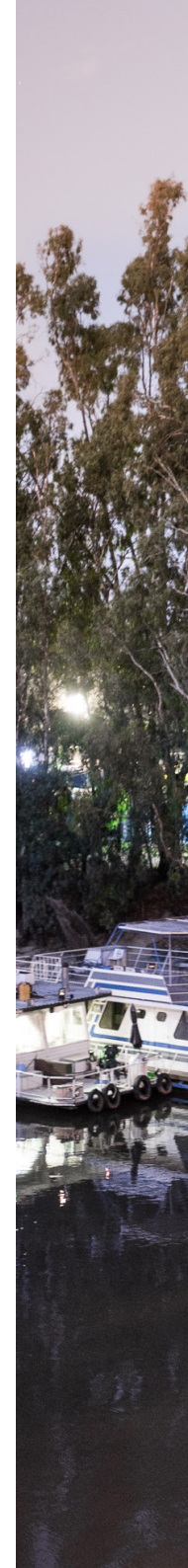




Edward
River
COUNCIL

Annual Report
2018-19



CONTENTS

Overview

Message from the Mayor and General Manager	4
About our Annual Report	6
Financial Statements	7
Our Values	7
Organisational Structure	8
Our Council	9
Mayoral Election	10
Council Meetings	10
355 Committees	10
External Committees	11
Advisory Committees and Working Groups	11
Councillors 2017-20	12

Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

Achieving our Operational Plan	15
Key Achievements 2018-19	16

Major Projects Program

Capital Works

Roads and Related Infrastructure	27
Parks and Gardens	28
Waste Management	28
Water Supply System	28

Statutory Reporting

Rates and Charges Written Off	31
Overseas Visits	31
Councillor Expenses and Provision of Facilities	32
Contracts	32
Mayor and Councillor Professional Development	34
Legal Proceedings	34
Subsidised Private Works	34
Financial Assistance to Others	34
Delegated External Bodies	34

Controlling Interest in Companies	35
Participation in Corporations, Partnerships, Joint Ventures or Other Bodies	35
Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan	35
Disability Inclusion Action Plan	35
General Manager and Senior Staff Remuneration	35
Stormwater Management Services	36
Coastal Protection Services	36
Planning Agreements	36
Environmental Upgrade Agreements	36
Services to Carers	36
Companion Animal Management	37
Inspections of Private Swimming Pools	38
Appendix A: Audited Financial Statements (separate cover)	39
Appendix B: Government Information (Public Access) Act	40
Appendix C: Public Interest Disclosures Act	47

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR AND GENERAL MANAGER

We are pleased to present Edward River Council's 2018-2019 Annual Report. This report highlights our achievements in line with our Edward River 2030 Community Strategic Plan.

Council has had an exciting and productive year with a key focus on the delivery of major projects, enhanced service delivery and improved organisational health.

Major Projects Delivery

A significant focus across 2018-19 was the delivery of our Major Projects Program. Across the year we spent over \$20 million on project delivery.

In November 2018 we were able to officially open the Splash Park at the Deniliquin Swim Centre. This was an exciting project and provides a facility that will be well utilised by young people. Works were also completed at the pool to upgrade the plant room and re-tile the pools.

In April 2019 the new Mountain Bike Trails, a project that has converted an existing kangaroo track to a sign-posted mountain bike trail, were also completed. The trails provide over 12-kilometres of track and are already proving popular with locals and tourists alike.

The Scott's Park Destination Playground was officially opened in July 2019 and we welcomed Steph Cooke, Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Premier to officially open the facility. The park locally referred to as "The Rocket Park" has been completely transformed with a BMX pump-track, half basketball-netball court, flying fox and all-abilities play equipment plus a new barbeque shelter and amenities.

The Blighty Community Netball and Tennis Facility's Grand Opening was held during the final home game in August 2019. The new facility features home, away and umpire change rooms, kitchen/canteen and a large function room with windows overlooking the netball/tennis courts and football ground. We know the Blighty Community will make great use of this inclusive, accessible facility.

The Lagoon Walking Track which connects the Edward River with the lagoon system that runs through the centre of town was also completed. It provides a beautiful path that showcases our connected lagoon system.

Finally, while not completed in 2018-19 the Napier Street Streetscape upgrade was also commenced. This is a significant project that will complete the first stage in rejuvenating our CBD. Working closely with the Napier Street traders this project is progressing well and will be completed in September 2019.

Strong Performance

In June 2019 Council received the results of its Community Satisfaction Survey. This survey used the same questions and methodology as the survey completed in late 2016 after the merger process.

Pleasingly these results showed substantial improvement across the board, with this year's results revealing significant increases on all ten core performance indicators.

Residents were particularly pleased with the appearance of public spaces, emergency and disaster management services, and the quality of our recreational facilities, which have been identified as our top three performing service areas.

These results are a strong reflection of Council's efforts to deliver on community priorities and are a real credit to Council's staff, the work they do in our community and the pride they show in delivering positive outcomes for our residents, ratepayers and visitors.

The other survey area that scored highly was satisfaction with Council's customer service. Improving our customer service has been a significant focus right across Council. In order to continue to improve in this area across 2018-19 we implemented a new customer request system, continued to invest significantly in communication with a particular focus on improving our engagement through social media and introduced the online MiWater portal to provide residents the ability to monitor their water usage online and identify and resolve leaks as soon as possible.

Sound organisational health

The final area of focus has been on improving our internal operations. This focus has been on two key areas. Firstly, a focus has been on improving our financial position and performance. Across 2018-19 we continued to develop and refine our ten-year Long-Term Financial Plan. Across the ten years of this plan Council is now positioned to achieve an annual surplus in seven out of ten years. This is an improvement on what was previously planned and still allows for significant investment in Council's assets with over \$150 million projected to be spent across the ten years.

The second area of improvement has been through process improvement. All of Council's staff received training in LEAN. This methodology focuses on reducing waste and improving efficiency. Council staff received training and implemented a number of improvement projects.

Highlights included restructuring our approach to plant selection and maintenance, streamlining processes for construction projects, mapping and improving development assessments and shifting our focus in water and sewer from reactive to proactive maintenance. All of these projects will provide long term financial benefits for Council and the community.

Finally, we would like to thank the community for all of their support across the 2018-19 year. It has been a productive year and with all of the projects taking place one that created a few challenges along the way. We have been extremely grateful for the communities' support in working through these challenges and always looking at the great opportunities that lay ahead. We look forward to a great 2019-20 full of even more accomplishments.



Mayor, Cr Norm Brennan



General Manager, Adam McSwain

ABOUT OUR ANNUAL REPORT



The Annual Report must be prepared in accordance with the Act and Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and include a copy of the Council's audited Financial Statements. Once adopted, the Annual Report must also be posted on the Council's website.

Performance Reporting

Under the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act) section 428 (1), all Councils in NSW are required to report on their progress in implementing their Delivery Program and the effectiveness of the principal activities undertaken in achieving the objectives in there at which those activities are directed. Performance achievements are set out in *Achieving our Operational Plan 2018-19: Table A*.

