



# Annual Report 2016/17



## Cover Page - Artwork, Camden Council Administration Building, Oran Park

### ‘The Tree of Life’

‘The Tree of Life’ is to bring nature into the urban space and raise awareness about the Camden White Gum that symbolises growth and vitality. It represents the passing of time and marking of the landscape. The tree’s branches mirror the branching out and emergence of the diverse social and cultural communities both of the past and present. The Camden White Gum (*Eucalyptus benthamii*), known as the Nepean River Gum, is a threatened native tree occurring along the Nepean River and its tributaries in Camden.

**Artists:** *Gillie and Marc*

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The photographs featured have been obtained from many sources including professional photographers and Council officers – thank you to all for your contribution.

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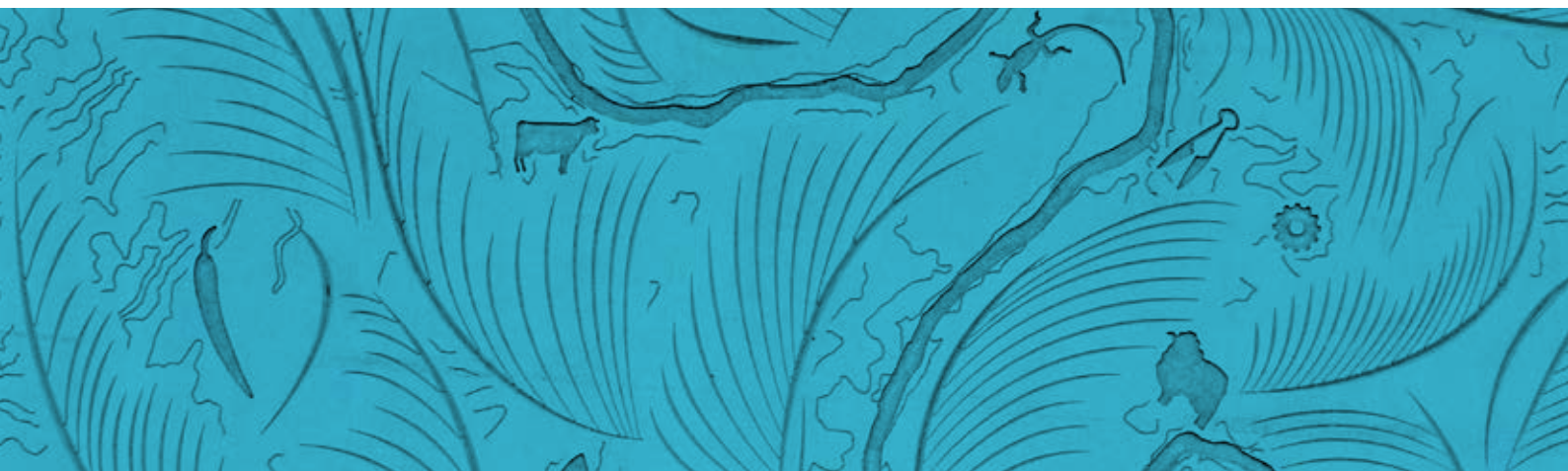
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# Acknowledgement of Country

Council acknowledges the Dharawal people as the traditional custodians of this land and pays our respect to their Elders both past and present and the Aboriginal community.

Council demonstrates its commitment in embracing the culture of our Aboriginal community through a number of projects and events, and the Aboriginal Pathway signs at Kings Bush Reserve are one of several examples.

These Aboriginal Pathway signs were developed in consultation with representatives from the local Aboriginal Community, including the Tharawal Local Aboriginal Land Council, Cubbitch Barta Native Title Aboriginal Corporation and the Mygunyah Camden Aboriginal Residents Group.

The five pathway signs are:

- Use of Plants by the Dharawal People
- River Ecology and Habitat
- Native Plant Classification
- Wetlands Habitat
- Bushland Habitat and Connection





NAIDOC Week Celebration

# Mayor's message



As the Mayor of Camden, I am proud to present Camden Council's 2016/17 Annual Report.

This report highlights Council's key achievements over the past financial year, and provides details of the actions taken to ensure Council meets the community's priorities for the region.

This has been a big year for Council, as we continue to work hard to meet the challenges that come with planning for the development of new urban areas while supporting existing communities and enhancing the liveability and appeal of our area.

This financial year has seen progress in the construction of some extraordinary new facilities that will become landmark public places. The transformation of the Mount Annan Leisure Centre continued, with the second stage of works to

extend and develop the facility. Council allocated \$13.5 million to redevelop this indoor sports centre and ensure it is useful and viable well into the future. When complete, the centre will have the capacity to accommodate a variety of sports in this high quality, regional facility.

Plans to develop a new netball complex to cater to the growth of the community have progressed with the construction of stage one of the Narellan Sports Hub. Development of the 30 outdoor netball courts with amenities and 400 car spaces is part of a strategy to create a regional outdoor sports complex that caters to a variety of sporting codes. These additions will complement the existing hockey and rugby league grounds in Narellan Park. Council has invested \$11 million into this first stage of the development that will ultimately also include athletics facilities and multi-purpose sports grounds in the future.

Construction of the Oran Park Library and Community Centre started in January this year and will provide the community with a place to interact, learn and relax. This is a major development that will foster art, culture and community activities. This facility is nestled beside the Council administration building as part of a new civic precinct that will also include a leisure and aquatic centre and civic plaza.

The administration building has successfully accommodated the business of Council since opening in August 2016. This purpose built civic space is flourishing as a local government operational centre and community facility. The centre's design has set new benchmarks for local government administration facilities and its establishment will leave a legacy for future generations.





While the development of new facilities is important to supporting the wellbeing of the community, Council remains committed to preserving the heritage of the area. Council has committed to investing in revitalising the streetscape of the Camden town centre to help secure its future as a prime tourist attraction and support the local residents and business community.

A single deck carpark facility is being constructed in the Camden town centre to support the increasing demand for parking. When complete, the capacity of the Oxley Street Carpark will be 150 spaces and will include an accessible lift to the upper level.

Community consultation is central to Council decisions about the future of the area, with some of the key collaboration initiatives this year helping to develop the Active Ageing Strategy (2016-2026), Disability Inclusion Action Plan (2017-2021) and the initial phases of the Camden Town Centre Framework. The renewal of parks and playgrounds across the Camden area has been influenced by community feedback as part of the Your Parks, Your Voice campaign that continues to run as parks across the area are identified for upgrade.

This year, Council committed funding to the design and construction of two new major recreational facilities for young people and two water play spaces. Community input gathered during the consultation campaign held in May 2017, will be used to shape the design of these leisure spaces in Elderslie, Harrington Park, Oran Park and Currans Hill.

The transformation anticipated for our area within the next 20 years places us in a unique position to develop business opportunities and attract commercial investment. Council has established the Camden Region Economic Taskforce to bring together key local business leaders and experts to facilitate and drive the economic growth of the area. It will help Council deliver the right conditions to create jobs, attract investment and support the growth of business and industry now and in the future.

I look forward to continuing to work on behalf of our community to meet our shared vision for a sustainable, prosperous and enriched place for all to enjoy.

*Cr Lara Symkowiak*  
**Mayor of Camden**



## General Manager's message



**This year has seen Council continue to advance its organisational design and strengthen its ability to serve the community.**

As the fastest growing local government area in NSW, it has been essential for Council to continue to adapt and evolve in response to changing expectations that come with growing communities. This financial year, the organisational framework was adjusted to provide a stronger focus on sport, community and recreational services, as well as providing the strategic capacity to advocate for the area.

The relocation of the administration centre to Oran Park has helped accommodate an increase in the organisation's capacity. Through careful

consideration and planning, business continuity was maintained during the transition to the new administration building in August 2016, meaning no loss of service to the community. Its internal design has driven a culture of collaboration and customer service excellence, while its technological capabilities help staff to work more efficiently.

The Business Assurance and Risk Committee has become an essential part of Council's governance framework, and has identified improvement opportunities and provided the organisation and the community with independent assurance that the Council is well run. This monitoring role will ensure Council operates efficiently and effectively.

Council continues to grow as a major employer in the Camden Local Government Area to meet the needs of the increasing population. The professional development of staff remains central to the success of the organisation and ensures that best practice is applied and maintained while providing vital services to our community.

Significant improvements have been made to raise the standard of customer service to an exceptional level. As an organisation, we are committed to improving the capacity and effectiveness of this frontline service to support residents and the business operations of Council. In the past year, 83 per cent of enquiries have been resolved in the first call and 85 per cent of calls have been answered within 20 seconds.



The outstanding response rate of the Customer Relations Team is dependent on internal training and knowledge sharing across the business.

The rapid rate of development of towns and suburbs within the Camden Local Government Area continues to be a challenge for Council. Working to manage the growth of the area is fundamental to the role of Council and this is outlined as a priority in the Community Strategic Plan. This financial year, Council determined 1395 DAs, with a construction value of more

than \$1 billion. The level of service has been maintained at a high standard, with this volume of development applications processed within 36 days on average.

It is through the ongoing review of its internal operations and adopting necessary changes that Council will continue delivering an exceptional standard of service to our residents.

*Ron Moore*

**General Manager**



# Your Councillors

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, Council has nine elected Councillors from which the Mayor is elected by a vote of Councillors. The Camden LGA has three wards – North, Central and South – with three Councillors representing each ward.

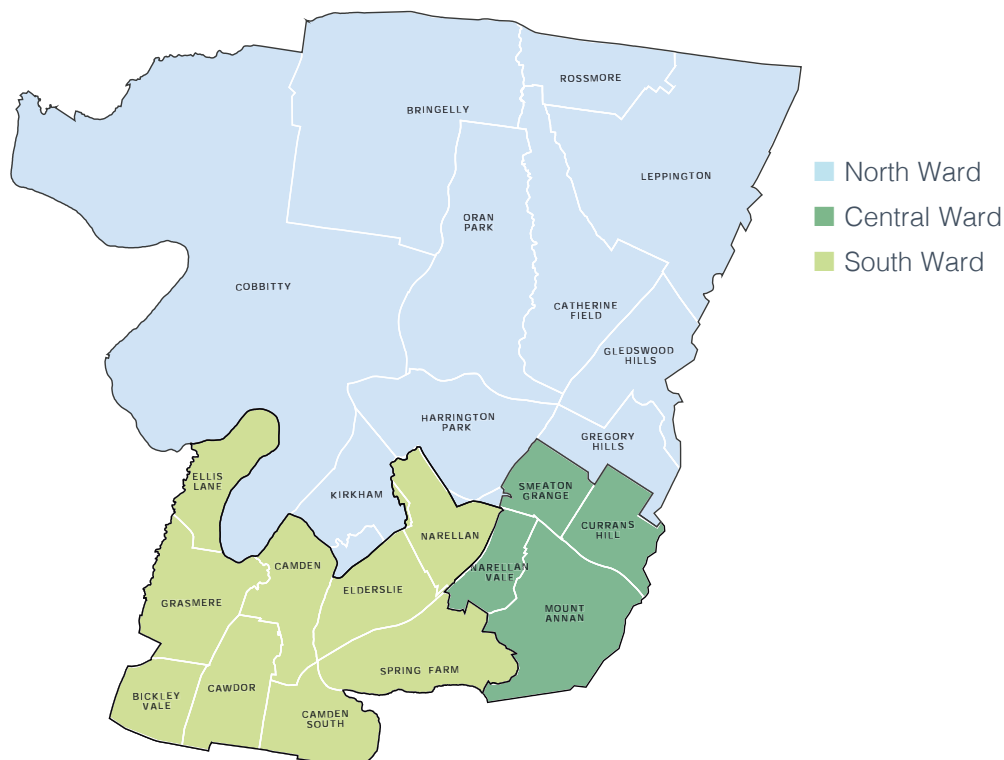
The role of Councillors is to:

- Facilitate communication between the community and Council
- Represent the Camden community and make decisions in the best interest of the public and the environment
- Participate in the review of where Council's resources are allocated

The Mayor has the same role and responsibilities as a Councillor. In addition, the role of Mayor is to:

- preside at meetings of Council
- carry out civic and ceremonial functions of the Mayoral office

The Mayor and Councillors employ and delegate the management and delivery of Council services to the General Manager.



#### NORTH WARD



Cr Lara Symkowiak - Mayor



Cr Cindy Cagney



Cr Michael Morrison

#### SOUTH WARD



Cr Rob Mills



Cr Ashleigh Cagney



Cr Theresa Fedeli  
Deputy Mayor

#### CENTRAL WARD



Cr Eva Campbell



Cr Paul Farrow



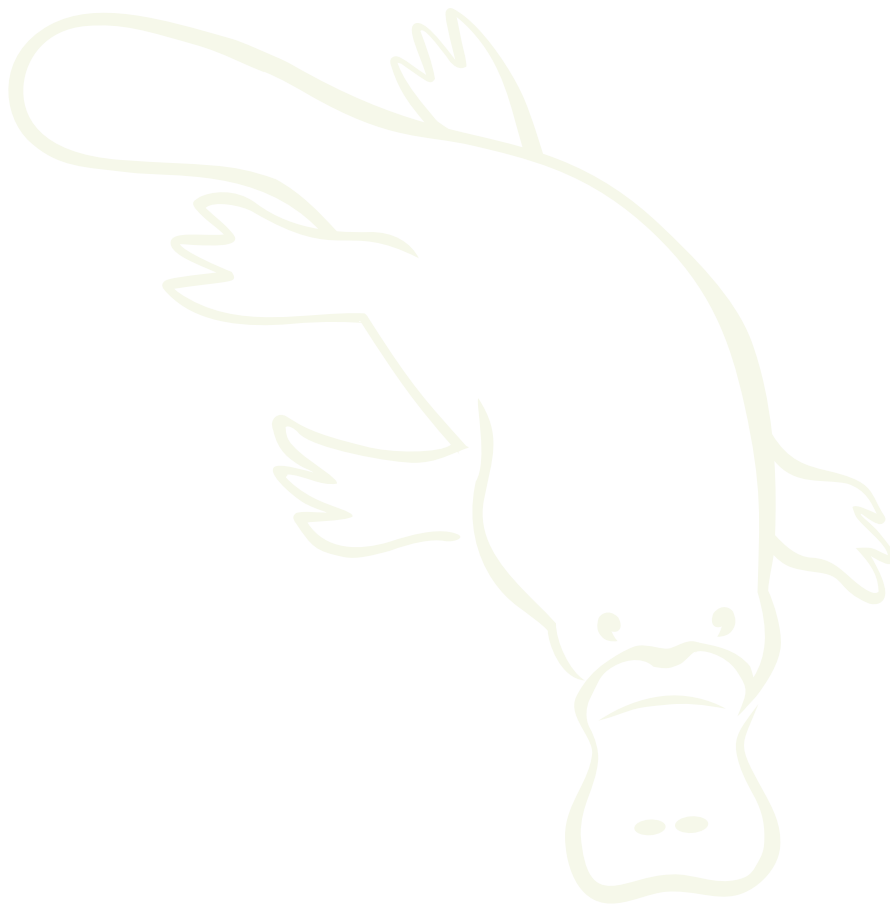
Cr Peter Sidgreaves



## Your Camden Local Government Area

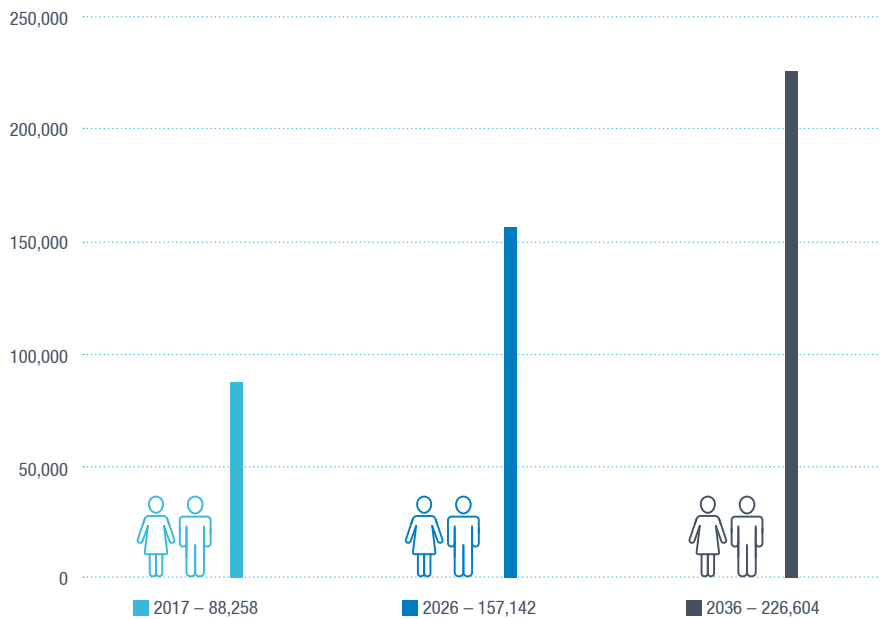
The Camden Local Government Area (LGA) is located approximately 60 km south-west of Sydney CBD and covers an area of 216 square kilometres, bounded by Campbelltown City Council, Liverpool City Council and Wollondilly Shire Council.

