

BUILDING BACK A BETTER CABONNE

Cabonne Recovery Plan

DECEMBER 2024 - PROGRESS REPORT





In the spirit of reconciliation, Cabonne Council acknowledges and pays respect to the Wiradjuri people, the traditional custodians of the land referred to as Cabonne.

Cabonne Council also pays respect to the Elders, both past and present, of the Wiradjuri Nation and extend that respect of other Indigenous Australians who are present in the Cabonne area.

We recognise Aboriginal spiritual, social, and cultural connections to these lands and waters, and state our commitment to ensuring that Aboriginal rights, as enshrined in legislation, are upheld and not eroded.

2-YEARS ON - MAYORAL UPDATE



MAYOR KEVIN BEATTY

It is more than 2 years following the November 2022 flood event - an event that will forever be etched in our communities and across our landscapes.

Cabonne will never be the same following the floods of 13 and 14 November 2022.

For many the last two years has been one of ups and downs, of heartache and community spirit. For two families, their lives were forever changed by these floods.

The flood event has created some long-lasting legacies across Cabonne - both positive and negative.

Council hopes that the ongoing efforts to work through actions in the Cabonne Recovery Plan, identified by the impacted community members in the months following the floods, demonstrates Council's ongoing commitment to building back better.

We knew at the start that the road to recovery would not be quick - and we know there is still so much work to be done.

2-years post flood, some of the actions identified within this report are business-as-usual and part of Council's ongoing program of works - not directly linked to flood recovery, but supporting recovery outcomes. These actions have been identified throughout this update.

Thankfully, Cabonne has been included in the \$100m Central West Recovery Package announced in November 2023, and currently being rolled out across our LGA.

The Central West Recovery Package funding will help to deliver community infrastructure and road-betterment. Most importantly the funding will also help residents to rebuild, raise, retrofit, and in some instances buy-back some of the 426 homes impacted by the floods.

As we enter 2025, communities across the LGA should be seeing more of the tangible results in the delivery of community assets, ongoing road betterment and improved housing.

5 PRIORITY AREAS OF RECOVERY



Building Back Better Community Infrastructure



Building Back Business & the Regional Economy



Building Back a Better Environment



Building Back Better Communities & Supporting Recovery



Managing Council Resources/Recovery Planning and Oversight

PROGRESS AT A GLANCE

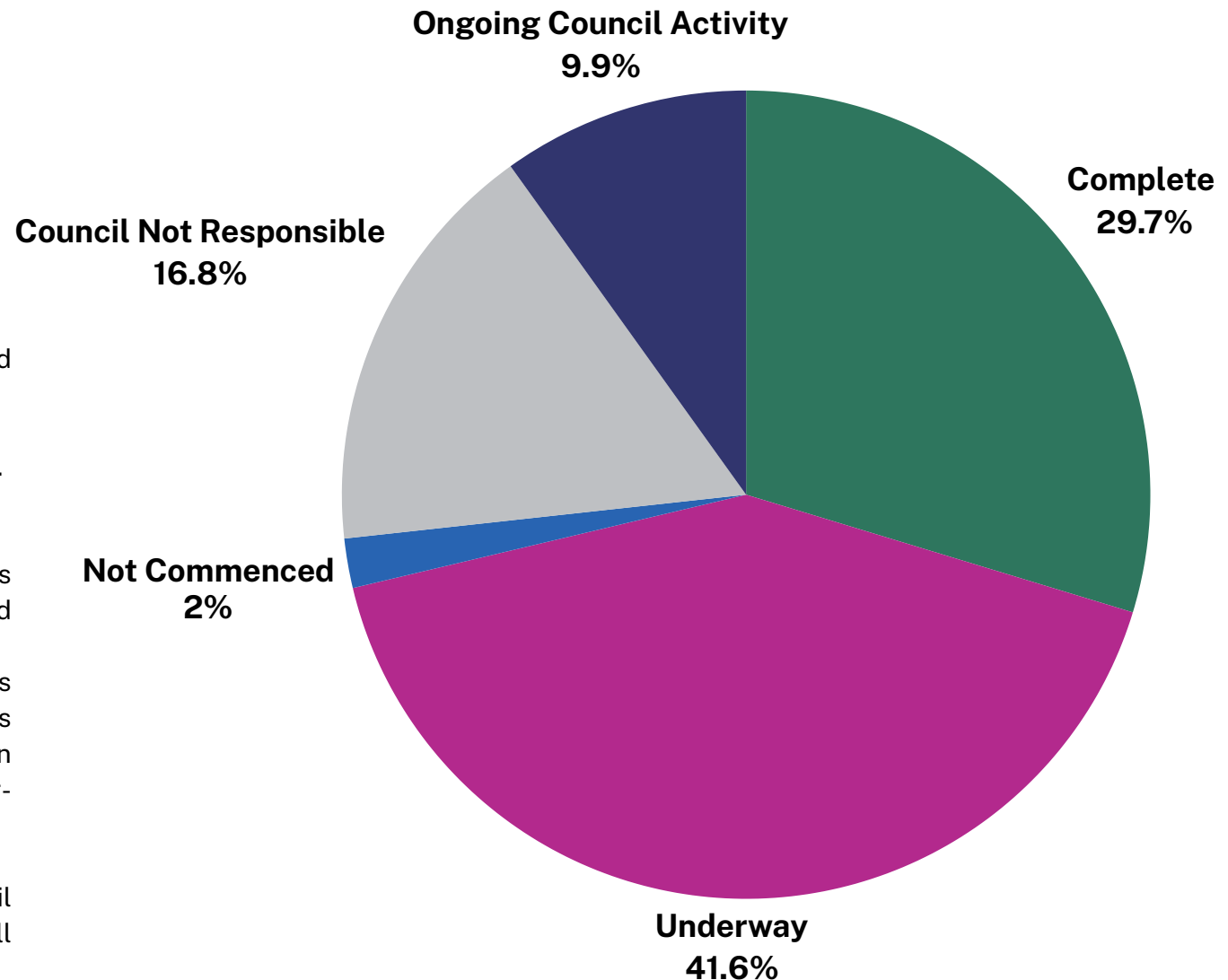
The Priority actions outlined in the Cabonne Recovery Plan are broken down into 5 main categories:

- Building Back Better Community Infrastructure
- Building Back Business & the Regional Economy
- Building Back a Better Environment
- Building Back Better Communities & supporting Recovery
- Managing Council Resources/Recovery Planning and Oversight

There are a total of **101** key projects and activities outlined across the 5 categories. Of these 101 actions:

- **30** actions and projects have already been completed.
- **42** actions and projects are currently underway.
- **2** actions and projects have not yet commenced.
- **17** actions and projects are not actions that Council is responsible for, however Council remains committed to supporting these endeavours.
- **10** actions and projects are long-term ongoing actions for Council, and form part of Council's business as usual program of works. These actions play an important role in supporting short, medium and long-term recovery.

The recovery process is an ongoing journey, and Council remains steadfast in its commitment to completing all priority actions outlined in the Cabonne Recovery Plan.