Financial Statements

Council's financial statements are provided as an Appendix (Appendix A) to this Annual Report. The Appendix contains the general-purpose financial statements, special purpose financial statements and the special schedules.

Our Values

Values form the basis of our culture; they add meaning to work and provide a basis for consistent planning and decision-making across our organisation. Edward River Council has adopted a set of values which were developed through a consultative process involving staff across the whole organisation.

All Council employees are expected to demonstrate our corporate values when undertaking their roles and making decisions that impact our customers and community:

	Leadership We seek to provide strong leadership for our community and customer. We lead with empathy and integrity.
	Excellence We strive for excellence and continuous improvement: in who we are, in how we work, and in how we deliver results for our community.
	Accountability We are open, honest and transparent in how we do business, the decisions we make and the actions we take.
	Delivery We are committed to delivering results for our community and outstanding service to our customers.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Edward River Council's organisational structure comprises two Directorates and the Office of the General Manager. Together, the General Manager and two Directors comprise the organisation's Executive Management Team and are responsible for providing the Organisation with strong effective leadership in delivering a diverse range of Council services to the community.



OUR COUNCIL

Office of the General Manager

The Office of the General Manager provides executive support to the Mayor and Councillors and is responsible for managing Council's relationships with Federal, State and local governments, as well as residents and ratepayers of the Edward River region. Its functions and services include:

- Advocacy, regional partnerships and government relations;
- Civic events and Citizenship ceremonies;
- Community engagement and development;
- Council Business and meeting support;
- Mayor and Councillor secretarial support;
- Community and Economic Development, and
- Environmental Services.

Corporate Services Directorate

Corporate Services is responsible for providing corporate support and financial services to the organisation's internal and external customers, including managing the systems and processes required to enable outstanding service delivery to our customers. Its functions and services include:

- Customer service;
- Finance, rates and revenue;
- Governance;
- Integrated planning and reporting;
- Human resources;

- Information communications technology;
- Records management;
- Internal audit;
- Workplace health and safety; and
- Communications and media relations.

Infrastructure Directorate

Infrastructure is responsible for the operation, maintenance and renewal of Council's asset infrastructure and open spaces, including parks and gardens and recreational reserves. Its functions and services include:

- Asset management;
- Engineering and technical services;
- Footpaths, kerb and gutter;
- Open space, parks and gardens, and recreation facilities;
- Roads and transport infrastructure;
- Stormwater drainage; and
- Water and sewerage services.

OUR COUNCIL

Edward River Council's governing body comprises of nine Councillors, all of whom were elected at the inaugural elections held on 9 September 2017. Councillors are elected to represent the entire region, rather than individual wards, with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor being elected by the Councillors.

Councillors are responsible for making decisions and developing policies that guide the activities of the Council. This role is performed at the Council and Committee meetings, where the decision-making takes place. Our Councillors also provide leadership and guidance to the General Manager and facilitate communication between the Council as a governing body and the community.

Mayoral Election

The Council elected Cr Norm Brennan as Mayor and Cr Pat Fogarty as Deputy Mayor at its Ordinary Meeting in September 2017. Both Cr Brennan and Cr Fogarty were elected to their respective positions for a two-year term until September 2019.

Council Meetings

In 2018-19, Council held eleven (11) Ordinary Meetings and five (5) Extraordinary Meetings. A total of two (2) presentations from the gallery were made to Council during 2018-19.

355 Committees

Under section 355 of the Local Government Act, Council may delegate some of its functions to a Committee of Council. Council uses this delegation to appoint community members to manage its facilities or functions through a committee or board of management.

During the reporting period, Council had constituted the following committees under section 355 of the Act:

- Blighty Hall Committee;
- Boooroban Hall Committee;
- Conargo Hall Committee;
- Deniliquin Multi-Arts Centre Committee;
- Edward River Community Garden Committee;
- Edward River Concert Band Committee;
- Edward River Users Group;
- Long Paddock Committee;
- Mayrung Hall Committee;
- Memorial Park Users Advancement Committee;
- Pretty Pine Hall Committee;
- Rotary Park Advancement Committee; and
- Wanganella Hall Committee.

External Committees

During the reporting period, Council was represented on a range of advisory committees, community groups, industry bodies and advocacy organisations, including:

- Central Murray County Council;
- Central Murray Regional Library;
- Country Mayors Association;
- Deniliquin/ Conargo Area Local Emergency Management Committee;
- Edward River Country Education Fund;
- Murray Darling Association;
- Murray Valley Industry Park;
- NSW Rural Fire Service Liaison Committee (Mid Murray Zone);
- NSW Rural Fire Service Zone Bushfire Management Committee;
- Riverina and Murray Joint Organisation of Councils;
- South West Music Regional Conservatorium; and
- Werkitya Kalpal Deniliquin and District Indigenous Working Party
- Local Traffic Committee

Advisory Committees and Working Groups

A number of advisory committees and working groups have been established or are in the process of being established to enable Council to develop a greater strategic planning capability, including:

- Audit Risk and Improvement Committee;
- Airport Advisory Committee; Australia Day Committee;
- Cemetery Advisory Committee;
- Deniliquin Promotional Advisory Group;
- Disability Advisory Committee
- Edward River Tidy Towns Committee;
- Floodplain Risk Management Advisory Committee;
- Open Space and Public Space Strategic Working Group;
- Town Hall Revitalisation Group.

OUR COUNCILLORS 2017-20

Elections for Edward River Council were held on 9 September 2017, at which nine Councillors were elected for a three-year term. Following the local government election and the swearing in of the Councillors, Cr Norm Brennan and Cr Pat Fogarty were elected Mayor and Deputy Mayor, respectively.



Cr Norm Brennan
Mayor



Cr Pat Fogarty
Deputy Mayor



Cr Peta Betts



Cr Marg Bull



Cr Ashley Hall



Cr Norm McAllister



Cr Peter McCrabb



Cr Nick Metcalfe



Cr Mac Wallace

INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK



The Local Government Act 1993 (the Local Government Act) requires all councils in NSW to operate within the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, which allows councils to draw their various plans together, understand how they interact and get the maximum leverage from their efforts by planning holistically for the future.

Community Strategic Plan

Sitting above all other council plans and policies in the planning hierarchy, the Community Strategic Plan identifies the main priorities and aspirations of the community and provides a clear set of strategies to achieve this vision. While Council has a custodial role in preparing and maintaining the Community Strategic Plan, other stakeholders, including NSW Government agencies and community groups, may also be engaged in delivering the long-term objectives of the Plan.

