



18 MONTH - PROGRESS REPORT



PROGRESS AT A GLANCE

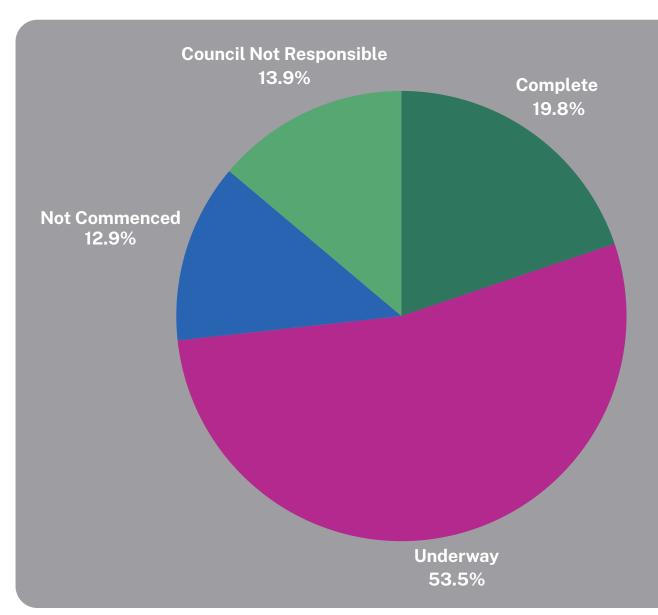
The Priority actions outlined in the Cabonne Recovery Plan are broken down into 5 main categories:

- 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:

- 20 actions and projects have already been completed.
- **54** actions and projects are currently underway.
- 13 actions and projects have not yet commenced.
- 14 actions and projects are not actions that Council is responsible for, however Council remains committed to supporting these endeavours.

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

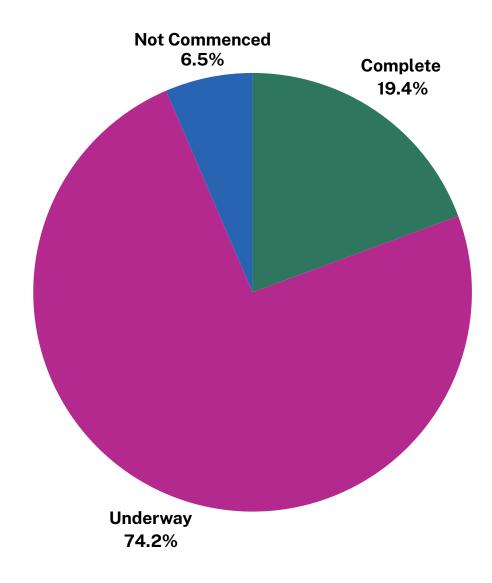
COUNCIL'S ROLE: ADVOCACY & DELIVERY

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

6 - Actions Completed

23 - Underway

2 - Not Yet Commenced



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 seeking funding for an additional \$80m of repairs to be delivered over the next two years across LGA.
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.
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.	Council have awarded the design and construction tender for Canomodine Creek Bridge Replacement. The bridge is expected to be completed and operational by the end of July 2024.
1.2.5	Rebuild of the Nyrang Creek Bridge between Canowindra and Eugowra to better resist future flooding.	Council has awarded the design and construction tender for Nyrang Creek Bridge replacement. The reconstruction of Nyrang Creek Bridge has a project timeframe of approximately 6 months, with on-site works commencing mid-April 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 have been submitted to Transport for NSW to support the tender process to improve road access on the bridge to Dean Park in Cudal. Awaiting advice from Transport for NSW.

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.
1.3.4	Replacement and update property numbering/urban & rural addressing identification:	Not commenced.

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 MANA	AGEMENT
1.4.1	Flood mitigation and resilience including gauges, studies, and communications.	Council has received funding to install new gauges upstream of Molong, Eugowra, Canowindra and Cudal. Engaging 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 draft report for the Molong Flood Study has been received and is being considered by Council. Flood Studies are commencing for Eugowra and Canowindra.
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 will be utilised for temporary box-wall flood barriers. Engaging with the contractor on installation training for Council, the community and Emergency Services personnel.
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.
1.4.5	Finalise and implement key recommendations from the Molong Flood Study and the Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan.	A Molong Floodplain Risk Management Plan will be developed from the Molong Food Study. Key recommendations will be incorporated into Council actions.
1.4.6	✓ New sewerage pump station Eugowra.	Flood-damaged components of the Eugowra sewerage pump station were replaced/installed in November of 2023.

