



G W Y D I R
SHIRE COUNCIL

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY SERVICES AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Held on Thursday 16 May 2024

Commencing at 9:28 am

in the Warialda Office Council Chambers

Present

Members: Cr John Coulton (Mayor), Cr Catherine Egan (Deputy Mayor), Cr Marilyn Dixon OAM, Cr Geoff Smith, Cr David Coulton, Cr Tiffany Galvin, Cr Chris Matthews and Cr Lyndon Mulligan.

Staff: Max Eastcott (General Manager), Helen Thomas (Manager Finance), Alexander Eddy (Director of Engineering Services) and Bronwyn Wilson (Executive Assistant)

Public:

Visitors:

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1 OFFICIAL OPENING AND WELCOME - MAYOR

2 APOLOGIES

Leeah Daley and Cr Jim Moore are apologies for this meeting.

3 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:

THAT the Minutes of the Community Services and Planning Committee held on Thursday 7 March 2024 as circulated be taken as read and CONFIRMED.

(Moved Cr D Coulton, Seconded Cr Galvin)

CARRIED

For: Cr J Coulton, Cr Egan, Cr D Coulton, Cr Dixon OAM, Cr Galvin, Cr Matthews, Cr Mulligan and Cr Smith

Against: Nil

4 PRESENTATION

5 CALL FOR THE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS, GIFTS RECEIVED AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

6 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

THAT the Committee resolve into Confidential Session, Committee of the Whole and that in the public interest and in accordance with Section 10A (2) (a) and (c) of the Local Government Act, 1993, the public and press be excluded from the meeting to consider Item(s) listed on the Agenda.

(Moved Cr Dixon OAM, Seconded Cr Smith)

CARRIED

For: Cr J Coulton, Cr Egan, Cr D Coulton, Cr Dixon OAM, Cr Galvin, Cr Matthews, Cr Mulligan and Cr Smith

Against: Nil

6.1 Adoption of the Recommendations of the Confidential Session

The meeting was re-opened to the public at 11.48 am and members of the public and press returned to the meeting.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL:

THAT the recommendations of the Confidential Session, namely:

Confidential Organisation & Community Services Report

THAT the report be received.

Property Matter.

THAT the Council revise its offer to \$225,000.

are adopted.

(Moved Cr Egan, Seconded Cr Galvin)

CARRIED

For: Cr J Coulton, Cr Egan, Cr D Coulton, Cr Galvin, Cr Matthews, Cr Mulligan and Cr Smith

Against: Nil

7 OFFICERS' REPORTS

7.1 Organisation & Community Services

File Reference: NA

Delivery Program

Goal: 5. Organisational management

Outcome: 5.1 Corporate management

Strategy: 5.1.5 Provision of responsible internal governance

Author: Leeah Daley, OCD Director

STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST Nil

IN BRIEF/SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION

The monthly Organisation and Community Services Report details the activities carried out by the Department during April 2024.

TABLED ITEMS Nil

BACKGROUND

The monthly Organisation and Community Services report forms part of a regular reporting regime. The purpose of the report is to inform Council of the activities carried out within the Department.

COMMENT

AGED CARE – NAROO FRAIL AGED HOSTEL

April 2024

Staff Meeting – Not Held

Resident Meeting – Not Held

Residents News & Outings

Park walks have been back on the agenda this month. Residents tried some Balloon Tennis which was a big hit. Bingo on Tuesday mornings. We will enjoy a special Anzac presentation this year on Wednesday 24th. A lovely staff member and her husband have put together a slide show on all the local Anzac hero's.



Fun at the park



Balloon Tennis



Up & Over



SOCIAL SERVICES

Bingara Neighbourhood Centre

Funding Body – NSW Department of Communities and Justice

Bingara Neighbourhood Centre continues to assist community groups with grant applications and attend to the needs of the general public through advocacy and referral to other services

S355 Committees

Bingara Community Op Shop

The Bingara Community Op Shop held a very successful Open Shed on Easter Saturday. Over \$900 was raised, which was fabulous as all the clothing was priced at \$1.

Anglicare visited on Wednesday 10 April and shared the programs they can link over 65's with. It was pleasing that community members attended as well as many volunteers. Around ten folks signed up to the My Aged Care Program. Anglicare staff also took many bags of excess clothing to share with isolated and needy communities.

Our Community Poppy Project culminated in early April. A community member made poppies from recycled drink bottles and a display was created on the back gates of the Op Shop. The knitted, crocheted and felt poppies were pinned onto fabric and displayed in the library.

The Pantry continues to grow. Bingara IGA is now trying to consistently deliver on Mondays. This helps with planning. Donations given at the pantry are used to purchase more food. Op Shop staff are trying to focus on veg, fruit, bread, and meat in these purchases. The Living Classroom has been contacted and will share excess produce when they have it.

Business has been brisk with campers returning to the river as well as other events happening in town.