Resourcing Strategy

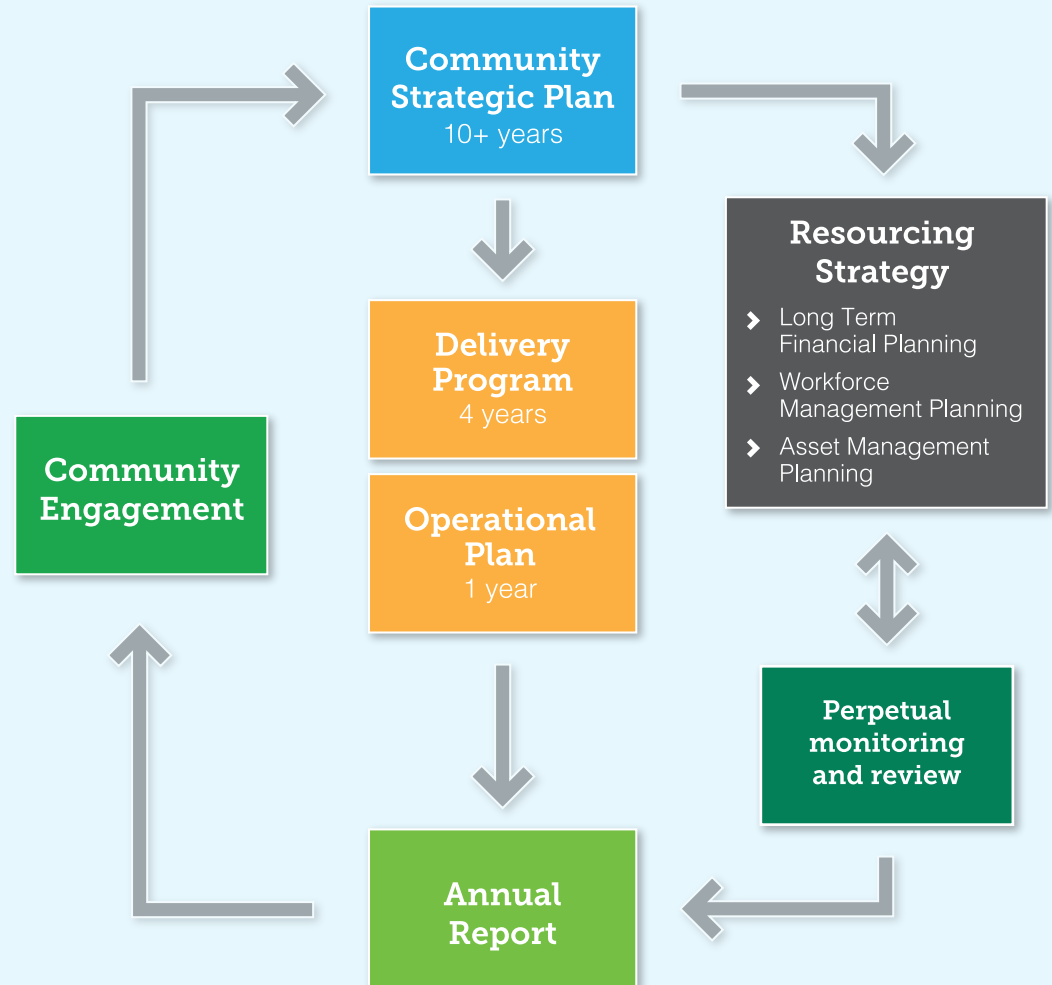
The Resourcing Strategy articulates how Council intends on delivering the Community Strategic Plan. The Strategy consists of three components: Long Term Financial Planning, Workforce Management Planning, and Asset Management Planning.

Delivery Program

The Delivery Program translates the goals of the community, as contained in the Community Strategic Plan, into actions. The Program sets out the principal activities to be undertaken by Council in implementing the Plan within the resources available under the Resourcing Strategy.

Operational Plan

Spelling out the details of the Delivery Program, the Operational Plan lists the individual projects and activities that will be undertaken for the year to achieve the commitments made in the Delivery Program.



ACHIEVING OUR OPERATIONAL PLAN 2018-19

The Local Government Act requires Council to report on the effectiveness of the principal activities in implementing the Delivery Program and Operational Plan in its Annual Report. Table A - details the performance status summary.

Table A: Performance Status Summary							
Edward River 2030 Strategic Outcome		Progress					
		Completed		Behind Plan Programmed for delivery in 2018-19		Not Completed Not programmed for delivery in 2018-19	
		#	%	#	%	#	%
1	A great place to live	5	41.60	6	50.00	1	8.40
2	A prosperous and vibrant economy	9	69.20	4	30.80	0	0.00
3	A valued and enhanced natural environment	9	56.25	7	43.75	0	0.00
4	A region with quality and sustainable infrastructure	7	63.64	4	36.36	0.	0.00
5	A community working together to achieve its potential	21	91.30	2	8.70	0	0.00
TOTAL		51	68.00	23	30.70	1	1.30

98.7 per cent of Council's annual Operational Plan actions for the year ending 30 June 2019 were successfully completed (68 per cent) or are progressing well for successful completion in the Operational Plan 2019-2020 (30.7 per cent). Only 1.3 per cent were not completed and not progressing into the Operational Plan 2019-2020.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2018-19

Notable achievements, aligned to the Community Strategic Plan, for the 2018-19 period include:

1. A great place to live

- A revised Advocacy Strategy for the improvement of health, medical and transport services and infrastructure was developed.
- Implementation of a new Doctor incentive program to assist in attracting medical practitioners
- Continued delivery of projects funded through the Stronger Country Communities and Stronger Communities Programs, such as:
 - Lagoon to River Walk Signage Project
 - Scott's Park Destination Playground Project
 - Deniliquin Swim Centre Revitalisation and all Abilities Access Upgrade
 - Blighty Community netball and tennis facilities
 - Urban Road Infrastructure Program, including Napier Street and Crispe Street upgrades
 - Planning for the Deniliquin Town Hall Revitalisation Project
- The companion animals desexing and microchip programs
- A strategic review of council's committee framework
- Renewed the Deniliquin alcohol-free zones for period 2018-2022
- Partnered with Victorian and NSW Councils to receive Federal funding for the upgrade of the Deniliquin CBD and Riverfront.
- Advocated to receive \$5 million funding for the partial redevelopment of the Deniliquin hospital.
- Delivered a variety of community events including International Womens Day.

2. A prosperous and vibrant economy

- A three-year tourism strategy that included the rebranding of the Visit Deni destination marketing and launched new Visit Deni promotional footage for a range of social media channels. This earned the campaign:
 - a Gold Award in the Destination Marketing category at the 2018 Riverina Murray Regional Tourism Awards
 - Bronze in the Destination Marketing category at the 2018 NSW Tourism Awards
 - Gold award at the 2019 NSW Local Government Awards.
- The Edward River signage strategy was commenced for implementation in 2019-20
- A significant program of business events during Small Business Month including the Inaugural Major Projects Summit with over 120 local business participating.

3. A valued and enhanced natural environment

- The annual Rural Tree Scheme was delivered
- Transition of Crown Lands into Council's community land management program
- The North Deniliquin Levee Feasibility and Design was funded and completed
- Commenced development of the Waste Management Strategy, Industrial Land Strategy, and Rural Living Strategy.
- Commenced development of an Edward River Local Environment Plan
- A new state of the art Rural Fire Service control centre facility was delivered.

