



Statutory Report 2009/10



summary report : bringing camden together



Statutory Report

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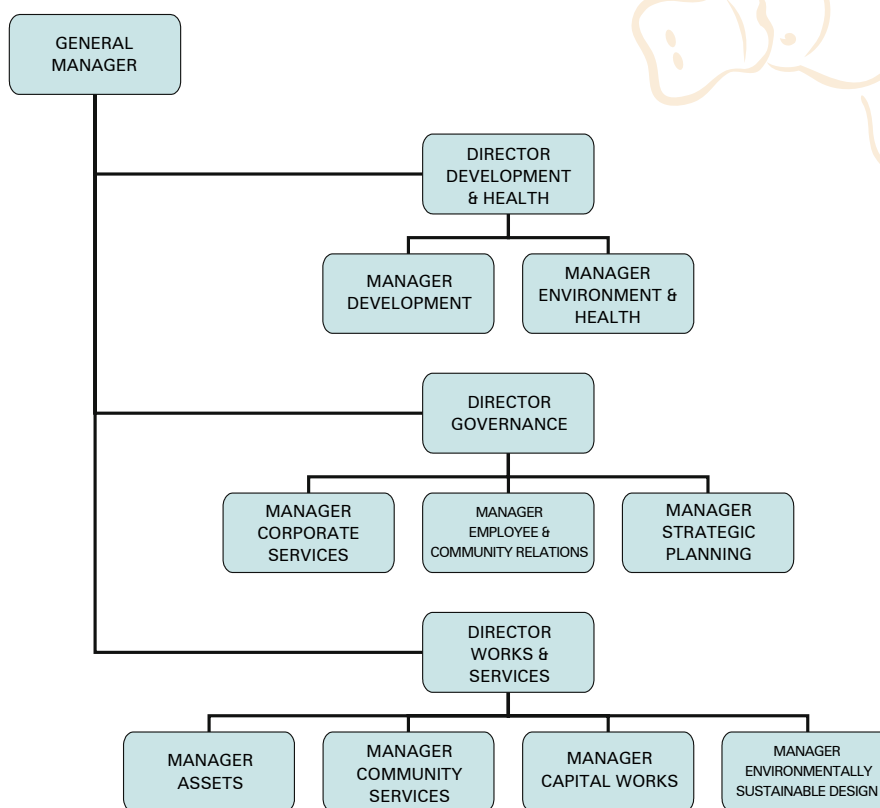
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Camden Council Structure and Functions



Functions relating to each Branch

Manager Development

- Development Application Assessment
- Development and Building Compliance
- Development Certificates
- Fire Safety
- Land Use Planning
- Development Policies
- Land Development Engineering
- Soil Erosion and Sediment Control
- Planning Certificates
- Public Entertainment Approvals
- Approve Advertising Signs
- Court Appeals
- Geographic & Land information
- Naming of Roads and Reserves
- Driveway Crossing Approvals
- Public Road Activity Assessment
- Tree Removal Approvals
- Landscape Design Assessment
- Final Plans of Subdivisions
- Pre DA Advisory Service
- Plan Printing

Manager Environment & Health

- Pollution – Air, Noise, Water
- Regulation of Overgrown Land
- Environmental Assessment of DA's
- Industrial & Commercial Audits
- Water Quality assessment
- Food Shop inspection
- Legionnaires Inspections
- Hairdressing & Skin Penetration Salons
- On-Site Sewage Management
- Regulation of Companion Animals
- Noxious Weeds
- Parking Regulations
- Roadside Trading
- Unauthorised Signs
- Domestic Waste Management
- Commercial Waste Management
- Waste Education
- Abandoned Vehicles

Manager Corporate Services

- Administration
- Property & Legal
- Local Democracy
- Communications
- Information Services
- Records Management
- Annual Reports
- Freedom of Information & Privacy Matters
- Management Plan
- Petty Cash
- Council Business Papers & Minutes
- Computer Services
- Rating
- Accounts Payable
- Debtors
- Revenue
- Purchasing & Expenditure
- Financial Management
- Management Accounting
- Community Grants
- Budget

Manager Strategic Planning

- Delivery Major Strategic Plan
 - Managing Urban Growth
 - Accessibility
 - Environmental Systems
 - Economic and Community Development
 - Governance
- Tourism Development
- Heritage Issues
- Cross organisational projects
- Major Rezonings
- State and Regional Planning Issues Strategic Landuse
- Planning
- Place Management
- Systems Management
- Community Consultation
- Corporate Planning

Manager Employee & Community Relations

- Payroll
- Community/ Public Relations
- Customer Service
- Occupational Health & Safety
- Workers Compensation
- Risk Management
- Recruitment
- Employee Welfare
- Industrial and Arbitration matters
- Staff Training and Development
- Tourist Information Centre

Manager Capital Works

- Capital Works, Buildings, Parks, Roads & Drainage
- Section 94 Works
- Project & Contract Management
- Engineering Administration

Manager Community Services

- Youth Services
- Children's Services
- Aged Services
- Disability Services
- Family Day Care
- Libraries
- Section 355 Committees
- Town Farm and Bicentennial Equestrian Park, Seniors Cattie, Camden International Friendship Association Civic Centre
- Sport & Recreation Facilities including Camden Polo and Mount Annan Leisure Centre
- Cohesive Communities Strategy
- Cultural development
- Community Information
- Community Liaison
- Volunteers Management Information Provision
- Community Development Events Management
- Community Facilities Management
- Community Development

Manager Assets

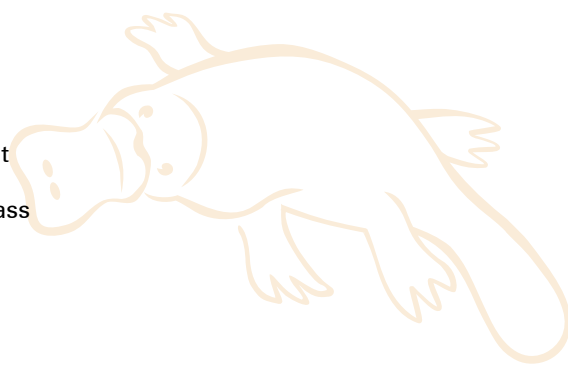
- Roads & Footpaths/ Cycleways Construction & Maintenance
- Stormwater Drainage
- Bus Shelters
- Public Toilets
- Building Maintenance
- Street and Traffic Signs
- Parks & Gardens
- Parks Volunteers
- Road Linemarking
- Street Sweeping
- Stores and Supply
- Depot and Workshop
- Construction Plant
- Vehicle Fleet
- Community Bus
- Emergency Arrangements

Manager Environmentally Sustainable Design

- Stormwater Management
- Engineering Survey and Design
- Cemetery Management
- Flooding
- Natural Areas Management
- Sustainability
- Public Tree Management
- Natural Areas Management
- Tidy Towns Committee
- Cemetery Management
- Flooding
- Public Tree Management
- Environmental Education
- Accessibility
- Community Road Safety
- Traffic and Transport
- Local Traffic Committee

Senior Staff

General Manager	Greg Wright
Director Governance	Steve Kludass
Director Works & Services	Ian Gannell
Director Development & Health	Sue Morris



Senior Staff - Total Remuneration Package

General Manager:	\$ 237,800.00
Director Governance:	\$ 185,371.00
Director Works & Services:	\$ 182,091.00
Director Development & Health:	\$ 188,182.00

Total Remuneration Package as at 30 June 2010

Note: Total package includes the total value of the salary component of package, the total amount of any bonus payments, performance or other payments that do not form part of salary component, 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.

Councillor Remuneration

During 2009/10, Council provided:

Mayoral Allowance	\$ 33,010.00
Councillor Fees	\$ 136,080.00

Councillor Expenses

Dedicated Office Equipment	\$ -
Telephone	\$ 4,324.84
Conferences/Seminars	\$ 1,912.73
Training	\$ -
Interstate Visits - all costs	\$ -
Overseas Visits	\$ -
Expenses for Spouses	\$ -
Child Care	\$ -
TOTAL	\$ 6,237.57



Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Mayors and Councillors Policy. (Policy 5.2)

Review adopted 27 October 2009 – ORD252/09

Part 1 - Introduction

This document is to be referred to as the "Payment of Expenses and provision of Facilities to the Mayor and Councillors" Policy.

The Policy commenced from 12 February 2007.

Purpose of Policy

The purpose of the policy is to ensure that there is accountability and transparency in the reimbursement of expenses incurred or to be incurred by Councillors. The policy also ensures that the facilities provided to assist Councillors to carry out their civic duties are reasonable.

Objectives and coverage of the Policy

The objectives of the Policy are to:

- Ensure there is consistency in the application of reimbursement of expenses and provision of facilities to Councillors in an equitable and non-discriminatory manner.
- Assist Councillors to represent the interests of residents and ratepayers of Camden and to facilitate communication between the community and Council.
- Provide a level of support which will serve to encourage residents to seek election to civic office.

The Policy applies equally to the Mayor and all Councillors.

Reporting Requirements

The Local Government Act requires Council to adopt and publicly advertise in local papers the Expenses and Provision of Facilities Policy each year and to then submit a copy of the Policy to the Department of

Local Government by 30 November. (Section 252 and Section 253)

The Act also requires Council to include details of monies expended on Mayoral and Councillor fees and details of this Policy in the Annual Report. (Section 428(2)(f)).

The Local Government (General) Regulation also requires Council to report annually on details of any overseas visits undertaken during the year by Councillors, staff or other persons representing Council (including visits sponsored by other organisations). (Clause 217).

Any reference in this Policy to "the Act" refers to the Local Government Act, 1993 as amended.