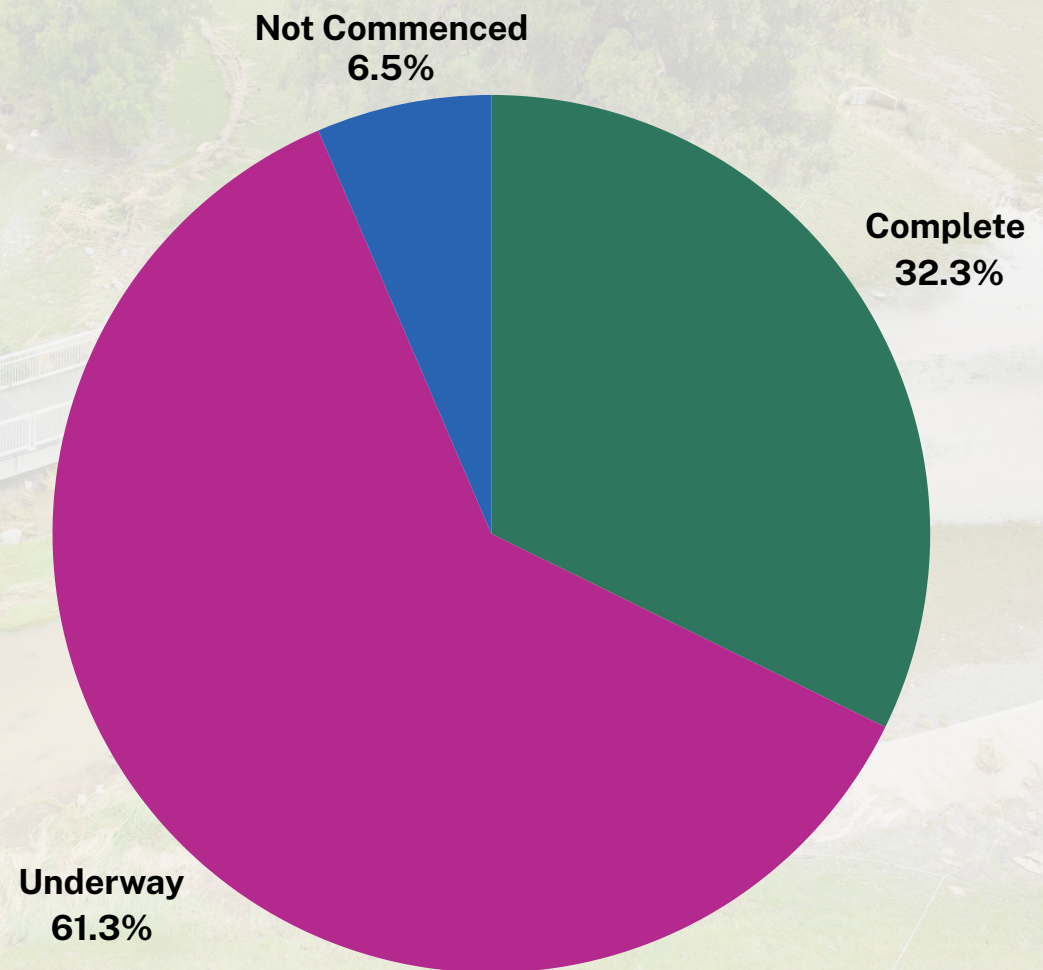


1. Building Back Better Community Infrastructure

COUNCIL'S ROLE: ADVOCACY & DELIVERY

There are a total of 31 priority actions for this category outlined in the Cabonne Recovery Plan.

9 - Actions Completed
20 - Underway
2 - Not Yet Commenced



BUILDING BACK BETTER COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

KEY



Complete



Not commenced



Underway



Ongoing Council activity



Council Not Responsible

1.1

ROADS

1.1.1



Rebuild and ensure sustainability of road works across Cabonne LGA.

\$20.1M worth of road repairs undertaken since November 2022. Council currently commencing next tranche of road works across LGA, equating to proximately \$60m in road repairs, under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements. Council successful in receiving \$7.45m in funding for bridge, culvert and causeway resilience.

1.2

BRIDGES

1.2.1



Removal and clean-up of Canowindra railway and rail bridge.

Initial clean-up completed - including removal of vegetation and debris. UGL committed to removing the old rail line. Not yet complete.

1.2.2



Reinstate Canowindra Swinging Bridge.

Reopened in June 2023. A replacement of the swinging bridge is currently underway and due to be completed in December 2024. This should ensure ongoing longevity to the existing structure.

1.2.3



Removal of vegetation and silt at Canowindra twin bridges.

Completed by Council, Avcon and NSW Environment Protection Authority.

1.2.4



Rebuild of Canomodine Bridge.

Bridge works were completed in early July 2024.

1.2.5



Rebuild of the Nyrang Creek Bridge between Canowindra and Eugowra to better resist future flooding.

Works have been completed, and bridge was open to traffic on 28 June 2024.

1.2.6



Replacement of Cudal Swinging Bridge and improved design to accommodate future floods.

Reports have been submitted to Transport for NSW to support the tender process for the replacement of Cudal Swinging Bridge. Awaiting advice from Transport for NSW.

1.2.7



Improve road access on bridge to Dean Park.

Reports were submitted to Transport for NSW to support the tender process to improve road access on the bridge to Dean Park in Cudal. The project was funded through the Regional Transport Resilient Fund, announced in October 2024, and is due to be completed in 2025.

BUILDING BACK BETTER COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

KEY



Complete



Not commenced



Underway



Ongoing Council activity



Council Not Responsible

1.2

BRIDGES

1.2.8



Replace Apex Bridge at Eugowra.

Complete.

1.2.9



Replacement of the Mandagery Creek Bridge and Eugowra Creek Bridge at Eugowra to ensure structures are stronger, safer and can provide access for heavy vehicles and pedestrians.

Council is currently seeking funding arrangements in order to undertake this project.

1.2.10



Keep footpath separate on the rebuild of the Mandagery Creek bridge at Manildra which was originally community funded.

A request to reinstate the footbridge in Manildra has been made to Transport for NSW, under Natural Disaster Arrangements.

1.2.11



Extend the Molong Rail Bridge to increase waterway capacity, flow, and hazard reduction.

An Initial creek clean-up and dredging was funded through the NSW Government. Council continues to work with NSW Government engineers on long-term solutions.

1.3

STREETS AND FOOTPATHS

1.3.1



Road and drainage surveying within town limits in Molong, Canowindra, Eugowra, Cudal and Manildra.

These actions and projects are currently being investigated by Council.

1.3.2



Active transport footpaths and bridges in Molong, Mullion Creek, Cargo, Cudal, Cumnock, Eugowra, Manildra, and Canowindra.

New footpaths have/are currently being installed across Cabonne, in line with Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan. Some works have been funded under Get NSW Active and Local Roads and Community Infrastructure grant programs.

1.3.3



Resurfacing of town streets in Canowindra - including culvert, gutter, and drainage cleanouts.

Gutter and drainage cleanouts are completed by Council staff on an as-needed basis. Resurfacing works were completed in October 2024.

1.3.4



Replacement and update property numbering/urban & rural addressing identification:

- South Canowindra
- Eugowra

Not commenced.

BUILDING BACK BETTER COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

KEY



Complete



Not commenced



Underway



Ongoing Council activity



Council Not Responsible

1.3

STREETS AND FOOTPATHS

1.3.5



Replace and restore concrete footpaths in Eugowra.

In March 2024, Council will be commencing installation of a new shared pathway along the western side of Noble Street. The works include the construction of a new footpath approximately 350m in length and 2m wide and associated works.

1.3.6



Reactivate and ensure pedestrian access and mobility through footpaths, bridges, paths, lighting etc in Manildra.

New footpaths have/are currently being installed across Cabonne, in line with the Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan. Currently no suitable funding source to address other concerns.

1.4

SEWAGE, STORMWATER, DRAINAGE MANAGEMENT

1.4.1



Flood mitigation and resilience including gauges, studies, and communications.

Council has received funding to install new gauges upstream of Molong, Eugowra and Cudal. Council continues to engage with SES on installation.

1.4.2



Development of flood, stormwater, and drainage studies and improvements - including movement of drainage reserves to rivers and creeks.

The Molong Flood Study Report has been received and is being considered by Council. Flood Studies have also commenced for Eugowra and Canowindra, and should be finalised in 2025.

1.4.3



Invest and utilise temporary flood box-wall mitigation.

Council has been successful in receiving \$1.35 million from the NSW Governments Disaster Ready Fund. A portion of these funds has been utilised for temporary box-wall flood barriers. Council is working with SES and community on training requirements for installation.

1.4.4



Commission and implement priority recommendations from flood and drainage studies across flood impacted towns and villages.

Floodplain risk management plans will be developed from flood studies that are currently being commenced. The plans will be utilised to seek further funding opportunities for mitigation projects in the future.

Council is also seeking funding through the NSW Government to undertake a Disaster Adaptation Plan for Cabonne - in line with the NSW Government's Disaster Adaptation Plan guidelines.