4. A region with quality and sustainable infrastructure

- Finalised Council's Asset Management Plans and 10-year plant replacement program, and incorporated these into the Long-Term Financial Plan
- Completed the Capital Works renewal program for:
 - Gravel Road re-sheeting
 - Reseals
 - Sealed road rehabilitation
 - Kerb and Gutter
- Completed the rollout of the new smart water meter program
- Completed the water main rehabilitation program
- Developed a three (3) year Capital Works renewal plan for major asset classes such as roads, kerb and gutter and footpath.
- Commenced a project to update asset condition scores for all roads and road related asset classes.

5. A community working together to achieve its potential

- Launched a video promotions program for Council services, activities and events to compliment Council's social media and written communication initiatives
- Implementing Council's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan
- Established Council's Audit Risk and Improvement Committee
- Commencement of a new Enterprise Wide Risk Management System
- Implemented the LEAN process improvement program across Council
- Progressed options to revitalise the Estates Building and Civic Precinct
- Implemented the new Office of Local Government legislative reform for Code of Conduct and Code of Meeting Practice.
- Commenced review of Council's Policy Register and Conflict of Interest Register.

MAJOR PROJECTS PROGRAM

The Stronger Communities Fund was established by the NSW Government to provide all new councils, including Edward River Council, with funding to kick-start the delivery of projects that improve community infrastructure and services.

In 2016-17 Council received \$10 million and in 2018-19 received \$3.4 million through the Stronger Communities Fund. The primary objective of this funding is to provide merged Councils with funding to spend on priority Community initiatives and projects. Subsequent to this funding, Council has applied for and been successful in receiving further funding to prioritise community-based infrastructure projects. Each of these funding streams and the projects they fund are outlined in the following tables.

Project – Stronger Communities Fund (Round 1)	Grant Amount
Deniliquin Swim Centre Revitalisation	\$880,000
Community Masterplans and Initial Works	\$2,105,000
Deniliquin Regional Sports and Entertainment Stadium Extension	\$540,000
Blighty Community Netball and Tennis Facility	\$550,000
Deniliquin Children's Centre Extension	\$500,000
Deniliquin Netball Facility Improvement Works	\$320,000
Rural Villages Beautification Project	\$300,000
Beach to Beach Walk Connectivity Improvements	\$300,000
Deniliquin Community Facility Refurbishments	\$165,000
Urban Road Infrastructure Program	\$2,390,000
Deniliquin Airport Heritage Centre Development	\$50,000
Unallocated Funding for New Council	\$500,000
Total	\$8,600,000

Project – Stronger Communities Fund (Round 2)	Grant Amount
Cressy Street CBD	\$1,200,000
Riverfront Enhancement	\$700,000
Waring Gardens Upgrade	\$640,000
Lagoon Walk Road Treatments	\$250,000
Truck Stop	\$400,000
Peppin Heritage / Visitor Centre Upgrade	\$200,000
Total	\$3,390,000

Project – Stronger Country Communities (Round 1)	Grant Amount
Scott's Park - A Destination Playground	\$676,620
Deniliquin Swin Centre - All Abilities Facilities	\$295,796
Lagoons to River Walk	\$297,425
Total	\$1,269,841

Project – Stronger Country Communities (Round 2)	Grant Amount
The Deniliquin Town Hall	\$1,315,170
Deni Central Streetscape (Napier Street)	\$401,500
Deniliquin Memorial Park	\$786,000
Deniliquin RAMS Facility Upgrade	\$559,000
Deni Lawn Tennis Club	198,910
Deni Golf Club	\$111,170
Total	\$3,371,750

The Federal Government released additional funding under the Murray Darling Basin Regional Economic Diversification Funding programme to Council in February 2019 for the following projects:

Murray Darling Basin Regional Economic Diversification Funding	Grant Amount
Deniliquin Industrial Park Road Works	\$350,000
Crossing Cafe and Peppin Heritage Centre Revitalisation	\$300,000
Rotary park Earthworks	\$100,000
Total	\$750,000

The Commonwealth has released additional funding through the Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities 'Our Region Our River' Regional Growth Fund, Edward River Council has been allocated funding of \$1,673,080 for the following Projects:

Regional Growth Fund	Grant Amount
Riverfront Revitalisation	\$550,000
CBD Revitalisation	\$1,123,080
Total	\$1,673,080

Major Projects Program

Some of the highlights of the projects completed in 2018-19 through the Major Projects Program include:

Scott's Park

Scott's Park children's playground is considered the premier playground for children within Deniliquin.

Through community consultation it was identified that some major investment was required to reactivate this key asset.

The consultation process identified that the community would like some of the original play equipment to be retained as well as the introduction of new equipment. Additional infrastructure was installed to also engage older children within the park.

Works were substantially completed in 2018-19 with the refurbishment and reactivation of the younger children's area. A pump track, new half court basketball and netball courts, new all abilities access toilet and a BBQ shelter were all installed.



Deniliquin Swim Centre Revitalisation

The Deniliquin Swim Centre was revitalised through an ongoing investment of \$1.02m into the facility.

Works completed in 2018-19 include:

- The construction of an all ability Water Play facility
- The relining of the three outdoor pools
- Work to renew and improve the plant room for the pools.

Additional works that commenced in 2018-19 and will be completed in 2019-20 include a major refurbishment of the changing rooms to enable all abilities access and to improve the experience for the community.

Deniliquin Regional Sports and Entertainment Stadium Extension

Council are working closely with Deniliquin Sports Park Incorporated to modernise and improve the facilities at the Deniliquin Regional Sports and Entertainment stadium.

The works include:

- Reconstruction of the existing timber suspended courts and surface to modern standards
- Construction of an additional 3 bays to the stadium that will include an additional basketball court, indoor cricket and a gymnastics area.

This development will improve and support the sports currently provided within the Centre and support growth into the future.

The designs and tender process for this development were complete in 2018-19. Works will commence in early 2019-20 with a completion date of February 2020.

Rural Fire Service – Fire Control Centre

Council, in conjunction with the NSW Rural Fire Service, completed construction of the Mid Murray Zone Fire Control Centre. The Centre is located at the Deniliquin Airport and provides administration offices and training rooms for RFS staff as well as state of the art operations rooms for coordinating and managing large rural fire events. The Centre also acts as an Emergency Operations Centre during other emergencies, such as floods, supporting the Local Emergency Management Committee and other organisations.

Cost of construction for the project was \$5m and local contractors were utilised extensively throughout the project.

The project was completed in April 2019.

Blighty Community Netball and Tennis Facility

Council has constructed a new purpose-built community Netball and Tennis Clubhouse at the Blighty Sport and Recreation Reserve. With the addition of the new Clubhouse, the Blighty Reserve will cement its place as one of the region's premier sporting facilities.

Construction was completed in July 2019.



