



2017-18 Operational Plan

Progress Report to 31 December 2017

OBJECTIVES AT A GLANCE

A: A CONNECTED & RESILIENT COMMUNITY

- A1. We value spending time with each other and want more opportunities to come together.
- A2. Our community services and facilities meet the needs of our communities.
- A3. People of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds participate in community life.

B: A DYNAMIC & PROSPEROUS ECONOMY

- B1. Our Shire is attractive and welcoming to businesses, industry, residents and visitors.
- B2. Our community has a robust retail offering, strong tourism sectors, and a range of job opportunities.
- B3. We develop, attract and retain skilled individuals in our community.

C: AN ENVIRONMENT THAT IS RESPECTED AND PROTECTED

- C1. Our environmental practices are sustainable.
- C2. Flora and fauna are protected across the Shire.
- C3. Our open space and natural environment are protected for future generations.

D: INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE LONG TERM NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY

- D1. Our assets and infrastructure are well planned and managed to meet the needs of the community now and in the future.
- D2. Our planning and development controls work to attract new residents and investment.

E: STRONG LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

- E1. Council is strong, sustainable, and able to stand-alone.
- E2. Council actively engages with its residents to support and facilitate decision making.
- E3. Council responds collectively and responsibly to community needs.

A1: WE VALUE SPENDING TIME WITH EACH OTHER AND WANT MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO COME TOGETHER.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? <u>STRATEGY</u>	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? <u>ACTION</u>	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
Facilitate and support our community to deliver vibrant and dynamic community events.	Provide support to events held within the community.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	50%	Council provided financial and in kind assistance to the Spirit of the Land Festival (October 2017) and Thommos Express Charity Rodeo (December 2017), The Rock B & S Ball (December 2017) and the Spirit of Christmas (December 2017). Planning has commenced for the Annual Business Excellence Awards to be held in early 2018.
	Compile and promote a comprehensive calendar of events.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	50%	A monthly calendar of upcoming events is published in Council's Newsletter and Website and promoted through Destination NSW, Wagga Partnerships Program and RDA Country Change.
Build capacity, capability and partnerships to encourage sustainable community groups and clubs. *	Provide support and advice to community groups, clubs, and volunteers.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	Council has a comprehensive database to facilitate communicating with community groups and clubs. Through email and Council's website information on funding, sustainability opportunities and administration is distributed to community groups and clubs
	Within financial means, support and fund Section 355 Committees to manage and maintain Council facilities.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Progressing	75%	Council has allocated \$15,500 to S355 Public Hall Management Committees and \$52,400 to Recreation Ground and other Management Committees that manage Council facilities on behalf of Council. The annual grants were distributed to Section 355 committees in August 2017.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? STRATEGY	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? ACTION	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
					<p>A Procedures Manual for Section 355 Committees was finalised in the first half of 2017/18 and will be distributed to the Committees in early 2018.</p> <p>Support is also provided to community based management committees to secure government grants.</p>
	Facilitate and support programs and projects within the community to make them accessible to people with all abilities. DIAP – Attitudes and behaviours	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	<p>Council has provided support to the community garden at Magnolia Lodge and the men’s Sheds at The Rock and Lockhart.</p> <p>Access requirements are also applied to projects and developments through Council’s strategic planning documents, namely the DCP.</p>
Provide or partner to provide cultural and sporting participation opportunities.	Support cultural and sporting opportunities that respond to the needs of the community.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	50%	<p>Council provided financial and in kind assistance to the Spirit of the Land Festival (October 2017) and Thommos Express Charity Rodeo (December 2017), The Rock B & S Ball (December 2017) and the Spirit of Christmas (December 2017). Support is also being provided to The Rock Triathlon and Lockhart Vintage Fest.</p> <p>Council also engages a Museum Advisor who provides support and advice to the greens Gunyah Museum and The Rock Museum. Council participates in the Eastern Riverina Arts and in December 2017 was successful in securing a grant under the Country Arts Support program for a project to paint a mural on the Lockhart Water Tower.</p>