★ Complete
★ Not commenced
Council Not Responsible

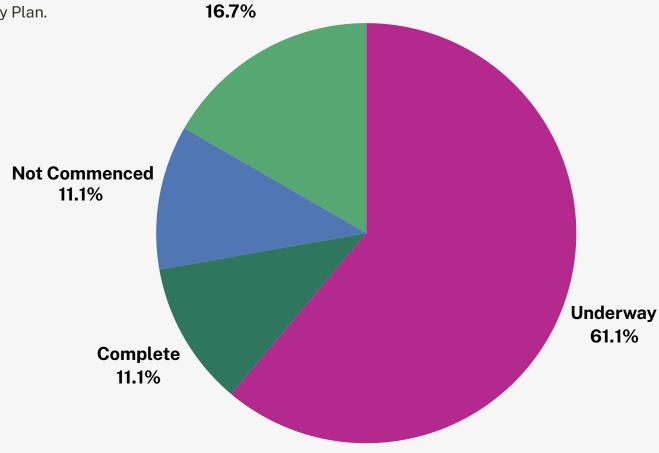
1.5	WATER SUPPLY	
1.5.1	Molong infrastructure growth strategy including update of water, wastewater infrastructure to support new flood-resilient residential, retail and industry growth.	Council is currently seeking funding opportunities to undertake these priority projects.
1.6	SPORT AND RECREATION INFRASTRUCTU	RE
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. Pending consent, POM's will go on a 28 28 day exhibition before being adopted by Council.
1.6.3	Restore or replace the lighting at the Eugowra sports ground.	Council will submit this project as a priority project under the \$25M Community Assets Program grant application, funded under the \$100m Central West Recovery and Resilience Program,
1.6.4	Flood proofing and repurposing enhanced female changerooms in Manildra and Eugowra.	Manildra has commenced. At Euogwra, Council is submitting this project as a priority project under the \$25M Community Assets Program Grant application.
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, Council will submit this project as a priority project under the \$25M Community Assets Program Grant application.
1.6.6	Investigate a flood resistant multi-sport and recreation precinct for Molong.	Underway. Council is - in conjunction with user-groups - currently exploring funding options to support relocation and betterment.

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.

- 2 Actions Completed
- 11 Underway
- 2- Not Yet Commenced
- 3 Council Not Responsible



Council Not Responsible

BUILDING BACK BUSINESS AND THE REGIONAL ECONOMY

2.1	DONATIONS	
2.1.1	Encourage locals to spend locally through donation vouchers that utilise local businesses.	Not commenced.
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, Stage 2, Phase 2 of the Molong Town Centre Activation Project (which encompasses the top end of Bank Street) is set to begin works in April 2024, with works due be undertaken for a 9 week period ending early June 2024. Stage one of the Canowindra Activation Project is now complete. Further works for Canowindra 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.	Not commenced.
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



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, New village entrance signage will begin to be installed.
2.3.6	Expand accommodation offerings to support greater tourism.	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.
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.	Underway.
	Assist businesses to navigate the planning process through a concierge service, including working the	Underway. Complete. Identified in Council's Settlement Strategy.
2.4.1	Assist businesses to navigate the planning process through a concierge service, including working the NSW Government's Property Assessment program. Facilitate and assist in identifying future industrial	

BUILDING BACK BUSINESS AND THE REGIONAL ECONOMY



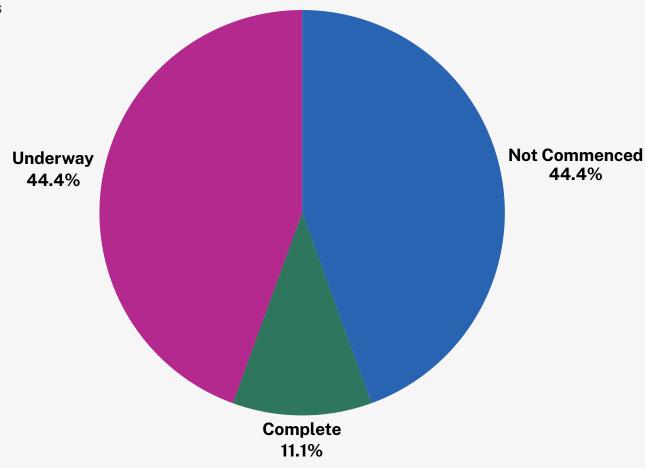
2.4	BUSINESS SUPPORT	
2.4.5	Recognise and support agriculture as the key industry of Eugowra.	Council not responsible.
2.4.6	Restore empty, damaged shops and businesses and advocate to government to encourage building owners not to leave buildings empty and facades deteriorating.	Underway. Heritage funding program to support restoration of buildings was available through Council.
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. Mayor raised this directly with NSW Premier.
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.

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.

- 1 Actions Completed
- 4 Underway
- 4- Not Yet Commenced



BUILDING BACK A BETTER ENVIRONMENT



3.1	PLANNING
3.1.1	Update Land Use, Environment, Flood Plans, and relevant strategies. This remains an ongoing commitment for Council.
3.1.2	Investigate options around storm water harvesting, new outlets, and a storm surge facility in Molong. Not commenced.
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 is pursue 'betterment' options over like-for-like replacements for capital works projects.
3.3	CONSERVATION OF NATIVE HABITATS
3.3.1	Protect the platypus and other protected flora and fauna habitats. Council continues to abide by pre-existing legislation for protected species management.