Relevant Legislation and Policies

- Local Government Act, 1993.
- Department of Local Government Guidelines for payment of expenses and provision of facilities.
- Code of Conduct.
- Department of Local Government Circulars to Councils –2005/08 and 2002/38.
- ICAC publications – "No Excuse for Misuse" and "Preventing the Misuse of Council Resources."

Approval arrangements

Various approval arrangements are indicated throughout the Policy and vary from full Council meeting approval to Mayor and General Manager.



Part 2 - Payment of Expenses

GENERAL PROVISIONS

The payment of expenses to Councillors is outside the provisions of the annual fee determination made by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal which are paid to Councillors.

This Policy is applicable to any Council Administrator, should such Administrator act in that capacity from time to time.

Payment of expenses generally

Any expenses claimed must be related to representing Council at official or ceremonial functions, meetings,

conferences/seminars as approved by Council in carrying out the civic duties of the Councillor. Claims for reimbursement of these expenses will only be made on production of receipts for such amounts where indicated in this Policy and on completion of the appropriate "Councillor Travel and/or Expense Claim" form, itemising the expenses. Reimbursement of general expenses will not be allowed.

Payment of expenses will not be made to support a Councillor's attendance at political fund raising functions.

Allowances and expenses

All claims for reimbursement must be made to the General Manager, within one month of the date of the receipt and on the appropriate "Councillor Travel and/ or Expense Claim" for Reimbursement form (Appendix A), together with production of relevant receipts. Following receipt, the claim will be reconciled with the receipts and reimbursed as appropriate.

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS, ETC

Attendance

Any Councillor may attend a conference, approved by Council, either as a formal representative of Council or as part of learning and skill development to assist Councillors to discharge the functions of civic office. Requests for attendance at such events, interstate or overseas, must be approved by Council prior to attendance. The report to Council should outline the benefits of attendance by the Councillor.

The Mayor and General Manager may approve attendance by Councillors at conferences, seminars, meetings or similar functions within the State (ACT is taken to be included as part of NSW due to the proximity and ease of travel) without the need for prior reference to Council.

Councillors nominated to attend any conference who withdraw from attendance at the conference without reasonable cause will be liable for any costs incurred by Council. The Mayor and General Manager will assess and determine the appropriateness of such withdrawal and liability for costs. (Council Meeting 25/11/08, ORD301/08)

Costs

Council will pay all normal registration costs, including registration, official luncheons, dinners, tours.

Accommodation

Council will pay accommodation in relation to the conference/seminar. Accommodation will be approved by the Mayor and General Manager at the standard room rate after taking into account the type and location/venue of conference/seminar.

Travel

Council will pay travel expenses associated with attendance at conferences/seminars and the like. The most economic method of transport will be undertaken. This Policy provides for the standard of air ticket to be purchased as economy class. Private vehicles may be used subject to approval by the Mayor and General Manager and reimbursement is in accordance with this Policy and calculated at the rate specified in the Local Government State Award, as varied from time to time.

Advance payments

Councillors may request payment in advance in anticipation of expenses being incurred for such matters as attending conferences, seminars and/ or training. On return Councillors must produce all receipts for the expenditure of those funds, with a full reconciliation to be completed.

Councillors are to produce the receipts and complete the reconciliation within one month of the expenditure being incurred.

Spouse and Partner Expenses

Where a Councillor is accompanied to a conference/ seminar by a spouse/partner costs incurred for the attendance of the spouse/partner shall be the responsibility of the Councillor. These costs relate to travel, partner's programme and out of pocket expenses.

There may be limited instances where certain costs incurred by a Councillor on behalf of their spouse/ partner are properly those of the Councillor expended in the performance of civic duties. Accordingly, Council will reimburse reasonable expenses in attending these functions. Such functions could include those which a Councillors spouse/partner would be reasonably expected to attend such as Council civic and ceremonial receptions, Australia Day ceremonies or on occasions Citizenship ceremonies.

Any further expenses incurred in relation to spouses/ partners will not be reimbursed by Council.

Outside of these provisions, the Mayor and General Manager may approve payment for the attendance of a spouse/partner as part of a Council group booking to a local Charity event or similar function as may occur from time to time.

Where a Councillor is accompanied by spouse/partner to the Local Government Association Conference, Council will meet the cost of registration and the official dinner for the spouse/partner. Travel expenses and any additional accommodation expenses will be the personal responsibility of the Councillor.

Incidental expenses

Out of pocket expenses or incidental expenses associated with attending conferences, seminars or training will be reimbursed on presentation of receipts and completion of a claim form as provided above. Examples of incidental expenses include telephone or facsimile calls, laundry, taxi fares, parking fees or meals, where not part of the conference or function. These are over and above, the cost of registration, accommodation and travel to the event.

Specific Expenses for Mayors and Councillors

Attendance at seminars and conferences

Council will provide normal conference/seminar registration fees, transport, accommodation, official lunches and dinners relevant to the conference/seminar and reasonable out of pocket expenses. Out of pocket/incidental expenses claims will be capped at \$50 per day (inclusive of GST). Any claims above \$50 must be approved by the Mayor and General Manager. The claims must be made within one month of the date of the receipt.

If approved, after returning, Councillors or an accompanying member of staff, must provide a detailed written report on the beneficial aspects of the conference or seminar.

Local travel arrangements and expenses

Councillors will be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred relating to Council business and/or representing Council. Examples are attending conferences, seminars, MACROC meetings, etc. and may include the use of private motor vehicle, public transport, taxi, parking fees and road tolls.

If a Councillor's private vehicle is used for transport, the amount reimbursed will be calculated at the rate specified in the NAPSA, as varied from time to time.

Under this Policy, Councillors are personally responsible for all traffic or parking fines incurred while travelling in private or Council vehicles on Council business.

Interstate travel

Council approval is required prior to any interstate travel being undertaken by Councillors. The report to Council should include all details of the travel, including itinerary, costs and expected benefits. If required to travel by air, economy air fares only will be provided. If approved, Council will pay costs as per "Attendance at Seminars and Conferences" and incidental expenses.

Overseas travel

Council approval is required prior to any overseas travel being undertaken by Councillors. Council needs to scrutinise the value and need for such travel. If approved economy air fares only are to be provided.

After returning from any overseas travel, Councillors or an accompanying member of staff, must provide a detailed written report to Council on the aspects of the trip.

Training and educational expenses

Council provides an amount in the annual Management Plan and Budget for Councillor Training and Education expenses to support and encourage active learning and skill development and for attendance at Conferences and

seminars relating to Council activities. Expenses for this item is limited to the annual Budget allocation in any one year and is separate to this Policy. Payment of additional expenses/costs in relation to such training will be as per this Policy.

Telephone costs and related expenses

Council will provide a Mobile phone for use in order to carry out the Councillor's civic functions and responsibilities as provided in this Policy under "Provision of Equipment" below.

Call charges for Mobile phones associated with *private business* must be met by the Councillor. Council will reimburse an amount up to \$250 per month (inclusive of GST) for *Council related business*.

Councillors must complete a "Councillor Travel and/or Expense Claim" form for each billing period in relation to call charges associated with official calls. All claims for reimbursement for telephone costs must be made within one month of the date of the providers' invoice. Any amounts exceeding the limit must be approved for payment by the Mayor and General Manager.

If an individual landline is installed to the Councillor's premises, Council will reimburse an amount up to \$100 per month (inclusive of GST) to cover rental and call charges.

Legal expenses and obligations

Council may by way of resolution, specifying the amount involved, indemnify or reimburse the reasonable legal expenses of:

- (a) a Councillor defending an action arising from the performance in good faith of a function under the Local Government Act, 1993 or any other Act for and on behalf of Council; or
- (b) a Councillor defending an action in defamation provided the statements complained of were made in good faith in the course of exercising a function under the Local Government Act, 1993; and
- (c) a Councillor for proceedings before the Local Government Pecuniary Interest Tribunal, the Independent Commission Against Corruption, Office of Ombudsman, Division of Local Government, Department of Premier and Cabinet, NSW Police Force, Director of Public Prosecutions or Council's Conduct Review Committee/Reviewer, provided, the subject of the proceedings arises from the performance in good faith by the Councillor of a function under the Local Government Act, 1993 and that the enquiry, investigation, hearing or proceedings taken against a Councillor results in a finding substantially favourable to the Councillor.

In addition, the amount of such reimbursement shall be reduced by the amount of any moneys that may be or are recouped by the Councillor on any basis.

Insurance expenses and obligations

Council complies with the requirements of the Local Government Act, 1993 (Section 382) and Councillors are covered by current insurance policies for various amounts in respect of:

- Public Liability – for matters arising out of Councillor’s performance of civic duties or exercise of functions as Councillor’s but are subject to any limitations or conditions set out in the policy;
- Professional Indemnity – for matters arising out of Councillors performance of civic duties or exercise of functions provided the performance or exercise of the relevant civic duty or function is in the opinion of Council, bona fide and/or proper.
- Personal accident – Coverage where personal injury occurs whilst on Council business Australia wide.

Travel Insurance may be paid, if considered appropriate, for any approved overseas travel on Council business.

Care and other related expenses

Council will consider reimbursement of reasonable fees for the cost of care arrangements, where the Councillor is the primary carer, including child care, aged care or for the disabled to permit Councillors to attend to responsibilities and duties as a Councillor.

The level of reimbursement for this care will be at the current market rate on evidence of payment and approved by the Mayor and General Manager.

Council will consider reimbursement of reasonable costs incurred for payment of related expenses associated with special requirements of Councillors such as disability and access needs.

Additional Mayoral Expenses

Nil.

Part 3 – Provision of Facilities

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Council will provide facilities, equipment and services that are appropriate to support the Mayor and Councillors in undertaking the role of elected members.