Community Masterplans and Initial Works

Over \$2 million was invested into developing and delivering on the first stage of works on long-term strategic plans for:

- Deniliquin Riverfront - \$750,000;
- Deniliquin Town Centre Streetscape - \$750,000;
- An Arts and Culture Precinct - \$475,000; and
- A Recreation Strategy and Memorial Park Masterplan - \$130,000.

By the end of June 2019, the Deniliquin CBD Masterplan was complete. This plan also included a Riverfront Masterplan.

The Recreation Strategy and Memorial park Masterplans had been progressed and will be complete in early 2019-20.

Detailed streetscape designs, including new pavement, landscaping, kerb and gutter, and road resurfacing were complete for Napier Street. The works for this project were tendered and construction is programmed for completion in 2019-20.

Deniliquin Netball Facility Improvement Works

Funding was allocated towards works for the netball facility at Hardinge Street and Memorial Park reserves.

Works were completed to resurface the netball courts at the Hardinge Street Oval. This work also included improvements to the spectator area.

Designs are progressing to complete resurfacing and improvement works at the Deniliquin Netball Association netball courts at Memorial Park.



Rural Villages Beautification Project

Council allocated \$300,000 towards improvement projects at each of the rural villages. Through consultation with each of the communities, projects were identified that would provide social benefits to each of the communities.

These projects all commenced in 2018-19 and will be complete in 2019-20.

- Blighty Recreation Reserve - Entry upgrade including new entry sign;
- Boooroorban - new picnic tables, access ramp, new concrete on the front interpretive signage;
- Conargo - heritage walk and 13 new signs;
- Mayrung- new childproof fence, installation of memorial gates, relocate fencing, raised the storeroom floor and added a flagpole;
- Pretty Pine - new pump shed, new covered walkway, new cooktop and new cricked mat;
- Wanganella - new tennis lights to the standard of "social play" and a new barbeque.



Urban Road Infrastructure Program

Through the \$2.39 million Urban Road Infrastructure Program, Council will deliver much-needed upgrades to some key streets and footpaths throughout the Deniliquin town area. Works will include the road pavement reconstruction, kerb and gutter replacement and road reseals.

The identified streets include:

- Crispe Street from Wick Street to Wood Street
- Intersection of Napier Street and Harfleur Street
- Victoria Street from Short Street to Box Street
- Wood Street.

The designs and detailing for each of these projects were completed in 2018-19. Construction has commenced on Crispe Street and the Harfleur and Napier Street intersection.

These works will be complete in 2019-20.



Stronger Communities Grants Program

In addition to the Major Projects Program, \$1.4 million of the original round 1 Stronger Communities Fund was provided as set out in Table B under the Stronger Communities Grant Program.

The Stronger Communities Grants Program was completed in 2018-19.

Table B - details the projects, including recipients funded through the life of this program.

TABLE B: Stronger Communities Grants Program

Project	Purpose
Blighty School P&C	Playscape development
Blighty Football Club	Timekeepers' box upgrade
Bush Poets	Mobile stage, sound and light
Deniliquin & District Cricket Association	Replace and upgrade facilities
Deniliquin & District Historical Society	Rejuvenation of museum
Deniliquin Aero Club	Redesign/rebuild outdoor roof area
Deniliquin Boat Club	Riverbank Redevelopment
Deniliquin Bowling Club	Installation of disabled toilets
Deniliquin Bridge Club	Chairs
Clay Target Club	Amenity block upgrade
Deniliquin CWA	Maintenance and renovations
Deniliquin Drovers	Lighting
Deniliquin Field and Game	Shooting range relocation
Genealogy Group	Updating outdated equipment
Deniliquin Girl Guides	Hall maintenance

TABLE B: Stronger Communities Grants Program	
Project	Purpose
Golf Club	Fairway mower
Gymnastics Club	Equipment for safety and development
High School P&C	Kitchen appliance upgrade
Deniliquin Lawn Tennis Club	Court Lighting
Little Athletics	Timing equipment
Deniliquin Men's Shed	Upgrade facilities
Deniliquin Netball Committee	Shelter Shed
Deniliquin North Public School P&C	Irrigation System
Deniliquin Outdoor Pools Inc.	Pool ladder and lane ropes
Pistol Club	Clubhouse/air pistol range
Deniliquin Pony Club	Shed
Deniliquin Racing Club	Machinery and equipment storage shed
Rams Football and Netball Club	Storage Shed/seating
Deniliquin Rhinos	Equipment upgrade
Deniliquin Sports Park	Storage building

TABLE B: Stronger Communities Grants Program	
Project	Purpose
Deniliquin Truck Show & Industry Expo	Wall of Fame
Deniliquin Ute Muster	Purpose-built event sales facility
Edward School P&C	Shade shelter
Kurrajong Waratah	Yallambee: Cool room freezer
Mayrun Public School P&C	Safety development and enhancement
Navorina Ladies Auxiliary	Equipment upgrade
Navorina Nursing Home	Floor beds
Outback Theatre for Young People	While You Were Sleeping
Pastoral & Agricultural Society	PA System
Riding for the Disabled	Concreting and uniforms
Rotary/Lions/Soroptimist/RSL - Joint Project	Liberty Swing
Rovers Football Club	Construction of change rooms
South West Music	Instruments for kids
Deniliquin Public School	Deniliquin Public School project - completion

CAPITAL WORKS



This section is Edward River Council's Capital Works Report as required under the Capital Expenditure Guidelines, issued by the Department of Premier and Cabinet pursuant to section 23A of the Local Government Act 1993. Council had a successful year in the delivery of Council's Capital Works Program. The highlights include:

Roads and Road Related Infrastructure

Gravel Roads

Approximately \$1 million for gravel roads re-sheeted across the Edward River Council area such as:

- 7km of Oro Road
- 5.5km of Henderson Road
- 6.5km of Cowans Road
- 4.5km of Carrigan Park Road
- 20km of other roads

Resealing

\$1.027 million for urban and rural roads resealing. This work protects the road pavements and reduces the likelihood that the roads will need a costly rehabilitation in the near future:

Works completed in 2018-19 include:

- \$200,000 resealing the airport taxi ways
- \$125,000 Lakers Road
- \$125,000 Wanganella -Moulamein Road
- \$155,000 on Eastman's Road
- Balance spent across a further 10 roads.

Road Renewal and Kerb & Gutter

Council focussed on the renewal of road and kerb and gutter to segments of roads that required both asset types to be renewed. This provides better outcomes to the community and efficiency in the delivery of the work.

Some of the works completed in 2018-19 include:

- Russell Street, between Wood and Sloane Streets - reconstruction of the full road pavement and the kerb and gutter along both sides of the road;
- Butler Street, between Poitiers and Maher Streets - reconstruction of the road shoulders and kerb and gutter along both sides of the street as well as resealing the full road width;
- Harfleur Street, between Hardinge Street and Macauley Streets - reconstruction of the kerb and gutter along both sides of the street, with the reconstruction of the pavement continuing in 2019-20;
- Pakenham Street, from Waring Street towards Hetherington Street - construction of new kerb and gutter and road shoulder along the western side of the street;
- George Street, from Hardinge Street towards Napier Street - reconstruction of the kerb and gutter along the northern side of the street.