A2: OUR COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES MEET THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? <u>STRATEGY</u>	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? <u>ACTION</u>	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
Work with stakeholders to ensure our community is safe and well prepared to respond to adversity. *	Ensure that Lockhart Shire is well prepared to respond to adversity.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	75%	The Lockhart Shire Local Emergency Management Plan was finalised in the first half of 2017/18 and presented to Council in October 2017.
	Strengthen mechanisms that support access and inclusion for our community. DIAP – Liveable communities	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	Council provides funding for Seniors Week activities on an annual basis. Activities for younger people are co-ordinated by Council's Youth Development Officer.
	Promote community safety initiatives within the community.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	Council continues to promote various safety initiatives e.g. "L" Driver Workshops were held in December 2017 and promotion and advertising commenced for the Learn to Swim classes to be held in January 2018.
	Advocate for sufficient provision of policing, ambulance and fire services.	General Manager	Ongoing	50%	Council convenes a Police and Community Consultation Group that meets quarterly. Representations regarding police presence in Lockhart Shire were made to the NSW Police in November 2017.
Support, or partner to provide, welcoming and well maintained community spaces and facilities. *	Plan, develop and maintain facilities, parks and gardens that respond to the needs of the community. DIAP – Liveable communities	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	50%	Parks and gardens continue to be maintained in accordance with annual program and within the adopted budget. Landscaping of the new public toilet site at Walter Day Park has been completed together with granite paths to the 'At the Dance' and 'Nine Martyrs'.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? STRATEGY	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? ACTION	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
					<p>The new granite and steel-edged path through Cowin Gardens has also been completed, linking Green St from the craft shop to the sculptures in Cowin Gardens and on to Walter Day Park.</p> <p>For the safety of users, a pine log fence has been constructed along the front of The Rock skate park to enforce the no parking zone. Trees have been planted to increase shade and some simple landscaping is planned to create an inviting environment for families.</p>
Provide and advocate for services that respond to the needs of our community. *	Lobby government, business and service providers to provide accessible services to meet the needs of the community. DIAP – Liveable communities	General Manager	Ongoing	0%	Representations are made as opportunities arise.
	Improve understanding of the services available in the community, and work with service providers to promote and encourage community use of services.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	Council has adopted various strategies to promote and communicate available services to the community e.g. web site, Facebook page, Newsletter and e-mails to community clubs and groups on Council's database.
	Work with service providers and government to improve access to quality health, and medical life-stage facilities and services to meet the long term needs of the community.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	Council's General Manager is a member of the Local Health Advisory Committee which provides a conduit between the local community and health services provided by the Murrumbidgee Health District.
	Advocate to ensure our residents can access a quality education experience.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	0%	Representations are made as opportunities arise.

A3: PEOPLE OF ALL AGES, ABILITIES, AND BACKGROUNDS PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY LIFE.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? <u>STRATEGY</u>	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? <u>ACTION</u>	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
Support our children and young people.	Understand and respond to the needs of young people in the Shire through engagement and provision of a Youth Officer.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	Council continues to employ a Youth Officer in conjunction with Greater Hume Council. A Youth Advisory Committee comprising of young people from throughout the Shire was established in the first half of 2017/18.
	Support the provision of pre-school, playgroup and childcare services within the community.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	Council provides out of school hours care through The Rock OOSH and submitted a grant application in the first half of 2017/18 to enable the continuation of this service under a new funding program. Preliminary investigations regarding the demand for child care in Lockhart Shire were carried out and reported to Council in November 2017.
	Provide young residents with greater access to youth services.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	Council continues to employ a Youth Officer in conjunction with Greater Hume Council. A Youth Advisory Committee comprising of young people from throughout the Shire was established in the first half of 2017/18.
Provide support and opportunities to celebrate our older residents.	Provide opportunities for older residents to come together.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	Council provides financial assistance for events during Seniors Week each year. Financial assistance in the form of a refund of DA fees was provided to The Rock Men's Shed in the first half of 2017/18.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? STRATEGY	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? ACTION	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
	Continue to support, advocate, and plan for high quality services and accommodation for our aged population.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	Council has supported Woodhaven and independent living units at Magnolia Lodge.
	Support a feasibility study to explore the establishment of an aged care service hub within the Lockhart Shire.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Not commenced.	0%	
Provide support for people with a disability and their families and carers. *	Provide support for people with a disability, their families and carers. DIAP – Liveable communities	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	Council has adopted a Disability Inclusion Action Plan as well as requirements for all abilities access in its planning documents such as the DCP.
	Work with community partners to lobby government and to seek funding to support people with disabilities to reach their full potential and to lead fulfilling lives. DIAP – Liveable communities	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	Council continually reviews grant programs to seek potential funding.
	Work in partnership with community organisations to improve opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in education, training and employment. DIAP – Employment	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	0%	No opportunities have arisen at this stage.
	Work with partners to identify opportunities to support the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme. DIAP – Systems and processes	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	0%	No opportunities have arisen at this stage.
	Participate in a collective approach within Lockhart Shire’s disability sector to improve the understanding, access and operation of the sector. DIAP – Attitudes and behaviours	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	Council’s General Manager is a member of the Local Health Advisory Committee which provides a conduit between the local community and health services provided by the Murrumbidgee Health District.

