



Ordinary Meeting of Council

10 July 2024

**UNDER SEPARATE COVER
ATTACHMENTS**

ITEMS 9.3, 10.7 AND 10.8

**QUEANBEYAN-PALERANG REGIONAL COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL**

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QUEANBEYAN-PALERANG REGIONAL COUNCIL

Council Meeting Attachment

10 JULY 2024

ITEM 9.3 ASSISTANCE FOR MAJORS CREEK MUSIC FESTIVAL


ATTACHMENT 1 MAJORS CREEK MUSIC FESTIVAL

9.3 Assistance for Majors Creek Music Festival
Attachment 1 - Majors Creek Music Festival (Continued)

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Re: Majors Creek Music Festival

 narelle watts
To Jacquelyn Richards

Wed 26/06/2024 8:59 AM

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Dear QPRC representatives,

The Majors Creek Music Festival is under financial pressure due to increasing costs and respectfully requests some support from the council in order to ensure the success of the 2024 event on November 8-10

The total cost of the 2024 Festival is expected to be \$130,000. Costs have risen significantly in the past 2-3 years. For example, the hire of marquees/equipment has risen from \$25,000 to \$29,000, hiring the recreation reserve has risen from \$1500 to \$4000, and sound and lighting has risen from \$11,600 to \$13,000.

We have increased ticket prices moderately, bearing in mind a large proportion of those attending the festival are likely to have been affected previously by the bushfires and covid restrictions and now by cost of living increases. We are also acutely aware that attendance at many festivals has fallen and some festivals have been forced to cancel.

The Festival provides many economic, social and environmental benefits to the region and particularly the local community. The festival builds community cohesion and social capital by providing attendees, artists and volunteers with opportunities for social interaction in a fun and safe space.

The event is now widely known and is acknowledged as a well-run family friendly event with a varied program and a strong line-up of performers. In a post-festival survey 92% of respondents agreed that the Festival very much lived up to its reputation as a family friendly event, and 69% said connecting with family and friends was important in their decision to attend the festival.

Strong patronage of the festival, including return visits, means more money spent in the local area, and also allows us to support the local music industry.

Post-festival survey data indicates that both Majors Creek and Braidwood benefit from spending by festival patrons outside of the festival on accommodation, food, drink, other forms of entertainment, clothing, gifts/souvenirs, petrol and other miscellaneous items. Survey respondents spent an average of \$200 per person outside the festival so total expenditure is estimated to be in excess of \$300,000.

Almost all festival patrons (93%) say they would come to the festival again, 76% said they were highly likely or probably would visit the area for some other reason, and 83% said they were highly likely or would probably recommend a visit to the area to others.

Ticket sales have increased by 21% since 2014. Analysis of ticket sales indicated that 40% of patrons came from the Canberra area, 16% from Queanbeyan/Palerang area, 27% came from the south coast area (Nowra to Eden) and 10% from Sydney suburbs. The remaining 15% came from places scattered throughout NSW and other states.

The event is strongly supported by volunteers with about 150 working in the ticket office, the merch tent, the bar, waste management, artist liaison, and gate attendants. Volunteers come from all over Australia.

The Festival has responded in a meaningful way to environmental issues with a recovery/diversion/recycling program, including the use of composting toilets, and has reduced waste to landfill and water use at the festival, reducing demand on Council's services.

It provides an educative experience for approximately 2000 attendees, helping to raise the profile of waste diversion/recovery, Landcare and biodiversity among festival attendees. The Festival won a Keep Australia Beautiful Award in the 'Waste Less Recycle More' category in 2017 and an 'Environmental Communication' award in 2020.

We hope you consider offering some financial support to this year's Festival to ensure its success in 2024 and beyond.

Narelle Doherty
Majors Creek Music Festival committee



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Council ref: 2.6.1-02

13 May 2024

The Hon Chris Minns MP
Premier of NSW

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Premier,

Ending Violence Against Women

On behalf of Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council and our community, I am writing to you to request urgent and effective action to end the growing violence against women.

The inadequacy of crisis accommodation contributes to the risk of women being unable to leave situations where they experience domestic and family violence. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states at Article 3: Everyone has the right to life, liberty, and security of person.

More than one woman a week is killed in Australia. This toll has barely improved in many years and over the past several months, the rate at which women have been killed has almost doubled.

Thousands of people marched and rallied across Australia in recent weeks seeking effective action to end violence against women. This requires a wholistic approach by both national and state governments to strengthen policies, improving judicial systems to provide for women and their children's safety. A whole of government solution is necessary to address cultural values, increase funding for frontline services including crisis housing, and to deliver nationwide prevention programs.

Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council and our community affirms the right of all people to live free from violence.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Cr Kenrick Winchester
Mayor
Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council

CC. The Prime Minister, The Hon Anthony Albanese MP

QUEANBEYAN-PALERANG REGIONAL COUNCIL

Council Meeting Attachment

10 JULY 2024

ITEM 10.7 ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

ATTACHMENT 2 RESPONSE FROM THE HON JODIE HARRISON MP

OFFICIAL

The Hon Jodie Harrison MP

Minister for Women
Minister for Seniors
Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault



Ref: EAP24/8169

Mayor Kenrick Winchester
Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council
253 Crawford St, Queanbeyan
PO BOX 90, Queanbeyan NSW 2620

email: council@qprc.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mayor,

Ending violence against women

Thank you for your correspondence to the Premier, the Hon Chris Minns MP on the 13 May 2024. As your letter falls within my portfolio responsibilities as the Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, your correspondence was referred to my office for a response.

The NSW Government is taking urgent action to address the unacceptable rate of violence against women and children, and as part of the NSW Budget 2024-25 has committed \$245.6 million over four years for a coordinated, multi-pronged response that seeks to disrupt the cycle of domestic and family violence early and permanently. This includes:

- \$48 million to roll out the Staying Home Leaving Violence (SHLV) program state-wide and to expand the Integrated Domestic and Family Violence Service (IDFVS)
- \$48.1 million to secure and increase funding for workers who support children accompanying their mothers to refuges
- \$45 million to improve bail laws and justice system responses to domestic violence
- \$38.3 million to implement NSW's first dedicated domestic, family and sexual violence primary prevention strategy
- \$29.6 million for the Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Service to provide support for victim-survivors requiring support to navigate the justice system
- \$10 million to support Men's Behaviour Change Programs to enable men to recognise their violent behaviour and develop strategies to prevent the use of violence
- \$13.6 million for research into perpetrators and effective interventions, workforce training on the implementation of a newly developed risk assessment framework, and expanding Domestic Violence NSW, which is the peak body for specialist services in New South Wales.

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The NSW Government has also passed new laws to strengthen community safety by making it harder for alleged domestic violence offenders to get bail, and ensuring all bail decisions are made by magistrates.

Under the new law, people charged with serious domestic violence offences will be required to show cause why they should not be detained until their case is determined – reversing the presumption of bail.

This will apply to those charged with offences, in the context of intimate partner relationships, that carry a maximum penalty of 14 or more years jail. These offences include sexual assault, kidnapping, and choking to render someone unconscious with intent to commit another indictable offence.

The above activities are underpinned by work already underway in NSW, outlined in the NSW Domestic and Family Violence Plan 2022-2027 and Sexual Violence Plan 2022-2027 (the NSW Plans) which provide a framework towards a vision where all people and communities in NSW are free from domestic, family and sexual violence. The NSW Plans contain 137 actions to help achieve this, under the five pillars of primary prevention, early intervention, response, recovery and healing, and system enablers. The NSW Plans respond and align to the National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-2032 (the National Plan). The National Plan sets out the national policy agenda to end violence against women in one generation.

In your correspondence, you raise concerns about access to access to crisis accommodation for people experiencing domestic and family violence (DFV). Refuges provide a crucial service in assisting women and children who have experienced DFV to recover from the abuse and rebuild their lives in safety. The Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) fund crisis refuges through two programs, Core and Cluster and Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS).

Over four years, \$426.6 million has been allocated to deliver the new Core and Cluster women's refuges in NSW. The Core and Cluster program is being delivered by DCJ in 3 tranches. Tranches 1 and 2 have resulted in 39 projects being awarded funding, and procurement for tranche 3 is underway. As additional Core and Cluster refuges come online up until 2026, the number of refuges in NSW will increase.

At present, there are 96 women's refuges in NSW, and 89 of these operate under the SHS program. The SHS program is a key NSW Government response to homelessness and women escaping DFV. Services offered by SHS include crisis and transitional accommodation, outreach, case management and links to education and training. In 2023-24, the NSW Government invested \$444.4 million to deliver a range of homelessness services across NSW, including SHS and NSW Homelessness Strategy initiatives.

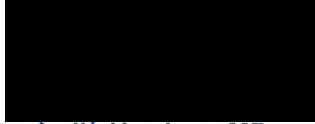
No level of domestic violence is acceptable. The funding for DFV initiatives, crisis accommodation, and the legal reforms introduced by the NSW Government are crucial, but do not mark an end to the work required to address this issue. The Government will continue to work alongside those dealing with domestic violence first-hand, to prevent recidivist behaviour and support victim-survivors. Addressing domestic, family and sexual violence requires commitment and action from all levels of society.

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Thank you for again for taking the time to write. Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Brigid O'Connor, Director, Strategy and Reform, Women Family and Community Safety, Department of Communities and Justice at Brigid.OConnor@dcj.nsw.gov.au.

Sincerely,



Jodie Harrison MP
Minister for Women
Minister for Seniors
Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

1/6/2024

OFFICIAL

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GPO Box 5341 Sydney NSW 2001

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QUEANBEYAN-PALERANG REGIONAL COUNCIL

Council Meeting Attachment

10 JULY 2024

ITEM 10.8 LGNSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023 - RESOLUTIONS
UPDATE: AMENDMENTS TO COMPANION ANIMALS ACT

ATTACHMENT 1 LGNSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023 RESOLUTIONS

LGNSW Annual Conference 2023 Resolutions

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Association business

1 LGNSW Board - Standing Orders

That the Standing Orders as set out in the preceding pages be adopted.

2 LGNSW Board - Fundamental Principles

That the LGNSW Annual Conference:

1. Endorses the LGNSW Board exercising its functions and determining advocacy activities and priorities giving consideration to all applicable legislative requirements, the LGNSW Rules, the Objects of LGNSW as set out in the Rules, resolutions of LGNSW Conferences, the LGNSW budgetary process and the LGNSW Fundamental Principles.
2. Endorses the LGNSW Fundamental Principles, as set out below:

Economic

- A. Local government must have control of its revenue raising and investment decisions and be fairly funded by the Commonwealth and State/NSW Governments to meet its infrastructure and service responsibilities.
- B. Local government promotes local and regional economic development and employment growth.

Infrastructure

- C. Local government is best placed to plan for, deliver and manage essential local infrastructure.

Planning

- D. Local government is best placed to lead and influence local and regional planning processes according to the needs and expectations of local communities
- E. Our communities' quality of life is a priority of local government planning.

Environment

- F. Local government actions reflect Ecologically Sustainable Development. ESD requires the effective integration of economic, environmental and social considerations in decision making processes and is based on the following principles:
 - Intergenerational equity – today's actions maintain or enhance the environment for future generations
 - Precautionary principle – prevent environmental degradation and manage and mitigate risk
 - Conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity
 - Improved valuation and pricing of environmental resources – recognising the value of the environment to the community
 - Commit to the principles of the circular economy and minimise the consumption of finite natural resources.

Social and Community

- G. Local government is committed to the principles of:
 - Equity – fair distribution of resources
 - Rights – equality for all people
 - Access – to services essential to quality of life
 - Participation – of all people in their community
 - Recognition – of the unique place of Aboriginal people in NSW and the right of Aboriginal people to be involved in all decisions affecting Aboriginal communities
 - Health and Safety – for all in the community.

Governance

- H. Local government must be constitutionally recognised and respected as an equal sphere of government.

- I. Local government is democratically elected to shape, serve and support communities.
- J. Local government is committed to the principles of good governance.

Accountability

- K. Local government is responsible and accountable to the citizens and the communities it represents, through consultative processes, legislative accountabilities, efficient delivery of services and effective customer service.
- L. Local government is recognised as a responsible and place-based employer.
- M. Local government reduces and mitigates the risk of climate change for the communities we serve.

Financial sustainability

3 Strathfield Council - Impact of cost shifting by state government on local government finances

That Local Government NSW lobbies the State Government to address the negative impacts of its cost shifting activities on local government finances through the following actions:

1. Engaging in direct communication with Local Government officials and bodies to discuss concerns about the consequences of cost shifting on local communities.
2. Engage in constructive dialogue with local councils to explore sustainable solutions that ensure adequate funding is available to support Local Government services and programs that are State mandated.
3. Commit to fully funding the programs and services that State Government mandates Local Councils to administer. This involves providing sufficient financial and technical resources to cover the costs associated with these responsibilities.
4. Implementing a requirement for State Governments to conduct a comprehensive fiscal impact assessment before transferring any new responsibilities, implementing statutory fees and charges, or increasing statutory payment burden (such as the ESL) on Local Councils. This review should include a thorough cost analysis to ensure that Local Councils receive the necessary funding or are able to raise the appropriate revenue to cover the expenses related to these statutory responsibilities. Transparency in these cost calculations and funding allocation is crucial.
5. Establish transparent mechanisms for revenue sharing between State and Local Governments. This should involve allocating a certain percentage of State revenue (separate from and in addition to capital grants) to Local Councils to help cover the costs of transferred responsibilities.
6. Create an independent body or utilise existing bodies such as IPART for reviewing potential unfunded mandates (responsibilities without adequate funding) before they are imposed on Local Councils. This body can assess the financial impact and recommend appropriate funding levels.
7. Involve Local Councils in the decision-making process when considering changes in responsibilities or funding allocations. Collaboration ensures that the needs and challenges of local communities are taken into account.

This issue was also raised by Waverley Council.

4 Junee Shire Council - Removal of sect. 119 of the *Rural Fires Act 1997*

That Local Government NSW:

1. Notes the ongoing objections regarding the previous NSW Government's determination on ownership of Rural Fire Service assets;
2. Acknowledges the impact of the Government's position on council finances of this accounting treatment;

3. Calls on the newly elected NSW Government to take immediate action to permanently clear up inequities and inconsistencies around the accounting treatment of Rural Fire Service (RFS) assets by acknowledging that rural firefighting equipment is vested in, under the control of and the property of the RFS;
4. Calls on the NSW Government to amend s119 of the Rural Fires Act 1997 (and any other relevant legislation and regulation) so that the effect is to make it clear that RFS assets are not the property of councils; and
5. Continues advocating on behalf to affected councils to get clarification from the State Government about the accounting treatment of RFS assets.

This issue was also raised by City of Newcastle, Greater Hume Shire councils.

5 Cabonne Council – Rural fire services – repair and maintenance of fleet

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to provide funding for the Rural Fire Service annual repairs and maintenance budget for firefighting fleet, including annual indexation based on the Consumer Price Index.

This issue was also raised by Lithgow City, Blayney Shire councils.

6 Cabonne Council – Stronger Country Communities Fund

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to:

1. Recognise the positive impact the Stronger Country Communities Fund has had on rural and regional communities across NSW by providing new and upgraded community infrastructure and programs.
2. Prioritise continued commitment of at least \$160 million, each year, towards the Stronger Country Communities.

7 Cabonne Council – Resources for Regions

That Local Government NSW:

1. Recognises that the Resources for Regions program supports the ongoing liveability of mining communities.
2. supports incorporating into the NSW Regional Development Trust Fund a dedicated amount for mining councils based on mining activity, no cost benefit ratio, and no co-contribution, to support community programs.

8 Lake Macquarie City Council – Certainty and visibility of FA Grants

That Local Government NSW advocates to the Federal Government to address the scheduling of the payment of Financial Assistance Grants and maintain that schedule.

9 Tweed Shire Council – Local government grants agency

That Local Government NSW writes to the NSW Premier and the NSW Minister for Local Government requesting the establishment of a NSW Local Government Grants Agency to coordinate all the state and federal grants programs through one central agency. This would provide a single point of contact for councils and establish consistent grant application, reporting and acquittal arrangements.

10 Upper Lachlan Shire Council – One off funding for distressed projects

That Local Government NSW advocates on behalf Local Government to the Federal Government and NSW Government to create a one off rescue grant funding round for councils who have

unfinished critical community infrastructure projects due to the collapse of building construction companies.

11 Walcha Council - Impose a rate category on unrateable land

That Local Government NSW lobbies calls on the State NSW Government to impose change legislation to allow the rating of a Rate Category on National Parks and Forestry Corporation and other currently unrateable government land.

This issue was also raised by Bega Valley Shire Council.

12 Lane Cove Council - Build to rent developments - council rating implications

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW State Government to urgently review the applicability of current rating legislation as it relates to 'Build to Rent' developments in NSW, with a view to ensuring Council rates can be levied on those developments in the same way Council rates are levied on residential apartment developments that have a registered strata plan.

13 Blacktown City Council - Including developer contributions in local government loan serviceability

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to amend the guidelines for NSW Treasury to include developer contributions in local government loan serviceability, and amend "fit for the future" KPIs accordingly.