The Camden LGA's suburbs include Bickley Vale, Bringelly (part), Camden, Camden South, Catherine Field, Cawdor (part), Cobbitty, Currans Hill, Elderslie, Ellis Lane, Grasmere, Gregory Hills, Gledswood Hills, Harrington Park, Kirkham, Leppington (part), Mount Annan, Narellan, Narellan Vale, Oran Park, Rossmore (part), Smeaton Grange and Spring Farm.

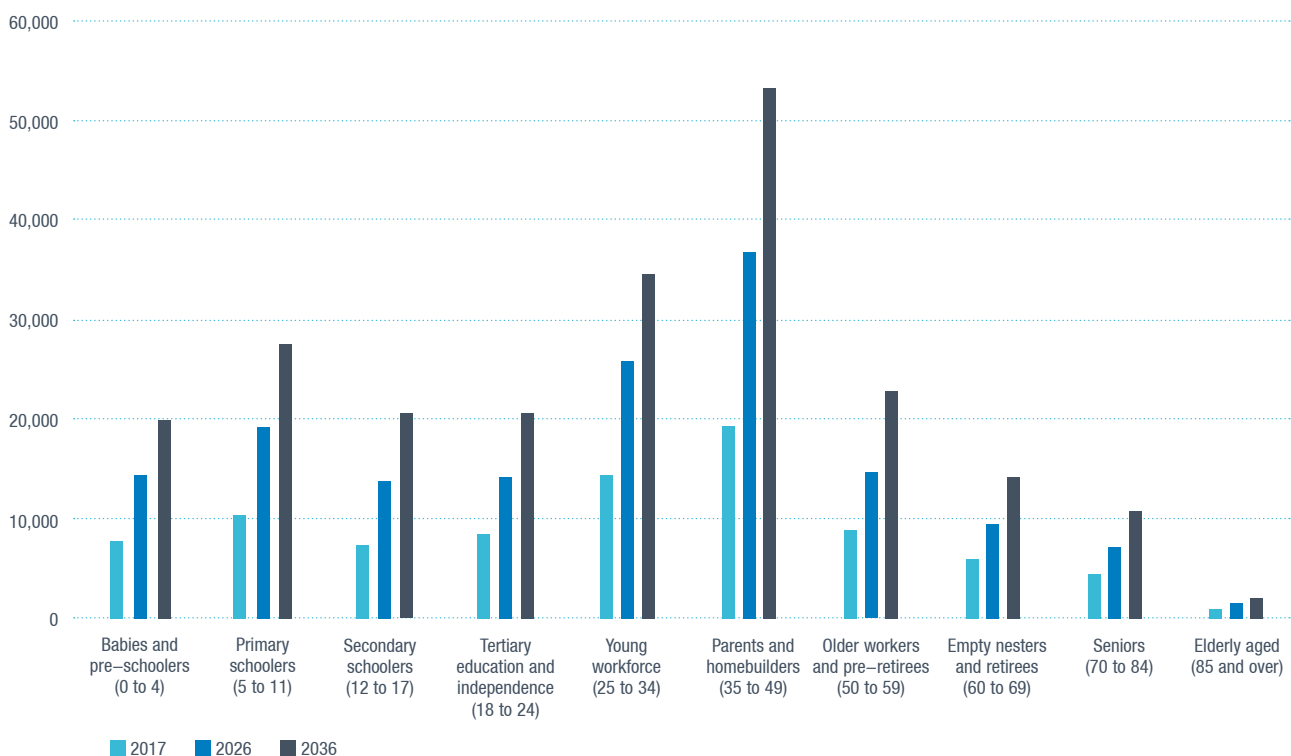


# Your Community – Now and in the Future

## Population trend - 2017 to 2036



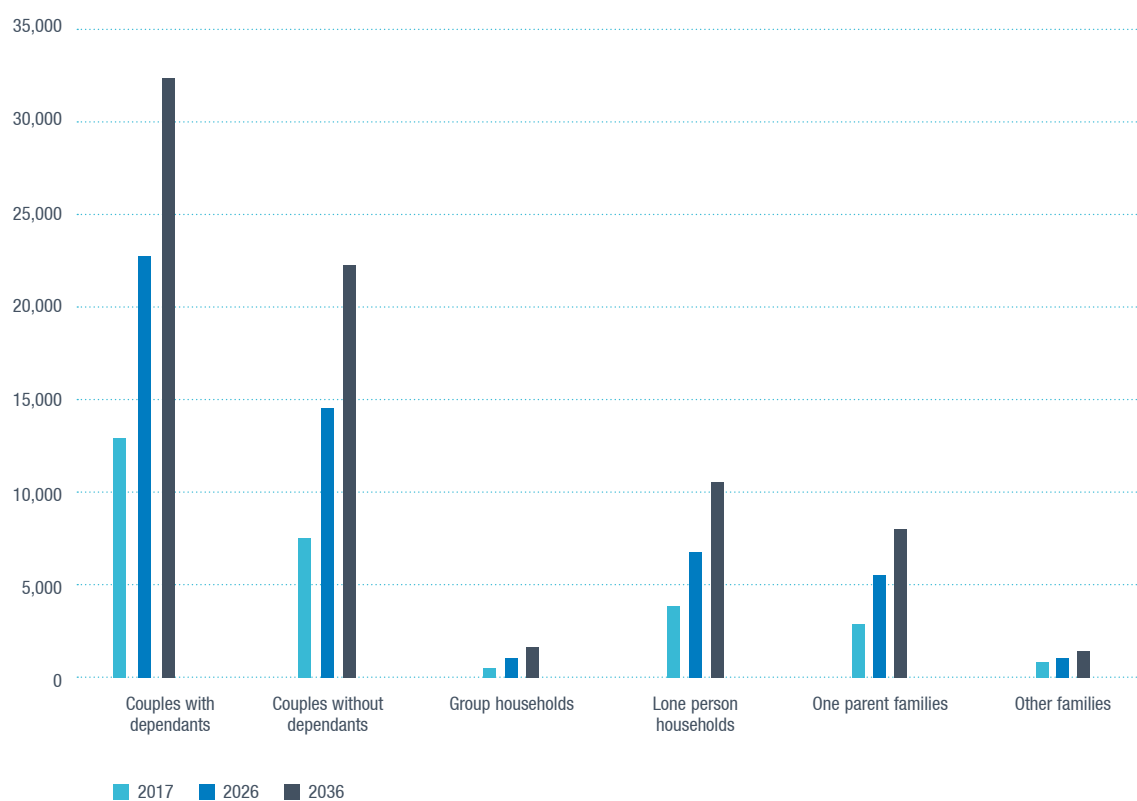
## Forecast age structure - Service age groups



Source: Population and household forecasts, 2011 to 2036, prepared by .id December 2016



## Forecast household types



Source: Population and household forecasts, 2011 to 2036, prepared by .id December 2016

# Your Council

## Adaptive Organisational Framework

Council is a proud leader in Local Government, providing stewardship to administer one of the fastest growing local government areas in NSW. Council has positively positioned itself with the ability to adapt to meet the changing needs for rapid urban development and the associated increase in population.

Council has integrated innovative solutions to improve processes and has implemented an organisational framework that is adaptive, as well as functional and efficient. This organisational framework is supported by lead Directors' roles, formal partnering, cross organisational committees, and working groups.

Council's organisational framework is consistently reviewed and evolving with the aim of maintaining an adaptive and resilient alignment that promotes high performance and excellence in service delivery and customer experience.

Council is financially sound, operating resourcefully, and is in a strong position to guide the region's growth while providing high quality services to the community – residents, businesses and visitors.

The General Manager, along with three Directors, leads the organisation and together these roles make up the Executive Leadership Group. The Directors assist the General Manager in

the development of long term strategic plans and their delivery, ensure the organisation is meeting its obligations, as well as also being responsible for the day to day management of the divisions within the organisation.

Council's workforce reflects the commitment of delivering high standard services to its community and stakeholders.

Council is responsible for, and provides, a wide range of services including planning for appropriate development, community services, economic and cultural development, traffic and transport, open space, community and recreational facilities, environmental and waste management, libraries, customer service and ensuring accountability for budget and finances to name but a few.

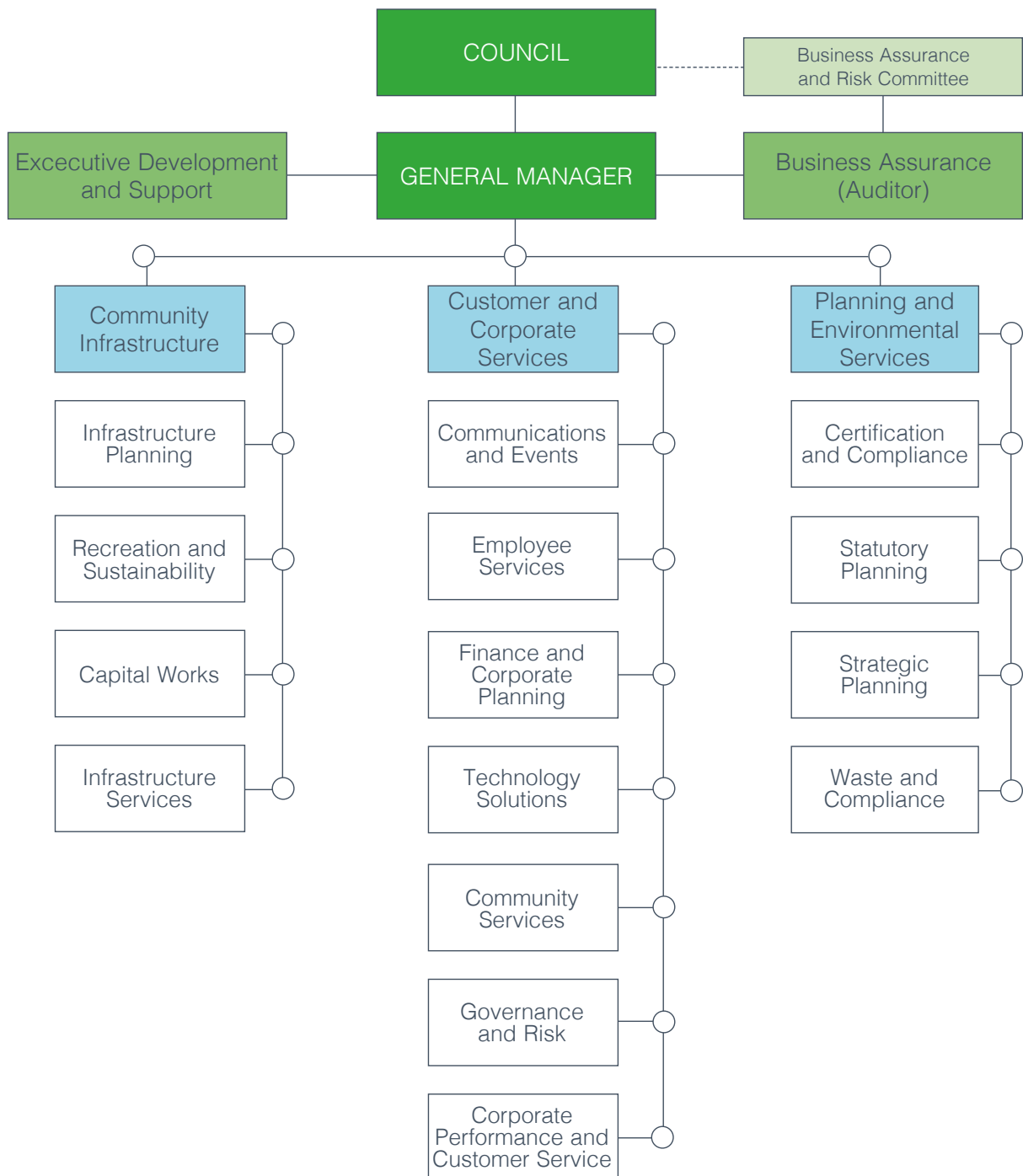
Council employs professional and highly skilled staff to provide these services and continues to develop a culture that encourages and recognises excellence. Council has a focus on continuous improvement to achieve the

best possible outcomes for the community across the Camden LGA in both service delivery and customer experience.

Council prides itself on being an Employer of Choice and offers a wide range of benefits assisting employees both professionally and personally.

**Council's workforce reflects the commitment of delivering high standard services to its community and stakeholders.**

## 2016/17 Organisational Structure





# Plans, Strategies, Projects and Initiatives

Council has a number of plans, strategies, projects and initiatives that support in shaping new places, building new communities and businesses and delivering tangible results to meet the current and future community needs, wants and desires.

Some of the achievements are listed below under three categories:



# 1. Assets and Infrastructure

Council's continuous commitment to provide a range of community assets that includes community facilities, walkways, roads, building and sporting fields, is demonstrated through the below list of projects:

- a.** Mount Annan Leisure Centre – Stage 2
- b.** Narellan Sports Hub
- c.** Oran Park Library and Community Centre – Stage 1
- d.** Camden Cemetery Upgrade
- e.** Charles Moore Reserve
- f.** Camden Town Centre Enhancements
- g.** Miss Llewella Davies Pioneer Walkway
- h.** Harrington Park Lake



Birriwa Youth Space, Mount Annan



Mount Annan Leisure Centre - Interior Pool Area

## 1a Mount Annan Leisure Centre – Stage 2

Stage 2 upgrade works continue bringing the community another step closer to enjoying a revitalised leisure centre, with the first stage completed in November 2016.

These works are part of a broader commitment of Council to provide high quality recreational facilities and support the community to achieve a healthy lifestyle.

Phase 1 of the Stage 2 upgrade works has been completed with the expansion of the carpark and new sports hall construction.

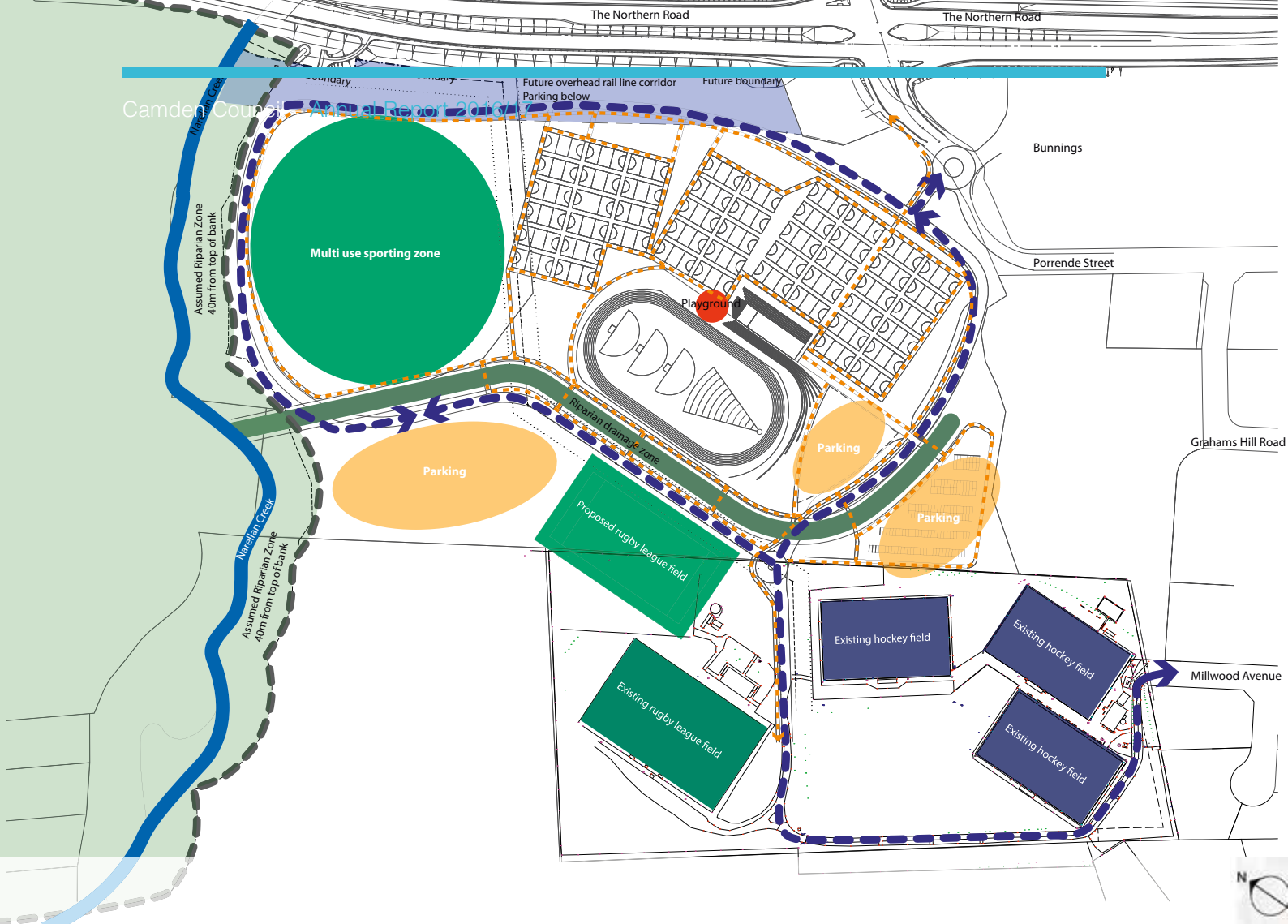
Phase 2 of the works has continued on the \$13.5 million leisure centre upgrade with the expansion and

construction of new amenities, multipurpose sports hall, expansion of the child care facilities, additional car parking and upgrades to the entry foyer, kiosk and change rooms.