Centrelink

Funding body – Services Australia

There were some technical issues this month and the communication with Services Australia was not great but staff were able to provide service throughout the month.

Youth Services

Funding body – NSW Department of Communities and Justice

Gwydir Willoughby Student Exchange

Social Services Staff are preparing for the annual Gwydir Willoughby Student Exchange program which will see the Willoughby Students, Supervisors and Councillors attend our Happy Days Orange Festival in July.

Gwydir Students have been chosen and student kits have been sent out.

Supported Playgroup Development Worker

Funding body – NSW Department of Communities and Justice

Warialda Toy Library	Mar 2024	Apr 2024
Total daily attendance counts for children, (calculating each child, each day over the month –total points of contact).	85	105
Full borrowing memberships (new and/or renew)	0	2
Non borrowing memberships (new and/or renew)	0	1
Casual borrowing memberships (new and/or renew)	0	0
Commemorative Birth Certificate applications received	0	0
Toys returned	7	11
Toys borrowed	3	4
Groups using the service (FDC carer, Pharmacy)	0	1
Monday group morning session	18	27
Tuesday group morning session	30	34
Wednesday group morning session	19	27
Thursday group morning session	20	17

It was a busy month during April at Warialda Toy Library. With school holidays in the middle of the month, many families attended with their school aged children who were able to meet up with some of their friends at the service.

Two guest speakers were welcomed this month. The Hunter New England Health Continence Nurse attended on Thursday 18 April and spoke to families present about tips and tricks for bed wetting, toilet training and any other continence issues that the families may have had questions about regarding their children and even themselves. The session was very informative, and Staff and Families look forward to another session later in the year. The second guest speaker was the Local Librarian, who came and read a book to the children and families on the topic of Anzac Day on Tuesday 23 April. A book named 'Anzac Ted' was read, and the

children enjoyed this book and the session very much. It is wonderful to be able to utilise the other services within the Shire.

Other activities throughout the month provided for children were various craft activities such as box craft which is provided for the children to engage in imaginary play and encouraging them to use their imagination to create something that they wish. They always end up with wonderful creations! On Wednesday 24 April, Children were invited to create Poppy badges which they were then able to take home and wear on Anzac Day. An opportunity arose during one of our sessions when the children were able to get up and close with a praying mantis using the services magnifying glass. The colours, shape and size of the insect was discussed and then it was released back into the backyard. The children thoroughly enjoyed this.



Bingara Toy Library

*Funding body- NSW Department of Education and communities and NSW
Department of Education*

Particulars	March 2024	April 2024
Total daily attendance count for children, (calculating each child, each day over the month –total points of contact).	64	37
Full borrowing memberships (new and/or renew)	0	0
Non borrowing memberships (new and/or renew)	1	0
Casual borrowing memberships (new and/or renew)	0	0
Commemorative Birth Certificate – Voucher memberships	0	0
Toys returned	0	0
Toys borrowed	0	0
Children/Group using the service (FDC carer, pharmacy)	0	0
Tuesday group morning session x 3	19	12
Wednesday group morning session x 2	33	6
Thursday group morning session x 2	8	8
KSK group afternoon session x 5	30	22

School holidays consumed half of the month and with that came time for the building services crew to come in to do some painting and maintenance on the service. The outside of the service has in parts had a fresh coat of paint and is looking fabulous. The main toy room on the inside to be the focus this holiday period, with ceiling and wall repairs along with a fresh coat of paint. The toy librarian removed all toys, resources and office paperwork to the front room and covered with plastic cover sheets prior to the workmen arriving Friday 12 April to commence.

Rural Outreach Support Service visit for April, was cancelled due to emergency support needed for a family in Inverell by their staff.

Handouts and chat sessions this month were scissor skill building, how to hold scissors and home safety. This information was shared in an email and on social media, so every family received the information. Activities revolved around these topics with cutting playdough with scissors and colouring in pages of a fire engine, telephone and a house to prompt conversation on where we live, who to call and which number to call.

Events and guest speakers have all been booked in advance for term two, giving families something each week to look forward to. Healthy breast care, rural outreach

support, excursion to the local book library along with a visit to preschool just to name a few.

The Kool Skool Kids enjoyed popcorn, two movie afternoons, card games, Lego, craft and helping move toys ready for painting. The balance of the easter eggs were given as a thank you for being mini removalists. With the cooler weather now here, outside activities can now be enjoyed during the afternoon.



Bingara Preschool

Funding Body – Early Childhood Education and Care Directorate NSW Department of Education.

Days	April 2024
Monday	15
Tuesday	14
Wednesday	19
Thursday	16

Updated Quality Improvement Plan:

Every Early Education and Care service is required to have an active Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) in place. During the month of April, the Bingara Preschool team revised and updated the service's current QIP. The identified main goal is to replace the current forte area. In line with the current Early Year Learning Framework (EYLF), the team would like to revamp the forte area and establish a more naturalistic play space. The service is actively looking for a grant to renovate this area as the playground is very outdated and hazards are starting to emerge.