14 Albury City Council - Statutory fees and charges amendments completed by April each year

That Local Government NSW seeks the State Government to provide amendments to all Statutory Fees and Charges in April each year, allowing those amendments to be included in the advertised draft Operational Plans and Delivery Programs, including the Fees and Charges Schedule, of Councils.

Elections

15 Albury City Council - Requirement for candidate/councillor address on electoral material

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Electoral Commission (NSWEC) to review the requirements for candidates standing for election to include their personal address on electoral material as their only valid contact option, in an endeavour to assist with ensuring the safety of candidates and ultimately Councillors.

17 City of Canterbury-Bankstown Council - Election countback

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to eliminate the 18-month time limit on replacing a councillor casual vacancy by election countback.

18 City of Newcastle - Determination of number of councillors

That Local Government NSW:

1. Acknowledges the many well documented financial and legislative impediments currently facing the local government sector across NSW.
2. Notes that the process of a constitutional referendum for determining the number of councillors to be elected during a term of office in a local government area is outdated and unfairly places a considerable financial impost on councils. Central Coast Council incurred a cost of \$1.775 million to hold its 2021 referendum.
3. Notes the urgent need for genuine reform of the administration and financial modelling of local government following decades of state government cost-shifting, under resourcing, rate-

capping, asset and services transfers, forced amalgamations, transfer of decision-making powers from elected councillors to the administration, and removal of planning powers, to name a few significant issues.

4. Notes that the Act is now 30 years old, and in need of review. Calls on the State Government to provide genuine reform of local government through full collaborative review of the *Local Government Act 1993*, in consultation with LGNSW, the USU and the local government sector, including progressive reforms such as the QLD local government model.
5. Acknowledges the instrumental role played by metropolitan, regional, and rural councils in servicing our communities, whether it be strategic or land-use planning, managing community assets, open spaces, our state's local and regional road network, implementing environmental initiatives, looking after our libraries or processing our waste. The needs of each community are different and not currently reflected in the Act, in terms of both governance and funding.
6. Supports changes to the Act that redress the imbalance created in 1993 by restoring functions to elected officials in metropolitan, regional, and rural contexts.

19 Forbes Shire Council - Disqualification of real estate agents from holding civic office

That Local Government NSW does not support a position disqualifying real estate agents and stock and station agents from holding civic office on rural councils.

Governance

23 Bega Valley Shire Council - Councillor misconduct review

That Local Government NSW formally requests the NSW Government to undertake comprehensive reform of the existing Code of Conduct complaint system with specific regard to:

1. Code of Conduct complaints about councillors to be lodged directly with an independent tribunal to centralise the code of conduct complaint system, increasing efficiency, transparency and fairness.
2. An independent tribunal be created to assume full responsibility for the entire process of triaging complaints and managing or undertaking preliminary assessment and full investigation, to resolve complaints.
3. That the Commissioner be required to maintain a central register of councillor conduct complaints and their management, and that a copy of all investigation reports are published for transparency, on the Commissioner's website.

25 Camden Council - Councillor participation on audit, risk and improvement committees

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to:

1. Reinstate councillors as voting members on council Audit, Risk and Improvement Committees, provided independent members remain the majority; and
2. Allow councillors who are not members of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee to attend Committee meetings as observers.

This issue was also raised by Lithgow City Council.

26 Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council - Review of *Local Government Act 1993*

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to initiate a review of the *Local Government Act 1993* with a view to ensuring that the Act remains appropriate in its provision of a governance framework for NSW local government.

27 City of Canterbury-Bankstown Council – Performance indicators for councils

That Local Government NSW lobbies the Minister for Local Government to bolster resources for the Office of Local Government (OLG) to progress work on the development of a Performance Measurement Framework, and associated performance indicators, that can be used by councils and the NSW Government in sector-wide performance reporting, as per the NSW Audit Office’s recommendation.

28 Lake Macquarie City Council – Ethical and responsible use of AI in local government

That Local Government NSW:

- a. Affirms the importance of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies in the local government sector to enhance service delivery, resource allocation and decision-making processes;
- b. Recognises the need to prioritise ethical considerations and responsible use of AI systems to protect the privacy and other rights of the community and ensure fairness, transparency, and accountability; and
- c. Calls on the NSW Government to establish guidelines and/or policies that promote the ethical and responsible use of AI in the local government sector.

29 Lake Macquarie City Council – Liability of councillors

That Local Government NSW works with the Office of Local Government and NSW Parliamentary Counsel to review current and proposed NSW Government legislation to ensure it does not imply liability on Councillors for operational matters over which they have no control.

Workforce and skills

31 Bega Valley Shire Council – Skills for visas in regional communities

That Local Government NSW advocates to the Department of Home Affairs (Federal) and Investment NSW to utilise the Regional Development Australia Skills Audits to better inform the skilled occupation list, with each region able to have a regionally specific skills list tailored to identified regional needs. This will ensure a more efficient matching of migrants and skills and will help to retain migrant skills within the regions.

32 Randwick City Council – Support for early childhood education in the local government sector

That Local Government NSW commits to supporting councils to recruit and retain early childhood educators by:

1. Calling on the NSW State Government to:
 - a. increase support for public early childhood education services, including extending the paid placement funding offered to ECT students to Diploma and Certificate III students, and;
 - b. support councils to expand high quality early childhood education and care through long daycare, out of hours care, pre-school, and occasional care.
2. Bargaining with the United Services Union and its members in good faith to achieve an increase to wages for early childhood educators above inflation, as well as leave provisions and hazard pay that reflect the risk of infection associated with work in early childhood education.

This issue was also raised by City of Sydney, Inner West councils.

Waste

35 Blacktown City Council - Bans or tariffs to manage non-recyclable and composite plastics

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to work with the Australian Government to expedite a ban or provide a tariff on non-recyclable and composite plastics that cannot be recycled in Australia.

36 Blacktown City Council - Risks and costs of local government FOGO mandate

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to ensure the food organics garden organics (FOGO) mandate is achievable, and doesn't expose local councils to unnecessary risk and cost by:

1. Extending the roll-out of mandated FOGO services to multi-unit households until 2035
2. Ensuring minimum and maximum collection frequencies are not mandated for domestic waste collection
3. Ceasing to promote that current FOGO services are achieving a 2.6% contamination rate
4. Offsetting the full costs of implementation of the mandated FOGO services using additional funds from the section 88 Waste Levy revenue.

This issue was also raised by Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils.

37 Wollongong City Council - Chemicals in food packaging

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to address PFAS and other chemicals being used in compostable packaging and ensure that there are adequate standards enforced on compostable packaging so it can be processed in municipal FOGO collection schemes.

38 Wollongong City Council - Right to repair

That Local Government NSW:

1. Lobbies the Australian Government to act on the Productivity Commission Right to Repair report recommendations, and
2. Writes to the NSW Minister for Environment and Minister for Fair Trading requesting that the Right to Repair be included in forthcoming circular economy policy reform.

Housing

39 LGNSW Board - Addressing the housing crisis across NSW

1. That Local Government NSW calls for urgent action to address the housing crisis by advocating to the NSW Government to:
 - a. Undertake and publish an audit of all public, social and affordable housing assets in NSW, as well as government land that could be used for this purpose,
 - b. Make significant investments in public, social and affordable housing right across NSW, as well as the enabling infrastructure required to support it,
 - c. Instil high levels of liveability and climate sensitive design standards into all new government delivered housing,
 - d. Ensure that any public and affordable housing reforms:
 - i. results only in developments that maintain this housing in perpetuity, not for only 15 years. This can also be delivered by alternatives to SEPPs such as a state-wide inclusionary zoning measures or the expansion of the recently introduced Housing and Productivity Contribution to include affordable housing as a better way to increase affordable housing in NSW,

- ii. are developed in consultation with local government to ensure the reforms consider local amenity and character and align with, rather than override, local planning rules and housing strategies,
 - iii. occur within a strategic, precinct-based framework which is supported by effective infrastructure planning rather than site-by-site (ad hoc) approaches,
 - iv. reconsider whether growth areas and precincts that have been through detailed planning investigations, rezoning and infrastructure assessment in the last 10 years have the capacity to accommodate the proposed further 30% development uplift beyond the controls already in place,
 - v. maintain or increase council involvement and delegation in approval processes.
 - vi. recognise the role of council owned, not-for-profit community housing provider managed, affordable housing stock in catering to local needs.
 - e. Establish an agency to oversee a collaborative approach between the NSW Government, councils, Community Housing Industry Association (CHIA), and community housing providers, and ensure that social and affordable housing is managed by the NSW Government or a not-for-profit community housing provider,
 - f. Review standards for manufactured homes, caravans and crisis housing to ensure they are fit for purpose,
 - g. Introduce measures to address land banking associated with residential land,
 - h. Make grant funding available to councils to support strategic planning to identify land that could be rezoned to enable more housing, as well as the infrastructure needed to support it,
 - i. Prioritise the foreshadowed review of the regulation of short-term rental accommodation to ensure local government has the ability to respond flexibly to balance housing and the local visitor economy.
2. LGNSW reiterates that expanded State Significant Development pathways for developments utilising Housing SEPP provisions bypass normal planning controls and will have impacts for local communities.

This issue was also raised by Shoalhaven City, City of Newcastle, City of Parramatta, City of Sydney, Kempsey Shire, Greater Hume Shire, Leeton Shire, Murray River, Narrabri Shire, Bega Valley Shire, The Hills Shire councils.

40 North Sydney Council - Affordable housing and planning

That Local Government NSW lobbies the State Government to implement mandatory inclusionary zoning to provide for a minimum percentage of social and affordable housing for any new housing projects, for the life of the building/project.

41 City of Newcastle - Adoption of livable housing design to improve adaptability and access

That Local Government NSW calls upon the NSW Government to:

1. Adopt the Livable Housing Design Standards (silver level) introduced into the National Construction Code in 2022, joining all states and territories (except WA) who have already adopted the new minimum standards.
2. Amend the 2023 NSW Land and Housing Corporation Design Requirements so that the Platinum Level Livable Housing Design Guidelines are mandatory for all new social housing. This includes all public housing, community housing and housing owned or managed by the Aboriginal Housing Office.
3. Amend planning instruments and laws to mandate that all new build community housing and affordable housing, where the property owner benefits from any form of financial assistance or other benefit (such as height/FSR exemptions) provided directly or indirectly by the Federal

government, NSW government or a local council, must incorporate the Platinum Level Livable Housing Guidelines.

4. Include in the 2023-24 Action Plan for the NSW Housing Strategy Housing 2041:
 - a. Targets to ensure that the implementation of the Platinum Level Livable Housing Guidelines in new public, social and community housing, as well as affordable housing, occurs at the same time as the rollout of state and Commonwealth funding;
 - b. Support for local government in undertaking reviews of their DCP and introducing Platinum Level Livable Housing Design Guidelines;
 - c. Promotion of government leadership in mandating the Platinum Level Livable Housing Guidelines in public, social, community and affordable housing;
 - d. Development of a communication strategy which will explain the benefits of improved housing accessibility to the community and industry.

And that Local Government NSW writes to the Minister for Housing Rose Jackson MLC and the Minister for Planning Paul Scully MP, within 28 days.

This issue was also raised by Cowra, Randwick City councils.

42 City of Sydney - Short term rental accommodation

That Local Government NSW:

1. Commissions a study to report on the impact that short-term rental accommodation is having on rental affordability and availability and tourist accommodation in NSW.
2. Advocates for local Councils to be given stronger powers to cap the number of days per year that a property can be used for non-hosted short term rental accommodation.
3. Ensure local government has the ability to respond flexibly to balance housing and the local visitor economy.

43 Waverley Council - Unaffordable rents and rent increases

That Local Government NSW steps up concerted advocacy efforts with decision-makers, government agencies, the newly established office of Rental Commissioner and the broader community to support urgently needed rental reforms, intervention and innovation across the housing system, to effectively address escalating rents and the lack of renters' rights through measures that ensure rents do not increase faster than inflation and wages, and that promote longer and more secure tenure.

This issue was also raised by Bega Valley Shire Council.

Community

44 Bega Valley Shire Council - Funding model for arts and cultural facilities

That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government to investigate a model of funding for council-run art galleries, performing arts facilities and museums that is similar to the NSW Library Annual Funding and Subsidy Adjustment Calculation.

45 Blue Mountains City Council - Support for the NSW Public Libraries Association's "Birth to Five - Read and Thrive" campaign

That Councils at the LGNSW Annual Conference support the NSW Public Libraries Association's "Birth to Five - Read and Thrive" campaign, which calls on the State Government to work with

NSWPLA and councils to develop a state-wide early childhood literacy framework to be delivered in council-run public libraries across NSW.

46 City of Newcastle - NSW carer's strategy action plan

That Local Government NSW recognises the valuable social and economic contribution that carers make to the community, acknowledges the diverse needs of carers and calls upon the NSW Government to:

1. Review the NSW Carers (Recognition) Act upon the conclusion of the parliamentary inquiry into the Commonwealth Carers (Recognition) Act.
2. Work with LGNSW to improve local government commitment to carers by:
 - a. Educating councils about their obligations under the NSW Carers (Recognition) Act.
 - b. Funding inclusion, equity and diversity initiatives in councils to better support working carers in the provision of flexible work arrangements, executive champions, employee carer networks and information about leave provisions and external resources.
 - c. Assisting councils to develop data about employees who identify as carers.
 - d. Developing evidence-based actions and measurable outcomes in the next Carer Strategy Action Plan.
3. Work with their federal, state and territory counterparts on a new National Carers Strategy which identifies priorities and actions and mandates measurable outcomes and support the creation of a National Carer Advisory Council.

47 Cowra Council - NSW mobility parking scheme

That Local Government NSW:

1. Consults with scheme users around changing the language.
2. Writes to the NSW Government requesting consideration of changing the language within the published material associated with the NSW Accessibility Parking Scheme to remove the word "disability".

48 City of Sydney - Local council outreach services for seasonal workers

That Local Government NSW writes to the Hon Tony Burke Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations asking the Commonwealth Government to:

1. Work with approved employers to provide relevant Councils with information about the number of Seasonal Workers expected and their countries of origin so Councils can understand their cultural needs, prepare the community for their arrival and consider and plan for their needs as part of their Local Emergency Management Plans;
2. Increase the frequency of check-ins by the Australian Government particularly to ensure living conditions meet the requirements outlined in the PALM Scheme Approved Employer Guidelines; and
3. Provide direct funding to Councils to establish dedicated local service hubs to provide Seasonal Workers with targeted programs, including by:
 - a. developing pathways and support outreach programs that connect Seasonal Workers to organisations that centre on the needs of migrants to assist Seasonal Workers to access culturally sensitive assistance to access relevant information, health and mental health;
 - b. culturally appropriate and non-biased Pastoral care through Australian South Sea Islander (ASSI), Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, Pacific and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse and Culturally and Racially Marginalised (CARM) community organisations that can demonstrate a deep knowledge of culture and the Seasonal Worker Program and its people;
 - c. working with local Australian South Sea Islanders (ASSI) and First Nations leaders, communities and/or organisations to provide the specific cultural awareness training and

- culturally appropriate introduction and networking to the traditional owners and other cultural authorities of the area; and
- d. working closely with the law enforcement authorities in respective Councils to educate Seasonal Workers about law and order and Councils' regulations and by law on public order.

49 Gunnedah Shire Council - Funding for hoarding and squalor

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to:

1. Increase funding to the health and community services sectors to decrease cases of hoarding and squalor, and
2. Provide annual funding to the Office of Local Government, for councils to apply for, to fund the extraordinary and unpredictable costs of compliance and enforcement related to hoarding and squalor.

51 Broken Hill City Council - Clubgrants scheme

That Local Government NSW:

1. Supports that the administration and delivery of the ClubGRANTS scheme (Category 1) remains local and not be amended so that the funds are paid into consolidated State revenue, with no local control on how the funds are donated.
2. Writes to the Premier of NSW, Minister for Liquor and Gaming, NSW Opposition Leader, and Shadow Minister for Liquor and Racing stating that Local Government NSW supports ClubGRANTS (Category 1) remaining under local LGA control.
3. Urges the State Government to implement cashless poker machines with harm reduction features.

52 Waverley Council - Early education and care

That Local Government NSW:

1. Establishes a taskforce to work collaboratively with the State and Federal governments on urgently needed sector reforms following this year's early childhood education and care services inquiries by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal and Deloitte.
2. Advocates to the NSW Government to set up a dedicated local government funding stream in recognition of councils' significant role and status in the early education and care sector.

53 Kempsey Shire Council - Gambling reform

That Local Government NSW-calls on the State Government to ensure that councils have the right to make submissions about increases to poker machine numbers in their LGA.

55 Gunnedah Shire Council - Amendment to more doctors for rural Australia program

That Local Government NSW calls on the Federal Government requesting:

1. Amendment to MDRAP (More Doctors for Rural Australia Program) by removing Monash Modified Model 2 zone from the program, thereby incentivising more doctors to locate to rural and remote regions within Australia, and
2. That college training programs be modified to reflect any changes to the MDRAP.
3. That state and federal governments create university medical positions for rural NSW students who would return to rural areas for two years in lieu of HECS debts.