BUILDING BACK BETTER COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

KEY

✓

Complete

✗

Not commenced

⌚

Underway

↻

Ongoing Council activity

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Council Not Responsible

1.4

SEWAGE, STORMWATER, DRAINAGE MANAGEMENT

1.4.5	<div>⌚</div> Finalise and implement key recommendations from the Molong Flood Study and the Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan.	A draft Molong Floodplain Risk Management Plan has been developed from the Molong Food Study. Key recommendations will be incorporated into Council actions.
1.4.6	<div>✓</div> New sewerage pump station Eugowra.	Flood-damaged components of the Eugowra sewerage pump station were replaced/installed in November of 2023.

1.5

WATER SUPPLY

1.5.1	<div>⌚</div> Molong infrastructure growth strategy including update of water, wastewater infrastructure to support new flood-resilient residential, retail and industry growth.	Council is currently seeking funding opportunities to undertake these priority projects.
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BUILDING BACK BETTER COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

KEY



Complete



Not commenced



Underway



Ongoing Council activity



Council Not Responsible

1.6

SPORT AND RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE

1.6.1



Restore impacted swimming pools, and ensure better protection from future floods.

Flood-impacted swimming pools have been restored. All Cabonne swimming pools are once again operational.

1.6.2



Review and activate the plans of management/masterplanning for key impacted Showgrounds.

Updated POMs for impacted showgrounds were submitted to the Minister for consent in December 2023. Following extensive stakeholder consultation, the POM are due to be finalised by end of 2024.

1.6.3



Restore or replace the lighting at the Eugowra sports ground.

The project has received funding through the \$25M Community Assets Program grant application, funded under the \$100m Central West Recovery and Resilience Program. The project is due to commence in early 2025.

1.6.4



Flood proofing and repurposing enhanced female changerooms in Manildra and Eugowra.

Manildra works have been completed. At Eugowra, the project has received funding through the \$25M Community Assets Program grant application, funded under the \$100m Central West Recovery and Resilience Program. The project is due to commence in early 2025.

1.6.5



Refurbishment of sport and recreation facilities at Jack Huxley Oval, Manildra Tennis Courts, and Manildra Golf Club.

Underway. Preliminary works undertaken. For Manildra Tennis Courts, the project has received funding through the \$25M Community Assets Program grant application, funded under the \$100m Central West Recovery and Resilience Program. The project is due to commence in 2025.

1.6.6



Investigate a flood resistant multi-sport and recreation precinct for Molong.

The relocation of the Molong Hockey Field to the Molong Showground precinct has received funding through the \$25M Community Assets Program grant application, funded under the \$100m Central West Recovery and Resilience Program. The project is due to commence in early 2025.

2. Building Back Business & the Regional Economy

COUNCIL'S ROLE: ADVOCACY

There are a total of 18 priority actions for this category outlined in the Cabonne Recovery Plan.

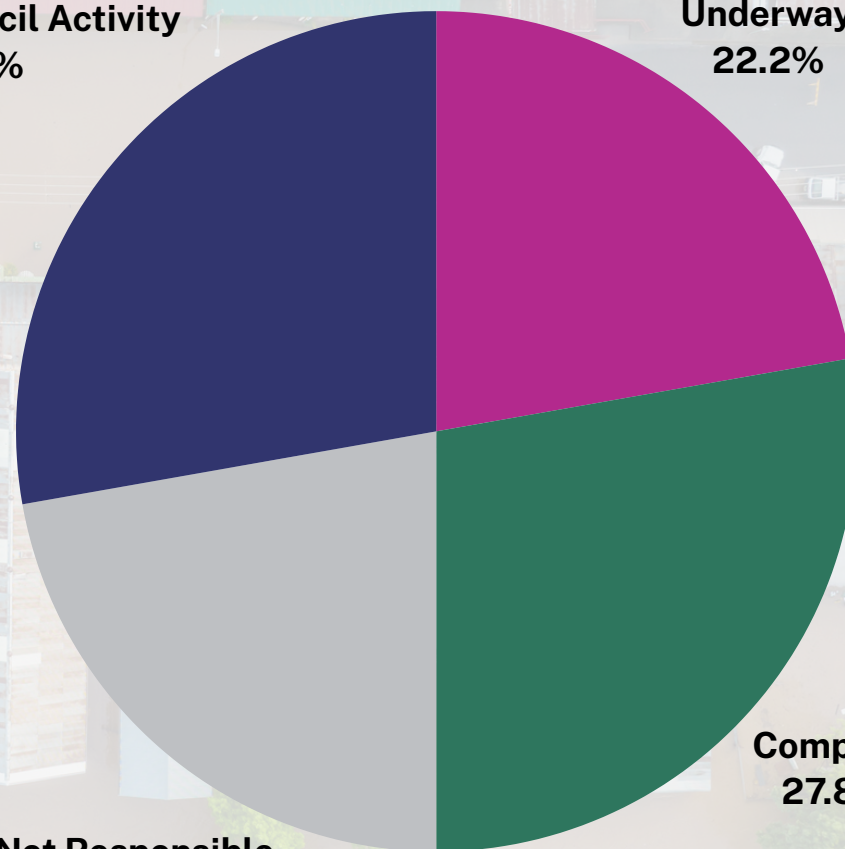
- 5 - Actions Completed
- 4 - Underway
- 0 - Not Yet Commenced
- 4 - Council Not Responsible
- 5 - Ongoing Council activity

Ongoing Council Activity
27.8%

Underway
22.2%

Complete
27.8%

Council Not Responsible
22.2%



BUILDING BACK BUSINESS AND THE REGIONAL ECONOMY

KEY



Complete



Not commenced



Underway



Ongoing Council activity



Council Not Responsible

2.1

DONATIONS

2.1.1



Encourage locals to spend locally through donation vouchers that utilise local businesses.

Council not responsible. Voucher programs run through NSW Reconstruction Authority, government and not-for-profit organisations.

2.2

TOWN IMPROVEMENTS

2.2.2



Activation of Canowindra and Molong Town Centres to develop Canowindra and Molong as key regional destinations

In Molong, works have been completed, and opened on 28 June 2024.

Stage one of the Canowindra Activation Project is complete. Further works for Canowindra, including the replacement and upgrade of swinging bridge is due to be completed before end of 2024.

2.3

TOURISM & THE VISITOR ECONOMY

2.3.1



Restore and enhance community amenities and presentation to revitalise our towns and villages and to support a returning visitor economy.

Ongoing commitment for Council - and subject to funding opportunities.

2.3.2



Enable businesses through development of a investment support attraction package to bring new businesses to the Shire.

Council working with the Department of Regional NSW on an investment attraction proposal for the Cabonne LGA.

2.3.3



Promotion of Cabonne region and businesses through advertising and marketing - "Spend, Eat, Play and Stay".

Council has initiated the "Shop Cabonne - Spend Local" campaign in Molong, Eugowra, and Canowindra, aimed at fostering local tourism and revitalising the visitor economy, with a focus on promoting the Cabonne region through social media platforms.

2.3.4



Build on existing tourism strengths and signature attractions across Cabonne town and villages to support recovery.

Council continues to develop relationships with our communities and various organisations, such as Orange360, Central West Joint Organisation and Regional Development Australia to support tourism across the Cabonne region.

BUILDING BACK BUSINESS AND THE REGIONAL ECONOMY

KEY



Complete



Not commenced



Underway



Ongoing Council activity



Council Not Responsible

2.3

TOURISM & THE VISITOR ECONOMY

2.3.5



Improve town and village entrance and way-finding signage to welcome visitors and promote businesses, facilities, and visitor experiences.

Following scheduled community consultation sessions in May 2024, installation of new town and village entrance signage will be completed by end of 2024.

2.3.6



Expand accommodation offerings to support greater tourism.

Led by private industry. Council not responsible.

2.3.7



Create opportunities for temporary usages to vacant shopfronts.

Various vacant shop fronts have been utilised for temporary community purposes across Cabonne, including seasonal/promotional decorations for upcoming local events.

2.3.8



Assist towns and villages to restore heritage buildings and sites across the Shire.

Council released a heritage program to support business owners to rebuild and refurbish heritage properties. Funding for this program has now ceased.

2.4

BUSINESS SUPPORT

2.4.1



Assist businesses to navigate the planning process through a concierge service, including working the NSW Government's Property Assessment program.

Council worked with Service NSW to ensure all businesses received support to claim financial assistance following floods. This program has now closed for applications.