National Quality Standard 7.2.1: At Bingara Preschool, there is an effective self-assessment and quality improvement process in place.



Cooking at Preschool:

One of the children's main interests is to prepare and cook food to eat whilst at Preschool. The Educator's aim is to cook food that is healthy and to encourage the children to try different foods that they have helped to prepare. During April the children ate wraps two different ways, firstly by cooking them with egg, ham, and zucchini. Secondly the wrap was eaten fresh, and the children were able to choose what healthy food went in their wrap. Both these experiences were intentionally planned extension experiences, that linked to children's documented observations.

National Quality Standard 2.1.3: Healthy eating is promoted, supported, and encouraged whilst at Bingara Preschool.



Name Recognition and Writing:

Whilst at Bingara Preschool one of the collaborative goals is for children to be able to write their first name by the time they go to school. To work towards this goal, the team at Bingara Preschool embeds name recognition and writing into the curriculum. As the service has a mixed-aged classroom (children aged between 3 - 5 years) the experiences are adapted to assist each child to participate. There are various other opportunities for the children to learn about their name including: identifying their name at transition, cut and paste their name, writing their name on the whiteboards, writing their name in shaving cream and making letters with matchsticks,

EYLF 5.3 - The children are starting to understand that letters and words convey a meaning.



Tharawonga Mobile Resource Unit

Funding body – Australian Government Department of Education

Days and Venues	April 2024
Monday at Croppa Creek	12 (1 extra casual places)
Tuesday at North Star	8 (8 extra casual places)
Wednesday at Yallaroi	12 (6 extra casual places)
Thursday at Yetman	9 (0 extra casual places)
Friday at Warialda	Starting in term 2

The children have been working with educators towards their individual educator goals. This is one of our main focuses for the term. These goals have been developed through analysing the children’s developmental checklists so that educators can work with the children on achieving important skills and milestones necessary for positive outcomes.

Throughout the two weeks that the service was operational in April the overall focus was on being safe. Educators incorporated many experiences into the program across the venues so that all children could learn about this important skill. The educators implemented small group discussions as a part of our group time learning. These discussions were all about what number the children need to call in an emergency. Through repeat activities of this the children developed an understanding of what the number is to call in an emergency. To further explore this topic Yetman Public School provided the service with a series of books that reflected how to be safe around the farm, pool, beach and home. These books provided simple texts and pictures for the children to learn about how to be safe in different environments.

The service has been granted approval to start operating in the Warialda community at the St Joseph’s catholic school on a Friday. As a part of preparing to commence the service we organised with perspective parents a group orientation session.

Families were invited to the venue to meet the educators and take part in a group orientation session to understand how the service operates and what is important for the families. Tharawonga is excited to offer a service to a community that needs such a valuable resource.

Staff training – All educators working at the service have completed the last component of the new Child Protection course and submitted this for marking.

Emergency procedures – The children and educators have practiced another emergency situation across the different venues ensuring the use of different scenarios for each day. The children have responded well to the practice emergency drills.

Croppa Creek

Existing families have enrolled additional children at this venue which is very exciting and one family has left the area.

The children have been creating animals that are connected to the focus story in the cranky bear series that educators have been reading to the children. The children have been provided opportunities to decorate lion faces and use fine motor skills with scissors for cutting out the face. To extend on this learning the children had their own outline of their bodies traced and were able to decorate it so that it resembled one of the characters from the books.

The children have been participating in sensory experiences such as coloured spaghetti in trays. The children were very engaged with this experience particularly exploring the texture of the spaghetti.



North Star

Numbers at North Star continue to grow as the year progresses. Some children have siblings that already attend the service and other new families have used the service in previous years.

As part of a child's individual learning cycle, educators implemented a Volcano experience as an extension activity. This experience turned into a whole group experience as the children were interested in learning what was going to happen in the science experiment, and they could not believe the final result.

Educators have introduced a new song to the children, it is all about self-control and this is a particular area where educators are working with the children as part of the educator goals. The children really responded to this experience very well and all participated when this was provided in our music/movement program.

As a part of the language group time experience and as the children returned from their school holidays, educators took the opportunity to encourage the children to share with the group what they did in their holidays. This is building the children's confidence to talk in small group discussions and become confident and involved learners.

The children have been very involved with the Duplo that has been a new experience provided for the month. The children have been able to express to the educators their ideas about what they are building as they have been constructing towers, sheds and a variety of other creations.

The children have shown their own interests in the home corner area with the kitchen and resources included in this area. This has provided the children opportunities to engage with other children which promotes social play, building relationships with other children and being able to transfer knowledge from one setting to another.

Outside the children found opportunities to promote resourcing their own learning. The children created their own learning experience of what's the time Mr Wolf. This activity only started with a couple of children and finished with all the children in the group.



Yallaroi

Numbers are growing steadily at this venue and every week more families book their children in on a casual basis to meet their family's needs and responsibilities.