Footpath

The following footpath renewals were completed during the 2018-19 financial year:

- Hatch Street, Sloane Street and South School crossing ramps;
- Wellington Street between Sloane and Wood Street;
- Wood Street from Wellington Street to Junction Street;
- Edwardes Street between Civic Place and Harrison Street;
- Macauley Street from Community Centre entrance to Charlotte Street;
- Wood Street from Macauley Street to Russell Street;
- George Street from Russel Street to Macauley Street.

Plant

Council allocated approximately \$1.5 million towards plant replacement in 2018-19. This included replacement two (2) waste collection trucks and a new street sweeper. These major plant items were tendered and ordered and will be delivered in 2019-20.

Sewerage Services

During the 2018-19 financial year council undertook the following works on the Sewerage System:

- Upgrades to the sewerage pump station at the airport;
- Upgrades to the truck wash system at the Saleyards;
- Refurbishments and minor upgrades at the Sewerage Treatment Plant including new testing equipment and rehabilitation of the drying beds.

Asset Management

Council has adopted Asset Management Plans for the assets that it owns and maintains on behalf of the community. These include plans for the following asset classes:

- Transport: roads, bridges, kerb and gutter, footpaths and airport;
- Flood Mitigation and Drainage, including the levee banks and stormwater drainage systems;
- Buildings;
- Open space and Recreation: parks, gardens, reserves and sporting grounds;
- Water Supply; and
- Sewerage Services.

The plans include information on the value and condition of the assets, the level of service that Council provides to the community in relation to the assets and the anticipated future costs for maintenance and renewal of the assets. Along with the Long-Term Financial Plan, the Asset Management Plans show that Council can sustainably manage its assets into the future.

Parks and Gardens

The parks and gardens teams continued to maintain a high standard through the town and villages. Plans have been developed for Waring Gardens, and these will be implemented in 2019-20.

Waste Management

The draft waste management strategy was placed on public exhibition for community consultation and feedback. The final strategy will be adopted in the 2019-20 financial year.

Water Supply System

During the 2018-19 financial year Council undertook the replacement of the following sections of the water supply system:

- Charlotte Street, from Macauley Street to Butler Street;
- Hardinge Street, from Wood Street to Sloane Street;
- Crispe Street, from Wick Street to Wood Street, as part of the Crispe Street Reconstruction project;
- Harfleur Street, from Hardinge Street to Macauley Street, as part of the Harfleur Street Reconstruction project; and
- Napier Street, from Cressy Street to George Street as part of the Napier Street Reconstruction project.

Council also undertook air scouring of the watermains throughout Deniliquin and Wanganella to improve water quality as well as upgrades at the Water Treatment Plant.

Electronic Water Meters Project

Council completed the replacement of its old water meter infrastructure with new electronic meters. The project was completed in the 2018-19 financial year.

The electronic system now allows property owners to obtain up to date information regarding their water usage, including identifying potential leaks. Access is provided via the MiWater Public Portal.



STATUTORY REPORTING



Overview

Edward River Council's general reporting requirements are set out in section 428 of the Local Government Act 1993 (the Local Government Act) and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (Part 9, Division 7) (the Regulation). Copies of the Act and Regulation can be accessed from www.legislation.nsw.gov.au.

This section also meets Council's reporting requirements under the Companion Animals Act 1998 and Companion Animals Regulation 2008 and the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

Rates and Charges Written Off

Local Government (General) Regulation - Clause 132

Table C details the Rates written off by Council in the reporting period:

Table C: Rates and Charges Written Off	
Category	Amount
Pensioner Rebates - Mandatory	\$147,742
Pensioner Rebates - Voluntary	Nil
Rates – Other	\$34,452
Interest	Nil
Total	\$182,194
* Council receives a subsidy equivalent to 55 per cent of the amount of Pension Rebates.	

Overseas Visits

Local Government Act 1993 – Section 428(4)(b), Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 – Clause 217(1)(a)

The Act and Regulation require Council to report on overseas visits undertaken by Councillors, Council staff or other persons representing Council during the reporting period.

There were no overseas visits undertaken by Councillors, Council staff or other persons representing Council during the 2018-19 reporting period.

Councillor Expenses and Provision of Facilities

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 – Clause 217(1)(a1)

Council's Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities Policy allows for the payment of expenses incurred by, and the provision of facilities to, Councillors in relation to their roles as elected representatives and members of the governing body of Council.

The total amount of fees received by the elected Councillors was \$121,000.

Table D details the amount spent on providing facilities and expenses for elected Councillors during the reporting period.

Table D: Councillor Expenses and Provision of Facilities	
Category	Amount
Office Equipment	\$0
Telephone Calls/Communication	\$16,196.48
Conference and Seminar Attendance	\$3,016.42
Training and Skill Development	\$5,395.45
Interstate Visits	\$0
Overseas Visits	\$0
Spouse Expenses	\$0
Carer Expenses	\$0
General Travel Expenses	\$19,637.03
Total	\$44,245.38

Contracts

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 – Clause 217(1)(a2)

Council is required to disclose the details of each contract awarded for amounts greater than \$150,000, including the name of the contractor, the nature of goods or services supplied, and the total amount payable under the contract. The following major contracts for works and services that were awarded during the reporting period are detailed in Table E.

Table E: Contracts

Contract Number	Contractor Name	Contract Description	Contract Value
2.19.249	Deni Sand & Soil Pty Ltd	Construction of Lagoon to River Walk	\$247,855
2.19.252	Deni Sand & Soil Pty Ltd	Edward River Council flood recovery works	\$751,180
2.19.253	Water feature by design	Construction of Splash Park at Deniliquin Swim Centre	\$434,500
2.19.260	Brandrick & Associates Pty Ltd	Planning and Design services - Deniliquin Town Hall revitalisation and staff Accommodation	\$311,982
2.19.262	Farley Pools Australia Pty Ltd	Deniliquin Swim Centre Refurbishment of outdoor Swimming pools and plant equipment	\$508,598
2.19.263	Precise Build Pty Ltd	Blighty Netball Tennis & Community Sporting Facility	\$499,966
2.19.265	B Green Constructions Pty Ltd	Scotts Park - A Destination Playground	\$667,999
2.19.266	Precise Build Pty Ltd	Deniliquin Swim Centre - Change room and Amenities Refurbishment	\$366,485
2.19.268	Wagga Trucks	Purchase of large tipping truck	\$211,337
2.19.270	Rosmech Sales & Services	Purchase of street sweeper	\$363,118
2.19.271	Wagga Trucks	Purchase of small garbage truck	\$207,413
2.19.272	Blacklocks Truck Centre	Purchase of large garbage truck	\$437,686
2.19.273	Riverina Earthworks Pty Ltd	Reconstruction of Intersection of Barham Rd and Abattoir Rd	\$387,236
2.19.274	Excell Gray Bruni Pty Ltd	Reconstruction of Napier St between Cressy St and George St	\$1,347,786
C2019/05	TSA Contracting Pty Ltd	Charlotte Street Water Mains Refurbishment	\$280,261
C2019/06	Riverina Earthworks Pty Ltd	Road Reconstruction/Rehabilitation Program Works Crispe Street	\$928,611
C2019/12	Insituform Pacific Pty Ltd	Edward River Council Sewer Relining Program - 2018-19	\$329,829
C2019/13	EB Mawson & Sons Pty Ltd	Crushed Rock Delivery to RMS site Riverina (16km east of Deniliquin)	\$200,000