2.4.2



Facilitate and assist in identifying future industrial land opportunities across the Shire.

Complete. Industrial land has been Identified in Council's Settlement Strategy.

2.4.3



Ensure Councils planning instruments appropriately support sustainable and flood-resilient business development.

Whilst this is an ongoing action. Council has recently completed a review of its settlement strategy to ensure it remains fit for purpose following the floods.

2.4.4



Increase the visitor economy by redevelopment of Canowindra railway precinct for community and business use.

Council not responsible. Land is not Council owned.

BUILDING BACK BUSINESS AND THE REGIONAL ECONOMY

KEY



Complete



Not commenced



Underway



Ongoing Council activity



Council Not Responsible

2.4

BUSINESS SUPPORT

2.4.5



Recognise and support agriculture as the key industry of Eugowra.

Council not responsible.

2.4.6



Restore empty, damaged shops and businesses and advocate to government to encourage building owners not to leave buildings empty and facades deteriorating.

Complete. A heritage funding program to support restoration of buildings was available through Council, but funding has now ceased.

2.5

FUNDING AND RESOURCES

2.5.1



Floodgate Business Package to Cabonne businesses to better prepare for future flood events.
Equip businesses with flood mitigation strategies including:

- Floodgates or other design engineering solutions.
- Fit out
- Painting and front facade improvements
- Bespoke floodgates

Council has been advocating to NSW Government for support of a “Resilient Business” program. A similar program was released for Northern Rivers businesses in 2024. Mayor has raised this directly with NSW Premier, and continues to advocate for a program for the Central West.

2.5.2



Assist businesses in navigating and accessing services and grants.

In conjunction with Service NSW, Council remains committed to assisting local businesses in accessing recovery services, as well as promoting and assisting businesses in the application process for available grants. Specific flood grant funding has now closed for applications.

3. Building Back A Better Environment

COUNCIL'S ROLE: ADVOCACY, FACILITATION & DELIVERY

There are a total of 9 priority actions for this category outlined in the Cabonne Recovery Plan.

4 - Actions Completed

5 - Underway

0 - Not Yet Commenced

**Underway
55.6%**

**Complete
44.4%**



BUILDING BACK A BETTER ENVIRONMENT

KEY



Complete



Not commenced



Underway



Ongoing Council activity



Council Not Responsible

3.1

PLANNING

3.1.1



Update Land Use, Environment, Flood Plans and relevant strategies.

Council's land-use strategy has been reviewed post floods. The Flood plans for Molong, Eugowra and Canowindra are currently at various stages of review.

3.1.2



Investigate options around storm water harvesting, new outlets, and a storm surge facility in Molong.

Options for water harvesting, recycling, storm surge facilities have been investigated as part of ongoing work Council is undertaking on the Molong infrastructure growth strategy which includes upgrading water and wastewater infrastructure to support new flood-resilient residential, retail and industry growth.

3.2

FUTURE PROOFING

3.2.1



Climate mitigation and adaptation strategies - including review of high risk assets.

Underway. Actions within the Cabonne Recovery Plan incorporate climate adaptation and climate mitigation strategies. Council continues to pursue 'betterment' options over like-for-like replacements for capital works projects.

Council is also seeking funding to develop a Disaster Adaptation Plan which identifies long-term adaptation actions to mitigate the impacts of natural hazards in the future.

3.3

CONSERVATION OF NATIVE HABITATS

3.3.1



Protect the platypus and other protected flora and fauna habitats.

The is an ongoing priority for Council as it continues to abide by pre-existing legislation for protected species management.

BUILDING BACK A BETTER ENVIRONMENT

KEY



Complete



Not commenced



Underway



Ongoing Council activity



Council Not Responsible

3.4

LEVEE BANKS

3.4.1



Investigate development of permanent levee bank/overflow channel at Molong.

Levee options are being considered as part of the Molong Flood Study currently being undertaken by Council.

3.4.2



Investigate development of permanent levee bank/overflow channel at Canowindra.

Levee options may be considered as part of the Canowindra Flood Study currently being undertaken by Council.

3.4.3



Investigate development of extension of Puzzle Flat levee bank at Eugowra.

Levee options may be considered as part of the Eugowra Flood Study currently being undertaken by Council.

3.5

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN-UP AND RESTORATION

3.5.1



Clean-up works of man-made flood debris along the Molong, Cudal, Canowindra and Eugowra waterways.

Council staff have supported work by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and Avcon in clearing large flood debris from waterways around Eugowra, Cudal, Manildra, Murga, Toogong and Molong. This included the removal of hazardous materials. Since February 2023, more than 2,476m of debris has been removed.

3.5.2



Environment recovery package for weed management and restoration of impacted riverbanks and waterways.

Council staff have supported work by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and Avcon in clearing large flood debris from waterways around Eugowra, Cudal, Manildra, Murga, Toogong and Molong. This included the removal of hazardous materials. Since February 2023, more than 2,476m of debris has been removed.

Weed management of waterways remains part of Council's business and is undertaken in line with relevant legislative regulations.

4. Building Back Better Communities & Supporting Recovery

COUNCIL'S ROLE: ADVOCACY

There are a total of 35 priority actions for this category outlined in the Cabonne Recovery Plan.

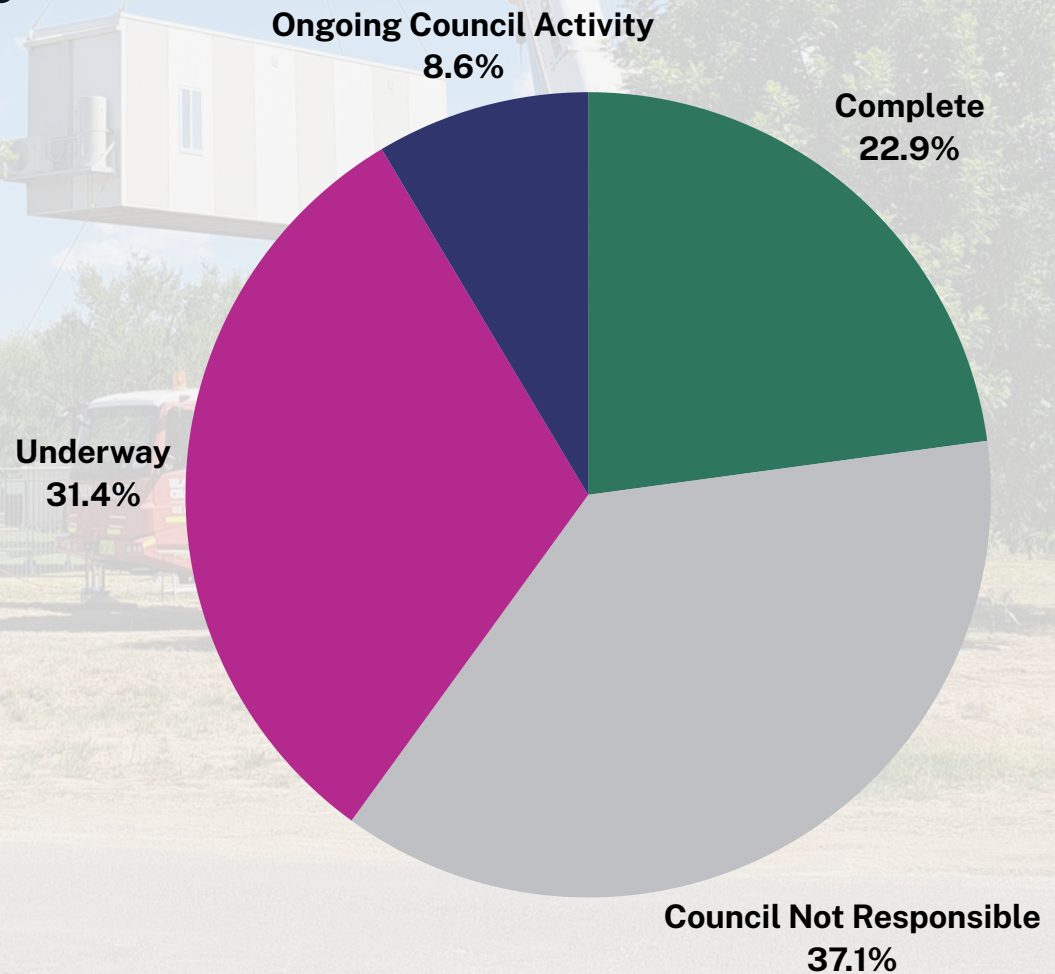
8 - Actions Completed

11 - Underway

0 - Not Yet Commenced

13 - Council Not Responsible

3 - Ongoing Council Activity



BUILDING BACK BETTER COMMUNITIES & SUPPORTING RECOVERY

KEY



Complete



Not commenced



Underway



Ongoing Council activity



Council Not Responsible

4.1

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

4.1.1



Investigate establishment of Emergency SMS system across the Shire.

