated with local landholders to allow access to the site for visitors.



Nyngan Solar Farm viewing platform

Town Approaches. Council has continued to investigate options for beautification along the main roads into town. On advice from NSW Roads and Maritime Services Council removed unauthorised signage on the highway verges and built designated roadside information bays on the east and west approaches to Nyngan for local businesses to advertise. Smaller versions of the Big Bogan were also commissioned and installed here.



Information Bay at the approach to Nyngan

Council has also continued to plant trees at the approaches the town as well as mowing the grassed areas.

4.3 Public Transport and Air Services.

Outcome: we have reliable, cost-effective and regular public transport and air services linking the Shire to Dubbo and beyond.

Public Transport. Council has an ongoing relationship with Transport for NSW to provide an ongoing and relevant public transport service to Dubbo and beyond. Council has continued to maintain and upgrade local bus stops in Nyngan, Coolabah and Girilambone for the inter-town buses which pass through. Local service clubs continue to operate bus services for patrons as needed.

Nyngan Airport. Council has continued to upgrade airport facilities to meet the required standards. Council has resealed the main runway and apron, re-fenced the airport and in 2021 installed refuelling facilities.



Nyngan's airport building

Responsible Local Government



Bogan Shire Council Chambers

Goal - Strong, transparent and effective governance with an actively engaged community to ensure we remain Fit For The Future.

5.1. Leadership Advocacy and Governance.

Outcome: Open transparent and effective government.

Community Engagement: Council has continued to maintain a community consultation database and undertake community engagement regarding major Council plans and projects. Council has engaged with the community specifically on grant funded projects, for example the Bogan Shire Youth and Community Centre, the Nyngan War Memorial Swimming Pool, the Hermidale Park and the shared pathway. Council has also engaged with community to gauge opinion on matters including the changes to speed limits in town, train speeds, and the future of the Palais Theatre.

Council reporting. Council provides accountability to the community by regularly reporting on its activities through the publication of statutory reports, business papers, meeting minutes and general information. Council has ensured these reports are accurate and timely, and proactively released to the public via its website and in hard copy at the Nyngan Library. Council also completes an Annual Report, statutory financial accounts, quarterly reports, a delivery program, budget and operational plans.

Council meetings. Council has held regular Council meetings over the past five years. All Councillors have been encouraged to make reasonable efforts to acquire and maintain the skills necessary to perform the role of a councillor.

Partnerships through regional and industry bodies. Council has maintained effective partnerships through regional and industry bodies to collaborate on matters of mutual interest and lobby collectively on behalf of the community. Council participated in the new Orana Joint Organisation of Council until 2021 when a joint decision was taken by all member councils to resign from the organisation. Council has resolved to be a member of a

new voluntary regional organisation of councils.

Council has maintained a contracting alliance with RMS.

Council participated in the new Western Plains Regional economic Development Strategy (REDS) process.

Code of Conduct and Council's Values: Councillors are encouraged to take pride in our community and be inclusive, respectful, and work together to get things done and contribute positively to our culture. Councillors are provided with Code of Conduct training upon election, and made aware of Council's values.

5.2 Managing Our Business

Outcome: Effective and responsive management of Council's services and activities to deliver on our goals and strategies.

Financial planning: Council undertakes sound financial planning, management and reporting to fulfil its stewardship, responsibilities and ensure it remains financially viable. Council has continued to develop and implement a long term financial strategy. It has prepared and presented operation plans and budgets to council for approval within set timeframes. Quarterly budget reviews are prepared and presented to Council for approval.

All Council's financial transactions are recorded and periodic financial reports are presented to Council to assist with monitoring budget performance.

Council actively works to maximise recovery of revenue due to Council in accordance with policy.

Workforce: Council aims to manage its people effectively to ensure it meets its goals and can implement its mission and deliver its vision. Council has developed and implemented a Workforce Plan and a Workplace Health and Safety Improvement Plan during the past

term.

Council continues to manage its staff recruitment and induction processes as well as its organisational structure, salary system and related processes to ensure that we have the right people at the right time for the right task.

Through our Employee Development Planning process, inductions and discussions we also actively promote our values and Code of Conduct to ensure staff uphold and contribute to our social environment and culture.

During the 2020-21 COVID-19 Pandemic Council kept all services going and kept all staff employed.

Asset Management: Council is continuing to implement and improve asset management practices to ensure adequate provision is made for the maintenance and long term replacement of infrastructure to be able to help Council make informed budget decisions around Council's assets.

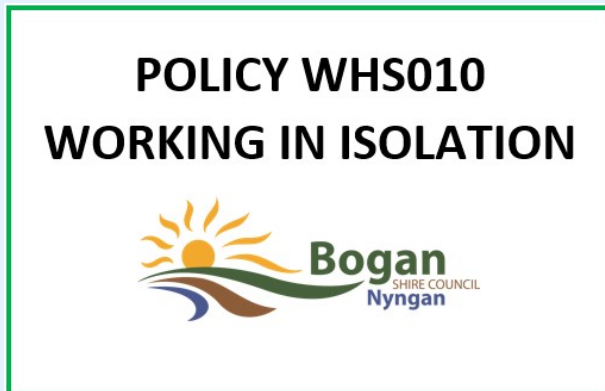
Council is the process of re-developing their Asset Management Strategy and Asset Management Policy for the next term of Council to ensure that they are current and accurately reflect Council assets. This will again include plans for the major categories of Council's assets: Transport and Stormwater, Water Supply and Sewerage; and Buildings and other structures.

Council has, over the past few years implemented an Asset Management System that will be the once source of truth for all of Councils assets. A grant was used to purchase asset management software shared across three Councils as a collaborative project, managed by Bogan Shire Council, which helped reduce costs. This system will not only help with Councils revaluations required by the Audit Office NSW but will facilitate reporting to Council to help them make informed decisions for future renewals and maintenance of all Councils assets.

Council Operations Management: Council aims to manage its operations effectively and on business-like principals to maximise service delivery for the community. This includes the development of a customer service charter to assist employees and customers know their responsibilities. Council uses a Customer Request Management system (CRM) internal program to monitor complaints to identify and rectify issues by delegating requests to the correct work areas.

Council works to actively identify its risks including adequate insurance cover. Policies have been developed and updated including the Community Event Policy that will assist both Council and Event Holders manage their risks when holding events on Council land.

Council has maintained a record management system.



Council's policies and procedures are reviewed and updated.

Council has managed its communication with the community through a variety of media.

Council's ICT resources have been managed including disaster recovery to support our business.

Council's procurement system has been designed to

ensure probity and best value for money.

Fit for the Future: Council conducts its business in such a way that it remains Fit for the Future to ensure it retains its autonomy as a financially viable independent Council.

5.4 Disaster Management.

Outcome: We have the capability to plan, arrange and implement measures for the prevention of, preparation for, response to and recovery from emergencies.



Local Emergency Management Committee. Council is a member of the Local Emergency Management Committee which has an Emergency Management Plan in place. The Local Emergency Management Committee meets quarterly to ensure it is equipped, prepared and trained for disasters and incidents. In 2020/21 the Local Emergency Management Committee met frequently to devise strategies to manage the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Levee: Council regularly maintains pumps and the levee bank surrounding Nyngan to ensure the township remains safe and secure during adverse weather conditions and the potential influx of floodwaters.