As the children who attend this venue have already been at other venues throughout the week the animals creative experience has been further extended. The children have been decorating other animals such as Elephants.

At this venue each week the children have access to the resources that are included in the sandpit. This month the children have been engaged in exploring the sensory textures of the sand as well as playing with the resources such as the trucks and shovels to be playing in situations where social play is promoted.

The children have been engaged in the Basketball hoop activity promoting their gross motor and turn taking skills.



Yetman

There have been some great little MasterChef's at this venue, baking some tasty goodies these experiences were implemented as part of adding children's interests and follow up experiences from individual observations.

Threading with pasta, this learning experience was part of a child's individual learning cycle. Educators implemented this activity to extend the child's fine motor skills and promote this skill by providing other resources from the initial interest. This encouraged the other children to become involved and they made their own individual creations such as necklaces.

The children are starting to build their confidence further with the news experience as part of the school assembly routine. The children from Tharawonga stand out the front at the assembly and share with the school children something they think is special or that has happened throughout the morning such as showing one of the toys they have been playing with. The educators have also been supporting their concentration skills through engaging with the puzzles and the farm balancing game. These experiences also encourage the children to participate in small groups and in solitary play situations.



COMMUNICATIONS, MARKETING AND TOURISM, AND ROXY THEATRE COMPLEX

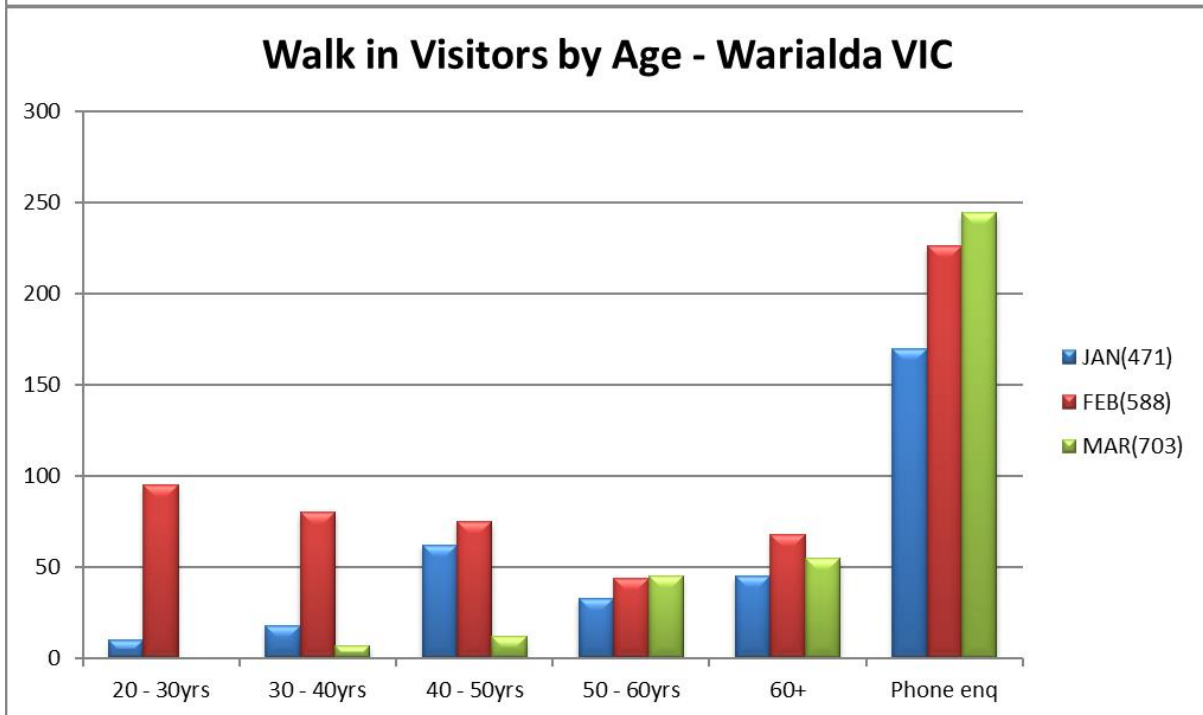
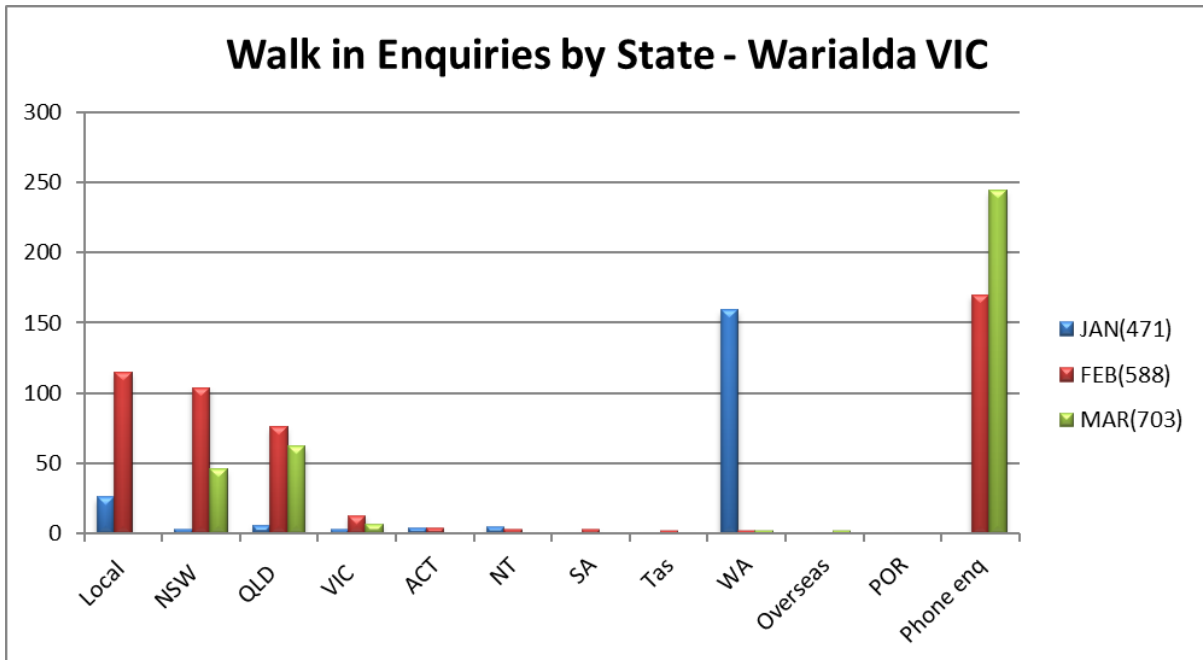
Tourism