PROVISION OF EQUIPMENT & FACILITIES FOR COUNCILLORS

Equipment –

Council will provide the following equipment to Councillors, if requested, subject to the reimbursement of expenses limitations mentioned elsewhere in this Policy:

- Mobile telephone (standard as provided to staff) or Blackberry mobile phone with internet and email capability.
- Computer equipment (standard as provided to staff) or laptop (the equivalent of a Toshiba 6000 series) and printer/fax multi function machine, together with printer cartridges and replacements.

Facilities –

The following facilities are provided -

- A Councillors’ Room is provided in the Council Offices to assist Councillors in dealing with resident and ratepayer matters and Council business generally. The room is equipped with a telephone, computer, printer and internet connection;
- Councillors’ letterhead;
- Sustenance only is provided to Councillors at Council/ Committee Meetings. Meals are provided at civic functions and the like for Councillors and/or partners.

PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES FOR MAYOR

The role of the Mayor is:

- To exercise, in the case of necessity, the policy making functions of the governing body of the Council between meetings;
- To exercise such other functions of the Council as the Council determines;
- To preside at meetings of the Council; and
- To carry out the civic and ceremonial functions of the mayoral office.

In order to reflect the additional time and commitment required to carry out the responsibilities of the Mayor, in addition to the support provided to Councillors, the follow is provided to the Mayor:

- Mayoral Office provided to assist in carrying the Mayoral functions;

- Secretarial support is also provided by the General Manager’s secretary;
- Mayoral carparking space in the Council carpark adjacent to the Council Offices is also available.
- The Mayor may request the use of a Council pool vehicle for official Council business, if a vehicle is available.

Part 4 – Other Matters

Personal Benefit

Councillors should not obtain private benefit from the reimbursement of expenses, provision of equipment and facilities, nor from travel bonuses or any other loyalty schemes. It is acknowledged that incidental use of Council equipment and facilities may occur from time to time. Such incidental private use is not subject to a compensatory payment to Council.

Acquisition and returning of facilities and equipment by Councillors

All equipment provided to Councillors contained in this Policy, remain the property of Camden Council. Such

equipment will be returned on completion of the term of office, however, Councillors not seeking re-election or not returned may request the purchase of such property. The General Manager will consider each request and determine an appropriate fair market price.

General Dispute Resolution

Should a dispute arise as to payment of a claim for reimbursement of expenses or provision of facilities, the matter should be submitted in writing by the Councillor to the General Manager, who will determine the matter in conjunction with the Mayor in accordance with the terms of this policy.

Overseas Visits Undertaken by Councillors, Council Staff & Other Persons Representing Council

During the 2009/10 reporting period there were no overseas visits undertaken by Councillors, Council Staff & other persons representing Council.

Rates and Charges Written Off During 2009/10

The Local Government Act 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 2009/10 rating year are set out below and discussed.

1. 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 2005	\$2,925.62
Interest written off from 2005	\$1,214.44
Total	\$4,140.06

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

Amount	\$1,188.96
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3. The amount of pension rebates granted during the 2009/10 rating year.

Pension Rebates	\$526,904.04
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Council will claim 55% reimbursement from the State Government for the amount written off.

4. The amount of Stormwater Levy written off during 2009/10 as new pensioners are recorded.

Amount	\$740.00
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The total amount of rates and charges written off in the rating year 2009/10 is \$532,973.06 and appropriate provision was made in the 2009/10 Budget.

Major Contract Awards

Outstanding Payments from Previous Period/Current made to contracts during 2009/10

JOB DESCRIPTION	CONTRACTOR	AMOUNT PAID 2009/10 ex GST
Bio Retention Filter - Smeaton Grange	J N Civil Pty Ltd	\$211,421.79
Design for Camden Pool Redevelopment	Lippmann	\$170,700.00
Camden Main Street Median	Lamond Contracting	\$1,875.00
Narellan Urban Forest Playground	Furnass Landscaping Enterprises	\$359,371.38
Construct Camden Swimming Pool Redevelopment	Kane Constructions	\$368,370.09

List of Tenders over \$150,000 entered into by Council during 2009/10

1. Construct High Voltage Power Line Spring Rd Springs Farm Picton Power Line	\$990,670
2. Construction Camden Swimming Pool Redevelopment Kane Constructions	\$4,213,620
3. Supply & Delivery Tar Patching Truck	\$223, 594
4. Parkland Mowing	\$402,752
5. Landscape Maintenance	\$243,195

Freedom of Information Act 1989 Requirements

For the 12 Month Period ending 30 June, 2010 Statistical Data for Camden Council

Freedom of Information (FOI) became operative from 1 July 1989. Under the terms of the Act, Camden Council is required to publish statistical data in conjunction with its Sustainable Camden Report.

Council Staff responsible for processing FOI applications attended workshops at an advanced level during the 2009/10 reporting period to keep up-to-date with legislation and appellant determinations.

Details of requests for information under the FOI Act received by Council for the 12 month period ending 30 June, 2010 are as follows:

SECTION A – NEW FOI APPLICATIONS

How many FOI applications were received, discontinued or completed?	Number of FOI Applications					
	Personal		Other		Total	
	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10
A1 New	19	4	Nil	8	19	12
A2 Brought forward	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
A3 Total to be Processed	19	4	Nil	8	19	12
A4 Completed	19	12	Nil	Nil	19	12
A5 Discontinued	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
A6 Total Processed	19	4	Nil	8	19	12
A7 Unfinished (carried forward)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

SECTION B – DISCONTINUED APPLICATIONS

Why were FOI applications discontinued?	Number of Discontinued FOI Applications					
	Personal		Other		Total	
	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10
B1 Request transferred out to another agency (s.20)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
B2 Applicant withdrew request	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
B3 Applicant failed to pay advance deposit (s.22)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
B4 Applicant failed to amend a request that would have been unreasonable diversion of resources to complete (s.25(1)(a1))	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
B5 Total discontinued	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Note: If request discontinued for more than one reason, select the reason first occurring in the above table. The figures in B5 should correspond to those in A5.

SECTION C – COMPLETED APPLICATIONS

What happened to completed FOI applications?	Number of Completed FOI Applications					
	Personal		Other		Total	
	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10
C1 Granted or otherwise available in full	17	Nil	Nil	11	17	11
C2 Granted or otherwise available in part	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	Nil
C3 Refused	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
C4 No documents held	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	1
C5 Total completed	19	Nil	Nil	12	19	12

Note: A request is granted or otherwise available in full if all documents requested are either provided to the applicant (or the applicant's medical practitioner) or are otherwise publicly available. The figures in C5 should correspond to those in A4.

SECTION D – APPLICATIONS GRANTED OR OTHERWISE AVAILABLE IN FULL

How were the documents made available to the applicant?	Number of FOI Applications (Granted or Otherwise Available in Full)					
	Personal		Other		Total	
	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10
All documents requested were:						
D1 Provided to the applicant	-	-	-	-	-	-
D2 Provided to the applicant's medical practitioner	-	-	-	-	-	-
D3 Available for inspection	-	-	-	-	-	-
D4 Available for purchase	-	-	-	-	-	-
D5 Library material	-	-	-	-	-	-
D6 Subject to deferred access	-	-	-	-	-	-
D7 Available by a combination of any of the reasons listed in D1-D6 above	19	4	-	8	19	12
D8 Total granted or otherwise available in full	19	4	-	8	19	12

Note: The figures in D8 should correspond to those in C1.

SECTION E – APPLICATIONS GRANTED OR OTHERWISE AVAILABLE IN PART

How were the documents made available to the applicant?	Number of FOI Applications (Granted or Otherwise Available in Part)					
	Personal		Other		Total	
	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10
Documents made available were:						
E1 Provided to the applicant	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
E2 Provided to the applicant's medical practitioner	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
E3 Available for inspection	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
E4 Available for purchase	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
E5 Library material	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
E6 Subject to deferred access	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
E7 Available by a combination of any of the reasons listed in E1-E6 above	2	Nil	Nil	1	2	1
E8 Total granted or otherwise available in part	2	Nil	Nil	1	2	1

Note: The figures in E8 should correspond to those in C2.

SECTION F – REFUSED FOI APPLICATIONS

Why was access to the documents refused?	Number of Refused FOI Applications					
	Personal		Other		Total	
	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10
F1 Exempt	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	Nil
F2 Deemed refused	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
F3 Total refused	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	Nil

Note: The figures in F3 should correspond to those in C3.

SECTION G – EXEMPT DOCUMENTS

Why were the documents classified as exempt? (identify one reason only)	Number of FOI Applications (refused or access granted or otherwise available in part only)					
	Personal		Other		Total	
	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10
Documents made available were:						
G1 Cabinet documents (Clause 1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G2 Executive Council documents (Clause 2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G3 Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety (Clause 4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G4 Documents affecting counter terrorism measures (Clause 4A)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Documents requiring consultation:						
G5 Documents affecting intergovernmental relations (Clause 5)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G6 Documents affecting personal affairs (Clause 6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G7 Documents affecting business affairs (Clause 7)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G8 Documents affecting the conduct of research (Clause 8)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Documents otherwise exempt:

G9 Schedule 2 exempt agency	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G10 Documents containing information confidential to Olympic Committees (Clause 22)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G11 Documents relating to threatened species, Aboriginal objects or Aboriginal places	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G12 Documents relating to threatened species conservation (Clause 24)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G13 Plans of management containing information of Aboriginal significance (Clause 25)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G14 Private documents in public library collections (Clause 19)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G15 Documents relating to judicial functions (Clause 11)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G16 Documents subject to contempt (Clause 17)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G17 Documents arising out of companies and securities legislation (Clause 18)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G18 Exempt documents under interstate FOI legislation (Clause 21)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G19 Documents subject to legal professional privilege (Clause 10)	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	Nil
G20 Documents containing confidential material (Clause 13)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G21 Documents subject to secrecy provisions (Clause 12)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G22 Documents affecting the economy of the State (Clause 14)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G23 Documents affecting financial or property interests of the State or an agency (Clause 15)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G24 Documents concerning operations of agencies (Clause 16)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G25 Internal working documents (Clause 9)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G26 Other exemptions (eg. Clauses 20, 22A and 26)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
G27 Total applications including exempt documents	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	Nil

Note: Where more than one exemption applies to a request select the exemption category first occurring in the above table. The figures in G27 should correspond to the sum of the figures in C2 and F1.