Renewal works to the pool and amenities included:

- Installation of new pumps for the filtration system
- Renovation of the change rooms to include new showers, taps, sinks, floor and wall tiling, seating and cubicle doors

The aquatic facilities include an eight lane, 25 metre pool, a 15 metre recreation pool, leisure pool, spa, sauna, steam room and waterslide with the water temperature now at its optimum level of 28 degrees for the comfort of patrons.



Narellan Sports Hub - Masterplan

## 1b Narellan Sports Hub

Council increased the scope of Stage 1 works based on the outcomes of consultation with user groups. The proposed clubrooms and amenities building has significantly increased in size along with the inclusion of a creek crossing to allow future connection of the new facility with the existing rugby league and hockey precinct.

This project will deliver on a much needed state-of-the-art sports facility for the community.

The staged development will ultimately feature:

- 44 court netball complex
- athletics facilities
- sports ground capable of being used by a variety of sports
- centrally located amenities building
- approximately 1000 car parking spaces
- proposed walking and cycling network and playground

## 1c Oran Park Library and Community Centre – Stage 1

Unlike the traditional libraries of the past, the Oran Park Town Library will be a people focused library with more space dedicated for residents to sit, lounge, socialise and interact with a focus on digital media and E-Learning.

The 2500sqm contemporary Library and Community Centre has been designed as a 'community living room' where people of all ages, abilities and interests can come to relax, play and create, and connect and communicate.

Construction works are currently underway on the new state-of-the-art Oran Park Library and Community Centre which will include:

- a high-tech open library floor plan
- offices for community support
- a community centre to foster art, culture and community activities
- high ceilings, a sun-drenched foyer and picturesque views across the Town Park
- a focus on sustainable features to reduce our eco footprint including air conditioning linked to the Council administration building to reduce running costs, and efficient water use
- external space designed to encourage cycling and walking
- an outdoor recreation area with user-friendly street furniture

Construction is expected to be completed in early 2018.





### 1d Camden Cemetery Upgrade

The Camden General Cemetery Master Plan sought to maintain the semi-rural character of the cemetery and the existing general layout.

The Plan focuses on improving maintenance, facilitating 5,810 burial plots in clearly defined sections, and providing an additional 4,608 memorial options including additional columbarium walls, Family Rose Garden and Memorial Trees and Garden.

The completed Stage 1 upgrade includes:

- three new columbarium walls
- twelve trees accommodating four memorial stones at each tree
- general landscaping
- car parking
- a new unisex toilet

## 1e Charles Moore Reserve, Mount Annan

This reserve at Mount Annan has been upgraded creating a play space to suit children of all ages and offering a variety of equipment choices to explore, play and experience.

The upgrade involved the removal of the old equipment and the redesign of the playground to include new soft fall ground cover and contemporary play equipment.

The new equipment includes:

- a set of swings suitable for children of all ages
- a stand up see-saw
- junior adventure unit for younger children
- large adventure unit for older children
- Aero Tilt, which requires upper body strength and encourages team work



## 1f Camden Town Centre Enhancements

The revitalisation of Argyle Street in the Camden Town Centre continued with works undertaken to improve the visual appeal of the eastern entrance to Argyle Street.

The upgrade project transformed the existing concrete median strip into a landscaped median strip with the installation of eight new Jacaranda trees, between Elizabeth Street and Edward Street, along Argyle Street.

Works included replacing and widening the 80 metre concrete median, drainage works, signage, line marking, adjustment of road levels and landscaping.

Previous work on the Camden Town Centre enhancement works included:

- installation of traffic lights at the intersection of Oxley Street and Argyle Street pedestrian signals, to replace the zebra crossing on Argyle Street, between John Street and Hill Street
- increased footpath widening on Argyle Street
- improved footpath slopes for better accessibility
- upgrade to footpath paving material, drainage improvement
- upgrade to street furniture
- new LED street lighting and road pavement renewals

The Oxley Street Car Park is part of the Camden Town Centre Enhancement works. Oxley Street was chosen as the best location for a new single deck car park. The upgrade will address the increased demands for parking, improve pedestrian access points, accessibility and proximity to Argyle Street.



Argyle Street, Camden



### 1g Miss Llewella Davies Pioneer Walkway

Council obtained funding through the Metropolitan Greenspace Program to develop the Miss Llewella Davies Pioneers Walkway at the Camden Town Farm.

The funding assists to establish, create and develop:

- a new entry feature
- the creation of viewing platforms
- the creation of a new link pathway to enhance the integration of the Town Farm with other pathways around Camden

The 2.8 km decomposed granite path will cross paddocks and lead to viewing platforms along the way, highlighting the historical and agricultural features of the farm. Interpretative signage, education worksheets and integrated smart phone technology will be used to inform visitors and raise awareness about the history of the site.

Bequeathed to Council by Miss Llewella Davies for the community to use, the Camden Town Farm provides the Camden LGA with a rural precinct that links the agricultural heritage of the Macarthur region.





### 1h Harrington Park Lake

The Harrington Park Lake shared path, for the use of cyclists and pedestrians, provides safe access around the Lake's foreshore.

It provides opportunities for recreational facilities and infrastructure to support the health and wellbeing of the local community for a growing number of families in the area.

The path was reconstructed and renewed to a high standard, ensuring a reduction in maintenance costs.



Harrington Park Lake, Harrington Park

## 2. Social and Economic

Council has established a number of strategies and initiatives to promote community wellbeing and support local business.

Below are a few examples:

- a. Active Ageing Strategy
- b. Disability Inclusion Action Plan
- c. Youth Public Art Participation Project
- d. Companion Animal Initiatives – Responsible Pet Ownership
- e. Customer Service Strategy
- f. Camden Region Economic Taskforce (CRET)
- g. Small Business Friendly Councils Program

Australia Day





## 2a Active Ageing Strategy

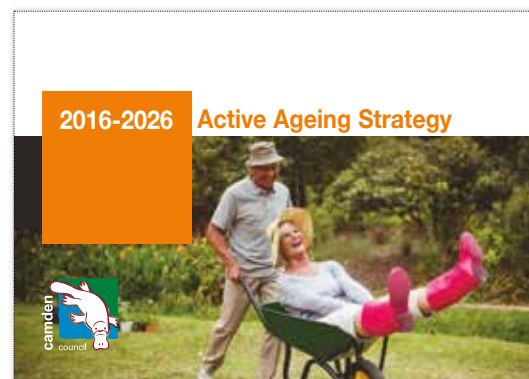
This Strategy sets out Council's plan to support older people to live happy, healthy, independent lives and remain connected to our community as they age.

The key areas of this Strategy are:

- information and communication
- transportation
- respect, inclusion and social participation
- healthy living and wellbeing

The age structure forecasts between 2016 and 2026 indicates a 57.4 per cent increase in population of retirement age, meaning that one in five of our residents will be over the age of 65 years.

Council is committed to improving the overall quality of life of people in the community and in promoting cohesive and healthy communities for all.





## 2b Disability Inclusion Action Plan

This Plan 2017-2021 has been developed with community input to create a liveable community for people of all abilities. The Plan complies with the NSW Disability Inclusion Action Planning Guidelines for Local Government.

The Plan sets out a list of actions to ensure that people with a disability have every opportunity to be involved in community activities.

It focuses on four key areas that support people with a disability and their carers' social and physical well-being. The four key focus areas are:

- creating accessible and liveable communities
- promote and develop positive community attitudes and behaviours
- support access to meaningful employment
- improve access to services through better systems and processes

Council's strong partnership with the local community and services will assist in the implementation process of this Plan in order to achieve positive outcomes.





## 2c Youth Public Art Participation Project

The Youth Public Art Participation Project was developed as a response to the youth public art project undertaken as part of the Birriwa Outdoor Youth Space.

The project provided young people with a sense of ownership, team work and an opportunity to express their creativity through artwork.

Young people were invited to participate in improving the visual appearance of two existing community spaces.

Below are the two projects:

### ■ Harrington Park Basketball Court

With the assistance of professional street artist, Tim de Haan (PHIBS), 23 young people created a vibrant piece of art that enhanced the built environment, reflected the cultural identity of the local area and strengthened community pride. Reflecting bushland aspects and the native local wildlife of Harrington Park Lake, the mural features on both sides of the wall at the basketball courts.

### ■ Currans Hill Community Centre

Eight young people worked with Aboriginal contemporary artist, Danielle Mate Sullivan (DJ Mate), to facilitate the design for the mural on the exterior front entrance of the Currans Hill Community Centre.

The mural artwork of local flora and fauna includes bottle brush, gumnuts and leaves.





## 2d Companion Animal Initiatives – Responsible Pet Ownership

Council is committed to promoting responsible pet ownership and the benefits of companion animals in people's life and well-being.

Council, in conjunction with the Companion Animal Advisory Group, has implemented a number of initiatives including:

- new additional feline mascot 'PIP' promoting microchipping of cats
- Responsible Pet Ownership Program run in local schools, libraries and promotion at community events
- return stray dogs and cats home immediately if microchipped and registered rather than impounding
- working closely with rescue organisations and community advocacy groups
- free microchipping events for dogs and cats
- 'Paws in the Park' annual community fundraising event
- flexible pricing options for impounded animals to encourage adoption
- subsidised de-sexing program to reduce the number of unwanted animals
- provision of off-leash areas that are friendly and stimulating for animals
- development, creation and distribution of information packs and books on responsible pet ownership



Council also adopted a 'no-kill' policy whereby all attempts will be made to re-home suitable animals and the operation of its local animal holding facility as a 'no kill' shelter.



## 2e Customer Service Strategy

This Strategy provides a framework for Council to deliver services in a manner that has the customer at the centre of our business while meeting operational and efficiency requirements.

Council is committed to delivering high quality customer service that meets community as well as organisational needs now and into the future.

Over the past year Council has provided the following through its Customer Service Centre:

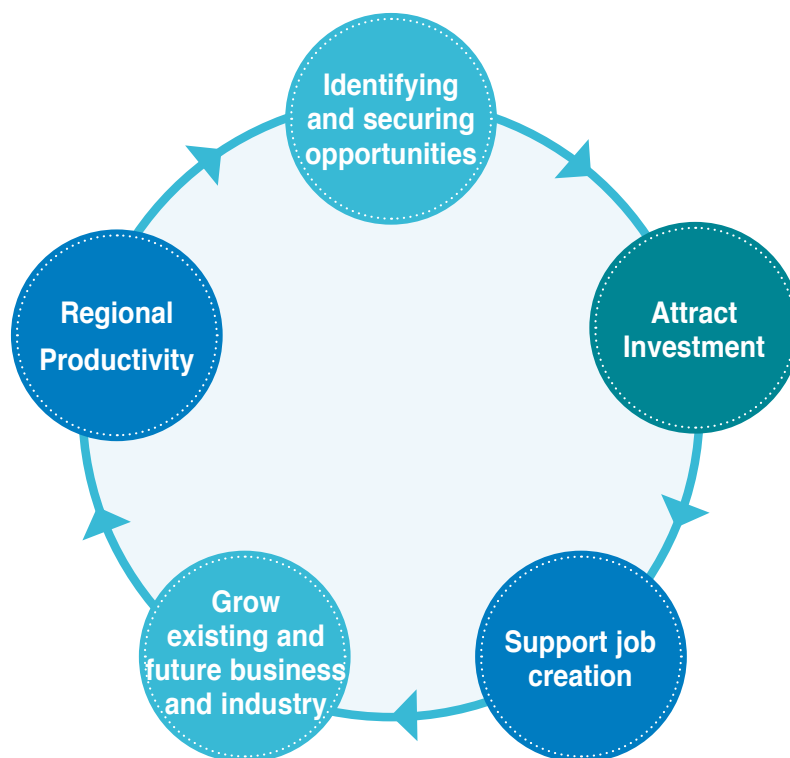
- over 104,000 phone calls taken through our Contact Centre
- over 11,800 counter enquiries at Oran Park, Narellan and Camden Service Hubs
- over 18,700 customer requests received for a variety of matters
- 85% of all phone calls resolved in the first instance
- 90 to 95% of customers' needs are being met or exceeded

## 2f Camden Region Economic Taskforce (CRET)

Council initiated the Camden Region Economic Taskforce (CRET), a business taskforce to drive the economic development and commercial appeal of the Camden LGA, and has received Ministerial approval for its establishment as a company limited by guarantee.

**The aim of CRET is to:**

- drive and facilitate the economic growth of the Camden LGA through leadership, advocacy and coordination
- focus on the creation of jobs, attraction of investment, securing the timely delivery of infrastructure and creating the right environment to support the growth of business and industry, both existing and into the future





## 2g Small Business Friendly Councils Program

Council works proactively with and supports small business operators and their employees in the Camden LGA through its Small Business Friendly Councils Program.

Council recognises and values how important the local small business sector is to the community and has delivered the following business related initiatives, strategies, programs and events. Some of these are:

- Back to Business Week,
- On time Payment Policy,
- Partnership with Golf NSW,
- Business Month Program,
- Sydney Weekender - 'A Day in Camden',
- Home Builders Forum
- Live and Local Project

Council  
recognises  
and values  
how important  
the local small  
business  
sector  
is to the  
community.”



As part of the Small Business Friendly Council's Program, Council established a strategic initiative with the Office of Live Music and Arts NSW to form 'Live and Local Camden', a partnership to continue to grow a thriving local music culture in the Camden LGA.

Council was one of only five successful councils to receive a grant to develop a live music scene, with the first festival held in Argyle Street, transforming it into a 'Live and Local Beat Street', with over 40 musicians and 14 local business venues participating.

**Council was one of only five successful councils to receive a grant to develop a live music scene. ”**

## 3. Advocacy

Council is committed to continuously representing the community and advocating on its behalf to address a range of issues and concerns.

Council's proactive advocacy role, on behalf of the community, focuses on a wide range of matters such as:

- a.** Western Sydney Airport
- b.** Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan
- c.** Outer Sydney Orbital
- d.** Western Sydney Rail Needs
- e.** Spring Farm Parkway





### 3a Western Sydney Airport

Council proactively engaged with the State and Federal Government on the Western Sydney Airport Project.

Council advocates across a range of activities including:

- nominating community representatives to participate in the 'Forum on Western Sydney Airport', playing an important role in the future flight path design for aircraft using the Western Sydney Airport
- the need to ensure the delivery of rail infrastructure access to the Western Sydney Airport to/from the Camden LGA, with broader north/south rail connections
- working through the finalised Environmental Impact Statement for the Western Sydney Airport, with a focus on minimising adverse environment impacts such as air quality and noise.



### 3b Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan

Council continuously works closely with both the Federal and State Government agencies on a range of programs and projects funded via the Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan. This Plan is a Federal and State Government initiative that involves major road and transport linkages to improve connectivity and boost the economy.

Some of the programs and projects under this Plan include:

- upgrade of The Northern Road to a minimum of four lanes from Narellan to Jamison Road, Penrith, including a grade separated interchange at Bringelly Road
- construction of a new east-west motorway to the airport between the M7 Motorway and The Northern Road (to be known as the M12 Motorway)
- upgrade of Bringelly Road to a minimum of four lanes between The Northern Road and Camden Valley Way
- a \$200 million package for local roads upgrades, to be delivered across five rounds over ten years
- Stage 1 of the Argyle Street upgrade

### 3c Outer Sydney Orbital

This project has the potential to, in part; transform the Camden LGA, bringing with it a range of facilities, services, employment and other exciting opportunities for the community.

The first stage of this project is to establish a framework to facilitate an integrated approach to transport and land use planning throughout Western Sydney. Council has continued to engage with Government agencies on

this significant project, with the objective of realising the following benefits:

- generate efficiencies in economic activity via improved regional traffic networks between economic centres
- provide better connections within Greater Sydney and to regional NSW and Newcastle, Wollongong and Canberra
- promote improved transport connections between major urban areas and destinations

### 3d Western Sydney Rail Needs

In 2016 the Federal and State Governments released the 'Western Sydney Rail Needs Scoping Study', to examine the passenger rail transport needs of the Western Sydney region, and the proposed Western Sydney Airport.

In response to the government scoping study, Council engaged with the 'Western Sydney Rail Alliance', a collective of government and non-government stakeholders groups, to obtain research information to advocate for better transport infrastructure planning outcomes in Western Sydney.

Through the Western Sydney Rail Alliance, Council was able to source detailed peer review analysis of the government's scoping study, to assist with preparing a submission outlining the key issues that are important to the Camden community.