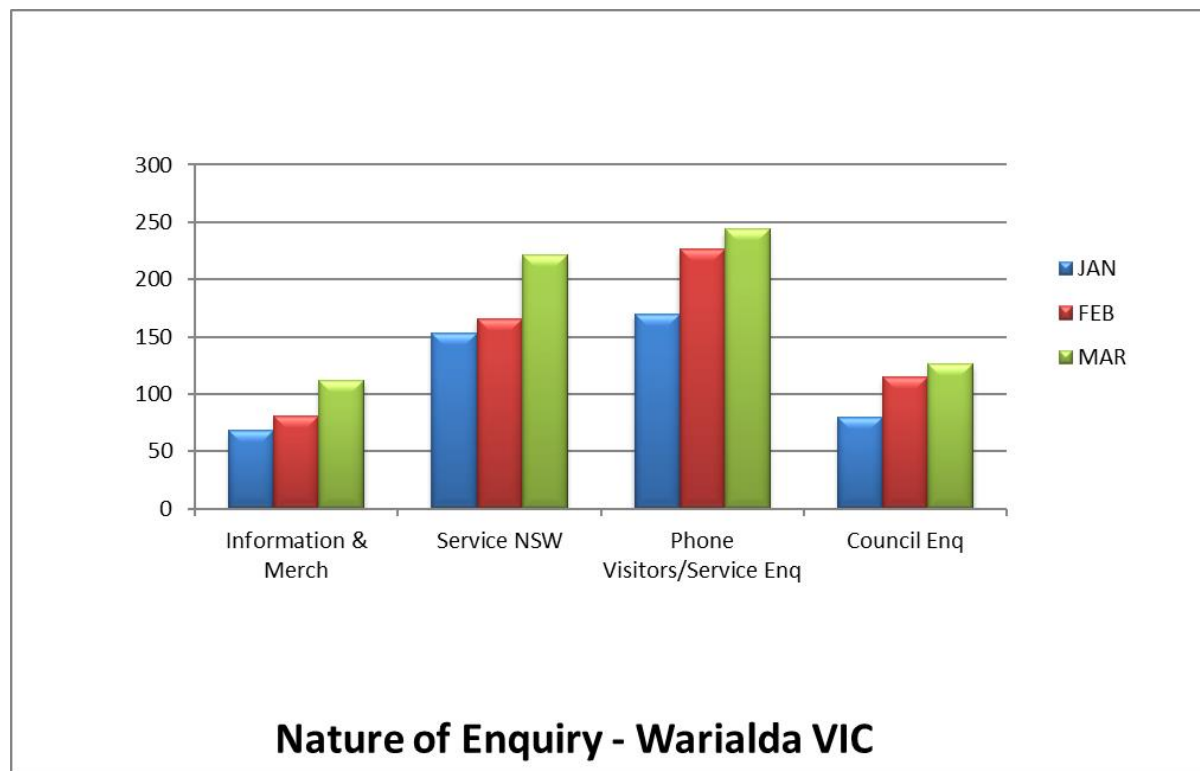
Warialda Visitor Information Centre

January 2024		February 2024		March 2024	
Opening Hours	132	Opening Hours	126	Opening Hours	126
Volunteering Hours	0	Volunteering Hours	3.5	Volunteering Hours	0