56 Liverpool City Council – Medicare psychology services

That Local Government NSW writes to the-NSW Minister for Health, the Hon Mark Butler MP, seeking an increase in the number of psychologists employed by NSW Health, with priority given to:

- a. Community based positions.
- b. Improving the capacity of community based psychologists to assist patients with complex needs.
- c. Growing the Aboriginal psychology workforce.

58 City of Sydney – Support for drag story time events in local government

That Local Government NSW:

1. Encourages and facilitates member councils to organise local events that are inclusive for LGBTQIA+ residents year-round;
2. Supports councils to facilitate community-driven safety solutions to ensure that drag story time and similar events can take place at council facilities safely for performers and attendees; and
3. Encourages member councils to ensure that drag performers receive payment in full for events that are cancelled.

This issue was also raised by Inner West Council.

59 Georges River Council – Multicultural Principles and best practice

That Local Government NSW and all councils observe the Multicultural Principles in conducting its affairs based on *Multicultural NSW Act 2000* and work with Multicultural NSW to establish the best practice in their administration.

60 Broken Hill City Council – Use of NSW benefit schemes for cross-border communities

That Local Government NSW calls on the State Government to investigate arrangements for the use of any NSW benefits in neighbouring states for cross-border communities e.g. First Lap Grant, Travel Benefits at United Service Stations and write to all Local Members with cross-border councils regarding this matter.

61 Waverley Council – Tourism impacts

That Local Government NSW increases its advocacy to ensure local councils receive fair funding from both the Federal and State governments in order to:

1. manage security related risks and anti-social behaviour (and remove user pays arrangements for government services such as police), and
2. meet the additional costs from waste and cleansing from the impacts of tourism and the influx of visitors to the local area.

This issue was also raised in a second motion from Waverley Council.

62 Gunnedah Shire Council – First response policing agreement

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Police Minister and the NSW Commissioner of Police to direct the commanders of each police region in NSW to ensure:

1. Each police station have an endorsed “First Response Policing Agreement” in active use, and
2. That each “First Response Policing Agreement” commitment is made available to the community in which it represents.

63 Kempsey Shire Council - Youth crime and drugs

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Police Minister and Premier to form alliances with police, local councils, NSW Government agencies, community representatives and NGOs to holistically tackle the serious increase in youth crime and drug use in NSW communities.

This issue was also raised by Narrabri Shire Council.

64 City of Parramatta Council - Gender neutral toilets and change rooms

That Local Government NSW supports the design and construction of gender neutral toilet blocks and change rooms at all parks and playing fields in NSW.

65 Northern Beaches Council - Greater community access to sporting and cultural facilities in schools

That Local Government NSW:

1. Advocates to the NSW Department of Education and Schools Infrastructure NSW to provide greater access to sporting and cultural facilities in schools to provide much needed rehearsing, performance, training and playing fields out of school hours.
2. Lobbies Schools Infrastructure NSW to engage with councils in the design development process for new schools to ensure that community access to sporting and cultural facilities is prioritised in the development of new spaces.
3. In addition lobby for greater access to private school facilities.

This issue was also raised by Bega Valley Shire Council.

Climate change and energy

68 Clarence Valley Council - Manufacturers to declare carbon emissions for building products

The Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to prepare a policy and associated legislation or other regulatory mechanism/s to require manufacturers of new building products sold in NSW to declare the level of carbon emissions generated to make the product, to enable consumers to make informed decisions about the carbon footprint of new building works, including renovations.

69 Inverell Shire Council - Reduction in greenhouse emissions for agricultural sector

That Local Government NSW seek a commitment from the Federal Government that when it is determining measures to reduce greenhouse emissions for the agricultural sector, that it specifically exclude an order to cull the national livestock herd to avoid adverse impacts on local economies.

70 Shellharbour City Council - Actions to address a warming climate

That Local Government NSW advocates for NSW and Federal Government funding to support and encourage councils to facilitate roundtable discussions within each LGA to prepare for and take action to address the consequences of a warming climate.

Roundtables would involve relevant stakeholders such as businesses, industry, community and State and Federal government agencies.

72 Muswellbrook Shire Council - Economic roadmap for transition from hydrocarbons

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to formulate an economic roadmap for NSW, and in particular directly impacted councils, in relation to the transition from hydrocarbon based industries.

73 North Sydney Council - Power Sharing

That Local Government NSW lobbies the State and Federal Government to:

1. Adopt a policy to encourage neighbourhood power sharing and community battery scheme for Local Government Areas.
2. Secure financial and logistical support for the introduction of pilot neighbourhood schemes for power sharing schemes and community batteries.
3. Secure funding for a community awareness and education campaign in co-operation with LGNSW and member councils to promote community batteries and self-sufficiency in power generation.

74 Shellharbour City Council - Smart energy schools pilot program expansion

That Local Government NSW advocates for the NSW Government to expand the 'Smart Energy Schools Pilot Program' beyond the pilot period to:

1. Allow additional schools to install significant solar power generating capacity, battery storage and Virtual Power Plant participation.
2. Upgrade and expand schools with existing solar to provide additional solar power generating capacity and battery storage.
3. Expand the program into community scale battery storage facilities to all eligible NSW schools with significant solar power generating capacity and to collect significant solar generation.

75 Wagga Wagga City Council - Creation of a body to supervise the decisions of Transgrid

That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government for the immediate establishment of a supervisory body to oversee the decisions of TransGrid, and that the supervisory body be an advisory body to the Minister.

76 Snowy Valleys Council - Undergrounding Transgrid transmission infrastructure

That, in the interests of the conservation of biological diversity and visual amenity, Local Government NSW advocates for the undergrounding of Transgrid transmission lines currently proposed as above ground infrastructure that would stretch across many areas of state and national ecological significance.

77 Muswellbrook Shire Council - Transportation of renewable energy project infrastructure

That Local Government NSW:

1. Calls upon the NSW Government to resolve road infrastructure constraints associated with the transportation of renewable energy project infrastructure to Renewable Energy Zones.
2. Advocates for all impacted local roads to be reclassified as State Roads for the duration of renewable energy construction works.
3. Advocates for a live app. to be funded by renewable energy project proponents that will enable impacted community members to track the passage of oversize vehicles through their Shire and to thereby enhance the safety of communities who must negotiate the passage of these oversize vehicle movements.

79 Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council – Amendments to BASIX

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to update the Building Sustainability Index (BASIX) to remove installation of gas in new dwellings and renovations, to support a rapid transition away from fossil fuels and towards electrification powered by renewable energy.

This issue was also raised by Wollongong City Council.

80 Warrumbungle Shire Council - Offshore wind farms strategy

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to develop a comprehensive offshore wind farms strategy close to major demand centres in order to speed up the transition to renewables.

81 Waverley Council - Electric vehicle chargers

That Local Government NSW:

1. Urgently advocates to the NSW Government against the mandatory requirement for councils to undergo an assessment and produce a review of environmental factors (REF) for on-street electric vehicle (EV) chargers under the new State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) Amendment (Electric Vehicles) 2023.
2. Notes that while Local Government NSW fully supports the NSW Government's efforts to promote electric mobility and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, it believes that this particular regulatory requirement is unnecessary and will significantly delay the roll-out of EV chargers across NSW.

Planning

82 Georges River Council - NSW Government to take steps to improve Private Certification processes

That Local Government NSW urges the NSW Government to take steps to improve Private Certification processes, including, but not limited to:

- a. Empowering councils to enable them to act against infringements or other malpractice committed by Private Certifiers, e.g., to issue penalty notices for non-compliance with approvals;
- b. Undertaking discussions with the Department of Customer Service (NSW Fair Trading) regarding developing and piloting a system to deal with complaints by neighbours or other third parties (rather than having to contact the certifier);
- c. Creating an authority to arbitrate on objections to Complying Developments and provides free advice to members of the public to assist them in submission writing.
- d. Mandating the provision of notifying Complying Development Certificate applications to neighbours by letter, and also to the general public through the NSW Planning Portal and council website;
- e. Allowing members of the public 14 days' notice to lodge objections;
- f. Examining whether the allocation of Private Certifiers from an approved list would assist in stamping out malpractice;
- g. Funding councils so that they are adequately equipped to police the actions of private certifiers by way of a development compliance levy as part of the application lodgment process;
- h. Increasing penalties for non-compliance; and

- i. Ensuring that the Departments of Customer Service and Planning and Environment are resourced and empowered to respond promptly and effectively when dealing with breaches by certifiers.

This issue was also raised by Ku-ring-gai, Lane Cove councils.

83 Federation Council - Planning resources

That Local Government NSW lobbies the State Government for financial support for planners and building surveyors at a local government level throughout NSW.

84 Muswellbrook Shire Council - Rationalise house block sizes in rural NSW

That Local Government NSW advocates for local councils in rural and regional areas to determine the minimum lot sizes for new developments in their LGA.

85 Penrith City Council - Controls to manage clustering of boarding houses and co-living housing

That Local Government NSW writes to the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces requesting that the provisions of the State Environmental Planning Policy – Housing 2021 (the Housing SEPP) be amended to include controls that:

1. Prevent the clustering of boarding houses and co-living housing across all residential zones; and
2. Strengthen locational requirements of boarding houses and co-living housing to ensure occupants have good access to public transport and essential services.

86 Wollongong City Council - Regulating derelict buildings - employment zones

That Local Government NSW works with DPE to establish best practice policy parameters that support councils to enhance employment zoned areas, particularly where buildings have been left to deteriorate and are negatively impacting economic activity.

87 Woollahra Municipal Council - Pubs

That Local Government NSW:

1. Notes that:
 - a. pubs are significant and cherished meeting spots, recognised as a valuable 'third space' providing venues for social connection and companionship;
 - b. pubs add to the personality and social fabric of their neighbourhoods and are recognised for their cultural, heritage and architectural significance; and
 - c. communities articulate the sense of belonging and reciprocity lost when change of use applications are approved.
2. Resolves to:
 - a. raise with the State Government and in particular, the Heritage Minister, community concerns over the growing trend of conversion of heritage listed pubs;
 - b. request the State Government explore legislative reforms to better protect pubs from a change in use; and
 - c. request the State Government increase funding and availability of grants to study the heritage, cultural and social significance of pubs throughout NSW.

88 City of Newcastle - Accelerated development application system

That Local Government NSW:

1. Acknowledges the successful development, trial and roll-out of the new City of Newcastle Accelerated Development Application System, the implementation of which has the ability to reduce processing times for eligible development applications to within five to 15 days.

2. Notes that the Accelerated DA pathway presents an innovative approach to facilitating timely development outcomes, with some of the onus on the applicant to provide a quality submission that reduces the double-handling of information and speeds up the process, while still ensuring applicants are able to expect the same standard of professional review for each application seen by the assessment team.
3. Calls on the NSW Government to fund the state-wide adoption of the system to streamline and accelerate determinations of development applications across the local government sector.

89 Penrith City Council - Review of section 10.7 certificates

That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government to undertake a review into Section 10.7 Certificates, to explore opportunities to simplify and ensure only relevant information to each property is provided in a clear, concise and easy to understand format.

90 Narromine Shire Council - Rural and regional environmental autonomy

That Local Government NSW requests the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces to vary the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* to allow more autonomy for Rural and Regional Councils to operate in a manner that suits their local environment rather than that of a metro area.

91 Lake Macquarie City Council - Local leadership of community consultative committees

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to prioritise the appointment of Community Consultative Committee (CCC) chairpersons from within the geographical region that the CCC operates.

93 Murray River Council - Local planning decision making for land rezoning

To reduce considerable time delays to residential land rezonings, for rural areas, the NSW Government should review and amend the Concurrence and Referral SEPP to remove DPE as a concurrence authority for any residential land rezoning (planning proposal) that is identified within the council's approved/adopted local housing strategy.

Separate but additional approval/concurrence procedures are already in place when DPE is reviewing and approving/endorsing councils' local housing strategies; the current requirement for DPE concurrence for planning proposals is effectively doubling up on assessment of local land rezoning processes and adding considerable time delays with no perceived value-add to the process.

Motions referred to the Association's Board

In accordance with Standing Order 39, Motions 94 to 131 and L1 were referred to the Association's Board for consideration.

Planning (cont.)

94 City of Canterbury – Bankstown Council – Land and environment court leave to rely on revised plans

That Local Government NSW lobbies the Minister for Local Government to call upon the Land and Environment Court to adhere to its own Practice Note when considering applications for revised plans prior to hearing.

95 Eurobodalla Shire Council – NSW planning portal

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to:

1. Repeal the requirement to prepare notice of determinations in the NSW Planning Portal immediately and instead require a standard format for development consents and conditions of consents.
2. Prepare a road map for the Planning Portal in consultation with NSW local government and vendors, ie, Tech 1, Civica, etc. The roadmap must include the proposed functionality of the Portal that are to be investigated and implemented over time.
3. Establish a Planning Portal Governance Committee with senior representatives from local government to:
 - a. oversee and agree to an enhanced Planning Portal road map
 - b. review and endorse strategies for training and communication with key stakeholders, and
 - c. monitor ongoing costs and integration.
4. Retain the ePlanning Council Reference Group to focus on improvements to Planning Portal functionality with enhanced capacity for members to add agenda items.
5. Cover all costs incurred by councils to implement and operate the NSW Planning Portal, including staff costs, systems and process amendments, Application programming interface (API) development, maintenance, and licensing in order to avoid the cost shift and adverse impact on council budgets.

This issue was also raised by City of Parramatta, Lake Macquarie City, Shoalhaven City councils.

96 The Hills Shire Council – Review of LG Reg (home estates, caravan parks, camping and moveable dwellings)

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to review the Local Government (Manufactured Home Estates, Caravan Parks, Camping Grounds and Moveable Dwellings) Regulation 2021, taking into account feedback from regulators and businesses.

This issue was also raised by Tweed Shire Council.

Emergency management

97 Bega Valley Shire Council - Local Emergency Management Officers

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to use funds allocated to the NSW Reconstruction Authority to fund executive level Local Emergency Management Officers (LEMOs) to ensure that our communities are better prepared for and protected during emergencies.

98 Bland Shire Council - Council co-contribution to disaster grant funding to improve assets

That Local Government NSW:

1. Applauds the actions of the Government in permitting the use of additional funds sourced from Councils to improve assets as part of the most recent flood emergency.
2. Seeks a commitment from State and Federal Government agencies to review Disaster and Emergency funding criteria for expenditure to allow Council co-contributions to improve assets damaged during critical events.

99 Cabonne Council - National disaster insurance

That Local Government NSW lobbies the Commonwealth Government to fast-track initiatives from the Hazards Insurance Partnership and Strategic Insurance Project, and urgently investigate a federally funded national disaster insurance scheme to offer residents and businesses impacted by trending environmental conditions, protection and access to affordable insurance premiums.

100 Cabonne Council - Funding for disaster impacted communities

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to extend the Community Assets Program and Resilient Homes Package funding to LGAs affected by the flood events in September and November 2022.

101 Cabonne Council - Natural disaster funding claims

That Local Government NSW advocates that the NSW Government take steps to ensure the fast-tracking of natural disaster payments to councils so the councils cash flow is not negatively impacted and it can maintain its legislative financial statement requirements.

This issue was also raised by Forbes Shire Council.

102 Kyogle Council - NSW Reconstruction Authority - quarries

That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Reconstruction Authority to use its powers to, on the request of the relevant council, temporarily remove restrictions on truck movements and extraction rates for all quarries within their currently approved extent of extraction, for a limited time of say up to 24 months after a natural disaster when the materials are being used for restoration of essential public assets.

103 Penrith City Council - Clarity on processes about establishment of new flood planning levels

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to provide clarity regarding the risk management framework, timeframes, priority catchments and consultation process, for the establishment of new Flood Planning Levels in accordance with Recommendation 18 from the 2022 Fuller/O'Kane Inquiry.

104 Penrith City Council - Role of the NSW Reconstruction Authority in emergency planning and recovery

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to provide clarity in the role and responsibility of the NSW Reconstruction Authority in the governance of emergency planning, preparedness and recovery including:

1. Clarity on the Reconstructions Authority's role in placing constraints on development, including in the setting of flood planning levels
2. The role of the Reconstruction Authority to engage with Councils to actively manage mitigation of constraints as appropriate.

This issue was also raised by Bega Valley Shire Council.

Environment, biodiversity, biosecurity

105 Willoughby City Council - Increased protection of trees

That Local Government NSW:

1. Urgently undertakes a review of the legislative regime for tree protection and seek increased penalties and deterrents, including significantly increased fines and community service for the destruction and vandalism of trees in NSW. The review is to include the destruction and vandalism of vegetation in environmentally sensitive areas such as riparian zones, areas of high biodiversity value and foreshore protection areas. The review should identify opportunities to better coordinate tree protection across NSW, along with improved education and awareness around the importance of tree protection to build stronger community support.
2. Advocates for effective reform to improve collaboration and coordination in education and enforcement to combat tree vandalism in NSW.

This issue was also raised by Georges River, Ku-ring-gai, Mosman councils.