### 3e Spring Farm Parkway

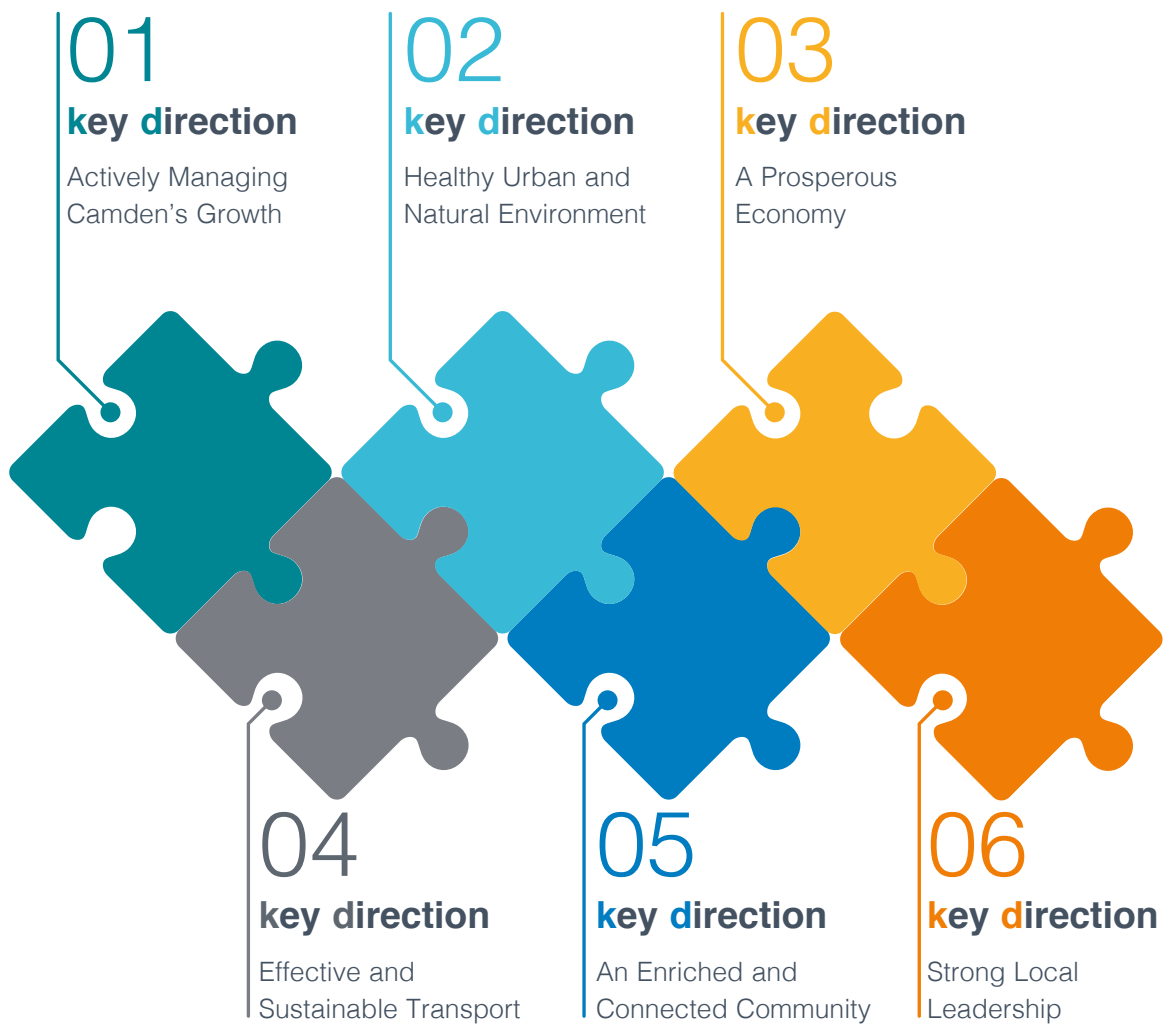
The continuation of the existing Liz Kernohan Drive, referred to as the Spring Farm Parkway, east toward the M31 Hume Motorway, would create a much needed strategic transport link in the regional network.

The State Government previously announced \$30 million under its 'Housing Acceleration Fund' to prepare a concept design for construction. In this regard, over the last 12 months Council has been working in partnership with Roads and Maritime Services in the planning for this strategic infrastructure project.

The proposed Spring Farm Parkway would:

- relieve existing congestion on the local transport network (e.g. Narellan Road)
- relieve east-west traffic between the Camden/Narellan and Campbelltown/Macarthur centres
- remove large industrial trucks from residential areas and provide a direct connection to the future Glenlee Industrial lands

## Six Key Directions



# Achievements

Camden 2040 is the Community Strategic Plan.

Council has a number of services, projects, programs and initiatives that ensures a positive move towards achieving the community outcomes within the six key directions.

The six key directions are:

- ✦ **Key Direction 1:** Actively Managing Camden's Growth
- ✦ **Key Direction 2:** Healthy Urban and Natural Environment
- ✦ **Key Direction 3:** A Prosperous Economy
- ✦ **Key Direction 4:** Effective and Sustainable Transport
- ✦ **Key Direction 5:** An Enriched and Connected Community
- ✦ **Key Direction 6:** Strong Local Leadership

A snapshot of the achievements made by Council during 2016/17, under each key direction that supports the community vision, is listed in the following pages.





New housing



## Key Direction 01

### Actively Managing Camden's Growth

- Council continues to support housing diversity throughout the Camden LGA with the new release of well over 3000 new lots across new land release areas.
- Council continues to undertake Development Assessment in a timely fashion with over 1700 Development Applications determined at an average of 32 days, well below the 40 day target.
- Completion of Stage 1 - Argyle Street Upgrade and Argyle Streetscape Improvements.
- Camden LEP 2010 Review undertaken to ensure Council's instruments remains current and relevant to statutory requirements.
- Council managed approximately \$118 million in Development Bonds.
- Catherine Park Voluntary Planning Agreement executed \$52.5m of works, land dedication and monetary contributions.
- Secured grant funds from NSW Government of \$2.9m under the Housing Acceleration Fund to facilitate development within Leppington (North) Precinct.
- Council implemented the Compliance and Enforcement Policy so that regulatory activities are carried out in a consistent manner and without bias.
- Camden Growth Areas Contribution Plan adopted. The Plan includes \$670 million of infrastructure to support future development within the Leppington and Leppington North growth centre precincts.
- Endorsement of the 'Draft Camden Rural Lands Strategy and Study' that identifies the need to effectively manage urban development and population growth, while protecting the rural and heritage character of Camden LGA.
- Council continues to deliver infrastructure in new release areas through Voluntary Planning Agreements and Works In-Kind Agreements.
- Council continues to host Home Builder Forums and Developers Forums on a regular basis.



Floral embellishment and beautification of major intersection



## Key Direction 02

### Healthy Urban and Natural Environment

- Council has undertaken a number of educational initiatives around illegal dumping.
- Council continues to undertake routine inspections of building and sub-division sites to monitor and prevent run off of soil, sand and other pollutants into waterways.
- Council implemented a Sediment and Erosion Control Surveillance Program across the Camden LGA.
- Commenced a quarterly 'Builders BBQ' for local tradespeople and construction companies to promote good building site management such as sediment and erosion control, prevention of illegal dumping and prevention of site theft.
- Council continues to deliver companion animal education programs and provides a high standard of customer service to owners.
- Council has adopted a 'No Kill' policy.
- Council continues to provide free food hygiene training sessions and newsletters as part of its Food Business Education Program.
- Planting of flowering roundabouts throughout the LGA continues to be a highlight with regular plant change-overs that provide a sense of pride and community for the Camden LGA.
- Expansion of Council's green waste collection service to the suburbs of Grasmere, Ellis Lane and Kirkham. Approximately 700 properties have opted to take up the service with the remaining 150 plus properties choosing to manage green waste on-site.
- Council continues to educate the community about sustainability through initiatives and events such as EnviroMentors, Seeds of Sustainability (Pre-School Program), Love Food Hate Waste, presentation/ displays at Paws in the Park and pop up stalls at various events.
- Council initiated two EnviroBank Reverse Vending Machine and Sydney Water's Portable Water Units at the Camden Show.
- Enhancement of the Nepean River Habitat Corridor under the Federal Government's 20 Million Tree Program.
- Council continues to actively manage bushland and, in partnership with Conservation Volunteers Australia (The Green Army), undertook site clearings and preparation for new plantings at Fergusons Land, Spring Farm, Elizabeth Throsby Reserve, Kingsbush Reserve, Gundungurra Reserve and Camden Town Farm.
- Council has initiated the Cobbitty Hills Biodiversity Corridor Masterplan to protect, restore and manage biodiversity.



Golf Day



## Key Direction 03

### A Prosperous Economy

- Ministerial approval obtained to establish the Camden Region Economic Taskforce Ltd (CRET) and with the recruitment of a Chairperson and independent Directors underway.
- Continued partnership with Golf NSW attracting the 'NSW Open Golf Championships, Qualifying Round' to the Camden LGA.
- Council secured 'Sydney Weekender', a TV program which featured the Camden township for tourism promotion.
- Support of the Heritage of Western Sydney phone app in the promotion of the early heritage of Western Sydney and early colonial settlements.
- In partnership with the South Western Sydney Business Enterprise Centre (SWSBEC), Council hosted a series of Back to Business Week events which were funded by the Department of Industry Skills and Regional Development.
- Council adopted the 'Camden Destination Management Plan' setting the framework for how Camden tourism will be managed in the future.
- Council continues to work on the Camden Town Centre Vision to maintain a vibrant and viable commercial hub in the Camden Town area.
- State Government Grant funding received to start new Creative Camden Hub at Harrington Park Community Centre. The Hub will enable new cultural opportunities for residents and local groups.

**Council launched and continues to participate in the Small Business Friendly Councils Program. ”**



Footpath Construction, Harrington Park



## Key Direction 04

### Effective and Sustainable Transport

- Approximately 9,500 building, engineering and public road activity inspections completed.
- Funding received from Transport for NSW under the Pedestrian Infrastructure Around Schools Program towards Old Hume Highway and Elyard Street Pedestrian Crossing upgrades.
- Funding received from Roads and Maritime Services for Catherine Field Road Upgrade works.
- Council continues to proactively support and promote the benefits of using alternate modes of transport, such as walking, running and cycling through its Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP) and Cycling Advisory Group.
- A number of road safety programs to ensure that the community remains educated and safe were implemented including the Drink Drive Prevention and Slow Down/ Speed Education and Awareness Program.
- Council continues to facilitate the annual Footpath Construction Program.
- Conducted Seniors Safety Morning Teas to increase awareness of personal and road safety issues for Seniors.



## Key Direction 05

### An Enriched and Connected Community

- Council's Library Services continues to extend opening hours in the lead up to and during the HSC, and provide 'Mini Builders' program for children aged 2 to 3 years, Tech Savvy Seniors program, pop-up library services, Your Tutor, the Paint the Town REaD program, Visiting Author program and the 'Paws n Tales' program.
- Stage 1 of Council's Third Party Verification Audit for Family and Community Services (ADHC) Grant funding was completed successfully.
- Partnership with Camden Community Connections to run Winter Youth Outreach program for young people aged 12 to 25 years.
- Camden Shorts event providing the opportunity for young people aged 12 to 25 years to showcase live performances in music, dance, comedy and theatre.
- Camden Family Day Care continues to maintain the highest accreditation under the National Framework and continues to support all their educators with regular training and workshops as well as accreditation.
- Council supports and works in partnership with the Camden Show, Light Up Camden, Camden Rotary Relay for Life and Christmas at Narellan as well as a number of other community organised high profile events.
- Council continues to work in partnership with the Camden Local Area Command and participates at the Local Government Crime Prevention Network, NSW Police Crime Prevention Workshop, Camden Wollondilly Domestic Violence Committee and Community Safety Precinct Meetings.
- Council provided funding towards local projects through the Community Small Grants Program and provided funding and in-kind support through its Community Sponsorship Program.
- Council in conjunction with the Camden International Friendship Association (CIFA), hosted a number of students from our sister city, Kashiwa, Japan as part of the Friendship Agreement between the two Councils.
- Council introduced two new free community events – 'Date Night', a gourmet food and movie night, and 'Bounce Town', Council's first inflatable wonderland for all ages.
- Council continuously provides opportunities for the community to interact and participate through the annual Garden Competition, Christmas Lights Competition, NAIDOC Week celebrations, Paws in the Park, Local Government Week, Narellan Rhythms Festival, Camden Festival, Harmony Day, Multicultural March, History Week, Seniors Week and Australia Day celebrations.





## Key Direction 06

### Strong Local Leadership



- Council's Administration Building at Oran Park was officially opened in August 2016, with a seamless transition from two separate locations and no loss of service to customers.
- Council continues to work with the Emergency Management Committee in the review and development of emergency plans and procedures, with regular evaluations conducted at Rural Fire Service headquarters.
- Council continues to support the Camden and Wollondilly Domestic Violence Committee through raising awareness by displaying key messages on Council's waste trucks.
- Council has worked closely with both the Federal and State Government agencies on a range of projects funded via the Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan, including Stage 1 of the Argyle Street upgrade.
- Inaugural Community Representative Morning Tea providing an opportunity for community members to engage in collaborative conversation and shared ideas to build on Camden's growth and potential.
- Council entered into an Memorandum of Understanding with NSW Treasury to facilitate the testing of the Emergency Services Property Levy Software for Civica, a major industry software provider.
- Developed and initiated a Technology Solutions Strategic Plan, a robust technology plan, governance and platform to support its business needs.
- Council continues to use social media to disseminate information to the community as well as within its dedicated Council website, with more than a million page views over the past year.
- Council has strategies, plans and policies to ensure good governance and decisions are made on the community's behalf including the Economic Development Strategy, Business Improvement Plan, Recreational Strategy, Long Term Financial Plan, Asset Management Strategy and Plan as well as Plant, Equipment and Fleet Management Plans and Procedures.
- Council works closely with key partners and participates with MACROC, Regional Special Interest Groups, Community and Business Organisations, Greater Sydney Commission and neighbouring Councils.
- Council has taken a proactive position and maintains open dialogue with the State and Federal Government agencies including hosting tours of Camden to demonstrate the rapid growth of the Camden LGA at the ground level.
- Council keeps abreast of Government plans, strategies and initiatives and Government led activities such as the Plan for Growing Sydney, NSW Long Term Transport Masterplan, State Infrastructure Strategy and NSW 2021 Goals and Regional Plan.
- Adoption of Integrated Planning and Reporting Package.

**Council has strategies, plans and policies to ensure good governance and decisions are made on the community's behalf.**





## Awards and Recognition

Council continues to develop a culture that recognises, encourages and celebrates excellence, not only in the workplace, but within the community.

Council received a number of significant awards and commendations in 2016/17. These acknowledge Council's innovative work in key areas and demonstrate that Council is continuously improving the way it provides services, facilities, programs and activities for its community.

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## Second Place

*Local Government Professionals  
Australasian Management Challenge, NSW  
Division*

### NSW Annual Local Government Excellence Awards

Council entered a team of emerging leaders from within the organisation into the annual competition. This is a very competitive challenge, requiring innovative thought and team work and is highly regarded within the Local Government industry.

## Highly Commended

*Light up the Libraries for Harmony Day and  
Multicultural March*

### Australian Multicultural Marketing Awards

Council received the award in the Communities Award category for creative and innovative work to promote Light Up the Libraries for Harmony Day and Multicultural March event. The Awards recognise outstanding marketing campaigns, from leading organisations, targeted at multicultural communities. The campaign aimed to encourage people to feel they belong to Camden and celebrated community pride.

## Winner

### *“Sustainable Camden”*

#### Local Government Excellence in the Environment Awards

Council won the award, in Division C based on population size in the Local Sustainability Category, for works to deliver Sustainable Camden.

The ‘Sustainable Camden’ initiative delivered services and infrastructure to the local community, including environmental education initiatives, natural resource management projects, delivering an efficient and effective waste service and the installation of energy efficient LED streetlights in the Camden Town Centre streetscape improvements amongst many others. Council also demonstrated its environmental leadership in constructing its new central administration building which incorporates a number of sustainability initiatives.



## Highly Commended

### *White Ibis Management Plan*

#### Local Government Excellence in the Environment Awards

Council was Highly Commended in the Invasive Species Management category for the ‘Australia White Ibis Management Initiative’.

Council adopted a Management Plan to humanely manage the ibis population at Lake Annan Island. The plan aims to reduce breeding and roosting, improve water quality, address odour and health concerns, and includes the use of new techniques such as egg oiling.

## Commendation Award

### *Camden Town Centre Vision project*

#### Planning Institute Australia NSW Awards for Planning Excellence

Council was commended under Best Planning Ideas – Small Project for their visioning project, in particular their measured and sensitive approach to addressing character protection, and the economic and social impact of urban development in rural areas.

It includes initiatives which aim to attract more people to the town centre, integrate economic, social and environmental initiatives, revitalise the town centre, build on its strengths and establish the right conditions for businesses to prosper.



## Highly Commended

### *Contractor Risk Management Program*

#### Local Government Risk Management Excellence Awards

Council was highly commended for developing a Safety Management System to manage contractor compliance. The system is robust and assists in reducing compliance issues and is a user friendly system to improve overall risk management.



## Finalist

### *Best Ongoing Commitment to Local Youth Week Programs*

#### Local Government Youth Week Awards

Council was a finalist in the Local Government Youth Week Awards. The award recognises and acknowledges the role Council played in helping young people to plan and co-ordinate Youth Week programs and activities.