SECTION H – MINISTERIAL CERTIFICATES (S.59)**How many Ministerial Certificates were issued?****Number of Ministerial Certificates**

	08/09	09/10
H1 Ministerial Certificates issued	Nil	Nil

SECTION I – FORMAL CONSULTATIONS

How many formal consultations were conducted?

	Number	
	08/09	09/10
I1 Number of applications requiring formal consultation	Nil	Nil
I2 Number of persons formally consulted	Nil	Nil

Note: Include all formal offers to consult issued irrespective of whether a response was received.

SECTION J – AMENDMENT OF PERSONAL RECORDS

How many applications for amendment of personal records were agreed or refused?

	Number of Applications for Amendment of Personal Records	
	08/09	09/10
J1 Agreed in full	Nil	Nil
J2 Agreed in part	Nil	Nil
J3 Refused	Nil	Nil
J4 Total	Nil	Nil

SECTION K – NOTATION OF PERSONAL RECORDS

How many applications for notation of personal records were made (s.46)?

	Number of Applications for Notation	
	08/09	09/10
K1 Applications for notation	Nil	Nil

SECTION L – FEES AND COSTS

What fees were assessed and received for FOI applications processed (excluding applications transferred out)?

	Assessed Costs		Fees Received	
	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10
L1 All completed applications	\$540.00	\$360.00	\$636.60	\$360.00

SECTION M – FEE DISCOUNTS

How many fee waivers or discounts were allowed and why?

	Number of FOI Applications (where fees were waived or discounted)					
	Personal		Other		Total	
	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10
M1 Processing fees waived in full	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
M2 Public interest discounts	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
M3 Financial hardship discounts – pensioner or child	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	Nil
M4 Financial hardship discounts – non profit organization	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
M5 Total	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	Nil

SECTION N – FEE REFUNDS

How many fee refunds were granted as a result of significant correction of personal records?

	Number of Refunds	
	08/09	09/10
N1 Number of fee refunds granted as a result of significant correction of personal records	Nil	Nil

SECTION O – DAYS TAKEN TO COMPLETE REQUEST

How long did it take to process completed applications? (Note: calendar days)	Number of Completed FOI Applications					
	Personal		Other		Total	
	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10
O1 0-21 days – statutory determination period	18	12	Nil	Nil	18	12
O2 22-35 days – extended statutory determination period for consultation or retrieval of archived records (s.59B)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
O3 Over 21 days – deemed refusal where no extended determination period applies	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
O4 Over 35 days – deemed refusal where extended determination period applies	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
O5 Total	19	12	Nil	Nil	19	12

Note: Figures in O5 should correspond to figures in A4.

SECTION P – PROCESSING TIME: HOURS

How long did it take to process completed applications?	Number of Completed FOI Applications					
	Personal		Other		Total	
	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10	08/09	09/10
P1 0-10 hours	59.00	23.50	Nil	Nil	59.00	23.50
P2 11-20 hours	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
P3 21-40 hours	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
P4 Over 40 hours	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
P5 Total	59.00	23.50	Nil	Nil	59.00	23.50

Note: Figures in P5 should correspond to figures in A4

SECTION Q – NUMBER OF REVIEWS

How many reviews were finalised?	Number of Completed Reviews	
	08/09	09/10
Q1 Internal Reviews	Nil	Nil
Q2 Ombudsman Reviews	Nil	Nil
Q3 ADT Reviews	Nil	Nil

SECTION R – RESULTS OF INTERNAL REVIEWS

Grounds on which the internal review was requested

	Number of Internal Reviews					
	Personal		Other		Total	
	Original Agency Decision Upheld	Original Agency Decision Varied	Original Agency Decision Upheld	Original Agency Decision Varied	Original Agency Decision Upheld	Original Agency Decision Varied
R1 Access refused	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
R2 Access deferred	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
R3 Exempt matter deleted from documents	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
R4 Unreasonable charges	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
R5 Failure to consult with third parties	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
R6 Third parties views disregarded	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
R7 Amendment of personal records refused	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
R8 Total	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Note: Figures in R8 should correspond to figures in A4.

FOI Act had no impact on Council's activities, policies or procedures during the 2009/10 year.

Note: Camden Council processed 163 applications under Section 12 of the Local Government Act – access to information in the 2009/10 reporting period.

Action Taken in Complying with the Requirements of the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998

A Privacy Plan of Management as required by the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (PPIPA) was adopted by Council in 2000 and is currently being reviewed.

Staff responsible for overseeing the management of information held by Council, continually update knowledge in this area. Regular revision and monitoring of processes are conducted to ensure advice provided to staff and customers relating to

privacy protection is accurate. Also workshops are organised for new and existing staff to reinforce the practical application of the Information Protection Principles.

Statistical Details of Reviews Conducted Under Part 5 of the Act.

During 2009/10 there were no requests conducted under Part 5 of the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998.

Legal Proceedings 2009/10

Approximately \$242,913.28 was expended in relation to legal proceedings taken by or against Council (legal and court costs, settlements etc) during the 2009/10 reporting period

Legal Actions resolved during the 2009/10 reporting period.

Defendant	Offence	Plea	Result
Admark Constructions	Defendant lodged an appeal to a refusal in the Land & Environment Court for two lot strata subdivisions at 232 & 234 Mount Annan Drive, Mount Annan	Appeal dismissed.	Cost to Council of \$27,623.00 – not claimable
F Fram (contractor) L Tarabay (owner)	Illegal tree removal, 90 Mark Road, Rossmore	Guilty for both: F Fram fined \$10,000, Court cost \$70, Professional costs \$3,500 L Tarabay fined \$18,000, Court cost \$70, Professional costs \$9,750, and remediation order performance bond of \$7000	Council cost \$19,229. Costs covered by fines
B Liapis	Liquor shop, 9 Ilando Way, Currans Hill. 12 month trial period condition appealed.	Appeal upheld	Cost to Council of \$13,869.53
Mirvac Homes	Appeal against condition of consent	S34 conciliation conference undertaken which resulted in appeal being dismissed with no change to condition of consent	Council staff undertook own representation in the appeal and development consent remained as issued by Council
AEH Group	Land & Environment Court appeal against conditional approval for the redevelopment of the former Camden High School site	Matter ongoing	Cost to date is \$39,715.80
Lockies Hotel	Land & Environment Court appeal against Council's refusal for redevelopment of the site for a new hotel	Appeal discontinued	Council costs uncertain
Admark Constructions	Defendant lodged an appeal to a refusal in the Land & Environment Court for two lot strata subdivisions at 232 & 234 Mount Annan Drive, Mount Annan	Appeal dismissed	Cost to Council of \$27,623.00 – not claimable
D J Buda	Double Park	No show	Penalty infringement notice to stand
Challenger Transport	Stop in parking area for disabled without current permit displayed	No show	Penalty infringement notice to stand
A Grace	Place on Road Thing Likely to Restrict/Endanger Road Use/Interfere with Public	Not Guilty	Section 10 1(a)

Defendant	Offence	Plea	Result
D Lewis	Double Park	Guilty	Section 10
J Kinlyside	Stop across driveway to land	Not Guilty	Withdrawn
A Stenekes	Dangerous Dog Declaration Appeal	N/A	Dangerous dog declaration revoked, control Orders issued
A G Wilding	Stop on/near pedestrian crossing - School zone	No Show	Penalty infringement notice to stand + court costs
S Blizzard	Disobey No Stopping	Guilty	Section 10

Private Works

Council carried out work on private land or on behalf of owners of private land under section 67 which include the construction of dish crossings, driveway cross-over, road making and kerb and guttering.

Private works expenditure	\$11,107
Private Works Income	\$13,068

These figures do not include private works carried out by Council solely or jointly for another Council or public authority; nor any graffiti removal work carried out by Council in accordance with Section 67A or 67B.

The Categorisation of the Council's Businesses and the Council's Progress in Implementing the Principles of Competitive Neutrality

National Competition Policy specifies a number of principles aimed at clearly identifying government business activities and developing a "level playing field" where those business activities compete in the open market against private organizations. This is to ensure that government owned business does not enjoy unfair competitive advantage over private business.

Council has determined those of its activities that fall within the jurisdiction of National Competition Policy and the principles of competitive neutrality. Council has identified the Commercial Waste Management unit as a Category Two business unit in accordance with the financial turnover applicable to this Category.

This classification imposes on Council some obligations relating to the costing and accounting for this activity. Council has included the results of this activity in the Annual Special Purpose Reports for 2009/10.

Council has also determined that it will deal with any complaints about competitive neutrality utilizing its existing complaints management system.

There have not been any complaints lodged in the 2009/10 reporting period.

Statement of all Companies in which the Council held a Controlling Interest during 2009/10

Council did not hold a controlling interest in any companies during the 2009/10 reporting period.

Partnerships, Co-operatives and Joint Ventures during 2009/10

It should be noted that Council is a Shareholder in the Southern Phone Company for two shares at \$1.00 each being one A class share and one in the B to ZZ class.