The 2023-24 Australian Federal Budget announced plans for the creation of a new *National Messaging System* to help protect people and property – with targeted, real-time information to mobile phones during an emergency. This action remains a responsibility of the Federal Government.

4.1.2



Investigate improvement to emergency early warning systems such as sirens and SMS in each town and village.

The 2023-24 Australian Federal Budget announced plans for investments in *safer communities* with \$236 million over 10 years committed to improving flood forecasting and warnings. This action remains a responsibility of the Federal Government.

4.2

HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE

4.2.1



Ongoing provision of emergency housing and demolitions until permanent solutions including:

- Demolition Assessment Program
- Pods on Private Property Program
- Caravans at Home Program.

The NSW Reconstruction Authority are responsible for the delivery of these programs. Council continues to work closely with the NSW Reconstruction Authority to provide the necessary support needed for the rollout and continuation of these programs.

4.2.2



Continue with the existing flood buy-back scheme and prioritise candidates appropriately across impacted town and villages.

Council continues operations with the existing buy-back scheme with one buy-back each year, alternating between Molong and Eugowra.

4.2.3



Funding for the creation of a resilient housing package - including buy-back, house-raising, and financial support to rebuild and get back into homes.

The \$100m Central West Recovery and Resilience Program \$40m Central West Housing Program, delivered by the NSW Reconstruction Authority, has officially opened for applications. The Program will prioritise the most at-risk homes, with buy-backs, house-raising, and retro-fitting schemes offered to eligible households. Council will support the NSW Reconstruction Authority on the rollout of this program.

4.2.4



Ongoing provision of the Disaster Relief Grant.

Ongoing - through Reconstruction NSW.

BUILDING BACK BETTER COMMUNITIES & SUPPORTING RECOVERY

KEY



Complete



Not commenced



Underway



Ongoing Council activity



Council Not Responsible

4.2

HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE

4.2.5



Re-establish self-care units in Eugowra.

The works to the Eugowra Self-Care Units were completed in 2023.

4.2.6



Activate potential suitable land-holdings for development including enabling critical infrastructure support packages for Eugowra.

Council is currently working the NSW Reconstruction Authority around possible land options under the Central West Recovery Package.

4.2.7



Support and fund the development of the Molong Infrastructure Growth Strategy.

Council is currently seeking funding opportunities to undertake this project.

4.3

PLACE ACTIVATION

4.3.1



Activation projects including flood infrastructure projects for Eugowra in line with the revised Eugowra Community Master Plan.

Under the \$100m Central West Recovery Package, \$25m has been committed to a Community Assets Program. Cabonne is receiving \$8,196,415 to undertake 10 projects across the LGA, including 6 projects specific for Eugowra, and tied closely with the Master Plan.

4.3.2



Action of activities as per existing 'Activate Cabonne' program and town and villages Master Plans.

Under the \$100m Central West Recovery Package, \$25m has been committed to a Community Assets Program. Cabonne is receiving \$8,196,415 to undertake 10 projects across the LGA, with all projects tied closely to town and village masterplans or identified in the development of the Flood Recovery Plan.

4.3.3



Seek funding opportunities and support for key projects from town and village masterplans.

Under the \$100m Central West Recovery Package, \$25m has been committed to a Community Assets Program. Cabonne is receiving \$8,196,415 to undertake 10 projects across the LGA, with all projects tied closely to town and village masterplans or identified in the development of the Flood Recovery Plan.

Council continues to seek additional funds for the additional projects identified in town and village masterplans.

BUILDING BACK BETTER COMMUNITIES & SUPPORTING RECOVERY

KEY



Complete



Not commenced



Underway



Ongoing Council activity



Council Not Responsible

4.4

HEALTH SERVICES

4.4.1



Ensure ongoing mental health support for all impacted communities.

The Western NSW Primary Health Network is offering Wellbeing and Resilience grants to flood affected communities in central western NSW. The grants will facilitate the delivery of community led and focused wellbeing initiatives.

4.4.2



Attract and improve access to medical services to Cudal.

Through the support of Council, doctor services are currently available in Cudal one day per week.

4.4.3



Re-establish the Eugowra Medical Centre and support sustainable GP services.

In June 2023 repairs and refurbishment works to the Eugowra Medical Centre were completed. The building was officially opened in November 2023.

4.5

SUPPORT SERVICES

4.5.1



Improve insurance response and relationships with impacted communities.

Council Not Responsible. Council did appear before the Federal House of Representatives inquiry - 'Inquiry into insurers' responses to 2022 major floods claims.'

4.5.2



Review of established centralised emergency evacuation points in each town, and ensure appropriate equipment e.g. generator.

Council Not Responsible. Council continues to have ongoing discussions with Emergency Management agencies regarding the establishment of these evacuation points.

BUILDING BACK BETTER COMMUNITIES & SUPPORTING RECOVERY

KEY

✓ Complete

✗ Not commenced

⌚ Underway

🔄 Ongoing Council activity

— Council Not Responsible

4.6

CLEAN UP

4.6.1



Ensure community input into future planning for responses, particularly around impacts of unsolicited help and removal of property.

Council Not Responsible.

4.6.2



Support establishment of town and village emergency response plans.

Council Not Responsible. SES currently reviewing the Eugowra town alarm and evacuation plans in consultation with the community.

4.7

COMMUNITY SERVICES

4.7.1



Refurbishment of the Cabonne Home Support (CHS) Centre in Canowindra.

The Refurbishment works to the CHS centre in Canowindra are scheduled to be completed over the next two year period. Council services are temporarily operating out of the Masonic Lodge in Canowindra.

4.7.2



Rebuild a new permanent Eugowra Community Children's Centre out of the flood zone and in suitable location.

The temporary Eugowra Community Children's Centre was officially opened in January of 2024. The NSW Government has committed over \$5 million in funding for the rebuild of the permanent Eugowra Early Learning Centre.

4.7.3



Support the return of the Eugowra CWA Hall.

Council Not Responsible. The Eugowra CWA Hall rebuild is a matter for CWA's insurer. This project has been completed.

4.7.4



Establish new Eugowra Multi-purpose Centre as an evacuation and recovery centre.

Funding from the Disaster Ready Fund and the Building Better Regions Fund has been received to support evacuation components of the Eugowra Multipurpose Centre rebuild. Foundational works have commenced at the Eugowra Showground.

BUILDING BACK BETTER COMMUNITIES & SUPPORTING RECOVERY

KEY



Complete



Not commenced








Underway



Ongoing Council activity



Council Not Responsible

4.7	COMMUNITY SERVICES	
4.7.5	 Reinststate police residence in Eugowra.	Council not responsible.
4.7.6	 Re-establish Eugowra Rural Transaction Centre.	The Eugowra Rural Transaction Centre officially reopened in December 2023.
4.7.7	 Investigate optimum position and management of caravan parks including flood warning systems.	Upgrading the amenities at the Molong, Cudal and Canowindra caravan parks was included as a submission under the \$25m Community Asset Program but was unsuccessful in receiving funding. Council is currently seeking alternate funding to undertake required upgrades.
4.7.8	 Restore the existing police station in Molong.	Council not Responsible.
4.7.9	 Relocate the Molong Central School Agricultural Plot to flood-resilient area.	Council not Responsible.

BUILDING BACK BETTER COMMUNITIES & SUPPORTING RECOVERY

KEY



Complete



Not commenced



Underway



Ongoing Council activity



Council Not Responsible

4.8

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

4.8.1



Support localised communications strategies.