B1: Our Shire is attractive and welcoming to businesses, industry, residents, and visitors.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? STRATEGY	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? ACTION	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
Manage and improve the appearance of our towns, in line with their desired identities	Develop and implement a long-term beautification plan for each of the Shire's towns.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Progressing	5%	Masterplan currently being commenced for Lockhart and The Rock.
Improve the convenience and amenity of our towns. *	Ensure that there is sufficient and accessible parking for cars and trailers in the centre of each town. DIAP – Liveable communities	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Progressing	5%	Parking in Shire Towns is to be reviewed.
	Encourage a diverse retail mix within the Shire to respond to the community's and visitors needs and tastes.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing.	10%	Council participates in "Country Change" program and the "Start Your Business Here" section of Council's website has been updated. Consideration is also being given to participating in the NSW Government's "Easy to do Business" Program and the "Business Friendly Council" initiative.
	Better understand the retail and commercial sector to assist and support a response to filling service gaps.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	50%	Council's Tourism and Economic Development Officer maintains regular contact with businesses in the Shire. An annual survey of local businesses is undertaken to better understand their needs.
	Co-ordinate activities and services in town to attract local shoppers and visitors to town centres.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	50%	A business directory is maintained on Council's website. A "Go Local" campaign was implemented to encourage support of local businesses. An annual Business Excellence Awards function is being held.
Improve services and infrastructure that supports our rural business.	Advocate to improve television, mobile and internet coverage.	General Manager	Not commenced	0%	The launching of the "Connecting Country Communities" funding program is awaited to pursue grant funding for improved internet access.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? STRATEGY	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? ACTION	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
	Lobby to increase the use of rail for agricultural transportation.	General Manager	Ongoing	50%	An application for the upgrade of The Rock to Boree Creek rail line was submitted under the Fixing Country Rail Program in July 2017.
	Strive to assist development of strong farming businesses.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	30%	Government funding was secured under the Fixing Country Roads Program in December 2017 to upgrade nine bridges and culverts in the Shire that will open the Shire's road network to HML and larger trucks e.g. B-Doubles. The launching of the "Connecting Country Communities" funding program is awaited to pursue grant funding for improved internet access to the Shire's rural areas and farming businesses.
Provide business support to our community.	Promote and provide networking opportunities for businesses.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	50%	A business directory is maintained on Council's website. An annual Business Excellence Awards function is being held.
	Improve the capacity of businesses through training and business sessions.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	50%	Council works with the Riverina BEC to promote training opportunities both locally and regionally.
	Build an informed response to supporting businesses through the collection of timely and relevant local data.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Completed	100%	The annual business survey was undertaken in the first half of 2017/18 to ensure current and accurate data is collected and maintained.
	Celebrate the achievements of our businesses.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	50%	Planning has commenced for the second Annual Business Excellence Awards to be held at The Rock in early 2018.
Work in partnership with stakeholders to grow	Provide strong strategic direction for economic development.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	50%	Council continues to employ a full-time Tourism and Economic Development Officer.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? STRATEGY	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? ACTION	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
existing and attract new businesses.					A Tourism and Economic Development Committee with Council, business and community representatives continues to advise council on tourism economic development matters. Council participated in the development of a Regional Economic Development Strategy for the Coolamon, Junee, Lockhart and Wagga Wagga Functional Economic Region.
	Support the growth of the business and industry sector.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	50%	Council's Economic Development officer maintains regular contact with local businesses. Council's website has been updated to include information regarding Council's business incentives policy, business support information and "Make the Move" campaign.
	Promote positive images of the Lockhart Shire as a dynamic and innovative community.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	50%	Lockhart Shire is promoted across all media platforms including print, radio and social media. The Visitor Information Centre continues to register increased visitor numbers.
Exercise leadership by championing the value of access and inclusion across Lockhart's business and tourism community. *	Promote benefits of being fully accessible and inclusive for businesses. DIAP - Attitudes and behaviours	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Progressing	10%	Council is considering a proposal to participate in the NSW Government's "Easy to do Business" program and the "Business Friendly Council" initiative.