Statement of Employee Relations Activities and Statement of Activities Undertaken by Council to Implement its EEO Management Plan

- In accordance with relevant legislation, policy and procedure, the recruitment of staff is based on merit principles ensuring the most suitable candidate is selected and all applicants are afforded equal opportunity. Skill shortages in key areas eased somewhat during the global financial crisis, however as the economy improves it is anticipated these shortages will again present problems.
- Revised recruitment advertising techniques have in some cases been successful however review of current methods continues in an effort to ensure the most suitable applicants are attracted to vacant positions within Council.
- Recruitment and Selection Training continues to be provided for all staff required to participate in recruitment panels.
- Extensive work has been undertaken in the collection of data to inform workforce planning in order to meet the requirements of the Division of Local Government's Integrated Planning and Reporting (IP&R) Framework.
- The Human Resource Strategic Plan has been completed and provides important data to inform the IP&R Workforce Plan.
- Council continues to manage its employees in accordance with all relevant Award provisions and other employment related legislation.
- The commitment to maintaining good employee relations remains a high priority and is facilitated through consultation and communication.
- Counselling, mediation and employee support is provided through the Employee Relations Branch and continued funding of Council's Employee Assistance Programme, a confidential counselling service provided by an external company.
- Employment opportunities continue to be provided for young people in our local area through Council's very successful Traineeship Programme. The success of our trainees and apprentices is evidenced by the number of awards received with one trainee being awarded Trainee of the Year and nomination for a State Award.
- The outstanding work of Council employees has continued to be recognised through award ceremonies including Rotary Pride of Workmanship and other awards specific to professional disciplines.
- One employee remains part of the Supported Wage Programme and opportunities to increase this number continue to be explored.
- The review of all employment based policies and procedures have been completed with the exception of one policy relating to education assistance that is currently being amended to reflect the broader scope of learning and development initiatives.
- The policies and procedures associated with the Child Protection Legislation have been completely rewritten to reflect recent changes.
- Changes in relation to superannuation contributions have been implemented and continue to be monitored.



Training and Development

The forecast growth of Camden Council will place enormous pressure on the organisation and it is essential our employees are equipped and maintain appropriate skills, knowledge and expertise levels in order to be able to deliver on community and organisational expectations.

In the last financial year training and development opportunities were offered in the following broad categories:

Corporate Training: provides a wide range of training to meet organisational and legislative requirements. To ensure appropriate courses are offered, programmes are developed from the learning and development needs identified during staff performance appraisals. Forty two sessions covering topics such as OH&S, Staff Induction, Information Technology etc were conducted.

Job Specific Training: ensures skills and knowledge remains current in functional areas. In the last financial year staff attended 102 offsite courses.

Professional Development: These programmes provide broader knowledge and career development opportunities for staff.

Education Assistance: Employees are also encouraged to increase their level of tertiary qualification through Council's Education Assistance Programme with seventeen employees engaged in study at universities and TAFE Colleges.

Workplace English Language and Literacy Program (WELL): This programme assists employees who have not had the opportunity to develop appropriate language, literacy and numeracy skills in order to meet their current and future employment needs. The Programme is funded by Council in partnership with the Department Employment Education and Workplace Relations (DEEWR). Currently eleven employees are enrolled in this Programme and another fifteen will join basic computer sessions to be conducted in the next financial year.

Leadership: The aim of this programme is to foster and encourage talent within Council, assist with succession planning, improve Council's ability to attract and retain employees and put in place strategies to deal with the expected growth in the next 20 years.

Employees participating in this programme will be targeted across the Council to increase and enhance existing leadership/management skills and develop skills in employees 'ready' for supervisory roles.

The programme will be comprised of a range of modules and can also be customised to appeal to the different levels of participants needs.

This programme will cater for a variety of learning styles and include sessions involving experiential learning, theory sessions, practical skills, role plays, mentoring and provide Council with a customised yet cost effective leadership programme. It is envisaged that this programme will not be 'stock standard' but one that is customised to Council's specific leadership training needs and learning styles.

Work Experience

Fifteen students from local high schools, TAFE colleges, universities, disability providers and group training companies participated in work experience placements at Camden Council. This programme enables Council to showcase employment opportunities within Local Government in the hope of attracting potential candidates in the future. Council again participated in the local Careers Expo.

Occupational Health and Safety

The increased focus on OH&S and Workers compensation has ensured claims are carefully managed resulting in an increased level of interaction providing injured workers with a higher level of support. The increased focus has also meant that the cost impacts of each claim are carefully managed resulting in a decrease in the projected workers compensation premium. As more proactive measures are taken in relation to OH&S it is hoped that the number of injuries will decrease. Work has continued on the development of an Occupational Health and Safety System.

The Occupational Health & Safety Committee, made up of staff and management representatives, continues to operate effectively and is heavily involved in the development of policies and procedures and workplace inspections.

Consultative Committee

The Consultative Committee, comprised of staff and management representatives, meets regularly and provides a good forum for consultation between Council and its employees.

Equal Employment Opportunity

Camden Council is strongly committed to the principles of Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and actively promotes a workplace that is free from discrimination and harassment. All new staff participate in training aimed at providing information about relevant legislation

and the importance of appropriate practices and behaviours in the workplace.

A complete review of Council's EEO Management Plan and Policy has now been completed and adopted.

NSW Rural Fire Service Bush Fire Hazard Reduction Activities

Camden Council, in conjunction with NSW Rural Fire Service, continues to encourage landowners and the community to implement land management practices that can result in the reduction of bush fire hazards in the Camden Local Government Area (LGA).

Objectives for reducing bush fire hazard are being achieved by close liaison with land management agencies and the community and through issuing notices to clear and remove bush fire hazard.

Planning activities have been implemented to facilitate the best possible protection for the community and those assets at risk from bush fire.

Hazard reduction work undertaken by Camden Council has taken place in the form of management of Council reserves and roadside fuel slashing as listed:

- Approximately 600 hectares of total mowing area were maintained throughout the 2009/10 reporting period.
- Broad mowing areas of Council assets such as reserves and sportsfields were cut and maintained twelve (12) and eighteen (18) times respectively within the 2009/10 reporting period.
- Road & Traffic Authority state main roads within the Camden LGA were maintained under contract by Camden Council eight (8) times within the 2009/10 reporting period.
- Fire breaks in John Oxley Reserve and Gundungurra Reserve were cut four (4) times within the 2009/10 reporting period.
- All rural roadsides were cut twice (2) within the 2009/10 reporting period.

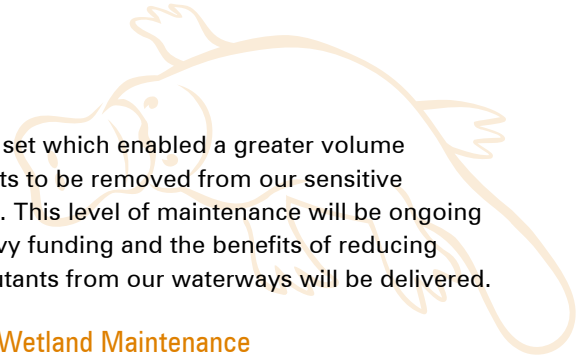
Comparison of actual Stormwater Management services with projected Stormwater Management services as proposed in the Management Plan

Project 1; Stormwater Harvesting Projects

Harrington Reserve Stormwater Harvesting, Harrington Park. This system of wetlands captures and filters stormwater from over 7,000ha of urban land in Currans Hill, Smeaton Grange, Mt Annan, Narellan, Narellan Vale and Harrington Park. The water is then used to irrigate the soccer fields and reserves in Harrington Park, reducing the demand for potable (drinking) standard water by approximately 38,100 kilolitres each year – the equivalent of nearly 38 Olympic swimming pools. The second wetland component was completed along with a flood bypass channel to divert excess water in times of extreme and continued flooding.

Project 2; Outlet Management

Many older suburbs within the Camden Local Government Area have little or no treatment of stormwater prior to its discharge to local waterways. Council initiated a project to investigate, prioritise and design stormwater outlet controls for these areas to reduce the pollutant load entering our creeks.



Project 3; Education and Promotion

The majority of pollutants entering our stormwater system come from activities undertaken within urban areas such as garden fertilising and littering. Several education activities were undertaken during 2009/10 to help increase our community's awareness of potentially polluting activities. It included the display of banners at the Narellan Library conveying key stormwater messages ie Bin your butts and litter. The drain is just for rain. It also included the creation of catchment education kits for local schools - Schools Healthy Catchment Kits to be distributed during early 2010/11.

Project 4; Water Quality Monitoring

Council engaged consultants to design a strategic water quality monitoring framework for the Local Government Area; with an emphasis on the Narellan Catchment and the Nepean River. Once implemented, the ongoing annual monitoring undertaken will enable Council to analyse the effectiveness of the stormwater improvement works being completed with the levy funding, and further to monitor the quality of our waterways.

Project 5; Gross Pollutant Trap (GPT) Maintenance

GPTs capture coarse pollutant materials such as litter and nutrient-loaded sediment, and to function effectively GPTs need to be cleaned and the captured material removed regularly. Additional service visits

have been set which enabled a greater volume of pollutants to be removed from our sensitive waterways. This level of maintenance will be ongoing through levy funding and the benefits of reducing gross pollutants from our waterways will be delivered.

Project 6; Wetland Maintenance

The wetland maintenance activities planned for the last 2 years have been deferred until 2010/11. The money allocated for these works in 2009/10 has been pooled with the funds for 2010/11, and will be targeted at significant rehabilitation works at the Lake Annan wetland; the desilting of the Lake and macrophyte planting will be given high priority.