Council continues to provide communications updates through various channels including through local media, social media, household mailouts and letterbox drops, e-newsletters, via radio, through local progress associations and on Council's website.

4.8.2



Help build resilience in the community to natural disasters.

Council continues to build resilience in the community through ongoing capacity building initiatives, providing resources and information for services available, and fostering a collaborative approach with stakeholders. Examples include free First Aid training sessions for community members and "Resilience" focused small business events for local business owners.

Council is also seeking funding to develop a Disaster Adaptation Plan which identifies long-term adaptation actions to mitigate the impacts of natural hazards in the future.

4.8.3



Facilitating community events support events that bring people together.

Council continues to facilitate and support community events across Cabonne. Examples of these activities include: Christmas events across Cabonne, Field Days, Small Business events, Eugowra Woodfired, Anniversary events and more.

4.9

FUNDING AND RESOURCES

4.9.1



Appoint a Community Recovery Officer to support recovery across Shire.

Council's Community Recovery Officer commenced in June 2023 for a contract period of one year. This position has now finished.

BUILDING BACK BETTER COMMUNITIES
& SUPPORTING RECOVERY

KEY

✓

Complete

✗

Not commenced

↻

Underway

↻

Ongoing Council activity

—

Council Not Responsible

4.10	COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT	
4.10.1	<div><div>—</div>Build capacity, support, and make use of community groups to provide practical support (CWA, Lions, St Vincents De Paul, etc).</div>	Council Not Responsible.
4.10.2	<div><div>—</div>Work with local schools to engage students in volunteering opportunities to support recovery.</div>	Council not Responsible.
4.10.3	<div><div>—</div>Strengthen emergency services including through localised training opportunities for SES and RFS.</div>	Council not Responsible.

5. Managing Council Resources/ Recovery Planning & Oversight

COUNCILS ROLE: DELIVERY

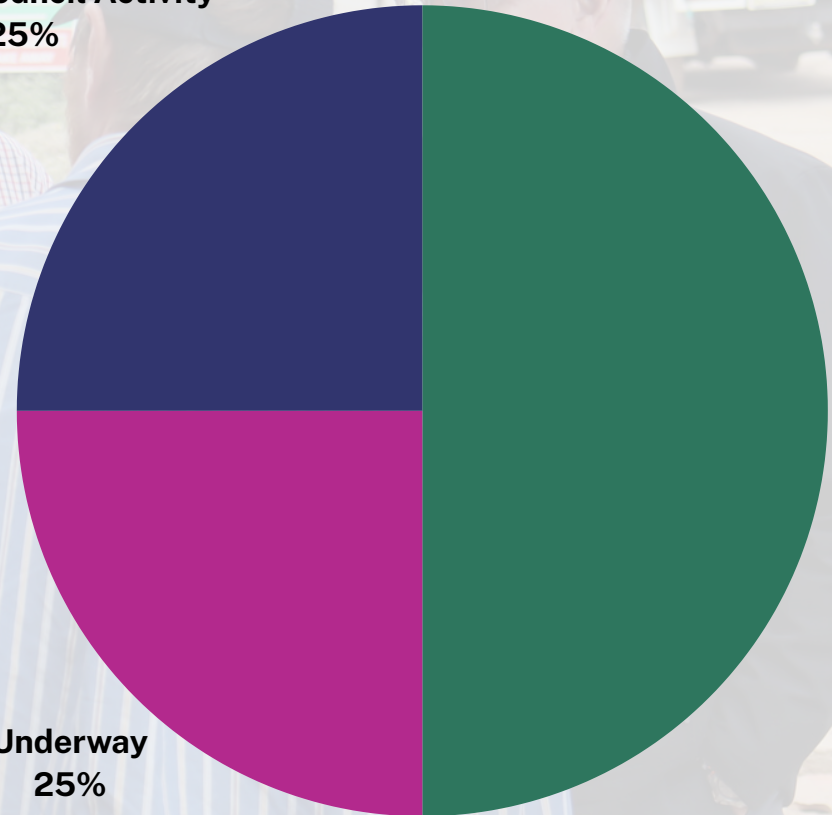
There are a total of 8 priority actions for this category outlined in the Cabonne Recovery Plan.

- 4 - Actions Completed
- 2 - Underway
- 2 - Ongoing Council activity

Ongoing Council Activity
25%

Underway
25%

Complete
50%



MANAGING COUNCIL RESOURCES/ RECOVERY PLANNING & OVERSIGHT

KEY



Complete



Not commenced



Underway



Ongoing Council activity



Council Not Responsible

5.1

FUNDING AND RESOURCES

5.1



In consultation with community develop and then implement the Cabonne Recovery Plan – Building Back a Better Cabonne.

The Cabonne Recovery Plan was finalised in June 2023.

5.2



Deliver a new suite of IP&R plans integrating actions from the recovery plan, and then monitor and report on progress to achieve the agreed strategies and actions.

Recovery Plan actions have been incorporated into both Councils delivery program and operational plan.

5.3



Undertake long term financial and asset management planning incorporating the damage to council and community assets and infrastructure and the impact on future capacity to deliver agreed levels of service.

Long term financial and asset management planning forms part of Council's ongoing IP&R requirements. The LTFP has been updated in light of the flood event and was adopted by Council in May 2024.

5.4



Develop new workforce management strategies to ensure council has the capacity and capability to deliver the plans.

The 2022-26 workforce strategy was developed and implemented into Council in 2022.

5.5



Strengthen engagement between council and community and provide information needed to make decisions for individuals and communities as a whole.

Council continues to maintain and provide communications through various channels including through local media, social media, household mailouts and letterbox drops, e-newsletters, via radio, through local progress associations and on Council's website.

5.6



Establish local recovery committee and community advisory groups with mechanisms for reporting on recovery activities and input from community on recovery priorities.

Working with our communities, Council has established both the *Cabonne Local Recovery Committee* and the *Eugowra Recovery Advisory Committee* with chosen representatives of the community. Council hosts these committee meetings on a monthly basis.

5.7



Advocate to other levels of government for ongoing support and funding.

Council continues to advocate to all levels of government for support and funding. This includes meetings with the Prime Minister, Premier and relevant Ministers, Shadow Ministers and Department leaders. A list of advocacy efforts is included in this report.

5.8



Deliver key actions and projects from the Cabonne Recovery Plan, ensuring alignment with Council's relevant rainfall mitigation strategy and the draft Cabonne Climate Change Adaptation Plan.

Actions within the Cabonne Recovery Plan incorporate climate adaptation and climate mitigation strategies. Council continues to pursue 'betterment' options over like-for-like replacements for capital works projects.

MANAGING COUNCIL RESOURCES/ RECOVERY PLANNING & OVERSIGHT

ADVOCACY EFFORTS - MAYOR AND GENERAL MANAGER

Lead by the actions of the Cabonne Recovery Plan, the following pages outline some of the advocacy efforts - predominately meetings and visits - undertaken by the Mayor and General Manager since January 2023. This is not a comprehensive list of activities, as Councillors and staff also play key roles in advocacy efforts both with community and key stakeholders.