106 Tweed Shire Council - Street trees as essential community infrastructure in New South Wales

That Local Government NSW advocates that the NSW Government :

1. Reintroduces street trees as eligible community assets through the Section 7.11 Contributions Plan.
2. Investigate and implement a suitable mechanism and governance structure that would enable councils to introduce a fee for succession planting and compensatory tree planning.

107 Strathfield Council - Role of the EPA in exercising their compliance powers

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to exercise its compliance powers. NSW EPA is a public agency and it should protect the public's interest. The agency regulates all activities which fall under the jurisdiction of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act (POEO) including contamination, noise, air, waste and water pollution. NSW EPA are slowly divesting their compliance responsibilities and have moved away from compliance to strategy.

108 Kyogle Council - Funding for private native forestry compliance and enforcement

That Local Government NSW advocates for the State Government to properly fund the EPA and Local Land Services to carry out compliance and enforcement of legislation and Codes of practice for the proper management of Private Native Forests.

109 Georges River Council - Pollution of the state's waterways through sewage overflow

That Local Government NSW requests that the NSW Government takes steps to prevent future pollution of the state's waterways through sewage overflows, including but not limited to the upgrade of the Georges River-Malabar main carrier and the treatment plants within that system,

110 Lane Cove Council - Idling of motor vehicles causing excessive air pollution

That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government and NSW Department of Planning and Environment, to extend the current offence of noise from an idling vehicle (Protection of the Environment Operations (Noise Control) Regulation 2008) to make it a traffic offence for excessive idling of a motor vehicle that causes air pollution in public areas.

111 Woollahra Municipal Council - Reducing water pollution from construction sites

That Local Government NSW advocates that the NSW Government takes the following steps to reduce water pollution from construction sites:

1. Undertake a review of the current guidelines relating to erosion and sediment control, referenced in the Department of Planning and Environment's standard development application conditions, to ensure they are up to date and represent best practice. The referenced guidelines are "Managing Urban Stormwater - Soils and Construction" 2004 published by the NSW Government (also commonly known as The Blue Book) and the "Do it Right on Site" guidelines published by the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils and the Natural Heritage Trust, 2001.
2. Explore further opportunities to educate builders and renovators on the importance of essential erosion and sediment controls to prevent run off from building sites entering our waterways.
3. Review the level of penalties that apply to water pollution incidents.

112 Albury City Council - Banning the release of gas filled balloons

That Local Government NSW seeks the State Government to amend the Protection of the Environment Operations (POEO) Act 1997 to ban the release of all balloons if the balloons are inflated with a gas that causes them to rise in the air, excluding balloons that are hot air balloons that are recovered after landing or balloons released for scientific (including meteorological) purposes.

113 Georges River Council - Abandoned trolleys

That Local Government NSW requests that the NSW Government amends the Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act so that retailers are obliged to collect all abandoned trolleys within three hours of notice being given.

114 Camden Council - Conserving koala habitat in the planning for new urban development

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW and Australian Governments for increased protection of koala habitat in the planning for new urban development, including in the Wilton and Greater Macarthur Growth areas.

115 City of Newcastle - Coastal erosion mitigation and sand replenishment

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to plan strategically and support local councils under its coastal management framework by:

1. Developing a state-wide approach for a sustainable sand nourishment program to support local councils as they develop Coastal Management Programs
2. Establishing a whole of government approach to climate change impacts, including coastal erosion, recession and sea level rise.
3. Providing greater support to the delivery of Coastal Management Programs which are critical to ensure the long-term sustainability of our coasts and estuaries.

4. Formalising a catchment approach for our estuaries, involving all significant stakeholders and adequate funding, to ensure threats to these highly valued areas are more effectively and efficiently managed now and into the future.
5. Appointing a Coastal Commissioner to oversee coastal management on a statewide basis and advisors to assist councils.

116 Tweed Shire Council – Safe cat, safe wildlife

That Local Government NSW writes to the Minister and Shadow Ministers for Local Government, Environment and Animal Welfare requesting the following reforms to better manage the highly negative impact of roaming domestic cats on wildlife and improve the health and welfare of companion animals:

1. Amend the *Companion Animals Act 1998* and associated Companion Animals Regulation 2018 to enable local governments to enforce the containment of pet cats in NSW. The introduction of these containment laws to include phase-in periods and community support and monitoring frameworks.
2. Develop, and allocate funding towards a state-wide program to support local governments to enforce compliance with the *Companion Animals Act 1998*. This funding to include increasing the number of rangers available to undertake such compliance.
3. Streamline pet identification and registration processes into one process managed by Service NSW and accessible through self service functions within the Service NSW app.
4. Transition to mandatory desexing laws that align with existing state approaches in Western Australia, Tasmania, Australian Capital Territory, South Australia and Victoria.
5. Establish a \$10 million, three-year state-wide grant program to support councils to implement domestic cat containment policies and associated responsible cat ownership programs. The program to include: identification and registration measures, large scale desexing and microchipping programs and effective education programs to support people to keep their cats contained.
6. Implement a state-wide 'Safe cat, safe wildlife' campaign that includes the development of a central, state-wide online platform, in consultation with councils, relevant agencies and animal welfare bodies to make responsible pet ownership information easily accessible.

This issue was also raised by Blue Mountains City, Eurobodalla Shire, Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional, Tamworth Regional councils.

117 Byron Shire Council – Non-lethal dingo management

That Local Government NSW:

1. Recognises that dingoes are native animals with an important ecological role and are worthy of protection and care.
2. Acknowledges the long connection between dingoes and Aboriginal Australians and endeavour to respect this connection in relevant actions of the LGNSW.
- 2A. Recognises that Australia's traditional people consider dingoes as Creator and Dreamtime Beings, they formed the lands, the waterways, and constellations. They mapped ancestral Songlines across this continent. The Dingo is essential to keep storylines, custom and culture alive. Dingoes remain deeply embedded in the daily lives of First Nations peoples as companions, hunting partners, protectors, and family members. Dingoes are considered Kin to many First Nations groups throughout all of Australia.
3. Notes there have been recent genetic studies indicating that a high proportion of wild dogs in Australia are pure dingoes and dingo-hybrids.
4. Commits to-working towards new and updated investigations, community education, research, implementation of non-lethal dingo management;

5. Explores the recognition and protection of dingoes as a native species in the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (NSW)*.

Roads, transport, infrastructure, land

118 Clarence Valley Council – Protecting regional water utilities from privatisation

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to prepare a policy and associated legislation or other regulatory mechanism/s to ensure regional water facilities are retained under public ownership.

119 Muswellbrook Shire Council – Upgrade water infrastructure to unlock housing and industry

That Local Government NSW calls for:

1. Any housing strategy established and implemented by the State and/or Federal Government, to give consideration to the capacity of Local Water Utilities to provide sustainable water and wastewater services to new housing and industrial developments.
2. Grant funding opportunities to be increased and made available to Local Water Utilities for the provision of upgraded and/or renewed water and wastewater infrastructure, and that these grants not be tied to onerous co-contribution arrangements.

This issue was also raised by Cabonne Council.

120 Federation Council – River and dam management

That Local Government NSW calls on the State Government to consult with councils on potential improvements to air space management rules and procedures in NSW Dams such as Lake Hume to lessen impacts of downstream flooding.

121 North Sydney Council – Return of Public Open Space

That Local Government NSW lobbies the State Government to return land that is compulsorily acquired for major projects to the care and control of the local council, where requested and agreed by the council, when the land is no longer required for the purpose of major project construction and that the land be returned in a condition that meets the standards required for the use of the land as recreation and public open space.

122 Blacktown City Council – Separate plans of management for community land categorised as natural area

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to amend the requirements for Plans of Management under the Local Government Act 1993, so that separate plans are not required for land categorised as Natural Area with critical habitat or affected by a recovery or threat abatement plan (s36A and 36B of the LG Act).

123 Blacktown City Council – Plans of management for community land

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to amend the requirements for Plans of Management under the *Local Government Act 1993*, so that when an additional parcel of community land is added to an existing Plan of Management, the addition be exhibited and submissions on that additional parcel of land only be received for a minimum of 14 days, and that no public hearing be required.

124 Clarence Valley Council – Native title compensation within and across LGAs

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to

1. Prepare a policy and associated legislation or other regulatory mechanism/s that provide a consistent process for assessing, valuing and resolving native title compensation within and across LGAs, and
2. Establish a native title network for NSW council staff to connect, share information and discuss local government issues regarding native title.

125 Bega Valley Shire Council – Forestry Corp and National Parks contribution to road maintenance

That Local Government NSW:

1. Calls on the shareholder Ministers for Forestry Corporation (the Treasurer and Minister for Agriculture) to review its operations and contribute financially to haulage routes.
2. Calls on the NSW Minister for Environment and the National Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council to review the impact on local road networks of National Parks users and consider a mechanism for financial contribution to road maintenance.

126 Bega Valley Shire Council – Freight connectivity to international airports

That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government and Australian Government to review in partnership with councils the freight connectivity routes into Canberra, Newcastle and Western Sydney international airports to improve access to growing international export markets for regional communities.

127 Broken Hill City Council – Next fuel outlet signage in regional and remote NSW

That Local Government NSW calls on the State Government to install signage on the outskirts of NSW regional towns/cities and cross-border towns/cities that lead to remote NSW advising of the distance to the next fuel outlet.

This will assist to ensure the safety of motorists driving vast distances through mobile black spot areas of Western NSW.

128 LGNSW Board – Equitable access to transport options

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW and Australian Governments to:

1. Improve transport and bus services (including school bus services) for all residents in metropolitan, regional, rural and remote NSW,
2. Provide residents with environmentally sustainable and equitable public transport options that make living without a car a more viable option,
3. Prioritise action on the recommendations of the Bus Industry Taskforce, including delivering bus services to underserved communities, and
4. Re-instate the Regional Seniors Travel Card or a similar program to ensure fair and equitable access to travel.

This issue was also raised by Bayside, Narrabri Shire, Strathfield, Broken Hill City councils.

129 The Hills Shire Council – Parking enforcement in private carparks

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to review s650 of the Local Government Act 1993 to allow the enforcement of parking restrictions within privately owned ‘free parking’ carparks.

130 Wollongong City Council - Bikes on buses

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to enable bikes to be carried on buses where possible if the need arises.

131 Wollongong City Council - Review of cycling on footpaths

That Local Government NSW writes to the NSW Government requesting a review of national and international best practice to improve cyclist safety and participation, including permitting cycling on footpaths, where practicable, for all age groups unless signposted otherwise.

Late Motions

L1 Woollahra Municipal Council - Proposed changes to the HOUSING SEPP and planning system

That Local Government NSW:

1. Welcomes the NSW Government's renewed focus on the provision of affordable housing.
2. Is concerned that proposed social and affordable housing reforms to the Housing SEPP and associated planning system instruments:
 - a. will not facilitate the long-term supply of affordable housing,
 - b. do not provide for affordable housing in perpetuity,
 - c. do not provide certainty on the impact on existing infrastructure contributions and affordable housing contributions schemes,
 - d. do not address how the additional infrastructure required by the additional density and growth in population would be funded,
 - e. will undermine local planning controls, including sites that have been subject to a recently approved, refused or pending planning proposals, by allowing an additional increase of FSR and height to be sought (without a new planning proposal), and
 - f. do not account for the impact of increased density on Heritage items, Heritage Conservation Areas (HCAs) and environmentally sensitive areas, areas of high Aboriginal cultural significance or high biodiversity significance.
3. Advocates for the NSW Government to defer the implementation of the proposed reforms to allow adequate time for:
 - a. all councils to be consulted and provided with reasonable opportunity to prepare submissions,
 - b. the proper consideration of all councils' submissions,
 - c. the Department of Planning and Environment to address councils' concerns (including but not limited to the concerns outlined at paragraph 2), and
 - d. the proper consideration of providing exemptions to the proposed reforms.

Appendix A – motions covered by resolutions

Covered by resolution 3

Waverley Council – Cost-shifting

That Local Government NSW increases its advocacy to oppose any cost-shifting that impacts member councils, including returning 100% of income from the waste levy to all NSW councils and reimbursing councils for the mandatory pensioner rate rebates.

Covered by resolution 4

City of Newcastle – NSW Audit Office and ownership of rural fire service assets

That Local Government NSW:

1. Notes the ongoing objections regarding the previous NSW Government's determination on ownership of Rural Fire Service assets;
2. Acknowledges the impact of the Government's position on council finances of this accounting treatment;
3. Calls on the newly elected NSW Government to take immediate action to permanently clear up inequities and inconsistencies around the accounting treatment of Rural Fire Service (RFS) assets by acknowledging that rural firefighting equipment is vested in, under the control of and the property of the RFS;
4. Calls on the NSW Government to amend s119 of the *Rural Fires Act 1997* so that the effect is to make it clear that RFS assets are not the property of councils; and
5. Continues advocating on behalf to affected councils to get clarification from the State Government about the accounting treatment of RFS assets.

Greater Hume Shire Council – NSW Rural Fire Service asset recognition

That Local Government NSW:

1. Supports the continued position that NSW Rural Fire Service plant and equipment is NOT included in the asset register and financial statements of any Local Government Authority, as these Authorities do not have care, control nor management of the plant and equipment, and
2. Writes to the Minister for Emergency Services requesting an urgent review of the legislation to ensure any ambiguity is resolved and removed.

Covered by resolution 5

Lithgow City Council – NSW government to fully fund RFS maintenance and repair costs

That Local Government NSW calls upon the NSW Government to fully fund RFS maintenance and repair costs. Between \$300 and \$400K is received each year to maintain both fleet and buildings with insufficient consideration of what is actually required and small increases year-on-year. For example, with RFS buildings, it is recognised that Council's asset management responsibilities cannot be sustainably met without some process of inspection, condition reporting and responsive funding allocation. In the past, the funding shortfall has led to Council subsidising the cost of operations to deliver necessary building works. However, going forward, Council does not have the capacity to absorb these unplanned costs.

A solution is required which honours the value of local volunteer firefighters, responds to the unique operational needs of this function, and assigns adequate and responsive funding without cost-shifting onto local government

Blayney Shire Council – Funding shortfalls – RFS trucks and equipment maintenance

That Local Government NSW requires the NSW Government to fully fund the Maintenance and Repair expenditure on trucks and other equipment for all Zones and Districts of the NSW Rural Fire Service through the current grant process and not see Councils have to pick up any shortfalls.

Covered by resolution 11

Bega Valley Shire Council – Rating of unrateable land

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to change legislation to allow the rating of forestry and other currently unrateable government land.

Covered by resolution 25

Lithgow City Council – Councillor members of ARIC

That Local Government NSW calls upon the NSW Government to permit Councillor voting members on Audit Risk & Improvement Committees (ARICs) in the final Guidelines for Risk Management and Internal Audit for Local Government. The proposal to disallow Councillors from being voting members of ARICs shows a lack of understanding of governance processes in the Local Government sector.

Covered by resolution 32

City of Sydney – Support for early childhood education in the local government sector

That Local Government NSW commits to supporting councils to recruit and retain early childhood educators by:

1. Calling on the NSW Government to:
 - a. increase support for public early childhood education services, including extending the paid placement funding offered to ECT students to Diploma and Certificate III students; and
 - b. support councils to expand high-quality early childhood education and care through long daycare, out-of-hours care, pre-school, and occasional care; and
2. Bargaining with the United Services Union and its members in good faith to achieve an increase to wages for early childhood educators above inflation, as well as leave provisions and hazard pay that reflect the risk of infection associated with work in early childhood education.

Inner West Council – Support for early childhood education in the local government sector

That Local Government NSW commits to supporting councils to recruit and retain early childhood educators by:

1. Calling on the NSW State Government to:
 - a. increase support for public early childhood education services, including extending the paid placement funding offered to Early Childhood Teacher students to Diploma and Certificate III students; and
 - b. support councils to expand high quality early childhood education and care through long daycare, out of hours care, pre-school, and occasional care.
2. Bargaining with the United Services Union and its members in good faith to achieve an increase to wages for early childhood educators above inflation, as well as leave provisions and hazard pay that reflect the risk of infection associated with work in early childhood education.

Covered by resolution 36

Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils – Household organic waste services in apartments

That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government for an extension of the deadline to 2035 for the provision of organic waste services to multi-unit households by councils.

Covered by resolution 39

Shoalhaven City Council – Social and affordable housing design and resilience

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to develop and instil high levels of liveability and climate sensitive design standards into all new government delivered housing, with this to include working with councils to ensure local character and values are retained in the provision of social and affordable residential assets.

City of Newcastle – Affordable and social housing

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to establish an agency to oversee a collaborative approach between the State Government, Councils, CHIA, and CHPs, to provide for thousands of people across NSW without safe, secure and affordable housing, and to:

1. Implement effective and equitable programs to fund and plan provision of new social (public, and affordable) housing and provide the necessary infrastructures to support increased dwellings;
2. Improve supply, amenity, sustainability and accessibility of social housing beyond existing local planning controls and developer community infrastructure contributions schemes;
3. Improve supply, amenity, sustainability and accessibility of social housing beyond existing local developer affordable housing contributions schemes and mechanisms;
4. Develop clear definitions of affordable, public, social, and community housing;
5. Ensure no further privatisation of public housing and/or crown land;
6. Ensure affordable housing is held in perpetuity; by not-for-profit Community Housing Provider, or in public operation and ownership; and
7. Ensure all new public and affordable housing delivers on local community and planning expectations.