Mayor and Councillor Professional Development

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 Clause 2171 A4

Across 2018-19 the Councillors completed the following training:

- Code of Conduct training

Individual Councillors also completed:

- Australian Institute of Company Directors “Foundations of Directorship” - Cr Margaret Bull
- Australian Institute of Company Directors “Foundations of Directorship” - Cr Patricia Fogarty
- Australian Institute of Company Directors, Company Directors Course Update - Cr Norman McAllister
- Australian Institute of Company Directors “Role of the Chair” - Cr Peter McCrabb

Legal Proceedings

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 – Clause 217(1)(a3)

Council is required to provide a summary of the amounts incurred in relation to legal proceedings, including amounts, costs and expenses paid or received, and a summary of the state of progress of each legal proceeding.

During the reporting period, Council incurred a total of \$28,600 in legal proceedings expenditure. This consisted mainly of \$20,196 in relation to the selling of land as mortgagee. The costs have been fully recovered and the matter has been fully resolved. The balance of \$8,404 was for costs relating to legal claims with members of the public.

Subsidised Private Works

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 – Clause 217(1)(a4)

During the reporting period, Council did not undertake any subsidised works on private land.

Financial Assistance to Others

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 – Clause 217(1)(a5)

Council provided contributions under section 356 of the Local Government Act during the reporting period, totalling \$171,479. These included cash donations, sponsorships and reductions in charges.

Delegated External Bodies

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 - Clause 217(1)(a6)

During the reporting period, the following external bodies exercised functions delegated by Council:

- Blighty Hall Committee (Hall Management);
- Booroorban Hall Committee (Hall Management);
- Central Murray County Council (Noxious Weeds Control);
- Central Murray Regional Library (Library Services);
- Conargo Hall and Recreation Ground Committee (Hall Management);
- Deniliquin Multi-Arts Centre Committee (Hall Management);
- Mayrung Hall Committee (Hall Management);
- Pretty Pine Hall Committee (Hall Management); and
- Wanganella Hall (Hall Management).

Controlling Interest in Companies

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 - Clause 217(1)(a7)

Council did not hold a controlling interest in any companies during the reporting period.

Participation in Corporations, Partnerships, Joint Ventures or Other Bodies

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 – Clause 217(1)(a8)

During the reporting period, Council participated in the following corporations, partnerships and other organisations:

- Country Mayors Association;
- Local Government NSW;
- Riverina and Murray Joint Organisation of Councils;
- Statecover Mutual Limited; and
- Statewide Mutual Limited.

In addition to the above, Council employs a Road Safety Officer under a Memorandum of Understanding between Edward River Council, Murray River Council and Roads and Maritime Services NSW.

Equal Employment Opportunity Management Plan

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 - Clause 217(1)(a9)

Council has adopted a Workforce Management Plan which covers the next two years. The plan addresses the human resourcing requirements of the Community Strategic Plan. We have successfully implemented the first year

of this plan. Included in this strategy are provisions for the development of equal employment opportunity and workforce diversity planning for Edward River Council. This year Council undertook a staff satisfaction survey and continued to review its HR policies.

Staff receive information on their rights and responsibilities for promoting equal employment opportunity and harassment prevention through the employee induction program.

Council provides an Employee Assistance Program, providing staff and their immediate family members access to a free professional counselling service.

Disability Inclusion Action Plan

Disability Inclusion Act 2014 – Clause 13(1)

In July 2017 The Disability Inclusion Access Plan (DIAP) was adopted by council. This plan defines strategies and provides a planning framework to promote inclusion and equity for people with a disability. It addresses areas within the council workforce as well as the general community.

General Manager and Senior Staff Remuneration

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 - Clause 217(1)(b-c)(i-v)

Council employed one General Manager in the reporting period.

For the period 1st July 2018 to the 30th June 2019, Council had four (4) senior officers. One senior officer retired mid July 2018. The total expenditure for the reporting period in respect of employment for these senior staff, including salary, motor vehicle expenses, package benefits, fringe benefits tax, superannuation was \$618,643.

The annual remuneration paid to senior staff for the reporting period was as follows:

- General Manager - \$260,956
- Senior Officers - \$357,687

Stormwater Management Services

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 - Clause 217(1)(e)

Council applied a Stormwater Management Charge of \$12.50 per annum for each residential strata property and \$25.00 per annum for each residential, business and business strata property during the reporting period for the purpose of raising revenue to implement its Stormwater Management Plan.

Coastal Protection Services

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 – Clause 217(1)(e1)

Council does not apply an annual charge for coastal protection services.

Planning Agreements

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 – Section 93G(5)

Council did not have any planning agreements in place during the reporting period.

Environmental Upgrade Agreements

Local Government Act 1993 – Clause 54D and 54P(1)

Council did not enter into any environmental upgrade agreements.

Services to Carers

Carers Recognition Act 2010 (CR Act), s 8(2)

Council is not considered to be a 'human service agency' under the CR Act.

Companion Animal Management

Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 – Clause 217(1)(f)

This statement requires Council to report its activities in enforcing and ensuring compliance with the Companion Animals Act 1998 (Companion Animals Act) and Companion Animals Regulation 2008.

Lodgement of pound data collections returns

The pound collection data for the 2018-19 reporting period was lodged with the Office of Local Government (OLG). Table F summarises the data disclosed to the OLG:

Table F: Summary of Pound Data			
	Cats	Dogs	Total
Seized	69	184	253
Returned to owner	2	33	35
Taken to pound	67	151	218
Released to owner	3	97	100
Rehomed via rehoming shelters	18	34	52
Other	3	0	3
Euthanised	43	20	52

Lodgement of data relating to dog attacks with the Office of Local Government

It is mandatory for all dog attack data to be lodged with the OLG in accordance with the Companion Animals Act. This legislation requires a dog attack to be reported within 72 hours of the incident. In the 2018-19 reporting period, 23 dog attack incidents involving people or animals were recorded.

Animal control expenditure

Council employs one full-time Ranger whose role includes local laws compliance and Companion Animals functions. Minimal improvements were undertaken on the pound during the reporting period with shade sails being erected over the outdoor pens, the erection of clothes lines and other minor improvements such as numbering of pens, purchasing of collars, identification tags etc. Council has been focussed on making improvements to policy and procedure to ensure compliance with the Companion Animals Act. The total expense for this service during the reporting period was \$152,000.