## Finalist

### *Customer Service Team of the Year and Customer Focus Innovations Award*

#### National Local Government Customer Service Network Awards

Council was a finalist in two customer service categories at the awards, recognising the achievements of the customer service professionals in Local Government.





## Highly Commended

*Birriwa Reserve Outdoor Youth Space*

Parks and Leisure Australia Awards of Excellence - Playspace above \$500,000

This award recognises outstanding initiatives and innovative efforts of the 'people behind the places' which promote and enhance opportunities for good use of leisure time for a number of social, environmental and economic benefits to the community.

The project, Birriwa Reserve Outdoor Youth Space, delivered on Council's vision to create a facility specifically for 10 – 17 year olds which continues to be extremely popular within our community. It transformed an underutilised site into an adventure haven for older children/teenagers and families alike.

Below are some of the awards Council has presented to those who live and work within the Camden LGA.



Mayor Cr Lara Symkowiak, Camden Citizen of the Year Robyne Meek and Australia Day Ambassador Justin Herald

## Australia Day Awards

Council's Australia Day Awards acknowledge individuals and groups who have dedicated themselves to making a positive difference to their communities. In 2017, Council added an additional category, Community Group of the Year, to recognise a group who has worked tirelessly with the community encouraging inclusiveness.

### **Citizen of the Year**

Robyne Meek

### **Young Citizen of Year**

Johann Marias

### **Sportsperson of the Year**

Guy Creber

### **Young Sportsperson of the Year**

Nathanael Stewart and Hannah Trethewy

### **Community Event of the Year**

Macarthur Lions ANZAC Run

### **Community Group of the Year**

Youth Solutions Youth Advisory Group (YAG)

## HSC High Achievers Recognition

High achievers from across the Camden LGA were honoured at a civic reception to recognise outstanding students who received a Band 5 or 6 in one or more subjects in the 2016 Higher School Certificate.

Over 240 students from the following schools were recognised for their achievement in their studies: Camden High School, Elderslie High School, Elizabeth Macarthur High School, Macarthur Anglican School, Magdalene Catholic High School, Mount Annan Christian College, Mount Annan High School and St Benedict's Catholic College.



HSC High Achievers



Victor Chang Science Award Students

### Victor Chang Science Award Student Recognition

The Victor Chang Awards are given to students who have demonstrated the highest level of educational achievement, innovation, creativity and excelled in the area of science.

Council hosted a ceremony to honour and present certificates to 28 local Year 11 students from the following schools – Camden High School, Elderslie High School, Elizabeth Macarthur High School, Macarthur Anglican School, Magdalene Catholic High School, Mount Annan High School, Mount Annan Christian College and St Benedict's Catholic College.

## South West Sydney Academy of Sport Athlete Recognition

Council, a founding partner of the South West Sydney Academy of Sport, hosted a reception to acknowledge the outstanding achievements of Academy scholarship holders.

Scholarship holders from the following sporting disciplines were acknowledged: Athletics, BMX, Golf, Hockey, Inline Skating, Netball, Rugby League, Softball and Triathlon



South West Sydney Academy of Sports Scholarship Holders



Macarthur Park, Camden

## Finance Summary

### Executive Summary – 2016/17 Annual Financial Statements

Camden continues to be one of the fastest growing areas in New South Wales with more than 150 new residents per week. This growth places substantial pressure on Council's finances and resources. The cost of planning for growth is an up-front cost that is required before additional rate income is realised through growth.

Council works closely with all levels of Government and the community to ensure there is a balance between providing for existing residents and those we welcome to the Camden LGA in the future.

The information below provides a snap shot of Council's financial performance over the past 12 months, more detailed information is provided within the Financial Statements.

### Local Government Accounting - Operating Result

It is important to note that the operating result shown in the Income Statement is not Council's budget or cash position. The Income statement complies with the International Financial Reporting Standards and is required to be reported on an

accruals basis, it considers non-cash entries and the timing of the receipt or payment of money. Council's budget is done on cash basis. The reported surplus of \$96.704 million (after capital items) does not mean Council has additional funds of \$96.704 million to spend. Alternatively the fact that Council's Income Statement has a reported deficit of \$1.67 million (before capital items) does not mean Council's budget is over spent or Council's liquidity position is poor.

Council continues to balance its budget annually and its liquidity position is strong as demonstrated by the financial indicators in Note 13 to the Financial Statements.

### Operating Result (after capital items)

The 2016/17 Operating Result after accounting for capital income is a surplus of \$96.70 million (\$134.75 million 2015/16). This surplus is primarily due to non-cash contributions made by developers for infrastructure such as roads, drainage and open space. The value of these non-cash dedications for 2016/17 was \$76.16 million (\$114.83 million 2015/16). Accounting standards require the dedication of assets to be brought to account as income which inflates the surplus reported.

### Operating Result (before capital items)

Council's operating result before capital items is a deficit of \$1.67 million. This result excludes capital income of \$98.37 million. In comparing this result to the previous financial year deficit of \$3.09 million the improvement in the operating deficit to \$1.67 million is predominately a result of the Federal Government paying 50% of the 2017/18 Financial Assistance Grant in advance (\$1.8 million). Other significant movements in income included Rates and Annual Charges increasing by \$5.80 million, and Fees and Charges by \$1.12 million predominately in the area of building services and town planning associated with the growth. In order to maintain existing service

levels Council has employed an additional 34.2 staff during 2016/17 which increased employee costs by \$3.51 million. Materials and Contracts also increased by \$2.29 million representing additional works and services undertaken to meet service demand.

Council continues to monitor its operating result and whilst Council's liquidity position is strong, Council recognises that longer term, operating deficits are not sustainable and that sustained reported deficits will ultimately reduce Council's ability to maintain or replace its asset base over time. Council expects that this position will continue to improve over time through increased income associated with growth and prudent long-term financial management of expenditure budgets that consider the timing of future income.

### Financial Performance

The following table highlights the 'financial performance' comparison between 2016/17 and 2015/16:

<b>Income Statement</b>	<b>2016/17 \$'000</b>	<b>2015/16 \$'000</b>
Total Income from Continuing Operations	\$188,734	\$218,130
Total Expenses from Continuing Operations	\$92,030	\$83,377
Surplus Operating Result from Continuing Operations	\$96,704	\$134,753
Grants and Contributions provided for Capital Purposes	\$98,372	\$137,839
Net Operating Result before Grants and Contributions provided for Capital Purposes (deficit)	(\$1,668)	(\$3,086)

Measures that Council has adopted to improve and ensure that its long term financial position remains sustainable include:

#### ■ **Balanced Budget**

Council annually adopts and maintains a balanced budget position and does not spend beyond its means.

#### ■ **Loans and Loan Reduction Program**

Historically Council has part funded its annual road reconstruction program through loans. In 2013/14 Council adopted a loan reduction program to gradually reduce Council's reliance on re-current loan borrowings. Council has completed this program 1 year ahead of schedule. Council did not borrow for its annual road reconstruction program during 2016/17 and has no future re-current loan borrowings in its long-term financial plan (10 years).

Council still has capacity to borrow for capital projects (one-off) upon the appropriate financial assessment being completed.

#### ■ **Long-Term Financial Planning (LTFP)**

Council has a 10 year LTFP which is updated quarterly. The LTFP is critical to Council's planning and monitoring of its immediate and future financial sustainability. It is central to correcting the reported operating deficit in the Income Statement by containing expenditure and allowing natural growth in Council's income base to achieve a balanced or reported operating surplus. It allows Council to make informed decisions about sustainable levels of debt and reserves (liquidity) it also forms part of a suite of resourcing plans that support Council's Integrated Planning and Reporting Package.

#### ■ **Asset Management Planning**

Sound asset management and the correct allocation of resources are central to Council's

sustainability. As part of Council's adaptive organisational framework and Organisational Improvement Plan an asset management section was created dedicated to understanding the financing and resourcing needs of our current and future asset base. This will enhance Council's decision making and longer term forecasting.

#### ■ **Cash Reserves and Investing in the Future**

Council has established reserves for capital improvement, asset replacement and technology improvements.

#### ■ **Community Infrastructure Renewal Program**

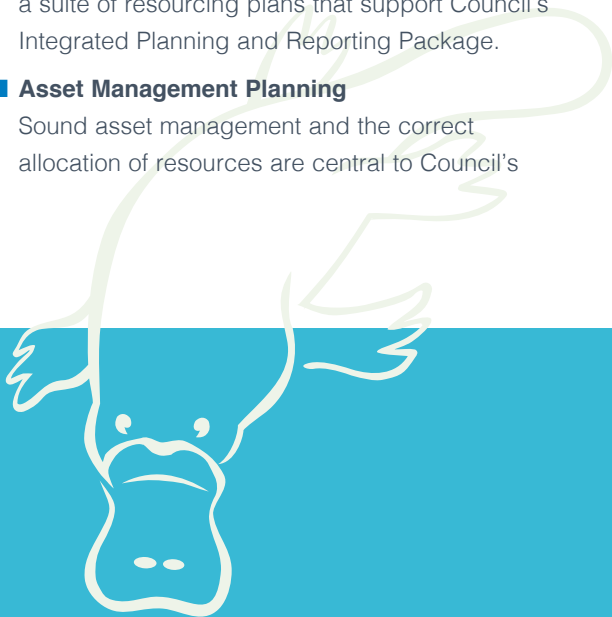
Council realises that ageing infrastructure will continue to be an issue for the residents of Camden, in 2013 IPART approved a special rate variation for a \$6 million (over 6 years) Community Infrastructure Renewal Program aimed at addressing those assets in poor condition. The last year of this program is 2018/19.

#### ■ **Building Partnerships**

Council continues to actively pursue both State and Federal funding opportunities to fund infrastructure and service requirements when made available. Examples include accessing the low interest loans under Local Infrastructure Renewal Schemes.

#### ■ **Organisational Improvement Plan**

As part of demonstrating Council is "fit for the future" an organisational improvement plan has been implemented that addresses all areas of the organisation both financial and non-financial that will allow Council to demonstrate a modern contemporary organisation that is financially sound and able to service its community now and into the future. This improvement program is regularly reviewed by the executive to ensure its progress is monitored and the plan is further developed over time.





Agricultural land

## Statement of Financial Position

The net value of assets owned by our community is \$1.321 billion (\$1.173 billion in 2015/16). The majority of this equity relates to the ownership of land and infrastructure assets such as roads, stormwater drainage, footpaths and bridges. Council's increase in equity is predominately due to infrastructure assets being dedicated to Council as part of new release areas being developed and the reclassification of two property assets to investment properties.

Council revalued land under roads as at 30 June 2017. The increase in value has been transferred to Council revaluation reserve (\$42.46 Million).

In 2016/17 Council converted two of its buildings to investment properties by leasing them to the private sector. Over time leasing will generate Council additional income of over \$0.8 million per annum. An independent valuation of these two properties (including land) has also resulted in a fair value increment of \$8.79 million, which has been transferred to Council's asset revaluation reserve.

Council's loan debt is now \$35.87 million with a net decrease of \$3.73 million from 2015/16; primarily a result of principal and interest repayments during 2016/17 and no new loans being taken up in 2016/17.

## Financial Health Indicators

The financial health indicators for the 2016/17 financial year can be found in Note 13 (pages 50-53) and Special Schedule 7 (pages SS 5 - SS 9). These sections of the financial statements provide a detailed explanation of each indicator and any unique considerations which need to be taken into account when assessing Council's financial performance. Overall, the indicators provide a positive outlook for Council's continued financial sustainability.

It should also be noted that Camden Council was 1 of only 7 metropolitan Council's to be deemed fit for future as part of IPART's review into the financial sustainability of NSW Council's.

# Financial Statements

Council's financial statement is available on the Council website [www.camden.nsw.gov.au](http://www.camden.nsw.gov.au)

**Council's overall guiding principle is to maintain a strong and sustainable financial position, underpinned by a sound income base and commitment to**

**financial control to ensure the effective and efficient delivery of services, facilities and infrastructure required by the community.**



## Asset Summary

Council maintains a significant portfolio of assets and infrastructure to support the Camden LGA community. These include public roads and other transport related facilities, stormwater drainage networks, parks, reserves and recreational facilities, property and buildings. These assets are valued at \$1.31 billion (replacement cost for assets including land assets).

### Asset Growth

Camden is currently undergoing high growth phase. The table below lists out the increase in the asset base in 2016/17.

Asset Class	2014-15	2015-16	2016/17	2016/17 ADDITIONS
Roads	559 km	616 km	643 km	27 km
Footpaths and Cycleways	260 km	287 km	305 km	18 km
Kerb and Gutter	830 km	932 km	988 km	56 km
Stormwater Pipes	459 km	535 km	570 km	35 km
Pits	20,027 Pits	23,941 Pits	26,025 Pits	2,084 pits
Headwalls	815 headwalls	963 headwalls	993 headwalls	30 headwalls



Birriwa Reserve – Carpark Extension/Upgrade

## Road and transport assets

Council is responsible for the care, control and management of \$676.553 million (replacement cost) of roads and transport related assets. These include:

- 481.96 kilometres of local urban sealed roads
- 143.30 kilometres of local rural sealed roads
- 0.48 kilometres of local rural unsealed roads
- 8.19 kilometres of regional urban roads
- 9.33 kilometres of regional rural roads
- 219.34 kilometres of footpaths
- 85.63 kilometres of cycleways
- 17 road bridges
- 61 major culverts
- 988.25 kilometres of kerb and guttering
- 61 car parks

## Achievements for the year

Council spent a total of \$10.3 million on preserving, restoring and enhancing road and transport related assets during 2016/17. Some of the major works completed include:

- Argyle Street Upgrades (Stage 1A and 1B)
- Camden Council Administration Centre – External Carpark
- Queen Street and Elyard Street, Narellan – Intersection Upgrade
- Birriwa Reserve – Carpark Extension/Upgrade
- Harrington Park Lake – Cycleway Renewal
- Camden Acres Drive - Lodges Road - Pedestrian Footbridge (Herbert Rivulet Project)
- Fairfax Reserve – Carpark Extension
- Old Oaks Road – Road Renewal
- Hartley Drive – Pedestrian Crossing Upgrade



Kirkham Park – Cricket Nets Upgrade

## Parks and recreation facilities

Council manages public open space providing a range of opportunities for active and passive recreation. These assets are valued at \$161.08 million (replacement cost) and these recreational facilities include:

- 19 sporting fields
- 103 playgrounds and fitness facilities
- 9 tennis court sites
- 1 skate park
- 2 netball facility sites
- 1 equestrian facility (Bicentennial Equestrian Park)
- 14 cricket pitches and 13 practice wicket nets

## Achievements for the year

Council spent a total of \$5.56 million preserving, restoring and enhancing recreation and open space facilities during 2016/17. Some major works completed include:

- Birriwa Youth Space – Birriwa Reserve
- Camden Cemetery Upgrades – Stage 1
- Merino Reserve Playground Upgrade
- Kirkham Park – Lower Kirkham Cricket Nets Upgrade
- Cuthill Reserve – Shade Structure Upgrade



## Buildings

Council has in its care 139 buildings which have a wide range of community uses. These assets are valued at \$115.15 million (replacement cost) and include:

- 3 Council offices
- 14 Council works depot buildings and structures
- 7 community halls
- 2 libraries
- 1 Civic Centre
- 1 museum
- 44 amenities and clubhouse facilities
- 44 other buildings/structures
- 4 Council leased properties
- 10 Council bushfire and SES buildings or structures
- 3 specialised buildings
- 1 multi-deck carpark
- 5 Council commercial investment buildings

## Achievements for the year

Council spent a total of \$29.75 million preserving, restoring and enhancing buildings during 2016/17. Some major works completed include:

- Camden Council Administration Centre and Multi-Deck Carpark Construction
- Chellaston Street - Amenities Upgrade



Herbert Rivulet, Elderslie

### Stormwater and flood mitigation

Council is responsible for a wide range of stormwater and drainage facilities. These assets are valued at \$293.22 million (replacement cost) and include:

- 570.31 kilometres of stormwater pipes
- 26025 stormwater pits
- 993 headwalls
- 58 minor box culverts
- 6.03 kilometres of concrete lined or concrete closed channels
- 24.97 kilometres of open formed channels
- 38 detention basins
- 207 water quality devices

### Achievements for the year

Council spent \$1.56 million preserving, restoring and enhancing these assets during 2016/17. Some major works completed include:

- Completion of Herbert Rivulet in Elderslie

# Statutory Report

# Compliance with Companion Animals Act 1998 cl217 (1) (f)

## Enforcing and ensuring compliance with the Companion Animals Act and Regulation

The principal objective of this Act is to provide for the effective and responsible care and management of companion animals. The Act places responsibility on the owners of domestic cats and dogs to micro-chip and register their animals with penalties for non-compliance.

## Companion Animal seizure and animal care facility activities

The NSW Office of Local Government has initiated a system to collect data from NSW councils about their animal care facility activities under the Companion Animals Act 1998 and Regulation. This data is being collected primarily to assist individual councils in their animal management activities. The information is useful to assist in developing companion animal management policies, strategies and promotional activities.

Stray animals seized within the LGA in 2016/17 were transported to Council's Animal Care Facility operating out of the Liverpool Animal Shelter.