City of Parramatta Council – Affordable housing

That Local Government NSW:

1. Supports the NSW Government Affordable Housing policy reforms which are strategic in nature, as precinct consideration supported by effective development contributions planning is preferable to site by-site (ad-hoc) approaches.
2. Further, that where ad-hoc approaches are proposed, LGNSW supports reforms which:
 - a. maintain or increase council involvement and delegation in approval processes;
 - b. provide affordable housing in perpetuity, rather than subject to time limits;
 - c. do not compromise local development controls, good design outcomes and adequate infrastructure provision;
 - d. provide clear and sufficient pathways for funding any additional infrastructure impacts;
 - e. support Community Housing Providers as best-placed to manage affordable housing;
 - f. ensure that any proposed bonuses are well-modelled and well-considered in terms of both urban design and infrastructure impacts.

City of Sydney - Affordable housing in perpetuity

That Local Government NSW:

1. Calls on the NSW Government to develop affordable housing policies that prioritise delivering affordable housing in perpetuity, rather than only for a temporary period of 15 years;
2. Calls on the NSW Government to develop affordable housing policies that deliver housing that is genuinely affordable. That is, policies which are based on delivering housing that a person can afford (no more than 30% of their income), not based on a discount from market rent only; and
3. Calls on the NSW Government to work with local councils to develop strategies to protect and expand affordable and public housing cooperatively, which build on, rather than override, local planning rules and housing strategies.

Kempsey Shire Council - Perpetual retention of affordable housing

That Local Government NSW:

1. Notes that the State Government is planning to introduce planning changes that will allow developers to build taller and denser buildings, and have them fast-tracked, if they increase the supply of affordable housing, and
2. Urges the State Government as part of those changes to ensure that affordable housing is retained into perpetuity, rather than the current 15 years.

Greater Hume Shire Council - Strategic planning to address the shortage of suitable land for development

That Local Government NSW requests the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces increase the grant funds available to local government to support the development of strategic plans to support projects that will identify land that could be rezoned, to facilitate development to address the current housing shortage.

Leeton Shire Council - Addressing the housing shortage

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to undertake and publish the results of an audit of all available public housing assets within NSW LGAs including:

1. Current occupied housing stock
2. Vacant public housing stock and state of asset
3. Vacant blocks of land-owned by the "public housing authority".

Murray River Council - Land banking

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to resolve the land banking issues associated with residential land by seeking a legal pathway by any means possible to unlock housing in NSW regional areas.

Narrabri Shire Council - Social and affordable housing

That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government, specifically the Minister for Housing to:

1. Increase funding and investment in public, social and affordable housing.
2. Work with all levels of government to undertake a review of all government-owned property to identify suitable sites for redevelopment as affordable housing.
3. Continue to work with local Councils, developers and community housing organisations to facilitate the construction of affordable social housing.
4. Ensure that any commensurate housing programs do not result in cost shifting to local government.

Bega Valley Shire Council - Affordable housing

That Local Government NSW:

1. Calls on the state government for ongoing investment in the development of affordable and social housing in regional NSW to address critical shortages in housing affordability and availability for people on low to moderate incomes and key workers.
2. Calls on the state government to prioritise a review of the Local Government (Manufactured Home Estates, Caravan Parks, Camping Grounds and Moveable Dwellings) Regulation 2021 to define 'portable device for human habitation' and the standards required to approve such devices that don't meet the definition of 'manufactured housing' or 'caravan'.
3. Advocates for new regulations/guidance regarding acceptable standards for crisis housing.
4. Advocates to the state government to provide financial investment in housing developments through Land and Housing Corporation to enable a greater proportion of lots to be developed for social and affordable housing.
5. Advocates to the state government to prioritise their response to the Byron Shire Short Term Rental Accommodation Planning Proposal Independent Planning Commission report and provide guidance to all councils in NSW.
6. Advocates to the state government for investment in regional infrastructure such as water, sewer and roads to support affordable housing development in regional and rural areas.

The Hills Shire Council - Finding a sensible approach to the housing affordability crisis

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to reconsider proposed changes to the planning framework that would allow private developers significant residential development uplift and a State Government approval pathway, where at least 15% affordable housing is provided.

This review should include detailed investigations to determine whether growth areas and precincts that have been through detailed planning investigations, rezoning and infrastructure assessment in the last 10 years have the ability to accommodate the intended 30% development uplift beyond the controls already in place, with a particular focus on:

- a. built form, character and amenity impacts;
- b. regional and local infrastructure capacity; and
- c. the role Landcom could play in boosting social and affordable housing supply.

Bega Valley Shire Council - Grant funding for planning and strategy development

That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government to continue to develop and deliver grant funding programs that support strategic planning and strategy development.

Covered by resolution 41

Cowra Council - Livable housing standards

That Local Government NSW calls upon the NSW Government to adopt in full the Livable Housing Design standards as an integral component of the National Construction Code 2022.

Randwick City Council - Mandating new construction codes for accessibility

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW State Government to mandate new National Minimum Construction Codes to improve accessibility in new homes.

Covered by resolution 43

Bega Valley Shire Council – Changes to residential lease termination provisions

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW government to introduce measures to better protect the interests of tenants with respect to notification of termination of lease by landlords in the case of no fault on the tenant's behalf.

Covered by resolution 58

Inner West Council – Inclusive events

That Local Government NSW:

1. Encourages and facilitates member councils to organise local events that are inclusive for LGBTQIA+ residents year-round.
2. Supports councils to facilitate community driven safety solutions to ensure that drag story time and similar events can take place at council facilities safely for performers and attendees.
3. Encourages member councils to ensure that drag performers receive payment in full for events that are cancelled.

Covered by resolution 61

Waverley Council – Hostile vehicle mitigation

That Local Government NSW advocates to the State and Federal governments to support councils' risk and safety requirements as specified by the Federal Government by funding programs to protect the community at identified crowded places.

Covered by resolution 63

Narrabri Shire Council – Crime prevention and community safety

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to urgently establish a Rural Youth Justice Taskforce to proactively address escalating youth crime in rural and regional areas by utilising a whole of community and cross-organisational approach.

Covered by resolution 65

Bega Valley Shire Council – Policy framework and funding for joint-use facilities

That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government to develop a policy framework and funding model to support joint-use arrangements between the State Government and Local Government to deliver community infrastructure e.g. Department of Education and Council to develop shared sporting, library and cultural facilities.

Covered by resolution 79

Wollongong City Council – Incentivising the installation of electric appliances

That Local Government NSW requests that the NSW Government consider amending the BASIX assessment tool to incentivise the installation of electric appliances (rather than natural gas) for cooking and heating for thermal comfort by removing gas from the sustainability index. The amendments to the assessment tool would relate to new homes and renovations valued at \$50,000 or over to support a faster transition to electrification of power use.

Covered by resolution 82

Ku-ring-gai Council - Reforming the private certification system

That Local Government NSW advocates for the NSW Government to make the following reforms to the NSW private certification system:

1. As a timely, efficient and cheaper means of invalidating improperly issued certificates, councils are given the administrative power to declare a certificate issued by a private certifier as invalid. A right of review of such decisions to be exercised by the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT), with court proceedings limited to judicial review of legal error.
2. Change the way in which private certifiers are appointed. Instead of allowing the developer to handpick their private certifier, the developer is offered a small range of local options to choose from a randomised pool.

Lane Cove Council - Using technology to improve probity for private certifiers in NSW

That Local Government NSW:

1. Calls on the State Government to create one central system that randomly selects Private Certifiers for the customers to obtain quotes from, to offer communities an unbiased, efficient, flexible and transparent service; and
2. Requests that the system be made available through the Department of Fair Trading website and allows customers to obtain a list of certifiers generated at random for the customer to obtain quotes from.

Covered by resolution 95

City of Parramatta Council - NSW planning portal

That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government for impactful and significant changes to the NSW Planning Portal to ensure councils can meet the statutory obligations under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2021, with minimal impact on resources and for the purpose of enabling delivery of quality customer service.

Lake Macquarie City Council - Integration platform for NSW government planning portal

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to fund the development and implementation of integration platforms between the NSW Government Planning Portal and local government document management and application systems.

Shoalhaven City Council - NSW planning portal implications for councils

That Local Government NSW strongly and urgently lobbies the NSW Department of Planning and Environment to undertake meaningful engagement with Councils on the current and future stage roll-out of the NSW Planning Portal, noting that changes and amendments have led (and continue to lead) to ratepayer cost imposts for Councils to meet shifting requirements. Further, advocacy to the Department be undertaken to fund any and all future implementation across Councils at no additional expense to ratepayers.

Covered by resolution 96

Tweed Shire Council - Caravan parks

That Local Government NSW writes to the Honourable Minister Scully and requests:

- a. Support to prohibit caravan parks in rural zones with other forms of tourist accommodation still permissible on merit;

- b. Implementing a state government body to help overhaul the caravan park industry similar to NSW Food Authority or NSW Health. A government body is also needed for Moveable Dwellings Outside of Caravan Parks, and Manufactured Home Estates;
- c. An overhaul of the Local Government (Manufactured Home Estates, Caravan Parks, Camping Grounds and Moveable Dwellings) Regulation 2021, with different requirements for 'permanent living' caravan parks versus 'tourist accommodation' caravan parks.

Tweed Shire Council - Moveable dwellings outside caravan parks

That Local Government NSW writes to the Honourable Minister Scully and request circulars to assist with interpretation of the Local Government (Manufactured Home Estates, Caravan Parks, Camping Grounds and Moveable Dwellings) Regulation 2021.

Tweed Shire Council - Manufactured home estates

That Local Government NSW writes to the Honourable Minister Scully and requests:

- a. A review of the Local Government (Manufactured Home Estates, Caravan Parks, Camping Grounds and Moveable Dwellings) Regulation 2021 to remove the loopholes that allow permanent manufactured homes in areas where they are otherwise prohibited;
- b. A review of the Local Government (Manufactured Home Estates, Caravan Parks, Camping Grounds and Moveable Dwellings) Regulation 2021 and work with industry and councils to develop small village controls where land tenure exists and national construction standards can be enforced while meeting contemporary manufactured home estate living;
- c. A review of the SEPP Housing 2021 provisions for caravan parks with a view to properly distinguish a caravan park from a manufactured housing estate.

Covered by resolution 101

Forbes Shire Council - Upfront payments of flood damage repair expenditure

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to pay upfront at least 50% of flood damage claims when they are submitted to ensure that rural councils are not forced to use their limited operating capital to fund repair works.

Covered by resolution 104

Bega Valley Shire Council - Purpose and future direction of NSW Reconstruction Authority

That Local Government NSW:

- 1. Seeks clarity from the NSW Government on the purpose and future direction of NSW Reconstruction Authority (formerly Resilience NSW).
- 2. Seeks clarity on how the various plans it has identified Councils will need to develop and reviewed on an ongoing basis will be funded.

Covered by resolution 105

Georges River Council - Review of the penalties applicable to illegal tree and vegetation works

That Local Government NSW requests the NSW Government to conduct a review of the penalties applicable to illegal tree and shrub works, including pruning, removal, poisoning, vandalism and insufficient protection measures on building sites, and introduce higher penalties for the unauthorised destruction of vegetation in environmentally sensitive areas such as riparian zones, areas of high biodiversity value and foreshore protection areas.

Ku-ring-gai Council - Penalty increases for illegal tree removal

That Local Government NSW:

1. Advocates to the NSW Government to greatly increase penalty infringement notice fines for illegal tree removal, vandalism or other harm.
2. Advocates to the NSW Government, specifically the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces, for a change to Schedule 5 of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation 2021 to increase the penalties for individuals and corporations for penalty notice offences relating to development without consent.
3. Advocates for a review of the requirements for prosecution of illegal tree removal.

Mosman Council - Penalties for tree vandalism

That Local Government NSW lobbies the State Government to urgently review Penalty Infringements Notices relating to tree vandalism on both public and private land as provided for under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* so that penalties are set at a level which act as a more meaningful and effective deterrent to illegal works / tree vandalism.

Covered by resolution 116

Blue Mountains City Council - Urgency requirement for Companion Animals Act amendments

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to act urgently in response to the LGNSW policy platform 13.6 by introducing to Parliament necessary amendments to the *Companion Animals Act (1998)* to enable councils to make local assessments and rules about roaming domestic cats to better respond to the local risk levels and impacts on native fauna.

Eurobodalla Shire Council - Review of the Companion Animals Act - cat containment

That Local Government NSW lobbies the NSW Government to:

1. Change the *Companion Animals Act 1998* to bring NSW into line with other states and territories by allowing local government to introduce cat containment policies in consultation with the local community that meet the specific needs of their area and community, including phase-in periods, selection of areas within the LGA to which the policy applies, monitoring frameworks and resource allocation.
2. Establish a \$9 million three-year state-wide grant program to support councils to implement domestic cat containment policies and associated responsible cat ownership programs to increase containment, desexing, identification and registration.
3. Implement a state-wide 'Safe cat, safe wildlife' campaign that includes the development of a central, state-wide online platform, in consultation with councils, relevant agencies and animal welfare bodies to make responsible pet ownership information easily accessible.

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council - Amendments to Companion Animals Act

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW State Government to introduce to Parliament amendments to the *Companion Animals Act (1998)* to enact Cat Containment regulations across New South Wales to better respond to the local risk levels, nuisance and noise issues, cat welfare and impacts on native fauna.

Tamworth Regional Council - Responsible pet ownership and addressing the impact of cats on wildlife

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW State Government to address the impact of cats on wildlife by amending the Companion Animals Act to:

1. Mandate the desexing of all cats by 6 months of age with the exception of those owned by registered breeders and holding a valid permit for each litter;
2. Tighten the laws allowing the issue of permits for breeders and the ability to use the same permit for subsequent litters;
3. Provide funding to Councils and not-for-profit rescue organisations for specific reduced cost desexing programs;
4. Mandate the containment of all domestic/pet cats either within a dwelling and/or within an external enclosure; and
5. Provide significantly increased funding for on-ground resources to enforce enclosures and investigate and enforce laws relating to illegal breeders.

Covered by resolution 119

Cabonne Council - Regional growth

That Local Government NSW calls on the NSW Government to fast-track investment into critical water supply and sewerage infrastructure, to assist regional councils meet the immediate and long-term demand for housing.

Covered by resolution 128

Bayside Council - Bus Industry Taskforce report

That Local Government NSW calls on the Minister for Transport to prioritise action on the recommendations of the First Report from the Bus Industry Taskforce, especially the refocus on the essential task of delivering bus services to underserved communities most impacted by privatisation of bus services in NSW.

Narrabri Shire Council - Rural/remote public transport services

That Local Government NSW advocates to the NSW Government, specifically the Minister for Transport and Transport for NSW (TfNSW), to give greater consideration to equity and accessibility of school bus transport within remote rural and regional areas, and release information on corresponding funding allocation and assessment methodology for the provision of public passenger services within such areas.

Strathfield Council - Transport and bus services

That Local Government NSW calls on the State and Federal Government to:

1. improve transport and bus services for all residents. Residents should have the option to live without a car, be connected to employment, services and activities including journeys to local shops, schools and services.
2. provide all residents with environmentally sustainable, socially equitable transport, and bus services to support a healthy community, where living without a car is a viable, attractive option for all residents.

Broken Hill City Council - Regional Seniors Travel Card

That Local Government NSW calls on the State Government to continue the Regional Seniors Travel Card, or a similar program to be implemented, to ensure seniors still have fair and equitable access to the necessity of travel in regional NSW.

QUEANBEYAN-PALERANG REGIONAL COUNCIL

Council Meeting Attachment

10 JULY 2024

ITEM 10.8 LGNSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023 - RESOLUTIONS
UPDATE: AMENDMENTS TO COMPANION ANIMALS ACT

ATTACHMENT 2 RESPONSE FROM MINISTER TARA MORIARTY

OFFICIAL

The Hon Tara Moriarty MLC

Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Regional New South Wales
Minister for Western New South Wales



Ref: MF24/1286
Your Ref: R23/0022

Cr Darriea Turley
President
Local Government NSW

executive.assistant@lgnsw.org.au

Re: Annual conference resolutions - safe cat, safe wildlife, and non-lethal dingo management

Dear Cr Turley,

I refer to your letter to the Hon. Penny Sharpe MLC, Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Energy, Minister for the Environment and Minister for Heritage regarding resolutions on issues raised at the 2023 Local Government NSW Annual Conference. Part of your correspondence has been referred to me it falls within my portfolio responsibility.

Resolution 116 – Tweed Shire Council – Safe cat, safe wildlife

Local Land Services is not responsible for enforcement or compliance under the *Companion Animals Act 1998* and associated Companion Animals Regulation 2018.

Management or resolution of the issues raised in this resolution are the responsibility of Local Government, such as the *Companions Animals Act 1998*. I have referred this resolution to the Minister for Local Government for a response.

