

MEETING NAME	People & Community Strategic Reference Group
ATTENDEES	M Sheehan (Manager Community, Arts and Tourism), C McArdle (Manager Waste & Environment), S Gardiner (Head of Advocacy), V Tierney (Team Leader Community Development), R Jardim (Social and Community Planner), Councillor Suzy Brandstater (Chair), Councillor Ally Dench (4:13pm), Elizabeth Gunter, Dennise Hanmore, Christine Duncan, Lyn Bright, Dave Clayton (4:08pm) David Azzopardi (online), Hugh Gent (online) and a Minute Taker.
APOLOGIES	Greg Duffy, Kazan Brown
DATE	15 July 2026
TIME	4.01pm

ITEM	NOTES
Declaration of Interest	Nil
Confirmation of Minutes	The minutes of the previous meeting held on 1 April 2026 were confirmed. Mover: Elizabeth Gunter Seconder: Christine Duncan
Matters Arising from Previous Minutes	The matters from the previous minutes were discussed as followed: Action 2: - Manager Infrastructure Operations provided an update on Council's Footpath Program highlighting that footpaths are included within Council's Capital Works Program and advised that there is a priority list for footpaths within the Shire. - C Duncan asked whether Castlereagh Street is included on the current priority list, noting concerns about the safety of the road. She requested consideration be given to installing a footpath on at least one side of the road. - Manager Infrastructure Operations advised the group to put in a CRM if they have a footpath, they wish to be considered to the priority list. - Social and Community Planner informed the group that NSW Transport have released a walkable NSW Strategy and Council has been writing to them advocating for funds. Action 3: - This topic was discussed during section 7 of the current meeting's agenda. Action 4: - Manager Community, Arts & Tourism advised that the Narellan Police Crime Prevention Officer is scheduled to attend the next SRG meeting to present a detailed presentation and speak on the status of the vulnerable persons register. Action 5: - Is resolved and passed onto the Team Leader Library Services who has actioned with Bargo Proboscis Club.

	Action 6: Manager Community, Arts & Tourism to confirm if Castlereagh Street is part of Councils priority list.
Preparing a Community Development Plan	• Social and Community Planner presented to the group on Council's Community Development Plan and encouraged the group to share their expertise and knowledge in this area. • The group were advised that the plan will focus on: ○ Encouraging social connections across the Shire ○ Supporting the Health and Wellbeing of the community • The group were supplied with questions to consider and provide feedback back to staff. The questions were: ○ When do people feel socially connected? ○ How do we make connecting with others easier? ○ How do we build on what is working well? • Cr Brandstater noted that while many positive initiatives and activities are taking place across the community, awareness is often limited to those directly involved, highlighting the importance of sharing this information more broadly with the wider community. • Cr Brandstater provided the group with flyers on Wollondilly's 'Waste to Art' Workshop and informed the group of an upcoming repair workshop. • Social and Community Planner highlighted that the plan will focus on equity, by ensuring activities are accessible to a wide range of people and by reducing barriers including providing low-cost or free opportunities. • L Bright suggested the need for accessible transport to connect villages. • Cr Brandstater informed the group that Council has a Community Group Transport subsidy program supporting local eligible Community Groups. • D Hanmore shared the creation of a community noticeboard in her front yard in Yanderra, featuring local contacts and services, including delivery providers, water suppliers, gas and sewage information. She explained that the initiative aims