Income	Jan	Feb	Mar
Merchandise Sales	\$581.47	\$398.28	\$748.92
Total Monthly Income	\$581.47	\$398.28	\$748.92

Visitors at Warialda VIC	Jan	Feb	Mar
Visitors	68	81	112
RMS	153	166	221
Council	80	115	126
Phone Visitor / Service NSW enquiries	170	226	244
Total	471	588	703





Bingara Visitor Information Centre

January 2024		February 2024		March 2024	
Opening Hours	136	Opening Hours	136.5	Opening Hours	130
Volunteering Hours	24	Volunteering Hours	28	Volunteering Hours	22

Income	Jan	Feb	Mar
Merchandise Sales	\$764.60	\$280.00	\$552.50
Total Merchandise Sales	\$764.60	\$280.00	552.50
VIC Commission received on Event bookings undertaken on behalf of Community Groups – Subtotal	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Monthly Income Bingara VIC	\$764.60	\$280.00	\$552.20
Roxy Tour Income	\$85.00	\$60.00	\$200.00
Visitors at Bingara VIC	300	299	308

Comment/s:

- 1) Tourism Visitation: Visitation during the month, was slightly up compared with previous couple of months.
- 2) TLC Meeting/Workshop/Private Function hire and Bunkhouse accommodation Meeting/Workshop/Private Function hire bookings and Fees received, or Invoices actioned through the VIC amounted to the following:

Meeting, workshop, or private hire fee collection of \$1,700.00 receipted or invoiced via the VIC on behalf of TLC and Bunkhouse Hire accommodation.

3) Campaign Monitor Email Blast send out:

444 emails to general subscriber list plus 32 schools subscriber list for Roxy Theatre Management – Kids Live Show Whalebone and the NWTC’s May the 4th be with you Trivia Night.

Also, a second email blast for Whalebone only, to both general subscribers and the school’s subscriber lists.

4) Roxy Theatre: ticketing/booking site and web site design:

Kids Live show Whalebone

5) Roxy Theatre: Hire bookings and Fees receipted or Invoices actioned through the VIC: Nil

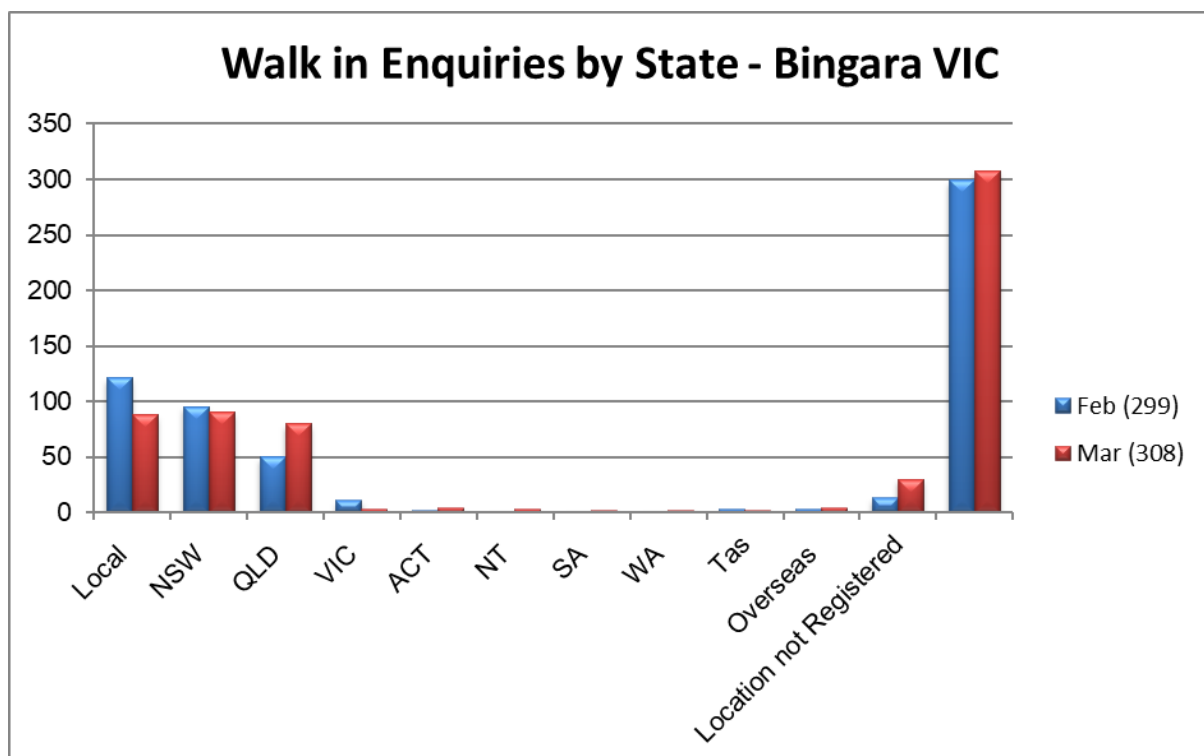
6) Community Groups - ticketing/booking site and assistance:

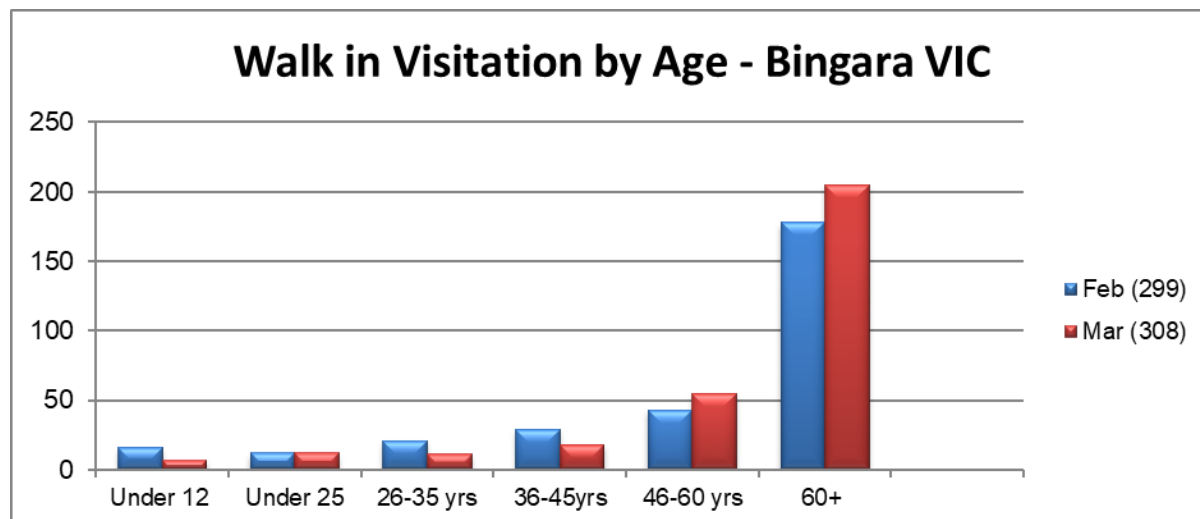
Bingara RSL Country Music Festival Showground Caravan site bookings online via Trybooking and sales the over counted at the VIC \$ 2,952.00

NWTC Ticket sales for May the 4th be with you Trivia Night Sales online via

Trybooking and Sales over the counter at the VIC \$ 950.00

7) Camping Donations - collected by Council rangers and from individuals receipted by the VIC: Honesty box donations \$ 558.10





CUSTOMER SERVICE REQUESTS (CRMs)

CRMs carried forward from:

Department	Outstanding as at 3 April 2024	Completed since 3 April 2024	Outstanding as at 5 May 2024
Technical Services	31	18	13
Environment and Sustainability	16	5	11
Town Utilities Parks and Gardens	16	5	11
Building Services	14	9	5
Total Outstanding	77	37	40

CRMs from 3 April to 5 May 2024:

Department	Received 3 Apr to 5 May 2024	Completed 3 Apr to 5 May 2024	Outstanding as at 5 May 2024
Technical Services	46	1	45
Environment and Sustainability	9	2	7
Town Utilities Parks and Gardens	36	21	15
Building Services	16	0	16
Executive and Community Assets	6	0	6
Organisation and Community Services	0	0	0
Totals	113	24	89

CRMs received since 3 April and still outstanding as at 5 May 2024:

Department	Open
Technical Services	58
Environment and Sustainability	18
Town Utilities Parks and Gardens	26
Building Services	21
Executive and Community Assets	6
Organisation and Community Services	0
Total	129

CONSULTATION

Consultation has occurred within the Organisation and Community Development Directorate.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Policy implications are those relating to the 2023/2024 Operational Plan and the Policies of Gwydir Shire Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The activities carried out by the Organisation and Community Services Department are in line with the 2023/2024 Operational Plan.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The activities undertaken by the Organisation and Community Services Department regarding social and environmental factors are targeted in line with the 2023/2024 Operational Plan.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Monthly Action Progress Report March and April 2024 [7.1.1 - 27 pages]

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:

THAT the report be received.

FURTHER that the Council write to Inverell Shire Council requesting some support towards the operations of both the Tharawonga Preschool at Yetman and CHSP programs operating within Inverell Shire.

FURTHER that this Shire place an appropriate large sign at the Delungra CHSP noting Gwydir Shire's sponsorship of the activity.