Local Land Services are responsible for the preparation of the Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plan (RSPAMP) and for providing technical advice on control options for many pest animals including feral cats. Additionally, the RSPAMPs identify opportunities for Local Land Services to support land managers when undertaking feral cat control programs.

Feral cats are identified as a priority pest in all 11 Local Land Services regions in NSW.

The NSW Government is working with state and commonwealth governments to find more effective broad-scale controls for cats and with local governments to promote responsible cat ownership in their communities to ensure domestic cats do not contribute to the feral cat problem.

Under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, all land managers have a legal obligation to control priority pests as outlined in their RSPAMP on their respective lands. This primarily involves asset-based protection, aiming to minimise the impacts cats can have on identified assets

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nsw.gov.au/ministertariarty

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Resolution 117 – Byron Shire Council – Non-lethal dingo management

In both the NSW Wild Dog Management Strategy and National Wild Dog Action Plan, the term 'wild dog' refers to all wild-living dogs (*Canis familiaris*) and includes dingoes, feral domestic dogs and the hybrid descendants of these. There is considerable interest in dingo conservation in Australia, including concerns about their genetic integrity and preserving their ecological roles.

Both the NSW Wild Dog Management Strategy and the National Wild Dog Action Plan promote a balance between managing wild dogs in areas where they have negative impacts and preserving their ecological roles in designated conservation areas.

I have attached further information on NSW Wild Dog Management Strategy and National Wild Dog Action Plan for your information.

Under the Biosecurity Act 2015, all land managers have a legal obligation to control priority pests as outlined in their Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plan (RSPAMP) on their respective lands. Across all 11 RSPAMPs, feral cats and wild dogs are consistently ranked as priority pest species. Beyond identification, these plans also delineate specific control strategies, such as trapping or ground shooting, for managing priority species.

The primary objective of the RSPAMP concerning feral cat and wild dog populations is asset-based protection, aiming to minimize the impacts they can have on identified assets.

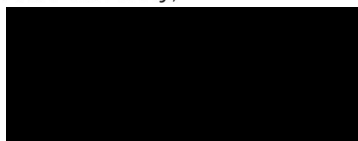
Local Land Services acknowledges that biosecurity is a shared responsibility and actively supports land managers by enhancing their capacity to manage vertebrate pests. This support includes educational initiatives and advice for control tools.

At present, the available controls for feral cats and wild dogs include:

- **Ground Shooting:** Utilizing ground shooting as a method to manage feral cat and wild dog populations.
- **Trapping:** Implementing trapping techniques to capture and control feral cats and wild dog.
- **Exclusion Fencing (non-lethal):** Establishing exclusion fencing to limit the movement and access of feral cats and wild dog in specific areas.
- **Baiting (Wild dogs):** Undertaking coordinated baiting programs to reduce wild dog populations and impacts on identified assets.

I trust this is of assistance, however, I have asked Mr Jake Tanner, Principal Program Manager Biosecurity to be available to answer any further questions you may have. Mr Turner can be contacted on 0438 673 722 or by email at jake.tanner@lls.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely,



Tara Moriarty MLC
Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Regional New South Wales
Minister for Western New South Wales

14 / 6 /2024

Encl: NSW Wild Dog Management Strategy 2022-2027 and National Wild Dog Action Plan 2020-2030

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NATIONAL **WILD DOG** ACTION PLAN

2020-2030



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National Wild Dog Action Plan 2020 - 2030: Promoting and supporting community-driven action for landscape-scale wild dog management

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NATIONAL [WILD DOG] ACTION PLAN

PROMOTING AND SUPPORTING COMMUNITY-DRIVEN ACTION FOR STRATEGIC LANDSCAPE-SCALE WILD DOG MANAGEMENT

Executive Summary

This National Wild Dog Action Plan (the Plan) is a nationally agreed framework that promotes and supports a strategic and risk-based approach to wild dog management; emphasising humane, safe and effective management techniques and appropriate scales for mitigating the impacts of wild dogs.

Vision

STAKEHOLDERS WORKING TOGETHER TO DELIVER EFFECTIVE,
COORDINATED AND HUMANE MANAGEMENT OF WILD DOGS.

Mission

REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS USE THE PLAN TO PROMOTE AND SUPPORT BEST PRACTICE WILD DOG MANAGEMENT TO MINIMISE NEGATIVE IMPACTS ON AGRICULTURAL, BIODIVERSITY AND SOCIAL ASSETS.

Action Plan Framework

Effective leadership and governance	People and community	Tools and methods
Goal - Provide strategic leadership and coordination	Goal - Increase awareness capacity and understanding	Goal - Increase adoption of best practice
Objectives	Objectives	Objectives
NWDAP roles and purpose	Maximise public support	Improve current best practice
Promote community driven landscape approaches	Engage, communicate, educate, train	Support strategic, consistent, scientific, risk-based humane approaches to planning and managing the impacts of wild dogs
Evaluate NWDAP implementation and outcomes	Build capacity in wild dog management	

Introduction

The Plan is a livestock-industry driven initiative that promotes a nationally coordinated approach to managing the negative impacts of wild dogs on primary production, environment and social assets throughout Australia.

The first National Wild Dog Action Plan ([NWDAP 2014-2019](#)), was developed in accordance with the principles of the Australian Pest Animal Strategy 2007 (later 2017-2027) and the Intergovernmental Agreement on Biosecurity 2012. It enshrined the principles of best practice management, aligned with community expectations for humane and ethical control measures, owned and delivered by stakeholders embracing a collaborative, nil-tenure (no borders) approach.

Following extensive consultation and independent review, the first Plan has been refreshed to ensure the next phase, NWDAP 2020-2030, continues to deliver latest best practice and technological advances as well as informs regional, state and national policy on wild dog management.

One of the Plan's core functions is to promote national coordination of wild dog management, while managing and recognising the knowledge and efforts of local and regional groups for broader benefit. Community ownership and support for the Plan has made it a role model for national pest animal strategies, such as the creation of a National Feral Pig Management Coordinator position announced by the Minister for Agriculture, Bridget McKenzie, in November 2019. The Plan's inclusive and collaborative approach has bridged the gap between state government agencies/authorities and the landholders and communities they support, resulting in far greater communication and influence by stakeholders in state and regional funding, policy and wild dog management programs. This cooperation and communication have resulted in the development of state wild dog management plans and advisory groups/committees, many of which did not exist prior to the Plan's implementation.

The independent 2019 review by Agrtrans Research and Consulting of the first Plan (2014-2019) found it had delivered 94% of the activities and objectives fully or, in part, for those activities that are ongoing. The direct, primary benefits of the Plan came from more efficient expenditure (both public and private) on wild dog management, more efficient resource allocation for RD&E investment and maintained and enhanced social licence to undertake wild dog control. Other key outcomes identified were improved leadership, increased capacity of stakeholders to undertake wild dog control, increased government and industry confidence, and increased leverage and investment for wild dog management at all levels throughout Australia.

Total investment in the NWDAP 2014-2019 (Stages 1 to 3 project activities only) was \$2.62 million (present value terms). The investment was estimated to produce total benefits between \$15.93 million and \$43.30 million with a net present value between \$13.31 million and \$40.68 million and a benefit-cost ratio between 6.1 and 16.5 to 1.

The 2020-2030 Plan continues to be the agreed framework to inform and guide, industry, communities and government at regional, state and national levels, rather than prescribing detailed on-ground actions and activities to local groups. The Plan assumes that local group activities follow leadership from regional, state and national organisations which promote coordinated best practice wild dog management determined from considered evidence, and transparently reviewed measures to improve the Plan over its 10-year life. Translating the Plan into mitigating wild dog impacts depends on local coordinators and fit-for-purpose extension resources promoted and supported by industry and government. Ultimately wild dog control and delivery of on-ground programs need stakeholders to adopt current best practice wild dog management. Furthermore, strong community involvement in wild dog management integrating with other predator and pest animal management strategies, depends on the general public's support for the use of humane lethal tools in a measured response to the risk of predator and pest animal impacts.

Defining the issue

Wild Dog definition

Each state and territory may have different legal definitions for wild dogs. For the purpose of the Plan, as per Fleming, Corbett, Harden and Thomson (2001), wild dogs are defined as:

**“All wild-living dogs, which include:
dingoes, feral dogs and their hybrids.”**

Wild dogs are considered a serious established pest animal in Australia.

The National Wild Dog Action Plan advocates the management of wild dogs where they pose a risk or impact upon agricultural, biodiversity and social assets. Wild dogs attack livestock, prey on native fauna, spread endemic disease to humans and animals, complicate the management of other pest animals and weeds and crossbreed with dingoes threatening their genetic purity. Wild dogs also threaten human workplace and recreational safety and their attacks on livestock and domestic pets, lethal or otherwise, cause significant emotional distress to owners. The scope and severity of these impacts are variable; hence the wild dog management response is risk-based.

Estimates of the impacts on the Australian economy from production losses due to predation on livestock, disease transmission in livestock, and the national costs associated with control are estimated to range between \$64 million to \$111 million annually (NSW Natural Resources Commission, Cost of Pest Animals in NSW and Australia 2013-14). However, anecdotal industry sources estimate the economic impact through predation and diseases such as hydatids to be much greater, in the hundreds of millions of dollars per annum. In wild dog-affected areas predation also limits livestock enterprise choice, with producers often forced to give up sheep and goat production and move into cattle. Regional communities are impacted by declining sheep numbers through reduced employment and business opportunities and loss of services (Allen and West 2016, Hewitt 2009, Lightfoot 2010).

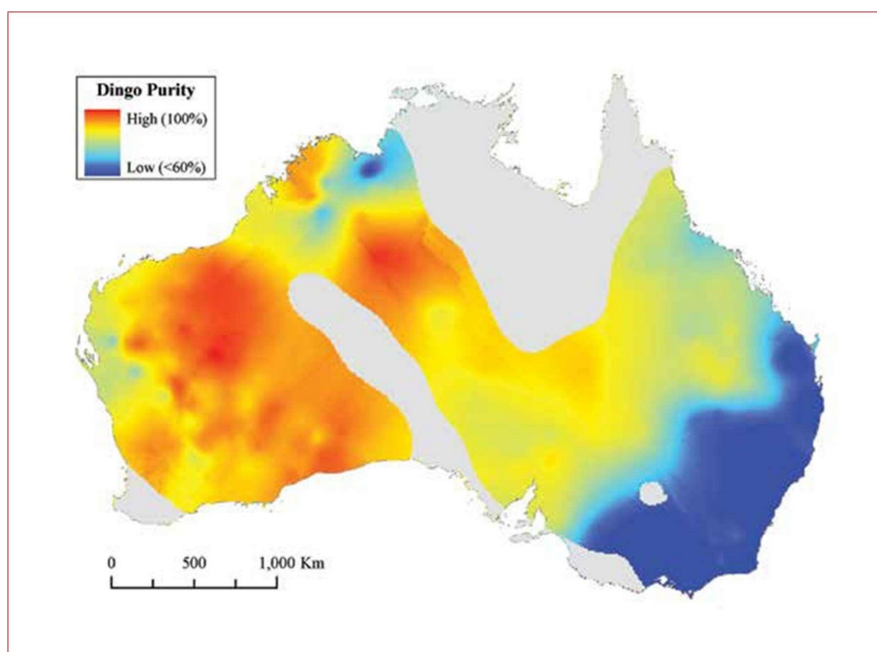
Wild dog attacks on livestock cause serious emotional and psychological damage to landholders and their families. Landholders and community members experiencing prolonged attacks on their livestock by wild dogs describe feeling a sense of helplessness in being unable to prevent these attacks that then leads to feelings of distress, anger and anxiety (Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences 2014). Hyper-vigilance, an enhanced state of sensory activity that can be a symptom of post-traumatic stress and other anxiety disorders, is a common stress response and has been reported by some producers involved in managing wild dogs (ABARES 2014). Studies have shown that landholders who experience prolonged attacks on livestock by wild dogs suffer levels of emotional and psychological trauma similar to that of people who have experienced major motor vehicle accidents and life-threatening events, such as a cardiac arrest (Ecker et al. 2016).

Wild dogs prey on a wide variety of native fauna but are considered a known or potential risk to at least 14 endangered or vulnerable native mammal, reptile and bird species listed under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999 (EPBC Act). Predation and attacks on wildlife by wild dogs can have

serious impacts on native wildlife species, particularly those such as Koalas suffering other key threatening processes (Beyer 2018, Gentle et al 2019, Lunney et al 2007). Beyer et al (2018) found that predation by wild dogs limited population growth in a population of koalas in SE Queensland Koala, even when other key threatening processes, such as habitat loss, were mitigated. Wild dogs also carry pathogens and parasites that can have negative impacts on native species, such as hydatid worms that infect macropod species severely limiting their lifespans and reproductive fitness (Harriot 2019). For example, the endangered Brush-tailed Rock Wallaby (*Petrogale penicillate*) is prone to hydatid infections causing limited lung viability resulting in greater risk of predation, lower fecundity and, in some instances death (Barnes et al. 2008a).

The dingo, *Canis familiaris*, is an ancient Australian dog breed largely free from modern dog breed genes that can be traced back to Asian domesticated dogs 3,500 years ago (Balme et al. 2018, Jackson et al 2017). The dingo is not a distinct species (Jackson et al. 2017) and will readily cross breed with modern domestic dog breeds. Crossbreeding between dingoes and modern dog breeds has occurred throughout the country, with the degree of crossbreeding in wild dog populations being related to length of European settlement and exposure of dingo populations to other modern dog breeds (Coman and Jones 2007, Stephens 2011) (Figure 2). Research into dingo purity is ongoing with the most up to date national map (Figure 2) demonstrating clearly the degree of crossbreeding in eastern Australia and around townships in northern Australia. It also clearly demonstrates that in remote parts of the country, dingo populations remain relatively pure although their conservation requires strategies that lower the risk of crossbreeding with modern dog breeds (Allen et al. 2017).

Figure 2: Dingo purity from DNA samples (Stephens 2011)



The dingo is included in the definition of wild dogs for the purposes of the Plan as being managed where they cause negative impacts on agricultural, biodiversity and social assets. The Plan acknowledges the

environmental and cultural significance of the dingo, its conservation status and legal protection in a number of jurisdictions and advocates that these considerations are taken into account through negotiation with relevant stakeholders during the local wild dog management planning process.

The Dingo

In most jurisdictions, there are legislative mechanisms to protect dingoes in specific areas, while also ensuring that livestock and wildlife are protected from their impacts (Fleming *et al.* 2014, See Appendix A.).

The dingo was introduced to Australia about 3,500 years ago and is widely distributed across the mainland (Jackson *et al.* 2019, Stephens *et al.* 2015). Dingoes are important culturally to many Australians and have intrinsic value, iconic value and significant tourism value in some parts of Australia, such as Fraser Island (Thompson *et al.* 2003), the Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park and in some zoos and private wildlife parks. They are an important part of some Aboriginal cultures, and there are ongoing and strong cultural associations between some Indigenous people and the dingo (Smith 2015). This is reflected in dingo songlines, and the many rock carvings and cave paintings representing the dingo (Rose 2000). The dingo is also important to some indigenous Australians for companionship and hunting game and in familial, spiritual and mythological terms (Corbett 2001, Smith 2015).

Dingoes potentially play a number of different ecological roles. They can: harvest prey without any effect on ecosystem dynamics; moderate the numbers of prey (Pople *et al.* 2000); prey upon endangered fauna (Allen and Fleming 2012) and cause reintroductions to fail (Bannister *et al.* 2017, Jolly *et al.* 2017); and potentially out-compete native (Fleming and Ballard 2019) and introduced predator species (Ritchie and Johnson 2009).

There is particular debate about the role of dingoes in arid ecosystems, where it is proposed that the presence of dingo populations in an area could provide some control over the numbers of feral cats (Ritchie and Johnson 2009) and foxes (Letnic *et al.* 2011), potentially providing a net benefit to native prey species populations (Letnic, Ritchie and Dickman 2009, Newsome *et al.* 2015). The effect of dingoes on landscapes is postulated to be far reaching, with losses of small and medium-sized native mammals, reduced plant biomass due to the effects of increases in herbivore numbers (Letnic *et al.* 2011), changes in bird associations (Rees *et al.* 2017), and reduced height of arid zone sand dunes (Lyons *et al.* 2018) all associated with reduced dingo abundance and the postulated consequent increases of fox and cat abundances. However, the key action, i.e. the suppression of foxes and cats by dingoes, has not been demonstrated (Allen *et al.* 2013), or is disputed (Fancourt *et al.* 2019), so the potential ecological benefits of dingoes remain speculative.

The full extent of the relationships between dingoes and other introduced predators is still unclear and is likely to be extremely complex (Fleming *et al.* 2012, Claridge 2013, Fleming *et al.* 2017). Nevertheless, it is unlikely that dingoes can exert sufficient pressure on introduced predator populations to reduce them in wetter, more productive habitats. The only appropriate long-term studies undertaken anywhere in Australia show that both dingoes and red foxes are responsive to prey abundance which changes with vegetation succession after wild fires, and that suppression of foxes by dingoes is inevident (Arthur *et al.* 2012, Claridge *et al.* 2010).