Project 7; Stormwater Asset Management – Data Collection

In 2009/10, \$60,000 was spent on works associated with plotting stormwater pipes and pits onto a digital mapping system. The work on gathering additional detailed information on Council's storm water drainage system, including pipe locations, sizes, depth and condition and plotting on the Geographical Information System (GIS) were completed. This level of data capture and information is critical to the management of Council's extensive stormwater drainage network.

External Bodies Exercising Delegated Council Functions — Community Management Committees

Committee	Highlights
Camden Seniors' Program	The Camden Seniors' Program Committee provided 4 major events over the financial year – these were Spring Luncheon, a Christmas Luncheon, Seniors Concert and a Lifestyle and Leisure Expo for Seniors'.
Bicentennial Equestrian Park	The Bicentennial Equestrian Park Management Committee had a successful year.
Camden International Friendship Association (CIFA)	CIFA continues to organise student exchanges with local students visiting Japan and in turn overseas guest visiting Camden. These annual visits have helped to cement the friendship that exists between our two towns. They give the students involved a life-changing experience of different people and a different way of life.
Camden Town Farm	The Camden Town Farm Community Management Committee continues to work hard towards achieving the Masterplan's objectives.

Community Plan

Council endorsed Camden's Community Plan 2004 - 2009 in November 2004. The Plan addresses the needs of the community in the key areas identified in the Community Well Being Policy. These areas are:

- Community Safety
- Life long Learning
- Arts and Culture
- Healthy lifestyles and Community health
- Economic Development
- Recreation and Leisure
- Housing and the Urban Environment
- Accessibility
- Young people

The Community Plan also contains strategies to respond specifically to the needs of the seven identified target groups, as part of the Department of Local Government Social Planning requirements – Older People, People with a Disability, Women, CALD (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse), ATSI (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander), Young People, Children and Families.

Key activities and projects for older people

Seniors' Committee

The Seniors' Committee has played a proactive role in community development by commenting on Council

Development Applications and participating in focus groups and various consultations.

Events organised by the committee in the 2009/10 year included: a Seniors' Concert at the Camden Civic Centre with free entertainment and food; a Seniors' Expo with interactive workshops; a bus trip to the Southern Highlands with two full buses, a Spring Lunch at Belgenny Farm attended by over 150 people as well as a Christmas lunch at Carrington Recreation Care with entertainment and free give-aways.

Information Provision

Council officers continued to be an initial point of contact for older residents and carers seeking information and referral.

The Camden Seniors' Health and Lifestyle directory was provided to assist seniors in maintaining their independence at home. The directory contains listings of health services, transport options and social groups in the local area, as well as focusing on those seniors who are active in the community by providing information on physical activity opportunities such as exercise classes and the promotion of Camden's walkways. It has continued to prove a great success with an overwhelming response from community residents.

Seniors' Issues Group

Council is involved in a Seniors' Issues Group that is overseen by Camden Community Connections and this group advocates on behalf of local seniors with the three tiers of government in existence. Some topical issues include provision of toilets at local parks, access and transport issues, aged living etc.

This group meets bi-monthly and reports back any findings in relation to matters discussed.

Grants

Council Officers are also proactive in devising projects in which grant funding is secured for projects involving seniors eg. "Talking about my generation" project funded by the Department of Immigration which relates to seniors sharing cultural memories from their place of origin as well as memories of their time in Camden.

Key activities and projects for people with a disability

Disability Action Plan

Through the Disability Action Plan Council aims to increase access to services and facilities for people with disabilities and provide individual information and referral to residents.

A number of initiatives were implemented including:

The major achievements implementing the Disability Action Plan were:

- As part of Council's celebration of International Day of People with a Disability, Council premiered short films created entirely from start to finish by people with disability. These films were the outcome of multimedia workshops in which the participants received hands-on experience in every aspect of film making;
- Council's Access Group successfully lobbied for an additional accessible parking space adjacent to the Camden Pool;
- Continued to investigate and implement improvements in access to Council's facilities and services. This included building a unisex accessible toilet on the main level of the Camden Civic Centre;
- Council's Access Group was successful in receiving a one-off grant under the NSW Government's Sport and Recreation Facility Grant Program of \$100,000 to further improve accessibility at Camden Pool;
- In consultation with the Camden Show Society, Council offered patrons improved access and service via the introduction of dedicated accessible parking areas, improved access to the site, and negotiated the provision of portable accessible toilets and amenities;
- Council has established a comprehensive protocol for the Camden Access Group to review and have input into significant development applications;

- Council participated in the NSW Government's consultation about the next stage of Stronger Together the ten year plan for services for people with disability in NSW through Ageing Disability and Home Care (ADHC);

Council's Access Group conducted an access audit of parking provision for people with disabilities in the Camden town centre. The audit reviewed the current location of accessible parking

Access Community Advisory Group

The Access Community Advisory Group (ACAG) continues to work towards improved access in the Camden community, with representatives from the community, local community organisations, Councillors and Council staff. The ACAG provide information on access to the community, advocate for increased access to public and commercial areas and assist Council in the implementation of the Disability Action Plan.

Partnerships

Council Officers in Community Planning and Development are actively involved in key partnerships and networks including the Macarthur Aged and Disability Forum, Macarthur Disability Network and the Macarthur Health Service Access and Disability Committee and are also an initial point of contact for local people with a disability and their carers who are seeking individual information and referral for local residents.

Key activities and projects for young people

- Drug Action Week – (Information display and distributions at Narellan Town Centre) – June 2010
- Sexual Health Week (Information packs distributed to young people participating in workshops) – September 2009
- Party Safe Week – November 2009

Young people also had access to a range of information throughout 2009-2010 from Camden LGA high schools, social networking websites, libraries, community notice boards, "Let's Connect", local media outlets (eg. newspapers, radio), Narellan Youth Space, Camden Council website. Information was also provided at a number of key youth events throughout the year including Light up Camden Festival (November 2009), National Youth Week events (April 2010), Learner Log Book Run (ongoing throughout the year), and through the Koori Flow program (ongoing throughout the year).

National Youth Week Activities

Youth Week was held from 10 – 18 April with the theme "Live it Now". National Youth Week included 17 free activities and programs for young people 12 – 25yrs to participate in. Camden also saw 12 local businesses, community and youth services contribute towards the organisation and implementation of

Camden Youth Week activities – the highest amount of participation that Camden has ever had. Activities organised involved a number of key partnerships to implement a range of activities including Wheelie Cool Basketball, Safe and Pretty Workshops, Drumming, Creative Art Workshops, Dive-In Movie Night, Soccer Skills, Skate Competitions, U18's Dance Party and a Youth Arts Music Festival.

Overall Camden had a fantastic turn out of young people, with over 1000 local young people attending Youth Week events in Camden, as well as positive support and recognition of both young people and Youth Week from local media.

Skate Park

A number of skate competitions, events and workshops were held at Kirkham Skate park over the year. This included: SK8-OPIA, National Youth Week activities, school holiday programs and outreach programs from local youth services.

Get there Bus It Project

Camden Council launched the "Get There Bus It" project. Targeted towards 18-25 year olds, this project was a free Friday late night transport service for young people that live in the Camden area, funded through the MACAAS Scheme (Community Builders). The aim of the project was to transport young adults home safely from entertainment hubs that serve alcohol. Due to funding, the Get There Bus It project ceased operations on 2 October 2009. By the end of the project, over 4,500 people used the service with 90% of users aged 18 – 25years.

Beach Bus

The Camden Wollongong Beach Bus program involves young people enjoying free travel to the Wollongong beaches during the summer holiday period. This program is coordinated in partnership with Campbelltown Council and Busways. This service has become part of Young People's social calendars and will continue to run over the 2010/2011 summer holiday period.

Higher School Certificate (HSC) Mayoral Reception

The Mayoral Reception for Outstanding Achievement is an annual event for students of the Camden LGA who have achieved a band 6 or higher in the 2009 HSC. This event is to highlight the recognition, hard work and efforts that the students have put into their studies.

This year, the event was held on Monday 15 March 2010 at the Camden Civic Centre. 25 Camden students in total received certificates and attended the function.

Youth Connections Partnership

Council has supported local youth service, MTC Work Solutions with the implementation of the Youth

Connections program. Youth Connections is a program that assists young people aged 11 - 19 years who are most-at-risk of disengaging or already have disengaged from education, training and/or family and the community. The Youth Connections program includes a number of components to assist young people to engage in education and employment. Topics covered include: Life and social skills, budgeting, job seeking and building healthy relationships.

Light up Camden Youth Activities

Light up Camden Festival is an annual event coordinated by the Camden Chamber of Commerce. Council, in partnership with Youth Solutions, Camden Local Area Command and Camden Community Connections organised a series of activities for young people in November 2009. With Argyle Street, closed from 4pm, decked out in red and green with stalls, entertainment and rides, Council's involvement in the festival included providing opportunities for young people to participate in activities including live bands, hair wrapping, jewellery making, outdoor games and access a range of youth information.

Koori Flow Project

Council has assisted with the coordination of the Koori Flow program in partnership with Muru Nanga Mai, Campbelltown Council, Wollondilly Council, Uniting Care Burnside, YWCA and Community Links Wollondilly. The aim of Koori Flow is to build cultural engagement and awareness amongst Aboriginal young people and the wider community. The project also aims to pass on local Aboriginal cultural based skills and activities from Aboriginal elders to the young people. As part of the Koori Flow project, young people from Camden High School were engaged in a series of workshops with a local Aboriginal artist and local elders. Young people were also provided with various opportunities to perform at community events such as the Narellan Rhythms Festival, future NAIDOC Week celebrations and Reconciliation Week. Young people involved in the project were allowed to further develop their knowledge about local Aboriginal culture and assist them in developing their skills on both an educational and personal level.