Community education programs

Council completed 4 free microchipping weeks during the reporting period and 93 animals were microchipped. Council also offered a subsidised desexing program and 21 companion animals were desexed through this program. Information relating to Companion Animal Management and responsible pet ownership is also available from Council's website at www.edwardriver.nsw.gov.au.

Euthanasia alternatives for unclaimed animals

The Companion Animals Act provides that microchipped animals be held for a period of 14 days and unidentified animals for seven days. Council releases animals to shelters where those animals are considered to be suitable for rehousing.

Off leash areas

Under the Companion Animals Act, each council must provide at least one off-leash area where dogs can be exercised off-leash during certain hours. While Council does not currently have an off-leash area, a location has been identified in the Edward River Open Space Strategy.

Inspections of Private Swimming Pools

Swimming Pools Regulation 2018 - Clause 23

Council undertakes a regime of inspections of private swimming pools. In the reporting period, Council undertook the following inspections:

Table G: Inspections of Private Swimming Pools	
Type	Number
Inspections of tourist and visitor accommodation	0
Inspections of premises with more than 2 dwellings	0
Inspections that resulted in issuance a certificate of compliance under section 22D of the Act: 28 (This figure includes the inspections of tourist and visitor accommodation)	38
Inspections that resulted in issuance a certificate of non-compliance under clause 18BA of the Regulation	4

APPENDIX A: AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (SEPARATE COVER)



APPENDIX B: GOVERNMENT INFORMATION (PUBLIC ACCESS) ACT



This section is Edward River Council's Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act) Annual Report for the 2018-19 reporting period.

Review of Proactive Release Program

Council continually reviews its proactive release program to identify information that is made publicly available.

Council undertook the following initiatives as part of the review:

- Reviewing the information published on Council's website to ensure that information featured is up-to-date, informative and relevant;
- Continuing a review of Council's Policy Register, which resulted in additional policies being developed and adopted by Council during the reporting period.
- Monitoring matters of public interest to determine whether Council can proactively release further information about those matters; and
- Continued to offer an online community consultation platform to better engage residents in the decision-making process and regularly seek community feedback on Council decisions, projects, programs and activities.

Number of Access Applications Received

During the reporting period Council received two (2) valid formal access to information applications.



Statistical Information about Access Applications

Statistical Information about GIPA Act access applications is outlined in the tables below:

Table A: Number of applications by type of application and outcome*

	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/ deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Media	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private sector business	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (application by legal representative)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (other)	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0

*More than one decision can be made in respect of a particular access application. If so, a recording must be made in relation to each such decision. This also applies to Table B.

Table B: Number of applications by type of application and outcome

	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/ deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Personal information applications*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications (other than personal information applications)	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	1
Access applications that are partly personal information applications and partly other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0

* A personal information application is an access application for personal information (as defined in clause 4 of Schedule 4 to the Act) about the applicant (the applicant being an individual).

Table C: Invalid applications	
Reason for Invalidity	Number of Applications
Application does not comply with formal requirements (section 41 of the Act)	1
Application is for excluded information of the agency (section 43 of the Act)	0
Application contravenes restraint order (section 110 of the Act)	0
Total number of invalid applications received	1
Invalid applications that subsequently became valid applications	1

Table D: Conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure: matters listed in Schedule 1 of the Act	
	Number of times consideration used
Overriding secrecy laws	0
Cabinet information	0
Executive Council information	0
Contempt	0
Legal professional privilege	0
Excluded information	0
Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety	0
Transport safety	0
Adoption	0
Care and protection of children	0
Ministerial code of conduct	0
Aboriginal and environmental heritage	0
* More than one public interest consideration may apply in relation to a particular access application and, if so, each such consideration is recorded (but only once per application). This also applies in relation to Table N.	

Table E: Other public interest considerations against disclosure: matters listed in table to section 14 of the Act	
	Number of times consideration used
Responsible and effective government	0
Law enforcement and security	0
Individual rights, judicial processes and natural justice	0
Business interests of agencies and other persons	2
Environmental, culture, economy and general matters	0
Secrecy provisions	0
Exempt documents under interstate Freedom of Information legislation	0
Total	2

Table F: Timeliness	
	Number of applications
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	3
Decided after 35 days (by agreement with applicant)	0
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	0
Total	3

Table G: Number of applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act (by type of review and outcome)			
	Decision varied	Decision upheld	Total
Internal review	0	0	0
Review by Information Commissioner*	1	0	1
Internal review following recommendation under section 93 of Act	0	0	0
Review by NCAT	0	0	0
Total	1	0	1
*The Information Commissioner does not have the authority to vary decisions but can make recommendations to the original decision-maker. The data in this case indicates that a recommendation to vary or uphold the original decision has been made by the Information Commissioner.			

Table H: Applications for review under Part 5 of the Act (by type of applicant)	
	Number of applications for review
Applications by access applicants	1
Applications by persons to whom information the subject of access applications relates (see section 54 of the Act)	1
Total	2

Table I: Applications transferred to other agencies	
	Number of applications transferred
Agency-Initiated Transfers	0
Applicant-Initiated Transfers	0
Total	0

APPENDIX C: PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURES ACT

Edward River Council is required to report annually on its obligations under section 31 of the Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994 (PID Act) and clause 4 of the Public Interest Disclosures Regulation 2011.

Statistical Information on Public Interest Disclosures

Public Interest Disclosures Regulation 2011 cl 4 (2) (a)-(c)

Table S: Statistical Information on Public Interest Disclosures July 2018 - June 2019	
Number of public officials who made PIDs	0
Total number of PIDS received by Edward River Council	0
Of the total received, the number in each of the following categories:	
• Corrupt conduct	0
• Maladministration	0
• Serious and substantial waste	0
• Government intervention contravention	0
• Local government pecuniary interest contravention	0
Number of PIDs finalised in this reporting period	0

Staff Awareness of Public Interest Disclosures Internal Reporting Policy

Public Interest Disclosures Regulation 2011 cl 4 (2) (e)

During the reporting period, Council undertook the following actions to meet its staff awareness obligations:

- Making Council's Public Interest Disclosure Policy available on both our website and staff intranet; and
- Incorporating information on public interest disclosures into Council's Employee Manual which is provided to all new staff on commencement.
- Placing information about Public Interest Disclosure on staff bulletin boards.

Public Interest Disclosures Internal Reporting Policy

Public Interest Disclosures Regulation 2011 cl 4 (2) (d)

In accordance with the requirements of the PID Act, Council adopted a Public Interest Disclosure Policy on 17 May 2017. The policy, which provides a mechanism for Council Officials to make disclosures about serious wrongdoing, is based on the NSW Ombudsman's model internal reporting policy for local government.

Council's Public Interest Disclosure Policy is available on Council's website.



EDWARD RIVER COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19

180 Cressy Street (PO Box 270)
Deniliquin NSW 2710
T 03 5898 3000 F 03 5898 3029
council@edwardriver.nsw.gov.au
www.edwardriver.nsw.gov.au