Dingoes are common throughout 85% of their previous range (Allen *et al.* 2017) and the roles of hybrids are likely similar to pure dingoes (Claridge *et al.* 2014). The dingo has not been assessed for listing as a threatened species under the national *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* 1999. The roadmap for conserving the dingo (Allen *et al.* 2017) while managing their predation on wildlife and livestock aligns with the National Wild Dog Action Plan objectives.

Purpose of the Action Plan.

The Plan provides an overarching consistent approach to wild dog management that enables state and regional wild dog management policy and program development that supports the delivery of on-ground actions and activities by stakeholders to deliver effective coordinated and humane wild dog management.

Wild dogs are highly mobile, are not constrained by boundaries and can move rapidly across the landscape impacting on a range of stakeholders, livestock and biodiversity assets. Therefore, their management requires a strategic landscape scale, nil tenure, community-driven approach where there are often competing interests and differing knowledge levels in regard to wild dog control. Participation in coordinated wild dog management programs varies across Australia and existing programs can span jurisdictional and tenure boundaries where regulations regarding control methods differ between states. However, the national approach advocated by the Plan has enhanced opportunities for collaborating and coordinating management efforts, leading to more consistent control programs across jurisdictions that are informed and developed in cooperation with local wild dog management groups.

The Plan embodies the eight principles of effective pest management as outlined by the Australian Pest Animal Strategy 2017-27:

1. Prevention and early intervention to avoid the establishment of pest animal species in new areas is generally more cost-effective than ongoing management of established populations.
2. Pest animal management is a shared responsibility between landholders, community, industry and government.
3. Management of mobile pest animals requires a coordinated approach across a range of scales and land tenures.
4. Management of established pest animals should focus on the protection of priority assets (for example, a lambing paddock or a threatened ecological community) but also usually requires a 'buffer' management area around the asset to account for pest animal mobility.
5. Pest animal management should be based on actual, rather than perceived, impacts and should be supported by monitoring to measure whether impact reduction targets are being achieved.
6. Best practice pest animal management balances efficacy, target specificity, safety, humaneness, community perceptions, efficiency, logistics and emergency needs.
7. Best practice pest animal management integrates a range of control techniques (including commercial use where appropriate), considers interactions between species (such as rabbits and foxes) and accounts for seasonal conditions (for example, to take advantage of pest animal congregations during drought) and animal welfare.
8. The cost of pest animal management should be borne by those who create the risk and those who benefit from its management. Governments may co-invest where there is a net public benefit from any such intervention.

Between 2014 and 2019, the Plan was extremely successful in delivering on these principles with a cost benefit ratio of 6.1 and 16.5 to 1 from primary and secondary benefits. The trust and

relationships developed between industry, government and the community have generated significant advances in coordinated management of wild dogs with many community groups now expanding these programs to include other introduced pest animal species such as foxes, feral cats and feral pigs. Native wildlife species also benefit from wild dog management programs through reduced predation and competition for resources from other introduced predators such as foxes and feral cats which are known to be controlled (to varying degrees) by wild dog management techniques.

In collaboration with relevant State government authorities, wild dog management programs can assist with the recovery and conservation of numerous native species threatened by predation as identified in recovery plans, threat abatement plans and conservation advice prepared under the *Environmental and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). For instance, the South Australian Government's wild dog management program Biteback, provides wild dog and fox control on pastoral leases surrounding the Flinders and Gawler Ranges National Parks, greatly enhancing the SA Dept of Environment and Heritage's Bounceback fox control program. This effort is aimed at protecting populations of the Yellow footed Rock Wallaby, *petrogale xanthopus*, which is listed as Vulnerable in SA under the EPBC Act.

Managing wild dogs and their impacts is an ongoing task that requires a proactive risk-based approach, continuous investment, strategic planning and action by a wide range of stakeholders for the benefit of the agricultural productivity, the environment and the community. Hence, the revised 2020-2030 Plan has taken onboard the positive and negative stakeholder feedback from the review process and will build on its ability to work collectively with all relevant stakeholders to achieve ongoing effective management of wild dogs and introduced predators.

The Plan makes two key assumptions:

1. Responsibility for the control of wild dogs rests with local land managers and stakeholders in accordance with local, regional and State government management plans. The Plan provides an agreed set of principles and guidelines that inform the actions of stakeholders, including landholders, industry, researchers, communities and government, rather than prescribing detailed on-ground actions and activities. It also provides national leadership, advocating, influencing and educating the broader public of the impacts and need for risk based strategic wild dog control.
2. Wild dog coordinators and those in associated vertebrate pest management and natural resource management (NRM) roles are operating locally, regionally, state-wide and/or nationally to successfully facilitate the change in awareness and motivation of land managers to adopt best practice wild dog management principles. Coordinators' profiles within communities and reported positive coordinated local actions also sustain general public awareness of the best practice principles that maintain community support for wild dog control. Refer the following Victorian case studies below and link: www.pestsmart.org.au/victorian-case-studies-wild-dog-control-journey-experience-works-now/

Victorian case studies in wild dog control: the journey, the experience and how it works now.

“The dog situation has nearly 100% improved on what it was. I put most of it down to the AWI baiting program in conjunction with aerial baiting and the wild dog controllers.”

These are the words of Ian Junor, producer and committee member of the Omeo Benambra Landcare group in East Gippsland. Ian’s sheep enterprise, and indeed his whole life, had been seriously affected by wild dog attacks by 2014.



Wild Dog Controller Anthony Websdale ground baiting in East Gippsland.

In what could only be described as a ringing endorsement for the Victorian wild dog control program, he says: ‘It is amazing. It makes farming so much more enjoyable. It was hell there for a while, but I haven’t lost a sheep for five years this September. Prior to that I lost 80 sheep in just over two months. It used to happen regularly, and if it wasn’t me it was a neighbour. It was really bad. It was nearly not viable to run sheep.’

Ian’s story is just one of the authentic case studies on the PestSmart website. These in-depth studies bring to life the challenges and changes in the wild dog control landscape in Victoria over the past 15 years.

Changes for the better such as Ian’s observation that biodiversity has improved due to the decrease in wild dog numbers. “Even the wildlife has changed. We’ve got little red-neck wallabies back again. Very rarely you saw one before, and now they’re thriving. I’ve even seen lyrebirds getting about in the last six months. It’s really good.”

The case studies document how the principles of the National Wild Dog Management Plan were implemented to develop a community-based approach to wild dog control. This approach bridged a communication chasm and created a new culture of co-operation and understanding along with greater acceptance and adoption of current best practice control techniques.

Read about those involved at the very coalface: profoundly affected landholders, shrewd and knowledgeable wild dog controllers, as well as empathetic and experienced DELWP staff. www.pestsmart.org.au

Goals and Objectives

The goals of *the Plan* are to provide leadership and coordination for the ongoing management of wild dogs, to increase community awareness and understanding of the issue, and to build capacity amongst stakeholders to adopt and implement best practice wild dog management.

The Plan promotes national consistency with the principles of safe, efficient and humane best practice wild dog management, which supports continuing economic activity while being socially responsible and environmentally sustainable.

The Plan acknowledges that animal welfare and the use of humane control methods are fundamental considerations in all management actions, irrespective of the nature or scale of land tenure in which management actions are being taken.

The dingo is included in the definition of wild dogs for the purposes of *the Plan* as being managed where they pose a risk or impact upon agricultural, biodiversity and social assets. *The Plan* acknowledges the environmental and cultural significance of the dingo, its conservation status and legal protection in a number of jurisdictions and advocates that these considerations are taken into account through the local wild dog management planning process.

The Plan's three goals are:

Goal 1:

Provide leadership and strategic coordination for the continuing management of wild dogs

The Plan promotes the adoption of nationally consistent approaches to integrated, strategic and humane wild dog management supported by a scientific and risk-based approach which includes nil tenure planning and minimises impacts on non-target species.

Goal 2:

Increase community awareness, understanding and capacity with regard to humane, best practice wild dog management

The Plan maximises public support for humane wild dog management, improves awareness of best practice through effective communication and engagement, and improves capacity to deliver management through education, training and extension material.

Goal 3:

Increase adoption of best practice wild dog management

The Plan endorses the use of current best practice management techniques for the control of wild dogs through coordinated, strategic community led management programs. The Plan also seeks to improve these practices through research and development while encouraging adoption of best practice humane wild dog management through ongoing engagement, extension and training.

Actions

Actions for a wide spectrum of stakeholders are identified under each goal of *the Plan*.

The Plan:

- Facilitates state, regional and local wild dog management action plans by providing an overarching adaptive management framework;
- Provides an overarching consistent approach to wild dog management that enables state and regional wild dog management policy and programs;
- Identifies actions to achieve each of the three goals, and the expected outcomes of each action;
- Identifies who is responsible for actions, and the resources, priorities and timeframe;
- Identifies the monitoring, evaluation and reporting requirements associated with *the Plan*, including standard measures of impacts, management efficacy, and cost-effectiveness relevant to all parties.

Governance

It is intended that the Plan has a 10-year status, with progress and effectiveness being reviewed five years after commencement. Findings from an independent five-year review in relation to the governance and delivery of the Plan, will be incorporated into the Plan for the period until 2030.

Governance will be managed as required through a committee consistent with the previous Plan and comprise key industry and government stakeholders. An independent chair will be elected from within the state and national industry committee membership. The committee will be supported by secretariat arrangements that include an Action Plan Implementation Manager (APIM) role and a Communications Coordinator role.

Stakeholder consultation

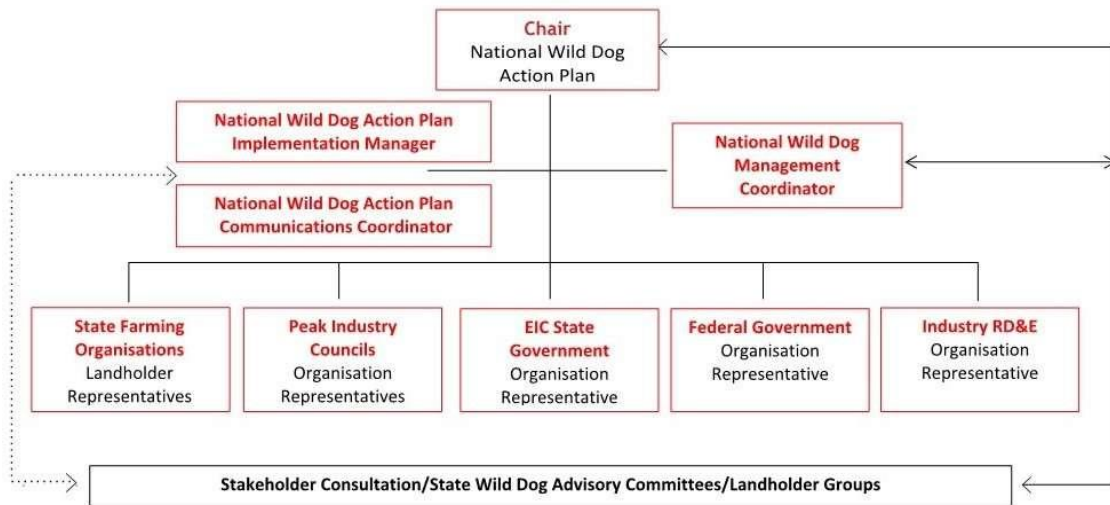
The committee will establish consultative mechanisms arranged as required. This structure will provide opportunities for feedback into the Plan from land managers, local communities and other relevant stakeholders.

The committee will seek opportunities to consult with stakeholder groups via the Plan networks and where funds exist, hold a forum for key stakeholders once or twice per year.

Requirements

Agreement and acceptance of *the Plan* across jurisdictions and by industry are essential for its successful implementation.

Substantial private, public and industry resources are already dedicated to wild dog management. However, it is recognised that for effective implementation of *the Plan*, additional resources will be required for actions including governance and secretariat, communications, stakeholder consultation and independent evaluation and review.



Summary of goals, objectives and actions and adaptive management framework

Effective Leadership and Governance	People	Tools and Methods
Goal 1: Provide leadership and strategic coordination for the continuing management of wild dogs	Goal 2: Increase community awareness, understanding and capacity with regard to humane, best practice wild dog management	Goal 3: Increase the adoption of best practice wild dog management
Objective 1A: NWDAP roles and purpose	Objective 2A: Maximise public support for humane wild dog management	Objective 3A: Identify and improve current best practice wild dog management
Action 1A.1 Adopt and maintain a clear governance structure that identifies responsibilities in relation to the implementation of the Plan.	Action 2A.1 Implement, monitor, evaluate and adjust the communication and engagement strategy to ensure it is appropriate for the general public.	Action 3A.1 Ensure the 'toolbox' for managing wild dogs is consistent and updated to current best practice, including consideration of animal welfare and impacts on non-target species.
Action 1A.2 Promote national consistency in best practice wild dog management.	Action 2A.2 Identify target audiences for tailored messaging on wild dog management for the general public.	Action 3A.2 Identify research, development and extension (RD&E) opportunities to improve best practice wild dog management.
Action 1A.3 Collaborate with partners to improve sharing and reporting of wild dog management actions and outcomes at local, state and national scales.		Action 3A.3 Review and update recognised qualifications and training for predator management.
Objective 1B: Promote adoption of community-driven, landscape-scale approaches to wild dog management	Objective 2B: Improve awareness of wild dog best practice management through effective engagement, communication, education and training	Objective 3B: Support strategic, consistent, scientific, risk-based humane approach to planning and managing the impacts of wild dogs
Action 1B.1 Promote integrated and strategic humane wild dog management practices, supported by a scientific, risk-based approach which includes nil-tenure planning and minimises impacts on non-target species.	Action 2B.1 Facilitate community and industry engagement in integrated predator (or vertebrate pest) management.	Action 3B.1 Support a collaborative approach with existing community initiatives to ensure best practice wild dog management.
Action 1B.2 Facilitate the development of partnerships that involve government, industry and communities.	Action 2B.2 Develop tailored messaging to influence adoption of best practice wild dog management among affected communities.	Action 3B.2 Support and facilitate the development of best practice wild dog management initiatives with new community groups.
		Action 3B.3 Recognise, support and facilitate the development of best practice wild dog management initiatives with community groups in potential impact areas.
Objective 1C: Develop and adopt processes for evaluating implementation and outcomes of the Plan to ensure continual improvement of the Plan, and continuity of the Plan beyond 2030	Objective 2C: Improve stakeholder capacity in wild dog management through education and training	
Action 1C.1 Report annually on the implementation of the plan to a range of NWDAP stakeholder groups. This includes collection of information against KPIs.	Action 2C.1 Promote the most up to date extension materials.	
Action 1C.2 Review and revise the Plan (as required) after 5 years (mid-term) and 9 years (full review) to determine its effectiveness and ability to meets its goals and objectives.	Action 2C.2 Promote recognised qualifications and training for predator management.	
	Action 2C.3 Support the inclusion of wild dog and predator management in on-farm, industry delivered extension packages.	

Measures of Success

The Plan supports and aligns with the Australian Pest Animal Strategy 2017-2027 (APAS) to minimise the impact of established pest animals and improve leadership and coordination for their control. The NWDAP 2020-2030 will be measured by key performance indicators (KPIs) that align to the priorities of the APAS.

An operational plan to deliver on the goals and objectives will be developed in consultation with stakeholders on the NWDAP Coordination Committee (NWDAPCC). Reporting on the delivery of the operation plan will be evaluated annually through the Monitor, Evaluate, Report and Improve (MERI) process. Outcomes for the MERI process will be provided to the NWDAPCC membership annually for distribution to their stakeholders.

The significant achievements of the Plan that will support the priorities include the extent of the area under coordinated wild dog and predator management, the uptake of extension opportunities and the collecting and sharing of impact and activity data. Further details of these KPI's are listed in Table 3.