	to build social connections by bringing together new and long-term residents within the village. D Hanmore suggested there is a need for a community meeting space, such as a shed in Yanderra, where people can come together and connect. Action 7: Manager Community, Arts and Tourism to share the email for feedback on the Community Development Plan to the group.
Update on Community Resilience Plan	- Team Leader Community Development provided an update to the group on the Community Resilience Plan, including: 200+ individuals participated in the engagement process - The draft plan is on public exhibition from 15 July to 12 August - There are 21 actions within the plan that sit across different departments of Council. - Team Leader Community Development provided copies to the group of the Draft Community Development Plan and advised the group that hard copies are also available at the at Wollondilly Civic Centre, Mobile Library, Warragamba Neighbourhood Centre and the Dilly Wanderer. - C Duncan expressed concerns regarding phone service, internet issues, and delays with emails in Bingara Gorge, highlighting these issues as barriers to community connectivity. - Head of Advocacy advised that Telstra has been contacted to advocate for improved connectivity across the Shire. Priority areas are currently being identified, particularly highly populated areas and key emergency routes, with further engagement planned with other carriers to explore additional advocacy opportunities. - Team Leader Community Development acknowledged that Council currently has a partnership with Resilient Sydney which include 33 Councils in the Greater Sydney Area experiencing the same telecommunications infrastructure failure. She expressed to leverage that relationship to advocate for the ongoing issue.
Update on Wollondilly welcome to new resident's process	- Team Leader Community Development provided an update on the Wollondilly welcome to new resident's process. - D Clayton expressed on the 'Get Involved' section of the website focuses mainly on Council activities

	and recommended incorporating information about local community groups and other services available throughout the Shire. • D Hanmore highlighted that not everyone accesses information online and emphasised the importance of being inclusive of elderly residents and those without internet access. She suggested providing paper copies of key information, including emergency contacts such as Lifeline, aged support services, My Health, and Wollondilly Shire Council's contact details
Councils Draft Advocacy Strategy	• Head of Advocacy provided an overview of his role, responsibilities, and key areas of focus. • Head of Advocacy presented to the group on the Draft Wollondilly Advocacy Strategy and advised the group that: ○ 50 advocacy priorities have been grouped into six key theme areas, with a seventh theme; Community Connection and Cohesion currently being assessed to inform the strategic approach and plan of action. The below themes were discussed: ▪ Connect Wollondilly ▪ Wollondilly Roads ▪ Basic Infrastructure ▪ Access to Education ▪ Access to Health ▪ Protecting the unique environment. • The group participated in an activity at the end of the presentation to allow the group to provide feedback. • The Group discussed Council's advocacy activities and recent areas of focus, including: ○ Mayor's and Local MP's Facebook ○ Advocacy for Wilton, the new school ○ Sydney Water • The Group discussed their initial impressions of the new Advocacy Framework, noting that it is innovative, well structured and supported by clear, informative explanations. • Clarification was provided on the Tier 1 and Tier 2 advocacy categories, and how advocacy priorities identified through other Council plans, strategies and projects are captured, assessed and incorporated into the Advocacy Strategy framework.

	D Clayton suggested that the Wollondilly Shire Council Facebook page join local community Facebook groups and share relevant posts to increase community awareness. Action 8: A response to be provided to Councillor Brandstater on how much funding would we be investing in State Roads Action 9: Manager Customer Engagement and Experience to attend a future meeting to update on Council's engagement and communication process with the Community. Action 10: Manager Customer Engagement and Experience to attend a future meeting to update on Council's engagement on social media and other channels are utilised. Action 11: Council's Draft Advocacy Strategy presentation to be shared with the group.
Engagement News and Updates	- Manager Community, Arts and Tourism shared an update on what is live on Your Say encouraging the group to log on and provide feedback. - Cr Brandstater provided an update on future Motions: - The Pink Up the Town: supporting McGrath foundation and Breast Cancer initiatives - Food Security
General Business	- Manager Waste & Environment provided clarification to the group that FOGO bins will not be implemented until a tipping facility is planned. However, government requirements mandate that FOGO services must be implemented before 2030. - D Clayton advised the group that Transport NSW coming to Picton Bowling Club for a pop in session on Saturday, 18 July at 11am. The session will focus on: - Picton By Pass - Speed Limits - D Clayton mentioned to the group he will be attending the pop in session to advocate for a safer solution on Tyler's Road, Bargo

MEETING MINUTES

MEETING CLOSE: 6:00pm

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 16 September 2026

REFERENCE: CM15598~4#66