The collection of data has been lodged with the Office of Local Government. The number of companion animals seized and/or impounded during the 2016/17 reporting period is as follows:

## Companion Animal seizure and animal care facility activities

	Seized	Returned to owner	Impounded at Renbury Farm	Surrendered by owner
Dogs	204	51	264	26
Cats	9	1	69	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>32</b>

## RANGERS

1

Team Leader

4

General Duty Rangers

1

Companion Animal Ranger

1

Noxious Weeds Ranger

1

Administration  
Support Officer

## Companion Animal Management and Activities

Council employs eight officers within Ranger Services; one Team Leader, one Companion Animal Ranger, four General Duty Rangers whose duties include some animal control and enforcement, one Noxious Weeds Officer and one Ranger Services Administration Support Officer.

The Companion Animal Ranger position is a newly created position and oversees Council's rehoming activities, provides enrichment to impounded animals, assists in their promotion via websites and social media and leads Council's educational activities around responsible pet ownership.

Additionally, in late 2016, Council resolved to become a 'No Kill' facility whereby all attempts are made to rehome or rescue suitable animals.

Council received two payments from the Office of Local Government during 2016/17 as follows:

23/03/17	\$14,692
28/06/17	\$17,120
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$31,812</b>

## Reported Dog Attacks 2016/17

Dog attack data is required to be reported to the Office of Local Government in order to guide policy and provide information to the Minister and Parliament. When Council receives a report of a dog attack and the investigation commences, a Dog Attack Data Collection Form is submitted to the Office of Local Government.

Within the Camden LGA during 2016/17, there were 102 dog attack incidents reported to Council. Council investigated all customer requests received and out of these 102 reports, 49 were proven and reported to the Office of Local Government. The number of victims from those incidents reported is as follows:

## Reported dog attacks 2015/16

Victims	No Injury	Minor	Medical Treatment Required	Hospitalisation	Death	Total
Adult (16 yrs +)	16	9	2	1	0	28
Child (up to 16yrs)	1	2	1	0	0	4
Animal	6	9	12	2	10	39
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>71</b>

## Companion Animal Community Education Programs

Council promotes responsible pet ownership within the community in a variety of ways:

- Introduction of a Responsible Pet Ownership program aimed at educating children and residents on the importance of microchipping and name tags on animals, this includes a 'PAWS' and 'PIP' mascot and regular attendance at local schools, libraries and community events promoting responsible pet ownership.
- Paws in the Park – an annual community event raising awareness of responsible pet ownership and attracting over 3,000 local residents and animal lovers.
- Establishment of a number of dog off-leash parks in existing and new release areas to encourage residents to socialize their dogs and undertake physical activity.
- Subsidised de-sexing program to reduce the number of unwanted animals.
- Free microchipping days for dogs and cats.
- Bus advertising and regular educational days at schools and local events.
- Adoption of a 'No Kill' policy in line with community expectations whereby all rehomeable pets are rehomed or rescued.
- Recruitment of a dedicated Companion Animal Ranger trained in animal care and behaviour assessment.
- Independent breed and temperament assessment of impounded animals believed to be dangerous/ aggressive/ restricted.
- Council attempts to return stray dogs and cats to their owners if microchipped and registered rather than impounding.
- Offer of free name tags for all impounded animals released.
- Development and distribution of information books on responsible pet ownership.
- Subsidised sale price of some impounded animals to assist in their being rehomed.
- Creation of a dedicated web page and utilising social media platforms to post lost animals to assist in them being reunited with their owners.
- Working closely with the community, residents, rescue organisations and community animal advocacy groups.

**Rangers undertake regular patrols of local reserves and bike track/walking facilities to educate and inform pet owners of their responsibilities.**



## Alternatives to Euthanasia for Unclaimed Animals

Under Section 64 of the Companion Animals Act, councils are required to seek alternatives to euthanasia for unclaimed animals. Council informs and promotes responsible pet ownership including micro-chipping and registration. Micro-chipping and registration helps to ensure the pet and its owner can be reunited.

In late 2016, Council resolved to operate as a 'No Kill' animal care facility. Council is committed to minimising unwanted behaviours in impounded animals, promoting animals through social media and website advertising and working closely with the community and rescue groups to place animals that cannot be sold. In 2016/17, Council rehomed or rescued all suitable companion animals that were impounded.

## Outcome of Dogs/Cats Impounded at Renbury Farm on behalf of Camden Council

Dogs that have been declared dangerous/menacing or a restricted breed by law are not able to be re-homed and are euthanased. These dogs are included in the figures shown below. The animals that are euthanased comprise of animals which are not suitable to be re-homed due to temperament, feral, illness or at the request of the owner.

In 2016/17, no animals considered suitable for re-homing were euthanased.

### Outcome of Dogs/Cats Impounded

	Released	Unsuitable Animals Euthanased*	Sent to Rescue Organisations	Sold	Other (Stolen/ deceased)
Dogs	51	4	17	29	0
Cats	1	0	34	4	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>0</b>

\*Unsuitable animals include restricted breed, dangerous dogs, menacing dogs, animals with aggressive temperament, feral, significantly sick or injured.



River Road Reserve, Elderslie.

## Off-leash areas provided within the Camden Local Government Area

The Camden LGA has four (4) off-leash areas:

### ■ River Road Reserve, Elderslie

This Reserve is a dedicated off-leash area which is open seven (7) days a week with no time restrictions. Amenities include lighting, seating, shade, agility equipment and a section off area for smaller dogs.

### ■ Bicentennial Equestrian Park

The Equestrian Park is only designated off-leash before 10am and after 5pm daily. During horse event periods all dogs must be on leads.

### ■ Rosevale Reserve, Rosevale Place Narellan

This Reserve has a dedicated off-leash area which is open seven (7) days a week with no time restrictions. Amenities include seating, shade and agility equipment.

### ■ Clifton Park, Arcadian Hills Estate, Cobbitty.

This Reserve has a dedicated off-leash area which is open seven days a week with no time restrictions.

Council are in the process of providing further off-leash areas in the LGA.

## Section 85

Section 85(1A) of the Act requires Council to use any money paid from the fund only for the purposes that relate to the management and control of companion animals in its area.

The Office of Local Government rebate was fully utilised to offset employment and associated activities of companion animal management by Council.

## Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979

Particulars of Compliance with and Effect of Planning Agreements in Force During 2016/17 (s93G (5))

### Oran Park

This Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) applies to land within the Oran Park Precinct, generally to the East of The Northern Road, which is being developed by Greenfields Development Company, partly in partnership with Urban Growth NSW (formerly known as Landcom). The land is located within the Growth Centres and was rezoned in December 2007.

The objective of this VPA is to provide all of the local recreation/open space, community facilities, roads and drainage required to support this new community. The VPA also includes the delivery of district facilities such as the Oran Park Library, Community Centre, Youth Recreation Centre and Leisure Centre, which will meet the needs of the Oran Park, Turner Road and future Maryland communities.

The VPA contains works and land dedications with a value in excess of \$140 million (excluding the value of the water cycle management works and land, and the riparian corridor works and land). Significant work has been undertaken in this rapidly growing precinct. Council and the developers continue to work closely to ensure suitable community outcomes are being produced.

Jack Brabham Reserve and amenities building was completed in 2015/16. Construction works have commenced on the Oran Park Library during 2016/17.



## Gregory Hills

This VPA applies to land known as Gregory Hills, which is approximately half of the Turner Road Precinct that was rezoned in December 2007.

The objective of the VPA is to provide a local community centre and all of the local recreation/open space, drainage and roads required to support this new community. The VPA has a value of approximately \$60 million and includes provisions for the developer to make a monetary contribution toward the funding of other off-site facilities such as a library, leisure centre and youth recreation centre, which are to be located within the Oran Park Town Centre. The VPA includes significant riparian land works, the funding for two major facilities, in particular a double playing field and a community facility, and the dedication of a significant portion of embellished transmission line easement land to Council.

The Gregory Hills VPA was amended following changes resulting from the rezoning of former riparian land to residential land and public open space areas.

The developers have continued to construct water cycle management infrastructure to service the development, along with the commencement of detailed design works for future riparian corridor and open space embellishment.



## Gledswood Hills

This VPA applies to land known as Gledswood Hills, which forms part of Turner Road Precinct that was rezoned in December 2007.

The objective of the VPA is to provide suitable funding for the provision of infrastructure, facilities and services. The VPA has a value in excess of \$24 million and includes significant dedication of two major facilities to Council, these being the South Creek crossing and linear open space through the centre of the site, as well as other parks and facilities. Under the VPA, the developer will make a monetary contribution toward the funding of other off-site facilities such as a Library, Leisure Centre and Youth Recreation Centre, which are to be located within the Oran Park Town Centre.

This year, the developer has continued works on the South Creek Riparian Corridor, including paths/cycleways through riparian corridor, and detailed design work is complete for the 'Satoyama' central open space corridor land in the centre of Gledswood Hills and construction has commenced.

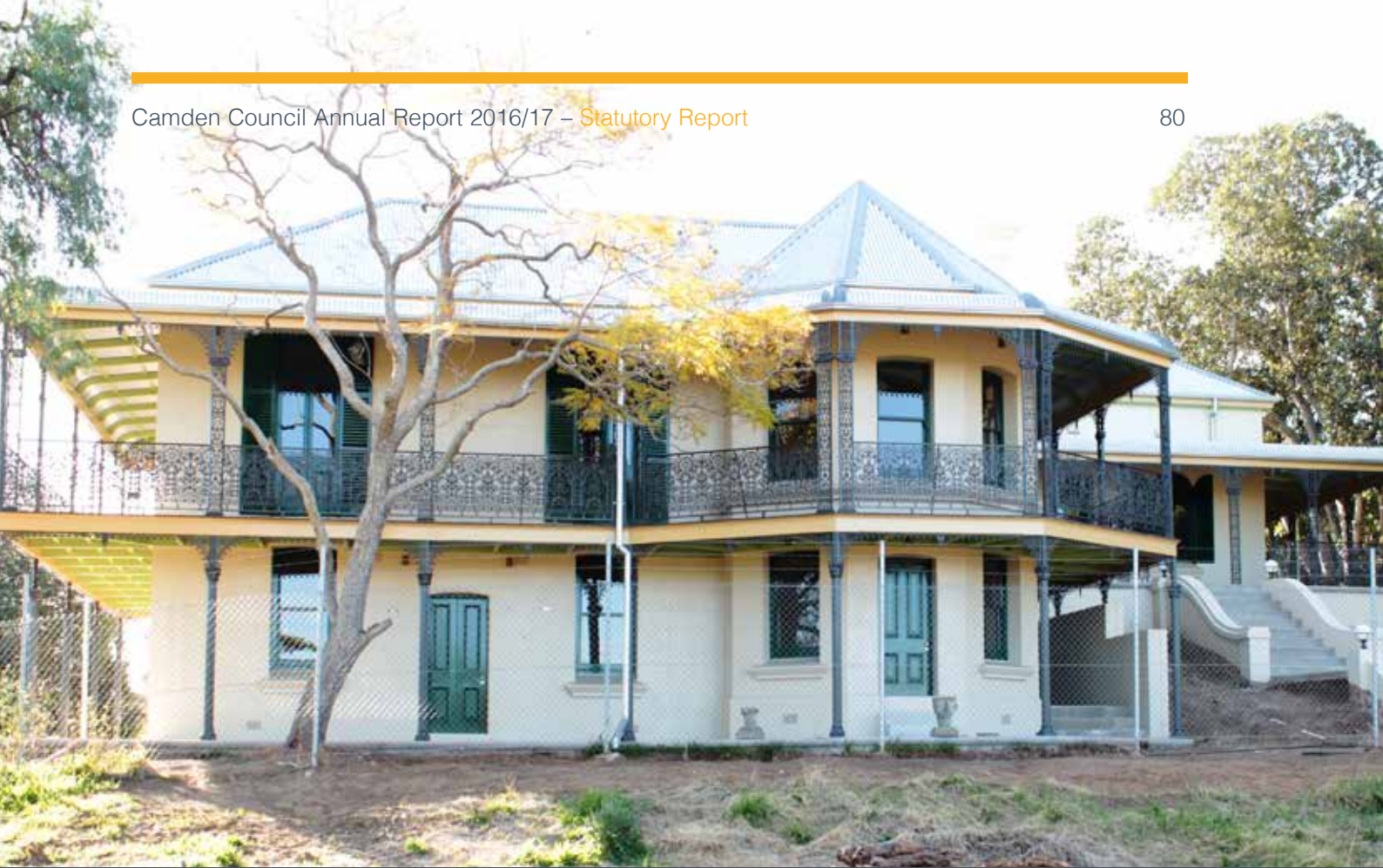
## Yamba

This VPA applies to land known as Yamba, which is an 8.3 hectare site fronting Camden Valley Way at Kirkham. The site is situated between existing residential development at The Links Estate Narellan, rural land to the west and Kirkham Lane to the south. The objective of the VPA is to require the proponent to undertake heritage conservation and adaptive re-use works to Yamba Cottage and associated buildings in conjunction with various stages of development of the site.

The proponent has completed extensive heritage conservation works to Yamba Cottage in accordance with the VPA, and the cottage is currently tenanted. Conservation works have also been undertaken regarding the roadside stall and barn buildings. Conservation works are yet to commence regarding the worker's cottage.

The site was sold during the 2013/14 financial year by the mortgagee and no further development has been undertaken to date.





## Harrington Grove

This VPA applies to land known as Harrington Grove, which is a 440 hectare site located to the north and west of the existing Harrington Park development. The objectives of the VPA are to conserve significant areas of Cumberland Plain Woodland Vegetation, restore two heritage homesteads (Harrington Park Homestead and Orielton), provide a range of on-site facilities (both Public Facilities and Community Title Facilities) and provide a monetary contribution.

The bushland conservation works are well underway and annual reporting is continuing. The heritage restoration works on Harrington Park Homestead have been completed and the restoration works on the Orielton Homestead have commenced. The pedestrian/cycleway network and parks in Harrington Grove East have been delivered. The Country Club and a Neighbourhood Centre and associated facilities have also been delivered in Harrington Grove East. Construction of the Harrington Grove West development has begun and as a result it is expected that further facilities will be delivered progressively over the next couple of years. The site of the Narellan Sports Hub, currently under construction by Camden Council, was dedicated by the developer under the VPA during 2016/17.



Mater Dei (Wivenhoe)

### **Mater Dei (Wivenhoe)**

This VPA applies to land known as Mater Dei or Wivenhoe, which is a 150 hectare site bound by Cobbitty Road to the north, Macquarie Grove Road to the east and the Mater Dei access driveway to the west. The objectives of the VPA are to conserve a significant area of Cumberland Plain Woodland Vegetation, restore the heritage homestead Wivenhoe, provide a range of on-site facilities, and provide a monetary contribution.

The bushland conservation works are well underway and annual reporting is continuing. The restoration of Wivenhoe is complete and the landscaping of Wivenhoe will be completed in the near future. A number of local parks and the pedestrian/cycleway network have also been completed.

### **Catherine Park**

This VPA applies to the development know as Catherine Park, which is a 163 hectare site bound by Camden Valley Way and Oran Park Drive. The objective of the VPA is for the developer to undertake \$52 million of open space, transport, riparian corridor and Watercycle management land and works, as well as a contribution towards off-site facilities, on behalf of the 1850 residential lots proposed in the development. The first release of residential land occurred during 2016/17.



### **El Caballo Blanco, Gledswood and East Side Land Owners**

This VPA applies to land known as the El Caballo Blanco, Gledswood and East Side Land, which comprises approximately 215 hectares and that was rezoned in 2012. The site is located on Camden Valley Way to the north of the Turner Road Precinct.

The objective of the VPA is to provide suitable funding for the provision of infrastructure, facilities and services. The VPA has a value in excess of \$3 million and also requires a monetary contribution of over \$6,000 per lot to be paid to Council for off-site facilities.

The VPA provides a mechanism to ensure vegetation conservation and revegetation on the site, and implementation of a water cycle management system. The development is intended to include a combination of lands for private recreation and environmental conservation. In addition, the VPA will facilitate delivery of local infrastructure including parks, pedestrian/cycle

paths and road works including a collector road, bridge crossings and intersection upgrades. Importantly the VPA provides a mechanism for the riparian corridor and vegetation to be managed in perpetuity by the land owners.

### **East Leppington**

This VPA applies to land known as East Leppington, which comprises approximately 45 hectares that was rezoned in 2013. The VPA has a value in excess of \$7 million and will deliver local open space and recreation, a collector road, pedestrian and cycle paths, water cycle management and embellishment of riparian land that is to be dedicated to Council.

Development within this precinct is significantly advanced, with the construction of water cycle management and traffic infrastructure under the VPA being completed, and the commencement of construction of the local park and riparian corridor embellishment works.

## Emerald Hills

This VPA applies to land known as Emerald Hills, which comprises over 151 hectares of land that was rezoned in 2014. The VPA has a value in excess of \$47 million and will deliver local open space and recreation, community facilities, collector roads, pedestrian and cycle paths, water cycle management and embellishment of riparian land that is to be dedicated to Council.