B2: OUR COMMUNITY HAS A STRONG TOURISM SECTOR.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? <u>STRATEGY</u>	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? <u>ACTION</u>	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
Create a thriving tourism economy in Lockhart Shire. *	Improve the image of Lockhart Shire for tourists.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	50%	Council continues to successfully promote Lockhart Shire through various means including social media, numerous publications and regional partnerships as evidenced by record visitor numbers being experienced at the Lockhart Visitor Information Centre in the first half of 2017/18.
	Use our natural strengths and assets to build our tourism sector.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	50%	The Shire's tourism sector continues to grow as evidenced by increased visits to the Greens Gonyah Museum and The Rock Hill Nature Reserve. Funding has been announced for The Rock Regional Observatory Project.
	Support and develop infrastructure for our tourism sector. DIAP – Liveable communities	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Progressing	30%	Partnering with Spirit of the Land and The Rock RSL Sub-Branch to continue to enhance sculpture trail and Avenue of Honour respectively. Partnering with Riverina Water and Lockhart, Progress Association to establish mural on the Water Tower with government funding.
	Develop partnerships that support our tourism industry.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	50%	Council continues to participate in Thrive Riverina (formerly Riverina Regional Tourism), Taste Riverina and other regional initiatives such as Wagga partnerships and Destination Riverina Murray..

B3: We develop, attract and retain skilled individuals in our community.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? STRATEGY	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? ACTION	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
Develop the skills and employment opportunities of our residents. *	Support and communicate pathways to employment for all residents. DIAP – Employment	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	50%	Council liaises with Riverina BEC to promote local and regional training opportunities.
Attract and retain skilled people to the region.	Support young people to return to the region after completing education and training.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	50%	Initiatives outlined above to support the growth of local businesses are aimed and providing potential employment opportunities to enable young people to return to the area.
	Promote the Shire and available skilled and professional positions throughout the region.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer.	Ongoing	50%	Council participates in the “Country Change” / “Tree Change” project.
	Work with local industry and government agencies to identify and address skill shortages.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	50%	Contact is maintained with RDA Riverina. Council is also participating in the preparation of a Regional Economic Development Strategy comprising the Coolamon, Junee, Lockhart and Wagga Wagga Functional Economic Region.