Involvement with Youth Action and Policy Association (YAPA)

YAPA is the peak organisation representing young people and youth services in NSW. YAPA works towards a society where all young people are supported, engaged and valued. Council has been involved and contributed towards a number of YAPA projects over the past year including participation in the Local Government Youth Development Network program, YAPA Librarian Staff training program around Youth Work practices, Dream Reality Project and

advocating to YAPA about the positive promotion of young people on behalf of the Macarthur Youth Service Network.

Key activities and projects for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and people from cultural and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds

Camden LGA Community Harmony Strategy 2009 – 2010, funded by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship

- **Community Workshops – CALD Woman’s Group Partners** - Macarthur Diversity Services (MDSI) and Narellan Library.

16 workshops targeting woman from diverse cultural backgrounds were facilitated by local guilds in the Macarthur region and textile artist Ana Carter, with the aim being that the Group will develop a group piece for the Macarthur Textile Expo.

Approximately 40 people participated in the workshops.

A Bus trip to Reverse Garbage was held with 23 women attending

- **Macarthur Textile Expo**

Partners - Camden Country Quilters Guild; Campbelltown Quilters Guild; Macarthur Spinners and Weavers Guild; Macarthur Knitters Guild; Macarthur Embroidery Guild; Camden Civic Centre; Macarthur Diversity Services

The Camden Civic Centre hosted a website for the Macarthur Textile Expo (exhibition), More than 500 people packed the Camden Civic Centre on Saturday 29 May, making the inaugural Macarthur Textile Expo a resounding success.

79 entries were received as part of the Macarthur Textile Challenge which made up an amazing sight!

The artist statements that accompanied each entry showed that this is a really diverse area made up of really caring and thoughtful people.

- **Macarthur Textile Network**

The Textile project steering committee has now gone on to form the Macarthur Textile Network. The Network is now organising the Macarthur Textile Expo 2011.

- **Calendar**

Council has produced a Calendar for 2011, made up from photos of textile entries.

- **Interfaith Network**

Council attended the Interfaith network meetings as a continuation of the support that Council continued to support the Camden Interfaith Network by attending meetings booking venues and facilitating a strategic planning workshop. The group meets every 2

months. The Network held several events including a discussion circle and informal Café gathering and Harmony Day

- **Harmony Day Event at Camden Town Farm**

An estimated 300 people attended a Harmony Day event organised by the Interfaith Network and Council. The event was held at the Camden Town Farm. Local groups were engaged as performers e.g. the AGAPE Uniting Church choir.

- **Harmony Day Events at Schools**

In 2010, thirteen (13) schools were funded to implement a range of projects on Harmony Day. Four (4) of these schools did not apply in 2009. In the 2 years of the project 20 of the 21 schools in the LGA have been funded. The school that did not apply has a policy of not supporting events such as Youth Week and Harmony

- **Cohesive Communities Advisory Group**

The Cohesive Communities Group continued to meet bi-monthly to plan, develop and implement inter-faith and intercultural projects.

- **Digital media project**

This project commenced in June 2010, engaging 20 – 40 seniors and young people in an intergenerational storytelling project.

Narellan Rhythms Multicultural Street Festival

Council received funding from the Community Relations Commission (CRC) to hold multicultural street festivals in Elyard Street Narellan in 2009, 2010 and 2011. The first of the series occurred in October 2009, supported by Narellan Chamber of Commerce, Narellan Rotary Club, the Narellan Town Centre and the Advertiser. Council continues to build relationships with local businesses, community groups and residents to develop this event and make it sustainable.

Chinese Market Garden projects

Council has continued to work in partnership with Camden Community Connections, the Benevolent Society, Mission Australia and Leppington Primary School on outreach initiatives designed to resource and connect the south-east Asian market garden families who reside in the Leppington area.

Key activities for women

International Women’s Day

Council acknowledged the achievements of female staff with a breakfast at Civic Centre on International Women’s Day in March 2010.

Camden/Wollondilly Domestic Violence Network

Council continues to be represented on the Camden/Wollondilly Domestic Violence Network which is coordinated by the Benevolent Society.

Textiles Projects

The Department of Immigration & Citizenship (DIAC) funded textiles projects engaged women from diverse cultural backgrounds in a number of activities and led to the creation of a network that has become self sustaining.

Key activities and projects for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

NAIDOC Week

Council acknowledged NAIDOC Week 2010 with a flag raising ceremony in Camden followed by a morning tea with local residents. Council also supported a NAIDOC Week event at Campbelltown by providing a craft activity and arranged a special screening of the movie *Bran Nue Dae* at Narellan Town Centre.

Network Development

Council is currently developing networks with Aboriginal organisations and residents, by attending the Koori Interagency and MacUnity as well as engaging with residents at events such as NAIDOC Week.

Aboriginal Residents' Advisory Group

Council is planning to establish an Aboriginal residents' advisory group, through networking and relationship building.

Key activities and projects for children and families

Camden Children and Families Strategic Plan (2005 – 2010)

Camden's Children and Families Strategic Plan (2005 –2010) continued to be implemented, monitored and evaluated during 2009/10.

This plan works across Council and with resident groups, not-for-profit organisations, government departments and local businesses to ensure that the social needs and rights of children and families are identified and addressed and that the community is 'enriched and connected'. The objectives of the plan fall under the broad strategic headings of: accessibility, healthy lifestyles, recreation and community safety.

Components of these broad strategic headings were incorporated into community projects during the year including the development of the Camden Kids' Website and Council's involvement in consultation for the Community Strategic Plan, 'Camden2040'.

Camden Kids' Website

During 2009/10 Council launched a new website for parents, carers and community workers of children aged 0-12 years. 'Camden Kids' is dedicated to providing links to parenting information, support and resources in the Camden LGA.

Since the launch, the website has been utilised to provide a vast range of information and resources

to parents and carers as well as promoting and encouraging parents to access playgroups, child care facilities, playgrounds, parenting workshops and more. The website has also proved a success to advertise community events and school holiday activities through an online calendar.

Camden Play Day 2010

In May, Council partnered with several sporting groups, not-for-profit organisations, government departments and local businesses to host Camden Play Day as part of Families Week 2010.

Camden Play Day was a celebration of play- all about the ordinary, basic kinds of play that children love. The event aimed to promote the health and wellbeing of local children through active participation, creative expression and performance.

This annual Families Week celebration continues to be a success each year with hundreds of children and families taking part in activities, including sporting groups and workshops, bike education courses and lessons and access to information regarding local children's services.

Enhancing Activities for 9-12 Year Olds

Camden Council continued to be involved in the working party for a project focusing on enhancing activities for 9-12 year olds in the Metro South West Region. The Project, lead by UnitingCare Burnside, is a prevention and early intervention strategy which aims to improve outcomes for young people. The project aims to:

- Improves access to activities that promote positive development for children aged 9-12
- Increase the capacity of services to deliver programs to this age group; and
- Improve the sectors capacity to integrate service planning and delivery to this age group in South West Sydney.

Camden 2040: Children's research and service auditing

During the 2009/10 period, Council undertook an extensive research project and service audit of Children and Families in the Camden LGA. As well as carrying out consultation with community organisations alongside the 'Camden 2040 Community Strategic Plan', Council mapped community services available to this target group including child care, play opportunities, support services, health clinics and educational precincts.

The information collected during the research was analysed into a focus paper of needs, assets and recommendations of Children and Families, as well as utilized in the reporting of 'Camden2040' and the 'Camden Kids' website.

Mayoral Citizenship Awards

The annual Mayoral Citizenship Award certificate and book prize was awarded to one student from each primary and secondary school in the Camden Local Government area at the school's end of year Award Ceremony. The certificates are awarded to students who promote community wellbeing within the school and/or wider Camden community through the principles of active citizenship.

Camden Family Day Care Scheme

Council manages the Camden Family Day Care Scheme, a quality child care service provided in the home environment of 45 Carers. Carers are registered, trained and supported by the coordination unit and provide a service to approximately 320 children. Camden Family Day Care continues to work in partnership with the Burnside Uniting Care who provides an Early Intervention Program for families at risk. This project will subsidise care places for children whose families are experience additional stress or hardship. Camden Family Day Care continues to provide an accredited service which meets licencing and regulatory requirements.

Libraries –vibrant places - people spaces

Our libraries have had a very successful year and continue to provide rich collections, services and programs to meet our community's need.

The library has upgraded its library management system, introduced a Library e-list for communication to our community and also introduced a free service to remind you when your books are due.

Our libraries have more online resources including World Book Online and have introduced a new Current Events page to the library website for our community to get access to information on the latest issues and topics locally and around the world.

The library launched Your Tutor in partnership with UWS for students in Year 4 -Year 12 to receive free online assistance with their homework and assignments.

The library's programs continue to attract positive interest and growth with babies attending the Babies into Books lapsit program, preschool children and families attending Story time, we have had over 16,000 people attend our children and youth school holiday and school term programs.

The library has hosted a number of high profile visiting authors in the past 12 months, including Ray Martin, Di Morrissey and Lee Childs. New partnerships and programs have been developed with many artists, performers and a new partnership with the Australian War Memorial has seen us host two travelling

exhibitions. These programs have delivered a greater sense of belonging, a more vibrant activity space and wonderful life long learning opportunities to the community.

The library continues to work in partnership with TAFE Outreach to deliver accredited computer training to local residents and had extended the number of computers available to the community by introducing a loan a laptop in the library program.

Camden's Living Libraries have provided a rich and unique experience for our readers. Our *Living Books* come from a diverse range of backgrounds and have shared many wonderful stories and experiences with over 400 people in our community.

The libraries fines amnesty in July and December was a huge success. The fines amnesty allowed customers of the library service to return overdue items and make a donation of non-perishable food in place of a fine payment. This donation was then given to a local charity to distribute to those in need in our community.