The first release of residential land occurred during 2016/17. The design process for passive and active open space areas under the VPA (including the ridgetop park, heritage park and double playing fields) has been finalised.

## Spring Farm (Cornish)

This VPA applies to 82 hectares of land within the Spring Farm Urban Release Area, generally to the south of Springs Road, which is being developed by Cornish Group. The objective of this VPA is to provide local infrastructure including open space, road works and stormwater facilities with a value of over \$37 million in conjunction with the staged release of this development. Works under the VPA commenced in March 2015 and are progressively being released in stages. Recreation areas including Springs Lake were completed during 2016/17.

Spring Farm Park





Narellan Town Centre

### Narellan Town Centre

This VPA applies to the land owned by the Narellan Town Centre shopping centre and its approved expansion to its northern site across Camden Valley North. The objective of this VPA is for the developer to undertake over \$6.7 million worth of streetscape, road works, drainage works and public access works to plazas associated with the development of the site. Construction on the site commenced in April 2015 with the first stage opened in September 2016.

### Arcadian Hills

This VPA applies to the development known as Arcadian Hills, which forms part of the Oran Park Growth Centre precinct on the western side of The Northern Road. The objective of this VPA is for the developer to undertake approximately \$20.1 million of open space, transport, riparian corridor and water cycle management works and land dedication, and monetary contributions towards off-site facilities on behalf of the 457 residential lots proposed in the development.

The developers have completed the local park, riparian corridor rehabilitation and embellishment works, and the construction of water cycle management basins. The design of the future park in the north of the development is currently underway.

# Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (s125 of the GIPA Act and cl193 of the GIPA Regulation)

## GIPA (s125 of the Act and cl7 of Regulation)

The Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA Act) came into effect on 1 July 2010. The GIPA Act is the NSW Government's approach to giving the community greater access to information. The NSW Government has made a commitment to provide access to information held by the Government, including local councils, unless on balance it is contrary to the public interest to provide that information.

Council is committed to providing the community with open and transparent access to information about our services, activities and business operations. Much of this information is routinely provided in our corporate documents, which are identified in our Agency Information Guide, publicly available on Council's website.

## Review of Release of Government Information under s7(3) of the GIPA Act

According to the GIPA Act, to make information publicly available, agencies must review their programs for the release of government information. This review must be undertaken at least once every 12 months.

Council's program for the proactive release of information involves the following actions:

- Regularly reviewing and updating online content.
- Encouraging the community to seek information, not available online, via informal requests for information free of charge (with the exception of photocopying costs).
- Reviewing the disclosure log to identify the main types of information being requested.
- Auditing information requests.
- Researching other Council websites to see the types of information proactively released.
- Discussions with Council staff regarding what information is regularly sought and whether such information could be made available on Council's website.

## Number of Applications received during 2016/17

In 2016/17 Council received 16 formal and 764 informal GIPA applications. All applications received were assessed and responded to within statutory timeframes.



## Statistical information about access applications - Clause 7(d) and Schedule 2

The statistical information about formal GIPA(access applications) applications is outlined below:

**Table A: Number of applications by type of applicant 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	Total	% of Total
Media	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6%
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Private sector business	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6%
Not for profit organisations or community groups	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Members of the public (by legal representative)	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	5	32%
Members of the public (other)	0	7	1	0	0	0	1	0	9	56%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>	
% of Total	6%	70%	12%	6%	0%	0%	6%	0%		100%

\* 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	Total	% of Total
Personal information applications*	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	31%
Access applications (other than personal information applications)	0	3	1	1	0	0	1	0	6	38%
Access applications that are partly personal information applications and partly other	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	5	31%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>	
% of Total	6%	70%	12%	6%	0%	0%	6%	0%		100%

\* 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	No of applications	% of Total
Application does not comply with formal requirements (Section 41 of the Act)	0	0%
Application is for excluded information of the agency (Section 43 of the Act)	0	0%
Application contravenes restraint order (Section 110 of the Act)	0	0%
Total number of invalid applications received	0	0%
Invalid applications that subsequently became valid applications	0	0%

**Table D: Conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure: matters listed in Schedule 1 of Act**

	Number of times consideration used*	% of Total
Overriding secrecy laws	0	0%
Cabinet information	0	0%
Executive Council information	0	0%
Contempt	0	0%
Legal professional privilege	2	100%
Excluded information	0	0%
Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety	0	0%
Transport safety	0	0%
Adoption	0	0%
Care and protection of children	0	0%
Ministerial code of conduct	0	0%
Aboriginal and environmental heritage	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*More than one public interest consideration may apply in relation to a particular access application and if so, each such consideration is to be recorded (but only once per application). This also applies in relation to Table E

**Table E: Other public interest considerations against disclosure: matters listed in table to Section 14 of Act**

	Number of times consideration used*	% of Total
Responsible and effective government	3	14%
Law enforcement and security	0	0%
Individual rights, judicial processes and natural justice	14	64%
Business interests of agencies and other persons	5	22%
Environment, culture, economy and general matters	0	0%
Secrecy provisions	0	0%
Exempt documents under interstate	0	0%
Freedom of Information legislation	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table F: Timeliness**

	Number of applications*	% of Total
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	16	100%
Decided after 35 days (by agreement with applicant)	0	0%
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table G: Number of applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act (by type of review and outcome)**

	Decision varied	Decision upheld	Total	% of Total
Internal review	0	0	0	0%
Review by Information Commissioner*	0	0	0	0%
Internal review following recommendation under section 93 of Act	0	1	1	100%
Review by NCAT	0	0	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	
% of Total	0%	100%	100%	100%

\* 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	% of Total
Applications by access applicants	1	100%
Applications by persons to whom information the subject of access application relates (see Section 54 of the Act)	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table I: Applications transferred to other agencies.**

	Number of applications transferred	% of Total
Agency-Initiated Transfers	0	0%
Applicant - Initiated Transfers	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>

# IPART SRV Determination Conditions

## Special rate variation

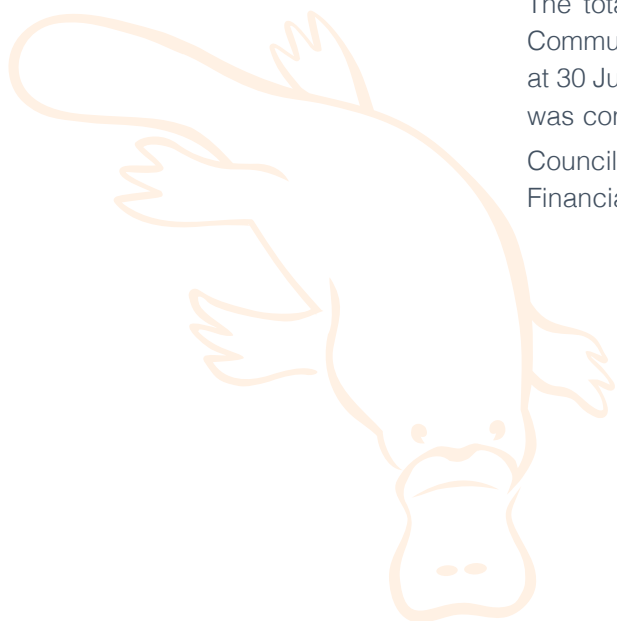
At the Council Meeting of 11 December 2012, Council resolved to apply for a special rate variation (SRV) of 1.1% (above the Minister's allowable limit of 3.4%) for six years for the purposes of part-funding a \$6.3 million Community Infrastructure Renewal Program. This application was approved on 12 June 2013. The SRV commenced on 1 July 2013 and will expire on 30 June 2019.

The Community Infrastructure Renewal Program is made up of \$2.8 million from the SRV, \$2 million from a State Government low interest loan under the Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme and \$1.5 million from Council's Internal Reserves. The following table is a summary of the renewal works to be delivered under the \$6.3 million program over six years:

INFRASTRUCTURE CATEGORY	EXPENDITURE
Road reconstruction and reseal	\$3,485,000
Parks and reserves renewal program	\$1,310,000
Buildings and surrounds renewal program	\$536,000
Bridge renewal program	\$431,000
Kerb and gutter renewal program	\$364,000
Footpath and cycleway renewal program	\$174,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,300,000</b>

The total programmed expenditure for the first four years of the Community Infrastructure Renewal Program was \$4.3 million. As at 30 June 2017, \$3.73 million (86%) of the identified work program was completed.

Council's renewal expenditure on this program for the 2016/17 Financial Year was \$613,890.



## COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL PROGRAM

The total programmed expenditure for the first four years of the Community Infrastructure Renewal Program was \$4.3 million. As at 30 June 2017, \$3.73 million (86%) of the identified work program was completed.

Council's renewal expenditure on this program for the 2016/17 Financial Year was \$613,890.

Work Locations		Suburb	2016/17
			\$
ROAD RECONSTRUCTION AND RESEALS PROGRAM			
Macquarie Grove Road		Cobbitty	\$192,678
Heatherfield Road	Catherine Field	Catherine Field	\$19,242
Anthony Road	Eastwood	Catherine Field	\$38,531
ROADS ASPHALT DEEP LIFT PROGRAM - VARIOUS LOCATIONS			
Ron Dine Reserve Internal Road			\$42,905
Totals			\$293,356
KERB AND GUTTER RENEWAL PROGRAM - VARIOUS LOCATIONS			
Totals			\$56,358
FOOTPATH RENEWAL PROGRAM - VARIOUS LOCATIONS			
Totals			\$36,100
PARKS AND RESERVES RENEWAL PROGRAM			
Four Season Park	Play Ground Equipment	Harrington Park	\$13,029
McCall Avenue Reserve	Play Ground Equipment	Camden South	\$35,700
Charles Moore Reserve	Play Ground Equipment	Mount Annan	\$68,021
Totals			\$116,750
BRIDGE RENEWAL PROGRAM			
Burragorang Rd Bridge -460m East of Cawdor Rd		Camden	\$13,316
Macquarie Grove-Concrete Bridge_General		Kirkham	\$5,918
Totals			\$19,234
BUILDING AND SURROUNDS RENEWAL PROGRAM			
Replacement and repairs to Depot workshop & store roof, guttering and drain age system			\$8,118
Camden Pool Painting			\$29,473
Chellaston St Amenities - Renovate			\$20,045
Buildings Renewal General			\$34,456
Totals			\$92,092
TOTAL RENEWAL EXPENDITURE			\$613,890

# Local Government Act 1993 and Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

## Environmental upgrade agreements (s54p)

Council did not enter into any environmental upgrade agreements during 2016/2017.

## Code of Conduct Reporting (s440 of the Act and cl193 of the Regulations)

*Council's Code of Conduct provides a framework for minimum standards of conduct by all Council officials and is in line with the Office of Local Government's (OLG) Model Code of Conduct. The current Code of Conduct incorporates provisions relating to complaint handling procedures and reporting requirements of the General Manager.*

According to section 22 of Council's Code of Conduct, the Council is to provide the OLG with a report containing the statistics referred to below within three months of the end of September of each year.

The Complaints Coordinator must arrange for the following statistics to be reported to the Council within three months of the end of September of each year.

The total number of code of conduct complaints made about Councillors and the General Manager under the code of conduct in the year to September	Nil
The number of code of conduct complaints referred to a conduct reviewer	Nil
The number of code of conduct complaints finalised by a conduct reviewer at the preliminary assessment stage and the outcome of those complaints	Nil
The number of code of conduct complaints investigated by a conduct reviewer	Nil
The number of code of conduct complaints investigated by a conduct review committee	Nil
Without identifying particular matters, the outcome of code of conduct complaints investigated by a conduct reviewer or conduct review committee under these procedures	N/A
The number of matters reviewed by the Division and, without identifying particular matters, the outcome of the reviews	N/A
The total cost of dealing with code of conduct complaints made about Councillors and the General Manager in the year to September, including staff costs.	Nil

# Local Government Regulation 2005

## Contracts awarded cl217 (1) (a2)

### All new contracts (>\$150,000) during 2016/2017

Statewide Civil Pty Ltd Suite	Argyle Street Stage 2 Median Works between Elizabeth & Edward streets	\$359,360
Zauner Constructions Pty Ltd	Construction of Oxley Street Car Park Extension, Camden	\$2,947,100
Cleary Bros Pty Ltd	Narellan Sports Hub Construction of Civil Works, Services and Netball Courts	\$5,109,387
Axis Constructions	Construction of Club Rooms and Amenities Building at Narellan Sports Hub	\$2,617,474
Total Earth Care Pty Ltd	Construction of Water Quality Treatment Works at Lake Annan	\$573,086
TJ and RF Fordham Pty Ltd	Narellan Sports Hub Stage 1 Bulk Earthworks	\$653,551
Kellyville Building Pty Ltd	Construction of Nott Oval Amenities Building	\$546,971

## Controlling interests cl217 (1) (a7)

Council did not hold a controlling interest in any companies during the 2016/2017 reporting period.

## Councillor payments and support cl217 (1) (a1)

Councillors are eligible for a range of entitlements and remunerations associated with their role, including reimbursement of expenses incurred in carrying out their civic duties and provision of facilities to assist in fulfilling their obligations.

To ensure proper use of facilities and engagement of expenses by Councillors, Council is required to adopt a Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities to the Mayor and Councillors Policy (Expenses & Facilities Policy). This Policy is reviewed and adopted as required under the Local Government Act 1993, enabling the Council itself to determine what expenses it will cover and what facilities it will provide to Councillors (within reason).

The objectives of the Expenses and Facilities Policy are to:

- Ensure consistency in the application of reimbursement of expenses and provision of facilities to Councillors in an equitable and non-discriminatory manner
- Provide a level of support to Councillors to assist them in representing the interests of the community
- Ensure transparency and accountability in the reimbursement of expenses incurred by Councillors.

In 2016/17 the following expenses were incurred by the Mayor and Councillors:

### Councillor Expenses

Dedicated Office Equipment	\$6,400
Telephone*	\$30,282
Conferences/Seminars	Nil
Training	\$9,390
Interstate Visits - all costs	Nil
Overseas Visits	Nil
Expenses for Spouses	Nil
Child Care	\$1,084
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$47,156</b>

### Councillor Allowance

Mayoral Allowance	\$34,000
Councillor Allowances	\$136,735

\*includes telephone calls made, mobile phone and iPad

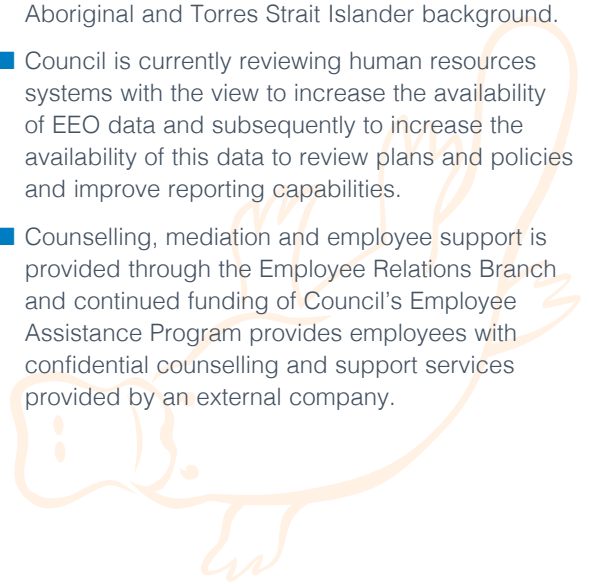
## Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) cl217 (1) (a9)

During the 2016/17 financial year, the Employee Relations Branch has continued to provide human resource services to a growing workforce. With a workforce growing at an average of 7% per annum to meet the needs of extraordinary community growth, the focus of Employee Relations activities has been to review and improve services to support maintaining a sustainable workforce that is agile and capable of delivering the Community Strategic Plan. The following activities have been completed and achieved during this time:

- Provision of core services and support in Work Health and Safety, Learning and Development, Payroll and Human Resources to a growing organisation.
- Development and implementation of the Workforce Plan 2017-2021.
- Support and implementation of Council's Adaptive Organisational Framework 2017.
- Review and update of Council's Human Resources policies and procedures.
- Review of Council's recruitment and selection procedures and practices.
- Implementation of the Leadership Capability Framework and associated Leadership Training.
- Council continues to manage its employees in accordance with all relevant Award provisions and other employment related legislation.
- Council actively supports and promotes a contemporary and professional industrial environment.

In accordance with Chapter 1, Part 4 of the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW), Council maintains an EEO Management Plan supported by Council policies and procedures designed to ensure the absence of discrimination in employment and promote equal employment opportunity for all people. The following activities have been undertaken:

- Council's EEO Management Plan continues to be monitored and reviewed.
- The commitment to maintaining good employee relations remains a high priority and is facilitated through consultation and communication. In accordance with the Local Government (State) Award 2017 Council maintains the Staff Consultative and Work Health and Safety Committees. These committees facilitate transparent decision making and promote good working relationships between Council, its employees and Unions.
- Recruitment of staff is based on merit selection principles ensuring that the most suitable candidate is selected and all applicants are afforded equal opportunity.
- Recruitment and Selection and EEO Training is required for all staff prior to participation in recruitment actions.
- Council is currently expanding the Traineeship Program providing employment and development opportunities to young people in our local area. This program includes an identified position providing opportunity to people specifically from an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander background.
- Council is currently reviewing human resources systems with the view to increase the availability of EEO data and subsequently to increase the availability of this data to review plans and policies and improve reporting capabilities.
- Counselling, mediation and employee support is provided through the Employee Relations Branch and continued funding of Council's Employee Assistance Program provides employees with confidential counselling and support services provided by an external company.