BUILDING BACK A BETTER ENVIRONMENT



3.4	LEVEE BANKS	
3.4.1	Investigate development of permanent levee bank/overflow channel at Molong.	Not commenced. Levee options will be 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.	Not commenced. Levee options will 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.	Not commenced. Levee options will be considered as part of the Eugowra Flood Study currently being undertaken by Council.
3.5	ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN-UP AND RESTORA	ATION
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.	Underway .

4. Building Back Better Communities & Supporting Recovery

COUNCIL'S ROLE: ADVOCACY

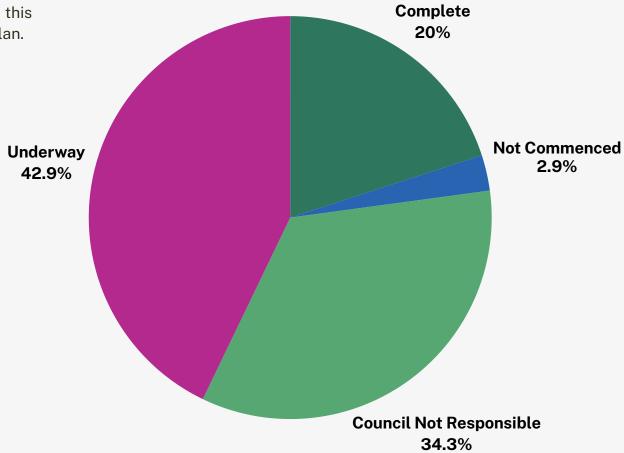
There are a total of 35 priority actions for this category outlined in the Cabonne Recovery Plan.

7 - Actions Completed

15 - Underway

1- Not Yet Commenced

12 - 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 <i>National Messaging System</i> 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 <i>safer communities</i> 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, is currently being developed. This Package will prioritise the most at-risk homes, with buy-backs, house-raising, and retro-fitting schemes offered to eligible households. Council will support NSWRA on the rollout of this program.
4.2.4	Ongoing provision of the Disaster Relief Grant.	Ongoing - through Reconstruction NSW.



4.2	HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE	
4.2.5	Re-establish self-care units in Eugowra.	The works to the Eugowra Self-Care Units are complete.
4.2.6	Activate potential suitable land-holdings for development including enabling critical infrastructure support packages for Eugowra.	Council is currently working the 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. This project is being considered under this program. Cabonne will share in this limited pool of funding with other impacted LGA's of Parkes, Forbes and Lachlan.
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. This project is being considered under this program. Cabonne will share in this limited pool of funding with other impacted LGA's of Parkes, Forbes and Lachlan.
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. This project is being considered under this program. Cabonne will share in this limited pool of funding with other impacted LGA's of Parkes, Forbes and Lachlan. Cabonne Council is committed to seeking further funding opportunities for the delivery of this program.



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, a doctor services are currently scheduled in Cudal for 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. There is a 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.



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.
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.
4.7.4	Establish new Eugowra Multi-purpose Centre as an evacuation and recovery centre.	Funding from the Disaster Ready Fund, OLG 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.



4.7	COMMUNITY SERVICES	
4.7.5	Reinstate 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	C Investigate optimum position and management of caravan parks including flood warning systems.	Uprading the amenities at the Molong, Cudal and Canowindra caravan parks is being included as a submission under the \$25m Community Asset Program.
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.



4.8	COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS	
4.8.1	C 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.
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	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.



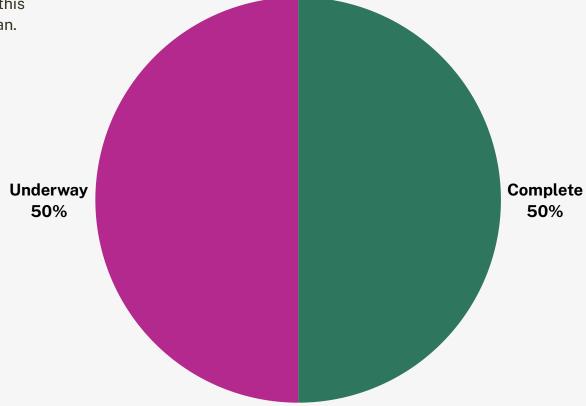
4.10	COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT	
4.10.1	Build capacity, support, and make use of community groups to provide practical support (CWA, Lions, St Vincents De Paul, etc).	Council Not Responsible.
4.10.2	Work with local schools to engage students in volunteering opportunities to support recovery.	Council not Responsible.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



MANAGING COUNCIL RESOURCES/ **RECOVERY PLANNING & OVERSIGHT**

KEY Complete X Not commenced



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.
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.
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.