The library continues to provide a range of programs, technologies, collections and activities to meet the needs of young people. The HSC lecture series were held regarding study technique and key subject topics which were well attended and received.

Our services to housebound residents and bulk loans to all our local nursing homes have increased and we continue to provide services and collections to our growing population.

Recreation and Facilities

Recreation and Leisure Services team has been involved in the design of community, recreation and leisure facilities in the new release areas of Oran Park, Gregory Hills and Spring Farm to ensure quality facilities are provided for residents in emerging communities. A review of the Leases and Licensing procedures was undertaken streamlining the process and developing generic agreements for all Community Facilities and Sporting Fields.

Sportsfield lighting projects were completed at a number of Council sporting reserves to increase availability to community sporting groups. Work has commenced on the \$5million upgrade for the Camden Memorial Pools complex with the pool being ready for use in early 2011.

As the population continues to grow in the Camden LGA so too does the demand for Council's community and recreation facilities with usage again increasing significantly on previous years.

Camden Civic Centre continues to provide quality entertainment and facilities

The Civic Centre continues to provide a range of quality and affordable entertainment for families, youth and children as a component of the Centre's calendar of events.

Live performances by professional entertainers and community groups continue to attract large audiences to the centre, exposing the community to quality entertainment.

To complement the calendar of events the Centre continues to provide affordable facilities for the celebration of significant celebratory, community, cultural, civic and corporate events which support all age groups within the area.

Council continues to provide a competitive price structure for the Civic Centre, encouraging not for profit and private hirers to use the venue for a wide variety of events.

Community financial assistance program

Community Small Grants

Each year Camden Council provides funding to assist local non-profit community organisations and groups in providing services and facilities which will be of benefit to the Camden community.

The aim of Community Small Grants is to:

- assist in the establishment of new groups and services;
- enhance the quality of service delivery and facilities to meet community needs;
- promote increased access and equity of community resources, services and facilities; and
- encourage community participation in the provision of local services and activities.

There is one round of funding per year conducted in September of each year, with projects up to the value of \$5,000 considered in line with the eligibility criteria.

Projects are considered under three categories:

- Community Cultural Development and the Arts;
- Sport and Recreation; and
- Community Projects

In the 2009/10 funding round Council allocated a total of **\$39,905** to **14** groups and organisations approved for funding, including:

Organisation	Amount
Mt Annan Soccer Club Mustangs Inc	\$5,000
Rotary Club of Camden	\$5,000
Lions Club of Camden	\$5,000
Camden Antique Fair	\$2,500
Camden Community Connections	\$5,000
Youth Solutions	\$2,305
WILMA Health Centre	\$2,500
Benevolent Society	\$1,500
Macarthur Disability Service	\$1,250
Narellan Scouts	\$3,495
Girl Guides	\$1,720
Inspire Church	\$1,000
Camden Family History Society	\$1,500
Camden Town Farm Community Gardens Association	\$2,135
TOTAL	\$39,905

A mayoral reception was held in February 2010 at the Camden Civic Centre to present cheques to the successful applicants.

Donations Policy

Council's Donations Policy is aimed at assisting individual residents with financial or in-kind support for charitable purposes. A number of donation requests were received in the 2009/10 financial year, including financial support for local playgroups, community groups and equipment for people in need and assisting with many community initiatives.

A total of 12 applications were successful in the financial year 2009/10 with a total of \$5,747 provided.

Through the Donations Policy funding, local primary and high schools are also asked to nominate a student each year to receive a Mayoral Citizenship Award, which includes a certificate and book prize for a student in each school who promotes community wellbeing within the school and/or wider Camden community through the principles of active citizenship and participation.

Support for Young Persons Special Achievers' Program

The Support for Young Persons Special Achievers' Program is designed to support young residents, 23 years and under who live in the Camden Local Government area. The program provides a once only grant of up to \$500 to assist in meeting the costs associated with participating in a cultural, academic or sporting event representing Camden at a state or national level. Applications are received at any time during the year.

A total of 9 applications were successful in the financial year 2009/10 with a total of \$3,180 provided.



Annual Subsidies

Council provided subsidies and contributions to the following organisations in the 2009/10 financial year:

Organisation	Subsidy amount
Camden Historical Society	\$1,100
Ingleburn RSL Club and Campbelltown Pipes and Drum	\$1,500
Ingleburn RSL Club and Campbelltown Pipes and Drum	\$1,500
Campbelltown-Camden District Band	\$1,500
Camden Rugby Band	\$2,100
South West Sydney Academy of Sport	\$8,000
Camden International Friendship Association	\$5,000
Senior Citizens	\$3,600
Anzac Day Contribution	\$2,000
TOTAL	\$26,300

OTHER

Welcome Pack

Council continued to disseminate information to new residents of Camden through the welcome packages. The welcome pack enables people who are settling into the area to live, learn, work and play safely in Camden.

Throughout 2009/10, over 500 packages were distributed to new residents with new waste services, while real estates also assisted in the distribution of postcards.

As the information in the packages is becoming outdated, Council is now reconsidering the way we deliver the welcome message and looking into ways to direct people to Council’s website for more information.

Community Services eNewsletter

Each quarter, the Community Services team produces and distributes the Community Services E-newsletter. The aim of the eNewsletter is to keep local service providers and those that access Council services up to date with activities and initiatives of Council’s Community Services team.

The newsletter is sent via email to over 100 local organisations on a database and outlines team structures, financial assistance opportunities, current projects and upcoming events and activities.

Compliance with Companion Animals Act 1998

Enforcing and ensuring compliance with the Companion Animals Act and Regulation

The principal object of this Act is to provide for the effective and responsible care and management of companion animals. The Act allows Council stricter controls on domestic cats and dogs by micro-chipping, registration and penalties for non-compliance with the Act.

Companion Animal seizure and animal care facility activities

The NSW Division of Local Government has initiated a system to collect data from NSW Councils about their seizure and animal care facility activities under the Companion Animals Act 1998 and Regulation. 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 Camden Local Government area are transported to Council's contracted pound, Renbury Farm Animal Shelter.

The collection of data has been lodged with the Division of Local Government. The number of companion animals seized and/or impounded during 2009/10 reporting period is as follows:

	Seized	Returned to owner	Impounded at Renbury Farm	Surrendered by owner
Dogs	358	18	340	42
Cats	182	0	182	14
Total	540	18	522	56

Reported Dog Attacks 2009/10

Dog attack data is required to be reported to the Division 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 has been completed, a Dog Attack Data Collection Form is submitted to the Division of Local Government.



Within the Camden Local Government area during 2009/10 the following attacks were reported:

Victim Type	Attacking Dog Identified	Attacking Dog Unidentified	Total
Person	18	3	21
Dog	5	2	7
Other Animal	6	5	11
Total	29	10	39

Companion Animal Management and activities

Council employs four (4) rangers, three of which undertake general duty ranger work including duties in respect of animal control and enforcement. Council's fourth ranger predominately undertakes noxious weeds duties and some other general ranger duties including animal control and enforcement.

The Division of Local Government rebate for the reporting period was \$61,930.

Companion Animal community education programs

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

- Pet ownership and responsibilities are regularly displayed on community notice boards within the Camden Local Government area. This includes notice boards in busy locations such as Narellan Town Centre.
- Pet responsibilities and changes to legislation are advertised in the local newspapers.
- Council provides information to local veterinary clinics and related animal businesses for distribution to their clientele.
- "Dangerous" and "Restricted Breed" dog owners are informed in writing of any changes to legislation or matters that may affect them.
- Council promotes the desexing of companion animals and ensures pet owners are aware of the reduced registration fee for desexed animals.
- Council rangers enforce the Companion Animals Act by issuing penalty infringement notices, nuisance orders and dangerous dog declarations where required.
- 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. Camden Council informs and promotes responsible pet ownership including micro-chipping and registration. Micro-chipping and registration ensures the pet and its owner can be reunited.

Suitable unclaimed companion animals are re-homed and sent to rescue organisations.

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

	Released	Euthanased	Sent to Rescue Organisations	Sold
Dogs	180	68	68	65
Cats	5	131	48	12
Total	185	199	116	77

Dogs that have been declared dangerous or a restricted breed are not suitable to be re-homed and are euthanased as required by the Act. These dogs are included in the figures shown above. The animals which are euthanased often comprise of animals which are older or not suitable to be re-homed due to temperament or health.

Off leash areas provided within the Camden Local Government Area

Camden Local Government area has two (2) off leash areas:

- River Road Reserve, Elderslie. This Reserve is a dedicated off leash area seven (7) days a week with no time restrictions.
- 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.

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

Particulars of Compliance with and Effect of Planning Agreements in Force during 2009/10

27 Planning Agreements

Harrington Grove

This Voluntary Planning Agreement 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 objective of the agreement is to provide suitable funding for the provision of infrastructure, facilities and services to meet the relevant needs generated by the urban development. The Agreement includes heritage conservation works for the Orielson and Harrington Grove homesteads and significant bushland conservation works.

The bushland conservation works are ongoing and annual reporting has commenced. These works are well underway and have met the required outcomes.

Mater Dei (Wivenhoe)

This Voluntary Planning Agreement 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 objective of the Agreement is to provide suitable funding for the provision of

infrastructure, facilities and services. The Agreement includes heritage conservation works for Wivenhoe and significant bushland conservation works.

Yamba

This Voluntary Planning Agreement 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 agreement is to require the proponent to undertake heritage conservation and adaptive reuse works to Yamba Cottage and associated buildings in conjunction with various stages of development of the site.

The proponent has commenced initial works to Yamba cottage which include weatherproofing the building and securing it against vandalism in accordance with the requirements of the Voluntary Planning Agreement.