C1: OUR ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICES ARE SUSTAINABLE.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? <u>STRATEGY</u>	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? <u>ACTION</u>	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
Ensure that Council buildings and facilities are environmentally sensitive.	Where practical improve the energy efficiency of Council buildings.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Progressing	20%	Council is facilitating a program of community consultation for a project that will make Lockhart township 100% self-sufficient on renewable energy, reducing energy costs and increasing efficiencies through smart meters and other technology.
	Develop and implement a strategy that works towards Lockhart Shire being carbon neutral.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Progressing	20%	Community engagement was undertaken in November 2017 with respect to a renewable energy project that, if successful, will make Lockhart township 100% self-sufficient on renewable energy.
	Investigate installation of new energy efficient street lighting.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Progressing	20%	Council is participating in the "Southern Lights project", a proposal for energy efficient LED lighting being co-ordinated by RERO
Explore opportunities to utilise renewable energy and water saving practices.	Investigate programs and initiatives that promote renewable energy options for households and industry.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Progressing	20%	Community engagement was undertaken in November 2017 with respect to a renewable energy project that, if successful, will make Lockhart township 100% self-sufficient on renewable energy.
	Promote initiatives that support water wise practices & products throughout the community.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	50%	Council is using low water and native plants in parks & gardens as well as street trees.
	Continue to explore the feasibility of water conservation practices throughout all Council works, & incorporate water saving & reuse features to Council facilities.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	50%	Council reviews water usage quarterly to monitor water usage.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? <u>STRATEGY</u>	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? <u>ACTION</u>	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
Utilise effective waste management practices.	Provide efficient and sustainable waste management practices	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Progressing	75%	Council resolved in October 2017 to introduce a three bin kerbside waste collection service to include food organics upon expiration of the current waste collection contract later in 2017/18.
Ensure responsible development practices are exercised.	Through our Local Environmental Plan, incorporate environmentally sustainable design principles into all new residential, rural & commercial developments & subdivision plans.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	50%	Council implements statutory requirements in new buildings within the Shire.

C2: Flora and fauna are protected across the Shire.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? STRATEGY	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? ACTION	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
Increase the amount of native flora, fauna and protect threatened species.	Encourage native plant choices throughout the community.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	50%	Council provides advice on appropriate plant species when required and when trees are removed by Council these are replaced by an appropriate species depending on the circumstances.
	Support the increase of food and habitat sources for threatened and endangered species.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Progressing	75%	Council participated in the Galore Hill Scenic Reserve Biodiversity Study Project and signed off on The Rock Hill Nature Reserve Management Plan prepared in conjunction with the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service and other stakeholders.
	Map local population of threatened and endangered plant species and protect where practical.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Progressing	50%	Council has secured grant funding towards developing best practice roadside environmental management. Council's Environmental Officer and Wagga City Council's Environmental Management Team Leader have been collaborating in the development of the Best Management Practice of Roadside Reserve Corridors Project Plan.
Decrease occurrence, spread and impact of weeds and pests throughout our Shire.	Implement weed management practices within Council controlled land and support practices on all other land.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	75%	The new Biosecurity legislation was implemented in the first half of 2017/18 including appropriate training being undertaken by Council's Environmental officer and appropriate delegations put in place. Regular inspections are undertaken by Council's Environment Officer and, where appropriate, relevant Notices issued.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? <u>STRATEGY</u>	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? <u>ACTION</u>	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
	Implement pest management practices within Council controlled land and support practices on all other land.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	50%	The new Biosecurity legislation was implemented in the first half of 2017/18 including appropriate training being undertaken by Council's Environmental officer and appropriate delegations put in place.

C3: OUR OPEN SPACE AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT ARE PROTECTED FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? <u>STRATEGY</u>	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? <u>ACTION</u>	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
Provide nature reserves and protected areas for our community.	Provide protection, management and promotion of Galore Hill.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	50%	Regular inspections of Galore Hill are undertaken. Council participated in the Galore Hill Scenic Reserve Biodiversity Study.
	Advocate to, and support the National Parks Wildlife Service, in their management of The Rock Hill Nature Reserve.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	50%	Council signed off on The Rock Hill Nature Reserve Management Plan prepared in conjunction with the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service and other stakeholders.
	Provide protection, management and promotion of nature reserves under the control of Council.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	50%	Council monitors and undertakes action as required on its nature reserves.
	Promote the protection of our water catchment and riparian zones.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	50%	Council monitors and undertakes action as required on its catchment and riparian zones.
	Protect the environment by continual monitoring to detect possible breaches of relevant legislation or standards.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	50%	No significant breaches reported.