JANUARY 2023

- NSW Reconstruction Authority
- Eugowra RFS
- Cudal community members regarding outstanding recovery matters
- SES Cache Handover with Minister Steph Cooke MP
- Disaster Recovery Team
- Molong Recreation Ground user group
- Claims review with Statecover
- Eugowra Local Recovery Advisory Committee
- Cabonne Local Recovery Committee
- Eugowra Daily Recovery Meeting

FEBRUARY 2023

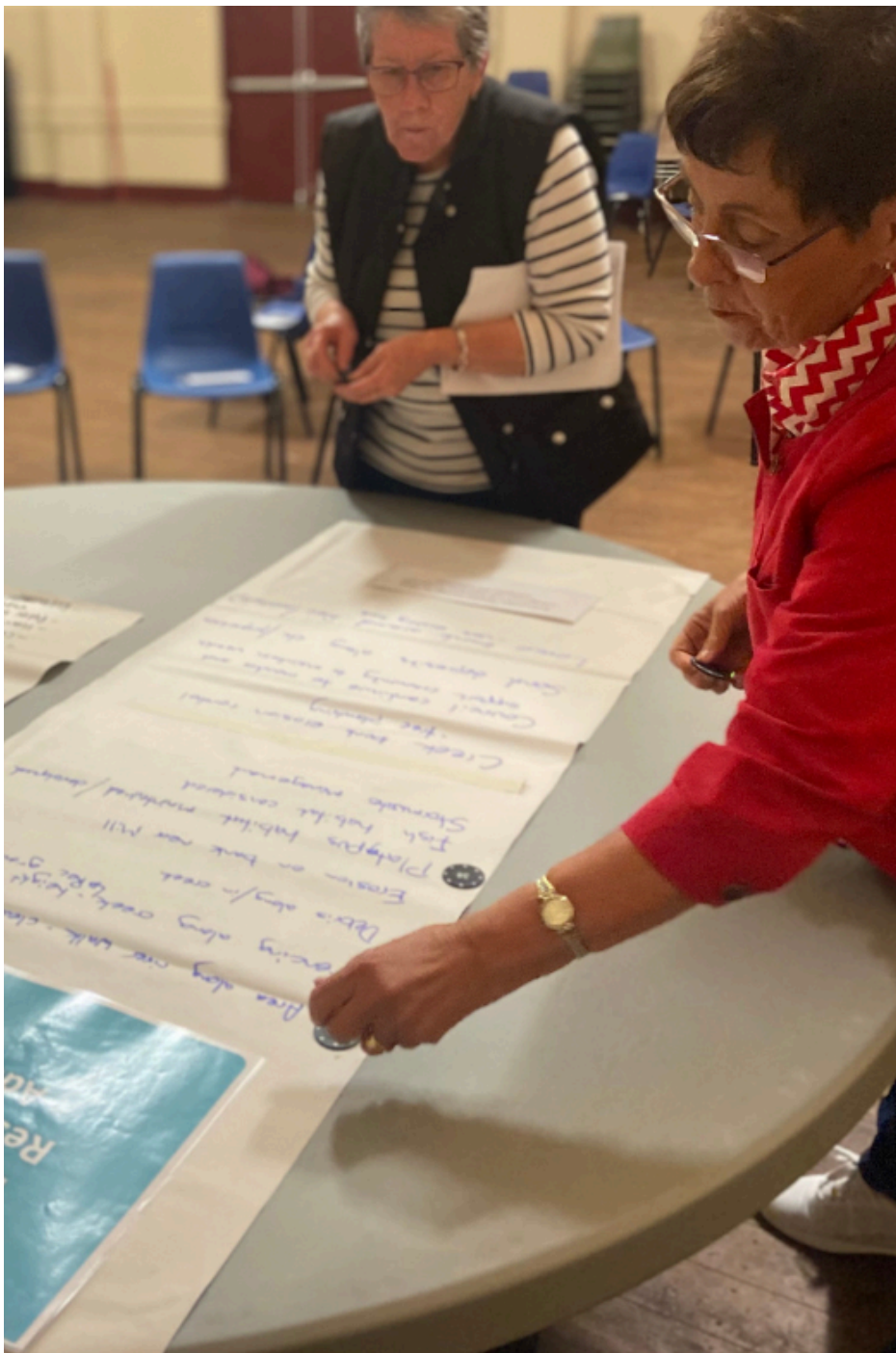
- NSW Reconstruction Authority
- Eugowra Local Recovery Advisory Committee
- Meeting at St Joseph's School Eugowra
- Eugowra Daily Recovery Meeting
- Workshop with AEC – Water/Sewer Business Case
- Master Plan Review with Eugowra Advisory Committee
- Brett Whittaker CEO of Office of Local Government NSW visit to flood impacted areas
- Cabonne Local Recovery Committee
- Mr Phil Donato MP
- Western NSW Primary Health Network
- Molong Railway Bridge inspection – The Hon. Sam Faraway, Mick Callis & UGL
- NSW Department of Education regarding Eugowra Pre School
- Molong business owners
- Rebuild Molong
- Eugowra Local Advisory Committee

MARCH 2023

- NSW Reconstruction Authority
- Eugowra Local Recovery Advisory Committee
- Eugowra Museum Committee
- Eugowra Daily Recovery Meeting
- Cudal Central
- Cabonne Floodplain Management meeting
- Cabonne Local Recovery Committee
- Eugowra Pre School Committee
- Molong business owners
- Eugowra Local Advisory Committee



ADVOCACY EFFORTS - MAYOR AND GENERAL MANAGER



APRIL 2023

- NSW Reconstruction Authority
- Cabonne Recovery Plan engagement with Cudal, Molong, Canowindra, Eugowra and Manildra
- Eugowra Daily Recovery Meeting
- Mr Phil Donato MP
- Eugowra Men's Shed
- Cabonne Local Recovery Committee
- Eugowra Local Advisory Committee

MAY 2023

- NSW Reconstruction Authority
- Eugowra Local Recovery Advisory Committee
- Central West Orana and Far West Regional Recovery Committee
- Eugowra Daily Recovery Meeting
- Molong Showground site visit with user groups
- Cudal Business owners
- Cabonne Local Recovery Committee
- Central West Recovery - Roundtable with NSW Reconstruction Authority, GIVIT, Eugowra Promotion and Progress Association, Cabonne Council and Lions
- Molong business Collective

JUNE 2023

- NSW Reconstruction Authority
- National General Assembly for Local Government in Canberra
- Minister the Hon. Murray Watt
- Skye Laris - Prime Minister's Office
- Mr Andrew Gee MP
- David Littleproud MP, Senator Perin Davey, and Darren Chester MP
- Canowindra Recovery Plan information night
- Cudal Recovery Plan information night
- Australian National University-ICEDS Flood Warning Project Meeting
- Minister Rose Jackson MP
- Eugowra Daily Recovery Meeting
- Cabonne Floodplain Management meeting
- Eugowra Pre School Committee, NSW Education and NSW Reconstruction Authority

JULY 2023

- NSW Reconstruction Authority
- The Hon. Kate Washington MP
- David Littleproud MP visit to Eugowra and Molong
- Eugowra Daily Recovery Meeting
- Cabonne Local Recovery Committee
- National Emergency Management Authority
- Brendan Moon - NEMA and Simon Draper - NSWRA site visits

ADVOCACY EFFORTS - MAYOR AND GENERAL MANAGER

AUGUST 2023

- NSW Reconstruction Authority
- Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC and Mr Dennis Wilson
- The Hon. Paul Scully MP, the Hon. Jihad Dib MP, Mr Andrew Gee MP and Mr Phil Donato MP site visit to Cudal, Molong and Eugowra
- NSW Reconstruction Floodplain Management Workshop Eugowra
- Senator Perin Davey visit to Molong, Eugowra and Canowindra
- Eugowra Local Recovery Advisory Committee
- Cabonne Local Recovery Committee
- Eugowra Daily Recovery Meeting

SEPTEMBER 2023

- NSW Reconstruction Authority
- Eugowra Local Recovery Advisory Committee
- Eugowra Daily Recovery Meeting
- Hon David Littleproud MP office

OCTOBER 2023

- NSW Reconstruction Authority
- Eugowra Local Recovery Advisory Committee
- Eugowra Daily Recovery Meeting
- Cabonne Local Recovery Committee
- The Hon. Rose Jackson MP

NOVEMBER 2023

- Central West Mayors meeting with NSWRA
- The Hon. Paul Scully MP
- The Hon. Janelle Saffin MP
- Mr Mark Speakman MP, Mr Dugald Saunders MP, Sam Faraway MLC, Gurmeh Singh MP
- Mr Andrew Gee MP
- Senator Tony Seldon
- Cabonne Floodplain Management Committee
- NSW Reconstruction Authority
- Eugowra Daily Recovery Meeting
- 1-year anniversary event

DECEMBER 2023

- CW Councils workshop Regional Transport Resilience Fund (RTFR)
- Central West Councils workshop - Community Assets Program
- Site meeting with UGL at Canowindra
- Central West Community Leaders meeting
- Central West Regional Recovery meeting NSWRA
- NSW Reconstruction Authority



ADVOCACY EFFORTS - MAYOR AND GENERAL MANAGER



JANUARY 2024

- The Hon. Chris Minns MP, The Hon. Paul Scully MP, the Hon. Jihad Dib MP, Mr Andrew Gee MP and Mr Phil Donato MP site visit to Eugowra, Cudal and Molong
- NSW Reconstruction Authority