Camden Town Farm, Camden

## External bodies cl217 (1) (a6)

### Camden Town Farm

The Camden Town Farm Committee provides maintenance and management of this wonderful facility in the heart of the Camden. The Camden Town Farm is a unique facility, providing the Community with an opportunity to access and understand the rural history of Camden.

### Camden International Friendship Association (CIFA)

(CIFA) is a group delegated to promoting friendship between Kashiwa City in Japan and the community of Camden. CIFA was founded in 1997 following an initiative to establish a link with a town in Japan to promote international friendship through hosting exchange programs for students and citizens from both countries.



### Camden Seniors Program

The Camden Seniors Program Committee is delegated to organise and run five major projects for seniors in the Camden and surrounding areas each year. These include:

- Picnic luncheon at Belgenny Farm.
- Morning Tea at the Australian Botanic Gardens at Mt Annan.
- Christmas dinner at Camden Civic Centre.
- Seniors Concert at the Camden Civic Centre during Senior's Week.
- Seniors Bus Trip during Seniors Week.



Horse jumping obstacles at Bicentennial Equestrian Park

### Bicentennial Equestrian Park

The Camden Bicentennial Equestrian Committee provides maintenance and management of this facility. The Park provides a variety of equestrian and community activities including:

- Camp Draft
- Polocrosse
- Pony Club
- Rodeo
- Camden Men's Shed
- Show Jumping
- Walking track
- Dog walking

**The Bicentennial Equestrian Park is used for variety of events, including equine, sporting, educational and community events.**



## Grants and Contributions cl217 (1) (a5)

There are six types of grants available under Council's Community Financial Assistance Program, as outlined in the table below.

### COMMUNITY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Program Name	Funded	Amount
Community Small Grants	27 Community service groups	\$90,026
Donations for Charitable Purposes	8 Individuals and/or community groups including Mayoral award	\$4,973
Gifted Persons	11 individuals	\$4,629
Cultural Performance Subsidy	10 community events	\$11,200
Annual Subsidies	10 organisations and 3 community resources	\$53,988
Community Sponsorship	20 organisations	\$81,325
<b>Total Amount</b>		<b>\$246,141</b>



## Legal Proceedings cl217 (1) (a3)

Summary of costs incurred by Council in relation to legal proceedings:

Cost of all Land and Environment Court Proceedings	\$6,219
Cost of Local Court Proceedings	Nil
Cost of all other Court Proceedings	\$194,275

A summary of the state of progress of each legal proceeding and result is set out below:

Defendant	Court	Description of Proceedings	Result	Legal Expenses
Lipman	Supreme	Contract Dispute	On-going	\$194,275
SH Camden Valley P/L	Land and Environment	Rating Category Matter	Resolved	\$1,166
Greenfield Company	Land and Environment	Class 1 Appeal	Resolved	\$1,554
Thunderace Holding	Land and Environment	Land and Environment Court Class 1 Appeal	Resolved	\$3,500
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$200,495</b>

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### Partnerships, Co-Operatives and Joint Ventures cl217 (1) (a8)

Council is a shareholder in the Southern Phone Company for two shares at \$1.00 each being one A class share and in the B to ZZ class.

From 1 July 2014, Camden Council became a member of Civic Risk Mutual formerly known as Westpool and United Independent Group. Civic Risk Mutual is a co-operative Local Government self-insurance scheme. Financial contributions to the Pool are based on the relative size of each council and incorporate a proportion of underlying claims experience so as to reflect risk exposure.

### Private Works cl217 (1) (a4) and s67 (3)

Council carried out no work on private land.

Work undertaken on private land	Cost subsidised by council
Nil	Nil



## Rates and Charges Written Off (cl 132, s575, s583, s595 or s607)

The Local Government Act 1993 provides Council with the ability to write off rates and charges under certain circumstances. Each year it is necessary to report to Council and formally resolve to write off these amounts.

There are several types of write offs and the amounts proposed in respect of the 2016/17 rating year are set out below and discussed.

Postponed amounts, where land is occupied solely as the site of a house or is rural land, because of its zoning or permitted use, is valued for rating purposes at a higher value to reflect its permitted use rather than its actual use. After 5 years of postponement the original year is abandoned.

Rates written off from 2012/13	\$7,072
Interest written off from 2012/13	\$2,704
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,776</b>

Small balance adjustments where the total amount left outstanding are less than \$3.00

<b>Amount</b>	<b>\$2,302</b>
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Miscellaneous rates and charges written off due to incorrect payment by solicitor.

<b>Amount</b>	<b>\$740</b>
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Interest on Pensioner's Rates written off in 2016/2017 as per Pension Policy 5.34.

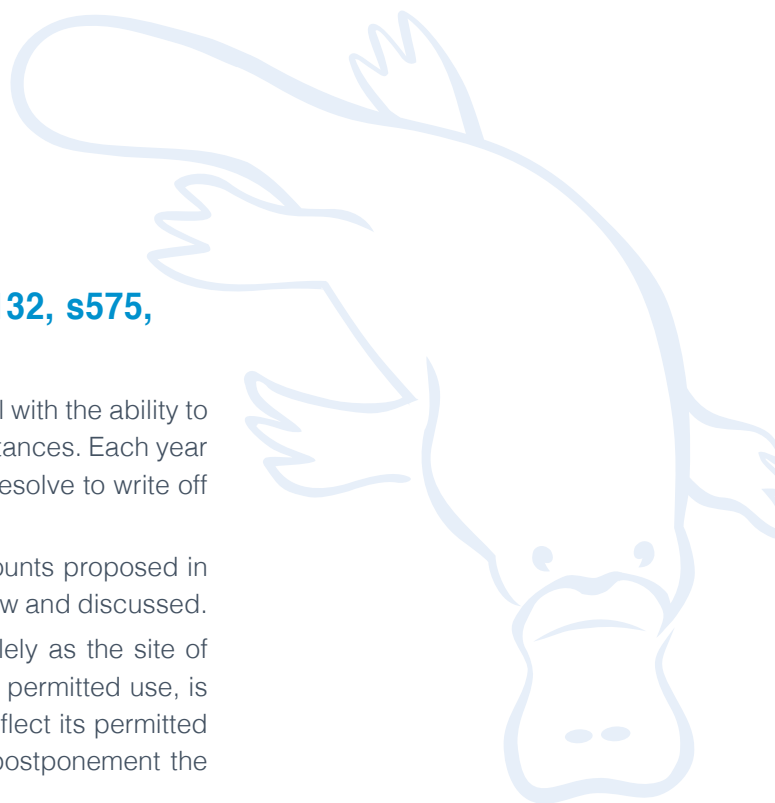
<b>Amount</b>	<b>\$1,030</b>
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The amount of pension rebates granted during the 2016/2017 rating year.

<b>Amount</b>	<b>\$735,787</b>
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Council will claim 55% reimbursement from the State Government for the amount written off.

The total amount of rates and charges written off in the rating year 2016/2017 is \$749,635 and appropriate provision was made in the 2016/2017 Budget.





## Stormwater Management Service Charge cl217 (1) (e)

During 2016/17, Council spent \$1,482,345 on managing, maintaining and upgrading stormwater management facilities through the LGA as well as delivering a range of education and promotion activities to help increase our community's awareness of potential polluting activities.

Activity	Amount
Lake Annan Plan of Management Works	\$589,062
Education and Promotion	\$37,218
Water Quality Monitoring	\$20,632
Urban Gross Pollutant Trap (GPT) Maintenance	\$389,139
Wetland and Rain Garden Maintenance	\$78,545
Drainage System Management & Renewal	\$295,094
Lake Yandel'ora Management	\$31,113
Stormwater and Floodplain Management	\$25,656
IBIS Program	\$15,886
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,482,345</b>



Lake Annan Floating Wetlands

### Lake Annan Plan of Management Works

Lake Annan is currently under stress from the impacts of surrounding land use and the development of urban areas in the broader catchment.

Lake Annan has experienced a number of problems, including:

- high nutrient loads contributing to algal blooms and odour of the Lake in the warmer months
- operation and maintenance of the upstream GPT
- poor water clarity due to high turbidity
- widespread loss of macrophyte plants
- sediment build up
- localised areas of erosion and bank scalding
- additional nutrient loads due to a large population of Australian White Ibis using the island for breeding

Works have now been completed in providing intensive water quality treatments at the main stormwater inlet with the construction of floating wetlands, embankment stabilisation and construction of an inlet zone for sedimentation control.

### Education and Promotion

The majority of pollutants entering the Camden LGA stormwater system come from activities

affiliated with urban living such as car washing, littering and over fertilising of gardens and lawns. Several education and promotion activities were undertaken during 2016/17 to help increase our community's awareness of potential polluting activities, including the engagement of a temporary Stormwater Education Officer to target sedimentation control and water quality around worksites.

### Water Quality Monitoring

Following a review of the previous water quality programs data for the last four years, it has been confirmed that stormwater management assets and devices, including pollution control basins, wetlands and lakes, are reducing pollutant loads, which would otherwise drain into the downstream Nepean River. The reduction of nutrients and other pollutants is particularly demonstrated within the smaller drainage units or sub-catchments. However, given that urban developments have accelerated in many sub-catchments draining to the Narellan Creek, maintenance of the stormwater control assets becomes important for their effectiveness to be retained.

Council has reviewed how this service is being undertaken, and has been implementing efficiencies to improve the number of tests and also reduce costs.



Lake Yandel'ora

### Urban Gross Pollutant Trap (GPT) Maintenance

GPTs capture and store pollutant materials such as litter and nutrient laden sediment, and to function effectively GPTs need to be cleaned and the captured material removed regularly. Gross pollutants and specifically the nutrients with them can be re-mobilised and washed downstream if they are not removed prior to subsequent rainfall events. GPT maintenance was completed in accordance with the management plan within the scheduled maintenance programs on a quarterly basis, noting that as urban development proceeds, there will be an increasing demand for maintaining the new GPTs being delivered.

### Wetland and Rain Garden Maintenance

Constructed wetlands and rain gardens are the primary method of removing nutrients from stormwater. These contemporary stormwater management facilities are being implemented throughout the newly developed areas.

Almost all stormwater originating from the Camden area ultimately drains into the Nepean River. Funds to periodically maintain wetlands, rain gardens and other aquatic vegetation assist with weed removal and ensuring the systems operate effectively.

Council employs a natural areas team to undertake maintenance programs and have been undertaking regular programmed litter removal which includes monitoring of litter levels. Selected weed removal and vegetation management works have been undertaken throughout the year.

### Lake Yandel'ora Management

Lake Yandel'ora is a significant water body that has been created through the construction of a large dam wall. As part of the safety requirements for managing such a large dam, Council is required to conduct routine inspections and auditing of the structural soundness of the dam wall.

Works were undertaken this year to remove significant vegetation from the dam wall to ensure its structural integrity.

Council continues to undertake safety inspections in accordance the NSW Dams Safety Committee guidelines.

### Stormwater and Floodplain Management

The number of stormwater assets is rapidly growing with the release of new residential land subdivisions and commercial developments, with a dedicated asset management team in place to manage the growth in all assets, develop works programs to maintain and renew assets, and to update council's existing Asset Management Plans (AMP), including a specific Stormwater AMP.

Additionally, funds were allocated towards the investigation of various dams and their role in managing flooding across the Upper South Creek catchment.

## Senior Staff Remuneration cl217 (1) (b) (c)

### General Manager Remuneration

The total remuneration package for the General Manager including salary, non-cash benefits, superannuation and fringe benefits tax was \$326,142.

### Senior Staff Remuneration

The total remuneration package for the three Directors including salary, non-cash benefits, superannuation and fringe benefits tax was \$816,829

**Note:** Total package includes the total value of the salary component of package, total employer's contribution to superannuation (salary sacrifice or employers contribution), total value non-cash benefits, and the total fringe benefits tax for non-cash benefits.

## NSW Carers' (Recognition) Act 2010 and NSW Charter

### Compliance with the Act (s8)

Council is committed to supporting employees with carer responsibilities. Council's Induction Program promotes employees' leave provision options including Carers Leave. Council complies with the NSW Local Government (State) Award, which includes various leave provisions for employees

including 'Carers Leave'. Where employees have requested flexible working arrangements due to carer's responsibilities, Council has worked with them to accommodate their requirements.

Council continues to ensure that policies remain supportive for all employees, particularly those

with carer's responsibilities.

Council supports the NSW Companions card and accepts the card at its venues. In recognising the important role played by carers Council hosted a range of Carers Week activities promoting self-care and networking for carers.



# Public Interest Disclosure Act 1994 and Regulation 2011

## Public interest disclosures

Council has a Public Interest Disclosure Act Internal Reporting Policy as required under the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994*. Pursuant to Council's policy, Councillors, members of staff or any other stakeholders are encouraged and facilitated to make a disclosure in the public interest of corrupt conduct, maladministration, serious and substantial waste and government information contravention within Council.

Council is committed to ensuring that matters raised by staff, Councillors, and other stakeholders under the Act are properly investigated and that those who make disclosures are protected from reprisals.

Council supports any member of staff, Councillor or stakeholder who reports wrongdoing. For a report to be considered a public interest disclosure under the Act, it must meet the following requirements:

- The person making the disclosure must honestly believe on reasonable grounds that the information shows or tends to show wrongdoing; and
- The report also has to be made to a person nominated in the policy, the General Manager (or Mayor in the case of a report against the General Manager), or one of the investigating authorities nominated in the Act.

A disclosure must be made in writing to either the General Manager or Disclosure Coordinator (the Manager Governance and Corporate Services) or Director Customer and Corporate Services or the Mayor (in the case of a complaint against the General Manager). Upon receipt of a disclosure, the General Manager (or Mayor, in the case of a complaint against the General Manager) is to carry out a comprehensive interview and investigation with the person making the disclosure.

In accordance with Council's reporting requirements, Council has received no Public Interest Disclosures for the year 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017.

In addressing the reporting requirements under the Act, Council records the following information:

- The number of public officials who have made a public interest disclosure to the Camden Council for 2016/17 year  
*Nil*
- The number of public interest disclosures received by the Camden Council in total for 2016/17 and the number of public interest disclosures received by the Council relating to each of the following:
  - (a) Corrupt conduct;
  - (b) Maladministration;
  - (c) Serious and substantial waste;
  - (d) Government information contraventions;*Nil*
- Local government pecuniary interest contraventions.  
*Nil*
- The number of public interest disclosures finalised by the Council.  
*Nil*
- Does the Camden Council has a public interest disclosures policy in place?  
*Yes*

# Work Health and Safety Act 2011

## WHS initiatives, outcomes, statistics, investigations (Part 4, (1), (2))

Implementation of Council's Work Health and Safety (WHS) Management System continues throughout the organisation. A significant component of Council's safety system is Contractor Management, Council's approach is to ensure legislative compliance and mitigating Council's risk exposure and reputational risk from contractors.

The proactive approach to workers compensation case management continues to improve rehabilitation outcomes, which contribute to reduced lost time injuries and reductions to Council's workers' compensation insurance premium.



## On-Time Payment Policy (Small Business Commission)

The Small Business Friendly Councils Program was launched in September 2014 by the Minister for Local Government, The Hon. Paul Toole MP. Camden Council is one of 38 Councils across NSW which has signed up to be part of this innovative program.

This program will see participating Council's support small businesses through reviewing existing procedures and practices, and exploring new initiatives which enable small businesses to grow and thrive.

The On-Time Payment Policy formalises Council's commitment to pay invoices for eligible small business suppliers within 30 days of receipt as part of the small business friendly Councils Program.

Measure	Sep 2016	Dec 2016	Mar 2017	Jun 2017
Invoices due for payment received from small businesses (#)	25	17	27	31
Invoices from small businesses paid on time (#)	25	17	27	31
Amount due for payment to small businesses (\$)	\$126,510	\$101,245	\$31,871	\$38,902
Amount due to small businesses paid on time (\$)	\$126,510	\$101,245	\$31,871	\$38,902
Number of payments to small businesses for interest on overdue accounts (#)	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Interest paid to small businesses on late accounts (\$)	\$21.42	Nil	Nil	Nil

## ‘Ripples’

‘Ripples’ is about the growth of a community, the waves of settlement to Camden and the expanding urban development that is changing the pattern of the land, in particular around Oran Park.

‘Ripples’ comprises of three layers, the Flora, the Fauna and the Waterways of the bisecting Nepean River. Utilising these elements, ‘Ripples’ combines these layers to form a graphic treatment showing a rippling wave of biodiversity and movement. The overall image is an imprint contour of the Camden valley while graphics of the flora and fauna engage discovery at a closer distance.

‘Ripples’ draws on the history of Camden and its growth, since the early days of settlement in Australia, the Camden District was the first destination for hundreds of pioneering families starting a new life

Artist: Kevin Vo

Back Page Artwork - Council Administration Building, Oran Park