D1: OUR ASSETS AND INFRASTRUCTURE ARE WELL PLANNED AND MANAGED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY NOW AND INTO THE FUTURE.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? <u>STRATEGY</u>	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? <u>ACTION</u>	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
Plan sustainable transport strategies. *	Continue to implement the Lockhart Shire Active Transport Plan that plans for the future maintenance and development of pathways throughout the Shire. DIAP – Liveable communities	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Progressing	75%	Council has undertaken its planned new shared path construction works for 2017/18. Council currently preparing a new 5-year Active Transport Plan.
	Provide effective street lighting within the villages of the Shire to support safety and security for pedestrians and vehicular traffic.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	50%	Street lighting complaints are recorded and actioned accordingly. Council is participating in the Southern Lights project being co-ordinated by REROC involving the provision of LED street lighting.
	Advocate for community and public transport options. DIAP – Liveable communities	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	0%	Representations are made as opportunities arise.
Strategically plan for our sports and recreation infrastructure, as well as cemeteries.	Ensure appropriate provision, planning and use of all open space and recreation facilities and cemeteries.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	50%	Council maintains and manages its open space and recreation facilities in conjunction with relevant s355 Committees.
	Prepare and implement strategic replacement and upgrade plans for Lockhart Swimming Pool to address ageing infrastructure and to meet the community's long term needs.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Progressing	30%	Development approval has been issued. A funding submission has been lodged under the NSW Stronger Country Communities Fund for the refurbishment of the Lockhart Swimming Pool and the outcome awaited. Tenders have been invited.
	Prepare and implement strategic replacement and upgrade plans for The Rock Swimming Pool to address ageing infrastructure and to meet the community's long term needs.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Progressing	30%	Development approval has been issued. A funding submission has been lodged under the NSW Stronger Country Communities Fund for the refurbishment of The Rock Swimming

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? STRATEGY	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? ACTION	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
					Pool and the outcome awaited. Tenders have been invited.
Improve the safety of people on our roads.	Continue to participate in road safety education, and efficient use and planning of the road network.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	50%	Council continues to employ a Road Safety officer in conjunction with Greater Hume Shire Council.
	Provide and maintain efficient and safe road and bridge infrastructure.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Progressing	50%	In December 2017 Council was successful in securing grant funding under the Fixing Country Roads Program to upgrade nine bridges and culverts in the Shire to HML standard.
	Undertake road repair works following 2016 wet weather and flood events.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Completed	100%	All road restoration works related to the 2016 flood events has been completed.
Reduce the effects of flooding in our towns and villages.	Implement flood mitigation measures for Lockhart.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Progressing	75%	A contract has been let for the Lockhart flood mitigation works with construction scheduled to commence in early 2018.
	Implement flood mitigation measures for The Rock.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Progressing	20%	Tenders for The Rock flood mitigation works are proposed to be invited in early 2018.
Advocate for diverse and affordable housing options within Lockhart Shire.	Work with developers, investors and service providers to realise the development of diverse housing options to address affordable housing across the Shire. DIAP – Liveable communities	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	Options available include Magnolia Lodge, Youth Flats and vacant residential land developed in both ends of the price spectrum ranging in price from \$27,500 to \$95,000.