FEBRUARY 2024

- NSW Reconstruction Authority
- Eugowra Local Recovery Advisory Committee
- CW Recovery & Resilience Package – Community Leaders Forum
- CW Recovery & Resilience Package GM Forum

MARCH 2024

- Follow up with Cudal residents
- CW Recovery & Resilience Package – Community Leaders Forum
- Meeting with Cabonne Shire Council and NSW Reconstruction Authority (RA) Key Infrastructure Personnel
- \$25m Central West Community Asset Program - DRNSW Briefing - Cabonne Council
- CW Recovery & Resilience Package GM Forum

APRIL 2024

- Eugowra Flood Recovery Committee
- Cabonne Floodplain Management Advisory Committee
- CW Recovery & Resilience Package – Community Leaders Forum
- East Molong Planning Proposal & VPA meeting
- Eugowra Pre School Committee
- Eugowra Recovery Committee
- NSW Reconstruction Authority visit to Molong & Eugowra

MAY 2024

- Public hearings in Molong – federal flood insurance inquiry
- Central West Recovery & Resilience Package - General Manager's Forum
- Initial Briefing - Tripartite Agreement Pilot Implementation for Councils
- Regional Transport Resilience Fund (RTRF) application for Cabonne Council
- Meeting between Cabonne Council, NSWRA and Transport for NSW
- NSW Reconstruction Authority CW Recovery Program
- NSW Cabinet Community Forum in Orange
- RTRF eligibility discussion NSW Reconstruction Authority
- Central West Recovery & Resilience Package - Community Leader's Forum
- Natural Disasters Tripartite Agreement - Next Steps
- LGNSW Housing Roundtable with Ministers
- Eugowra Flood Recovery Committee Workshop

ADVOCACY EFFORTS - MAYOR AND GENERAL MANAGER

JUNE 2024

- NSW Reconstruction Authority
- Eugowra residents meeting
- Prime Minister, the Hon. Anthony Albanese MP
- National Emergency Management Authority
- Central West Recovery & Resilience Package - General Manager's Forum
- Mr Phil Donato MP
- Mr Stephen Lawrence MLC

JULY 2024

- Local Government National General Assembly
- NSW Reconstruction Authority
- Eugowra Local Recovery Advisory Committee
- Minister King's Chief of Staff
- Kerren Crosthwaite - Treasury re: Housing
- David Littleproud + Darren Chester + Sen Ross Cadell
- Senator Tony Sheldon
- National Emergency Management Authority

AUGUST 2024

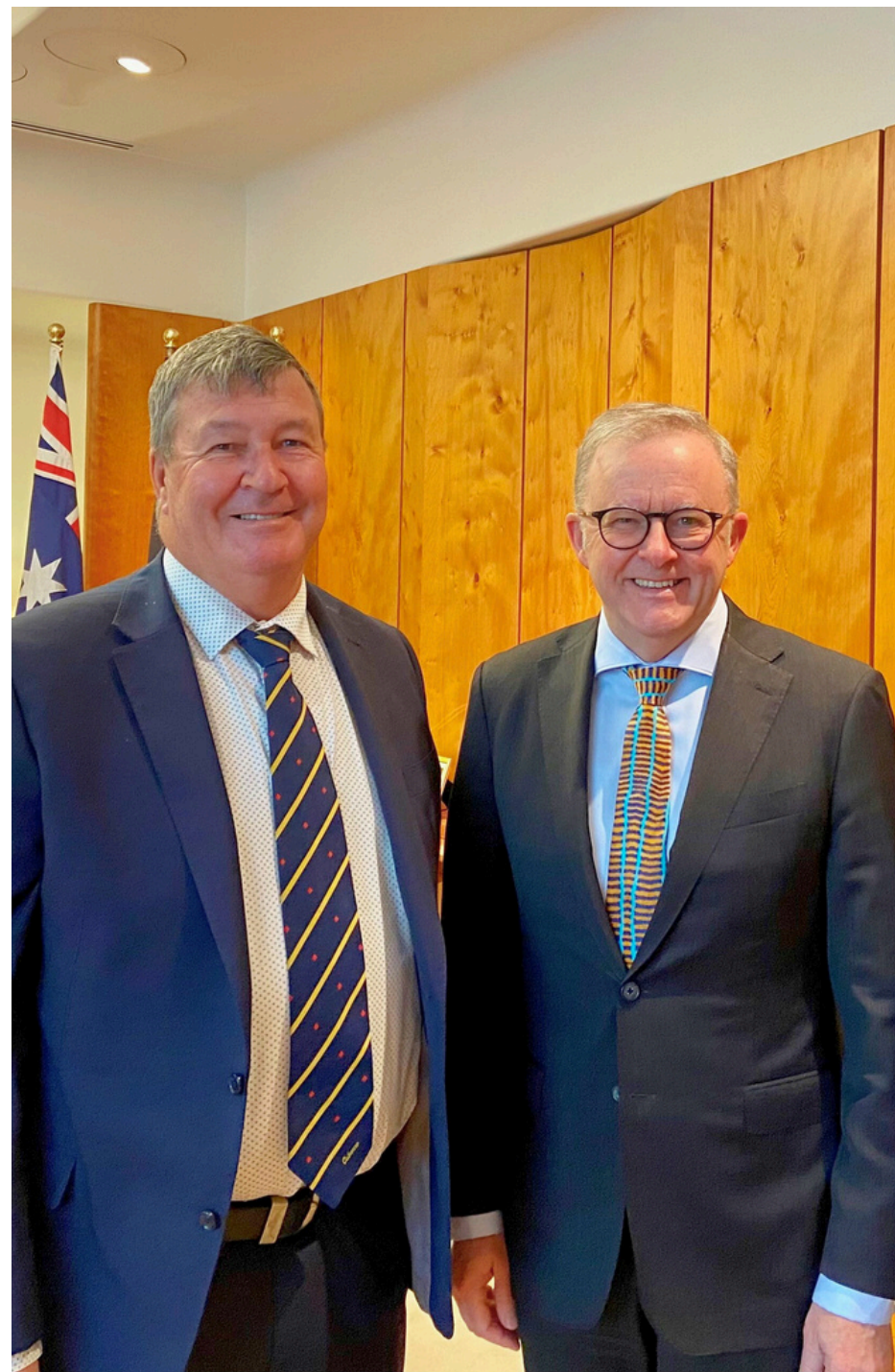
- NSW Reconstruction Authority
- NSWRA DAP Guidelines workshop
- Public Works Briefing / Updates to Western Councils – Cabonne
- Central West Recovery & Resilience Package - General Manager's Forum
- NSW RA in Cabonne Council Central West Recovery & Resilience Package - Community Leader's Forum
- Site meeting Eugowra RFS & Preschool
- Senator Tony Sheldon in Canberra
- public hearing - statutory review of the NSW Reconstruction Authority Act 2022
- Mr Andrew Gee MP

SEPTEMBER 2024

- Central West Recovery & Resilience Package – Community Leaders Forum
- Central West Recovery & Resilience Package - General Manager's Forum
- Rebuild Molong
- Eugowra Recovery Advisory Committee
- Disaster Ready Funding – CNSWJO
- Meeting with Homes NSW – Disaster related housing
- Molong Showground Hockey on site meeting

OCTOBER 2024

- The Hon. Jenny Atchison MP visit to Canowindra
- Central West Recovery & Resilience Package – Community Leaders Forum
- Central West Recovery & Resilience Package - General Manager's Forum
- Molong Showground Users Group
- NSW Reconstruction Authority



ADVOCACY EFFORTS - MAYOR AND GENERAL MANAGER

NOVEMBER 2024

- Central West Recovery & Resilience Package – Community Leaders Forum
- Central West Recovery & Resilience Package - General Manager's Forum
- Ms Steph Cooke MP water roundtable
- CNSWJO State Parliament House
- Country Mayors Association
- The Hon. Janelle Saffin MP
- Transport NSW – Regional Transport Resilience Fund
- Molong Floodplain Risk Management Study community drop in session
- NSW Reconstruction Authority





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