(Moved Cr D Coulton, Seconded Cr Egan)

CARRIED

For: Cr J Coulton, Cr Egan, Cr D Coulton, Cr Dixon OAM, Cr Galvin, Cr Matthews, Cr Mulligan and Cr Smith

Against: Nil

7.2 Draft Long Term Financial Plan

File Reference:	NA
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Delivery Program

Goal:	5. Organisational management
Outcome:	5.1 Corporate management
Strategy:	5.1.1 Financial Management and accountability systems
Author:	Helen Thomas, Chief Financial Officer

STAFF DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST Nil

IN BRIEF/SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION

The Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) is a 10-year rolling plan that informs decision-making and demonstrates how the objectives of the Community Strategic Plan and services in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan will be resourced and funded.

TABLED ITEMS Nil

BACKGROUND

Due to Council currently working at capacity with the large amount of Grant funding received there are no scenarios presented, only the Business-as-Usual version. With the impending deadlines for the majority of capital funding, Council will be diligently working at expending these funds in the next few years.

Council is also currently undertaking service reviews and will continue to do so. These results may significantly affect future budgets and services levels across Council.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

THAT the 2024/2025 LTFP be placed on public display for the 28 days' period to allow for community comments and submissions.

ATTACHMENTS

1. 2025 LTFP draft [7.2.1 - 1 page]

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:

THAT the 2024/2025 LTFP be placed on public display for the 28 days' period to allow for community comments and submissions.

(Moved Cr Egan Seconded Cr Matthews)

CARRIED

**For: Cr J Coulton, Cr Egan, Cr D Coulton, Cr Dixon OAM, Cr Galvin, Cr
Matthews, Cr Mulligan and Cr Smith**

Against: Nil

8 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cr D Coulton

Cr D Coulton advised the meeting of the Warialda P and A's sincere thanks to the Gwydir staff who ably assisted during the recent Warialda Show.

Cr Smith

Requested an update on the development of the proposed CBD Park in Warialda and the demolition of the buildings on site. The meeting was advised that car park is being constructed as Stage 1 of the development.

That the Gwydir Shire Council formally acknowledges the former MP Adam Marshall's role as a very effective local State member for the last 7 years.

Cr Mulligan

Is it possible for the residents of Moree Plains Shire who live close to the Croppa Creek to pay some kind of levy that allows access to the Croppa Creek tip? The meeting was informed that the matter would be investigated.

Cr Dixon OAM

Cr Dixon OAM asked when the proposed information screen would be constructed at the Warialda Visitor Information Centre. The meeting confirmed that those present supported the construction of the structure as outlined below. The construction will commence shortly.



Cr Galvin

The meeting was advised that she attended the Gravesend Long Lunch and that the organisers should be congratulated on well organised event.

Cr Egan

Cr Egan advised the meeting that she and Cr Galvin attended The Hon. Adam Marshall's [valedictory speech](#) at State Parliament on 8th May 2024 noting that all the Councils within Adam's electorate were represented.

She also advised the meeting of the great job the Council's staff did in putting up netting in the Bingara Showground Grandstand to stop the birds roosting. It has made sitting in the grandstand far more pleasant.

She also suggested that the incoming Council should consider alternating the community meetings between Croppa Creek and North Star rather than always conducting separate meetings.

Cr. J Coulton

An update on the Plunkett Street Warialda Emergency Accommodation development, which was provided.

The Engineering Director was requested to give an update of the Road Prioritisation Process currently being developed through surveys. This information was provided along with a demonstration of RACAS by Shepherd Asset Management Solutions. The meeting was also advised that the staff intended to conduct further surveys of the rural community concerning roads and was seeking support to offer an incentive to encourage residents to fill in the survey. The surveys will seek detailed information of crop yields and transport options to markets to produce more detailed grant applications based on productivity improvements. This was agreed including the incentive options.

Can all the Councillors be put onto the Gwydir News mailing list, both their Council and Private email addresses? This will be followed up.

The meeting was advised the Annual LGNSW Conference will be held in Tamworth on 17th to 19th November 2024 at Tamworth Regional Conference Centre.

The meeting was requested to consider the drivers of youth crime and the following list was developed:

- Post and Boast Culture;
- Drugs;
- Lack of respect;
- Lack of Consequences; and;
- Poor parenting, inadequate accommodation and secure, safe locations.

The Mayor of Inverell Shire has requested Gwydir's support to hold an inquiry hearing in Inverell regarding the State Parliament *Crime Law & Order in Regional NSW* Inquiry. The meeting agreed to support the request.

An update of the Circular Economy initiative was given especially the process being followed to recoup the funds paid to Green Camel to progress a development application.

An update on the Providence Capital Solar project was requested, which was provided.

The meeting was advised that Ms Jane Sharwood sent the Mayor a photo of a public seat in Murrurundi acknowledging this Shire's assistance during a bush fire event in its shire.

The Mayor requested that he be advised of what action has been taken to address a noise complaint regarding the Warialda Service Centre.

What action has been taken regarding the naming of Nicholson Oval and the roll of honour? This will be followed up.

The continuing issue of electricity outages in Bingara was discussed noting that this is a serious issue that needs to be addressed urgently by Telstra.

It was also discussed and agreed that the proposed June Committee Meetings not be held.

9 CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 11.49 am.