D2: OUR PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROLS WORK TO ATTRACT NEW RESIDENTS AND INVESTMENT.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? STRATEGY	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? ACTION	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
Develop infrastructure that supports growth within our community. *	Provide and maintain efficient sewage systems that allows for current and future community needs.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Progressing	75%	Extension of reticulated sewerage at The Rock was commenced in the first half of 2017/18.
	Ensure maintenance, accessibility and safety of the Lockhart air strip. DIAP – Liveable communities	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	50%	The Lockhart air strip is inspected and maintained as required.
	Support Riverina Water in quality town water supply that is sustainable in line with potential growth.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	50%	Council works with Riverina Water as required to assist in facilitating reliable water supply to the Shire. Expertise in relation to roadside vegetation management was recently provided for a RW mains extension from The Rock to Milbrulong.
	Ensure guttering and drainage infrastructure are planned, maintained and developed to meet the demands of the community.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	50%	Stormwater maintenance is occurring as budget and resourcing allows. Kerb and guttering is maintained and replaced as budget and resourcing allows.
	Advocate for natural gas supply to our communities.	General Manager	Ongoing	50%	Provision of natural gas to The Rock has been included in the Action Plan incorporated into the Regional Economic Development Strategy being prepared for the Coolamon, Junee, Lockhart and Wagga Wagga Functional Economic Region.
Land use that supports the development of our community.	Clearly define land use requirements and developments in line with State Government regulations.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	50%	Land use requirements are specified in Council's Local Environmental Plan. All development applications are assessed in accordance with statutory requirements.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? STRATEGY	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? ACTION	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
	Continue to remain updated on potential mining and quarry developments.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	50%	Relevant meetings are attended when scheduled or when opportunities arise.
Our built heritage and our public art are enhanced to support our strong town and village identities.	Provide a public art experience that reflects our community identity.	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	50%	Arrangements have been made for the winning sculpture of the 2017 Spirit of the Land Festival to be placed on display at Lockhart. The military memorabilia on display at the Avenue of Honour at The Rock has also been added to in 2017. The "Walk of Fame" project at Lockhart is also being added to and grant funding has been secured for a mural to be placed on the water tower at Lockhart.
	Advocate for the protection of our historic buildings, landmarks, and artefacts.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	50%	An application for heritage grant funding is being prepared in relation to the historic verandas in Green Street Lockhart.

E1: COUNCIL IS STRONG, SUSTAINABLE AND ABLE TO STAND ALONE.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? STRATEGY	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? ACTION	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
Plan for the long-term sustainability of the Shire.	Advocate and prepare for the long-term sustainability of our Shire.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	Council has prepared a Long Term Financial Plan in accordance with Integrated Planning and Reporting requirements with a 10 year outlook.
	Promote the increased participation of local people in local government and the community.	General Manager	Ongoing	50%	Participation is encouraged through open council meetings promoted in Council's monthly newsletter, website and Facebook page, in-kind and financial support of community based section 355 committees performing various council functions and recognition of significant contributions to the community through such means as the Australia Day Awards, Volunteer Week events etc.
	Implement Fit for the Future improvement plan actions, those of highest priority being: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Apply for Special Rate Variation (SRV) to begin revenue expansion and increase Own Source Revenue; o Increase external contracting to increase Own Source Revenue; o Continue involvement with REROC/JO; and o Implement service review actions. 	General Manager Director Corporate and Community Services Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Progressing	50%	Application for a SRV was lodged in accordance with Council's Improvement Action Plan but was declined by IPART. A tender for roadworks has been submitted with Greater Hume Council in an effort to increase Own Source Revenue. Council has submitted a nomination to the Office of Local Government for the establishment of a Joint Organisation following the passing of relevant legislation by the NSW Government in late 2017.
	Continue to enhance sound financial management policies and practices.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	The NSW Audit Office presented an unqualified Audit report to the

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? STRATEGY	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? ACTION	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
					November 2017 Council meeting for the 2016/17 financial year. All relevant financial ratios continue to be above the industry benchmark with the exception of Own Source Revenue.
	Continue the development of asset management strategy and plans.	Director Engineering and Environmental Services	Ongoing	75%	Council's Asset Management Plans were adopted in February 2017 and continue to be updated and enhanced.
	Meet all governance and regulatory requirements in the conduct of Council operations.	General Manager	Ongoing	50%	A Compliance Policy and Compliance register has been developed and adopted by Council at the December 2017 Council meeting. A Diagnostic Review of Council's governance arrangements has been completed and a "Governance Action Plan has been prepared by Manex for implementation.
	Minimise Council's exposure to risk and promote a strong risk management culture within Council.	General Manager HR/WHS Co-ordinator	Ongoing	20%	A Risk Register has been developed. Individual risk treatment plans are now being prepared for each risk. A revised Risk Management Policy has been developed and will be presented to Council following the release of Audit Committee guidelines by the Office of Local Government expected in the first half of 2018.
	Ensure appropriate IT systems are in place to support service delivery and accountability requirements.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	This is achieved through up to date server hardware. All staff desk top computers have access to Microsoft Office 365. Other specific software is acquired as required.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? <u>STRATEGY</u>	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? <u>ACTION</u>	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
					A Computer, Internet, Email and Social media Policy is currently being prepared for presentation to Council in early 2018.
	Maintain and develop a Records Management System that meets the needs of the organisation, the community and legislative requirements.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Progressing	10%	Investigations are currently underway into an Electronic Data and Records Management System including demonstrations having been arranged with two separate providers.
	Attract and retain a quality workforce.	HR/WHS Co-ordinator	Ongoing	50%	Where practical opportunities are provided to enhance staff attraction and retention e.g. training and development for new and existing employees together with consideration given to succession planning.

E2: COUNCIL ACTIVELY ENGAGES WITH ITS RESIDENTS TO SUPPORT AND FACILITATE DECISION MAKING.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? <u>STRATEGY</u>	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? <u>ACTION</u>	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
Use effective community engagement processes. *	Provide effective community engagement practices with the community.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	Council's Newsletter is distributed to all households in the Shire on a monthly basis. The most recent Community Satisfaction Survey undertaken in 2016 indicated that 96% of respondents received their information about Council from the Monthly Newsletter. Policies that have the potential to impact on residents and ratepayers are placed on public exhibition prior to adoption by Council.
	Increase opportunities and provide support for people with disabilities to exercise their rights for civic participation. DIAP – Systems and processes	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	0%	Council has adopted a Disability Inclusion Action Plan as well as requirements for all abilities access in its planning documents such as the DCP.
Ensure the community is informed by improving access to information. *	Apply access and inclusion principles to improve access to Council services, programs, events and communications. DIAP – Systems and processes	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	Council has adopted various strategies to promote and communicate available services to the community e.g. web site, Facebook page, Newsletter and e-mails to community clubs and groups on Council's database.

E3: COUNCIL RESPONDS COLLECTIVELY AND RESPONSIBLY TO COMMUNITY NEEDS.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? <u>STRATEGY</u>	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? <u>ACTION</u>	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
Actively seek strong involvement in state and regional planning for the region.	Advocate for the appropriate representation of the needs of the Lockhart Shire community at a state and regional level.	General Manager	Ongoing	50%	Representations are made in relation to relevant issues as opportunities arise.
Represent and acknowledge the needs, challenges and characteristics of our communities. *	Remain updated and informed on current demographic and social data pertaining to Lockhart Shire communities and population groups. DIAP – Systems and processes	Tourism and Economic Development Officer	Ongoing	50%	Data from the 2016 census was released in the first half of 2017/18 and has been accessed by Council. Regular statistical updates are also received through RDA Riverina
	Continue to lead and advocate on key social and community issues. DIAP –Attitudes and behaviours	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	Council advocates and makes representations in relation to relevant issues as opportunities arise.
	Regularly provide up to date and accurate community information to relevant program and service providers.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	Various forums such as the Local Health Advisory Committee, Police and Community Consultation Group and other networks in which Council participates provide opportunities for Council to provide feedback and relevant information to service providers.
Provide opportunities for relationship building and development.	Promote strong and beneficial relationships between local government and service providers, other levels of government and the community.	Director Corporate and Community Services	Ongoing	50%	Council staff participate in networking opportunities provided by their respective professional associations and other local government bodies such as REROC, LGNSW, Statewide, StateCover etc. Participation in the Local Health Advisory Committee is maintained.

HOW WILL WE GET THERE? <u>STRATEGY</u>	WHAT WILL COUNCIL DO OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS? <u>ACTION</u>	RESPONSIBLE POSITION	STATUS	PROGRESS	COMMENT
	Ensure Council staff and Councillors participate regularly in professional development to support high quality customer service and professional skills.	General Manager HR/WHS Co-ordinator	Ongoing	50%	<p>Council also convenes a Policy and Community Consultation Group for this purpose.</p> <p>An annual Training Plan has been adopted for all staff.</p> <p>Relevant training and professional development opportunities are drawn to Councillors' attention as they arise.</p> <p>Regulations and guidelines regarding Councillor Professional Development Programs are anticipated to be released in early 2018 by the Office of Local Government and will determine Council's future actions in this regard.</p>