Table 3. Alignment of NWDAP 2020-2030 KPIs with APAS 2017-2027 Priorities

APAS 2017-2027 Priority	NWDAP 2020-2030 KPI
Priority 2.1 Develop and implement national action and coordination plans for species prioritised as nationally significant	Action 1A.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintain or increase the number of jurisdictions with current wild dog action or management plans - Maintain or increase the number of state/territory and regional plans which reflect the goals and objectives of NWDAP - Maintain or increase the number of programs that cross jurisdictional borders
Priority 2.2 Continue to develop and improve best practice management methods and increase overall adoption of these practices among landholders	Action 2C.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased number of Registered Training Organisations delivering the AHC30318Cert III Rural and Environmental Pest Management course in each state and Territory; - Increased number of training events for recognised pest animal management qualifications; - Increased number of students qualified under AHC30318 - Increased capacity for stakeholders to manage wild dogs through predator management workshops and industry extension programs.
Priority 2.3 Increase participation in coordinated management approaches across a range of scales and land tenures.	Actions 3B.1, 3B.2 & 3B.3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased area under coordinated wild dog and predator management
Priority 3.1 Develop the knowledge, capacity and commitment of stakeholders to take responsibility for pest animal management.	Action 2C.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased number of people accessing extension materials
Priority 3.2 Improve information collection and sharing mechanisms to support effective pest animal management.	Action 1A.3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase in the number of jurisdictions and organisations sharing their data and information with the NWDAPCC
Priority 3.3 Maintain and enhance long-term research, development and extension capacity and capability.	Action 3A.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RD&E plan developed

Action implementation requirements

Goal 1: Provide leadership and strategic coordination for the continuing management of wild dogs						
Objective & Actions	Outcomes	Responsible parties	Resources	Priority & timeframe	Performance Measure	Context & comments
Objective 1A: NWDAP roles and purpose						
Action 1A.1 Adopt and maintain a clear governance structure that identifies responsibilities in relation to the implementation of the Plan.	1. Clear governance structure implemented 2. Committee members have a greater understanding of the plan and their roles in its implementation	Lead: NWDAPCC supported by the NWDMC, APIM and CC.	NWDMC, APIM & NWDAPCC Chair and Committee members	HIGH PRIORITY Draft Plan required to be endorsed by EIC in February 2020 and NBC in March 2020 for commencement in July 2020.	1. NWDAPCC established with Chair appointed and terms of reference endorsed. 2. Induction of NWDAPCC members completed.	NWDMC contracted until 2022-23. NWDAP APIM and CC contracted until 2020-21. Existing Stage 3 NWDAPCC structure deemed effective by final review - anticipated to be renewed with only minor membership changes.
Action 1A.2 Promote national consistency in best practice wild dog management.	1. State and regional wild dog management is consistent with the NWDAP 2. Improved coordination across jurisdictional borders 3. NWDAP purpose is communicated to target audiences	Lead: NWDAPCC supported by the NWDMC, APIM and CC.	NWDMC, APIM, CC & NWDAPCC Chair and committee	MEDIUM PRIORITY Ongoing promotion. KPI reporting by December 2019, end July 2020, end July 2021 and ongoing. Ongoing NWDMC reporting.	1. Number of jurisdictions with wild dog action plans 2. State and regional plans reflect the goals and objectives of NWDAP 3. Number of programs that cross jurisdictional borders	Individual NWDAPCC member organisation in promotion of best practice and the NWDAP media partner network is important. NWDAPCC members clearly articulate the role of NWDAP to defined target audiences.
Action 1A.3 Collaborate with partners to improve sharing and reporting of wild dog management actions and outcomes at local, state and national scales.	1. Sharing and reporting wild dog management actions occurs at local, state & national scales 2. Understand the extent of current reporting of wild dog management outcomes and actions and the implications from collated information 3. Promote ongoing and increased use of WildDogScan nationally and maintain access and funding	Lead: NWDAPCC supported by the NWDMC, APIM and CC.	NWDMC, APIM, CC & NWDAPCC Chair and committee	HIGH PRIORITY KPI reporting by end December 2019, end July 2020, end July 2021 and ongoing.	1. Number of jurisdictions and organisations sharing their data and information with the NWDAPCC	Collaboration by NWDAPCC members supports coordination through a flow of information into and from member organisations
Objective 1B: Promote adoption of community-driven, landscape-scale approaches to wild dog management						
Action 1B.1 Promote integrated and strategic humane wild dog management practices, supported by a scientific, risk-based approach which includes nil-tenure planning and minimises impacts on non-target species.	Greater awareness of integrated and strategic humane wild dog management practices	Lead: NWDAPCC supported by the NWDMC, APIM and CC.	NWDMC, APIM, CC & NWDAPCC Chair and committee	MEDIUM PRIORITY KPI reporting end December 2019, end July 2020, end July 2021 and ongoing. NWDMC reporting on awareness opportunities.	1. Number of jurisdictions and organisation that include integrated and strategic humane wild dog management practices within their communication and engagement plans	Individual NWDAPCC member organisation in promotion of best practice and the NWDAP media partner network is important.
Action 1B.2 Facilitate the development of partnerships that involve government, industry and communities.	A range of partnerships are developed	Lead: NWDAPCC supported by the NWDMC, APIM and CC.	NWDMC, APIM, CC & NWDAPCC Chair and committee	HIGH PRIORITY KPI reporting end December 2019, end July 2020, end July 2021 and ongoing. NWDMC reporting on partnership opportunities.	1. Number of state and regional plans that include partnerships 2. Number of co-funded projects	Alignment with NRM bodies through strategic goals, metrics, data sets and supporting practice change. Alignment with the Global Sustainable Development Goals and Australian Sustainability Frameworks.
Objective 1C: Develop and adopt processes for evaluating implementation and outcomes of the Plan to ensure continual improvement of the Plan, and continuity of the Plan beyond 2030						
Action 1C.1 Report annually on the implementation of the plan to a range of NWDAP stakeholder groups. This includes collection of information against KPIs.	1. Stakeholders have confidence in the governance of the national approach to wild dog management 2. Stakeholders can make informed commentary on the national approach and informed decisions.	Lead: NWDAPCC supported by the NWDMC, APIM and CC.	NWDMC, APIM, CC & NWDAPCC Chair and committee	HIGH PRIORITY Reporting to NWDAP stakeholders end August 2020, end August 2021 and ongoing.	1. Annual report to stakeholders published on relevant NWDAP website	The KPIs collated annually form an implementation report to stakeholders.
Action 1C.2 Review and revise the Plan (as required) after 5 years (mid-term) and 9 years (full review) to determine its effectiveness and ability to meet its goals and objectives.	1. Independent reviews of NWDAP 20-30 provide to stakeholders information on its impact and also recommendations on the future of coordinated action for wild dog management in 2026 and 2031.	Lead: NWDAPCC supported by the NWDMC, APIM and CC.	NWDAPCC members, NWDMC, APIM & CC	MEDIUM PRIORITY Operational deliverables June 2025 & October 2029 & ongoing.	1. Completed independent review published 2025. 2. Completed independent review published 2030.	Independent review provides transparency and evidence for future directions.

Goal 2: Increase community awareness, understanding and capacity with regard to humane, best practice wild dog management						
Objective & Actions	Outcomes	Responsible parties	Resources	Priority & timeframe	Performance Measure	Context & comments
Objective 2A: Maximise public support for humane wild dog management						
Action 2A.1 Implement, monitor, evaluate and adjust the communication and engagement strategy to ensure it is appropriate for the general public.	Communication and engagement strategy	Lead: CC supported by NWD, APIM & NWDAPCC	NWD and NWDAPCC members and their networks. IALtd contracted digital services.	HIGH PRIORITY C&E strategy developed by December 2019. Implementation - ongoing.	Communication and engagement strategy is implemented	The C&E strategy will place more emphasis on social licence strategies.
Action 2A.2 Identify target audiences for tailored messaging on wild dog management for the general public.	1. Target audience for the NWDAP is identified 2. Tailored messages developed 3. Maintain social licence	NWDAPCC, NWD and CC	NWD and reports from Actions 1A.2, 1A.3, 1B.1 and 1B.2.	HIGH PRIORITY C&E strategy developed by December 2019. Implementation - ongoing.	1. Target audience is listed in the communication and engagement strategy 2. Tailored messages identified and developed for the target audiences	Actions 1A.2, 1A.3, 1B.1 and 1B.2 will highlight goals and values in common with the general public.
Objective 2B: Improve awareness of wild dog best practice management through effective engagement, communication, education and training						
Action 2B.1 Facilitate community and industry engagement in integrated predator (or vertebrate pest) management.	Community and industry groups are engaged in integrated predator management.	NWDAPCC members, NWD, APIM & CC	NWD & CC supported by co-funded State Wild Dog Coordinators, PestSmart, NWDAP websites and communications. AWI and MLA extension & awareness projects.	HIGH PRIORITY KPI reporting by end December 2019, end July 2020, end July 2021 and ongoing. NWD reporting on partnership opportunities.	Number of community and industry activities that include and acknowledge integrated predator management.	Scientific evidence for improved integrated control in non arid environments will be available by March 2020.
Action 2B.2 Develop tailored messaging to influence adoption of best practice wild dog management among affected communities.	Target tailored messages are developed to maintain social licence in ongoing wild dog management	NWD and CC	NWD & CC	MEDIUM PRIORITY - ongoing	Number of NWDAP tailored messages developed for stakeholders groups and other organisations	R&D evidence supports refreshing and targeting of existing messages on best practice and participation.
Objective 2C: Improve stakeholder capacity in wild dog management through education and training						
Action 2C.1 Promote the most up to date extension materials.	1. Up to date extension materials are available online and through other forums 2. Stakeholders groups and other organisations are accessing extension materials	NWDAPCC members, NWD, APIM & CC	NWD & CC supported by co-funded State Wild Dog Coordinators, PestSmart, NWDAP websites and communications. AWI and MLA extension & awareness projects.	MEDIUM PRIORITY KPI reporting by December 2019, end July 2020, end July 2021 and ongoing. NWD reporting on promotion opportunities.	1. Extension materials available online. 2. Number of people accessing extension materials	NWDAPCC member organisations are important partners in promoting extension materials.
Action 2C.2 Promote recognised qualifications and training for predator management.	A range of recognised training available for recognised qualifications in predator management.	NWDAPCC members, NWD, APIM & CC	NWD & CC supported by co-funded State Wild Dog Coordinators, PestSmart, NWDAP websites and communications. AWI and MLA extension & awareness projects.	MEDIUM PRIORITY KPI reporting end December 2019, end July 2020, end July 2021 and ongoing. NWD reporting on training opportunities.	Number of training events for recognised qualifications in predator management conducted	The Certificate III Rural and Environmental Pest Management or its individual units are important qualifications for promotion.
Action 2C.3 Support the inclusion of wild dog and predator management in on-farm, industry delivered extension packages.	Wild dog and predator management is included in on-farm, industry delivered extension packages.	NWD, AWI and MLA	NWD & APIM	MEDIUM PRIORITY KPI reporting end December 2019, end July 2020, end July 2021 and ongoing. NWD reporting on training opportunities.	Number of on-farm, industry delivered extension packages that include wild dog and predator management	There is a commitment by RDCs to embed predator management within productivity extension packages where relevant.

Goal 3: Increase the adoption of best practice wild dog management						
Objective & Actions	Outcomes	Responsible parties	Resources	Priority & timeframe	Performance Measure	Context & comments
Objective 3A: Identify and improve current best practice wild dog management						
Action 3A.1 Ensure the 'toolbox' for managing wild dogs is consistent and updated to current best practice, including consideration of animal welfare and impacts on non-target	COPS and SOPs (Toolbox) for managing wild dogs are consistent and updated	NWDMC and APIM	NWDMC, APIM & CC	HIGH PRIORITY April 2020	All COPS and SOPs are consistent and up to date	Scientific evidence for improved integrated control relevant to COPS and SOPs will be available by March 2020.
Action 3A.2 Identify research, development and extension (RD&E) opportunities to improve best practice wild dog management.	Updated RD & E plan adopted by funders	NWDMC and APIM	NWDMC, APIM & CC	MEDIUM PRIORITY By late 2021	1. Review and consultation conducted 2. Review presented and delivered 3. RD & E plan developed	Non traditional funding bodies included in the consultation process for R,D&E for example NRM and biosecurity groups towards the second quarter of FY2022.
Action 3A.3 Review and update recognised qualifications and training for predator management.	Qualifications and training reviewed and updated	NWDMC	NWDMC and APIM	HIGH PRIORITY April 2020 - assess integrated vertebrate pest R&D findings. Ongoing	1. Review and consultation conducted 2. Recommendations made to relevant training providers	Scientific evidence for improved integrated control relevant to qualifications and training will be available by March 2020.
Objective 3B: Support strategic, consistent, scientific, risk-based humane approach to planning and managing the impacts of wild dogs						
Action 3B.1 Support a collaborative approach with existing community initiatives to ensure best practice wild dog management.	1. Collaborative community groups have received best practice information 2. Best practice wild dog management adopted in community initiatives	NWDMC and State Wild Dog Coordinators	NWDMC and State Wild Dog Coordinators supported by CC	MEDIUM PRIORITY Ongoing	1. Number of and area covered by community led initiatives implemented 2. Number of case studies completed 3. Number of nil-tenure plans developed	Successful collaboratively funded wild dog coordination supports the community. The coordinators support each other through an "e-community of practice".
Action 3B.2 Support and facilitate the development of best practice wild dog management initiatives with new community groups.	Best practice wild dog management initiatives developed for new community groups	NWDMC, State Wild Dog Coordinators and CC	NWDMC and State Wild Dog Coordinators supported by CC	HIGH PRIORITY Ongoing	Increase in the area under coordinated wild dog control	Continued development of communications to counter barriers to participation.
Action 3B.3 Recognise, support and facilitate the development of best practice wild dog management initiatives with community groups in potential impact areas.	Best practice wild dog management initiatives developed with community groups in areas of emerging wild dog impacts	NWDMC, State Wild Dog Coordinators and CC	NWDMC and State Wild Dog Coordinators supported by CC	HIGH PRIORITY Ongoing	Increase in the area under coordinated wild dog control	Resources have been developed for identifying the presence of wild dogs prior to significant impacts appearing.

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Acronyms

ABARES	Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences
APAS	Australian Pest Animal Strategy
APIM	Action Plan Implementation Manager
AWI	Australian Wool Innovation
CC	Communications Coordinator
C & E	Communication and engagement
COPs	Customer Orientated Process
EIC	Environment and Invasives Committee
EPBC	Environmental and Biodiversity Conservation Act
FY	Financial year
IUCN	International Union for Conservations of Nature
KPI	Key performance indicator
MERI	Monitor, Evaluate, report and improve
MLA	Meat and Livestock Australia
NRM	Natural resource management
NWDAP	National Wild Dog Action Plan
NWDAPCC	National Wild Dog Action Plan Coordination Committee
NWDAPMC	National Wild Dog Action Plan Management Coordinator
RD & E	Research, development and extension
RDC's	Rural Research and Development Corporations
R & D	Research and development
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedure

Reference Links

Agriculture Victoria

<http://www.agriculture.vic.gov.au/wilddogs>

Australian Capital Territory, Environmental, Planning & Sustainable Development Directorate - Environment – wild dogs

https://www.environment.act.gov.au/parks-conservation/plants-and-animals/urban-wildlife/wild_dogs

Australian Wool innovation

<https://www.wool.com/sheep/pest-animals/wild-dogs-foxes-pigs/>

Biosecurity Queensland – wild dog facts, 1080-Sodium fluoroacetate

https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-priorities/biosecurity/invasive-plants-animals/fact-sheets#wild_dog_control

Centre for Invasive Species Solutions

<https://www.pestsmart.org.au/pest-animal-species/wild-dog/>

Department of Agriculture – wild dogs

<https://www.agriculture.gov.au/abares/research-topics/invasive-species/wild-dogs-research>

New South Wales Department of Primary Industries wild dog control

<https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/vertebrate-pests/pest-animals-in-nsw/wild-dogs/wild-dog-control>

Northern Territory Government - Environment

<https://nt.gov.au/environment/animals/wildlife-in-nt/dingo>
<https://nt.gov.au/environment/animals/feral-animals/wild-dog>

NT Department of Primary Industry and Resources

<https://nt.gov.au/industry/agriculture/farm-management/controlling-pest-animals-wild-dogs-with-1080-poison>

Primary Industries and Regions South Australia – Wild dogs and dingoes

https://www.pir.sa.gov.au/biosecurity/weeds_and_pest_animals/animal_pests_in_south_australia/established_pest_animals/wild_dogs

Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

<https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-priorities/biosecurity/invasive-plants-animals/animals>

Tasmania Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment

<https://dpiwpe.tas.gov.au/invasive-species/invasive-animals/invasive-mammals/wild-dogs>

Western Australia Primary Industries & Regional Development – Agriculture & Food

<https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/state-barrier-fence/wild-dogs>

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: Legislative protection of the dingo across Australia

In the Australian Capital Territory	Wild dogs and dingoes are declared as pest animals under the <i>Pest Plants and Animals Act 2005</i> and are excluded from protection under the <i>Nature Conservation Act 2014</i> .
In New South Wales	The dingo is specifically excluded from protection under the <i>Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016</i> .
In the Northern Territory	The dingo is protected on all land tenures under the <i>Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act</i> . However, it can be culled subject to a permit where it adversely impacts livestock production, threatened wildlife species, or human safety.
In Queensland	The dingo is defined as 'native wildlife' under the <i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i> and is protected as a cultural and natural resource of protected areas. In all other areas of Queensland, the dingo is defined as a 'wild dog', which include dingoes, wild living domestic dogs (feral) and hybrids, and area prescribed as a restricted invasive animal under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i> .
In South Australia	The dingo is a declared pest inside (south of) the Dog Fence under the <i>Natural Resources Management Act 2004</i> (transitioning to the <i>Landscape South Australia Act 2019</i> from July 2020) with destruction required by land managers. While not protected in the 60% of the state outside (north of) the Dog Fence, there are restrictions on the amount of baiting to ensure the protection of the cattle industry and human safety, whilst maintaining the ecological and cultural roles of the dingo. The <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972</i> lists dingoes as unprotected.
In Tasmania	Dingoes have never colonised Tasmania and importing dingoes is prohibited under the <i>Nature Conservation Act 2002</i> .
In Victoria	The dingo is listed as a threatened species under the <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i> and as a result is threatened wildlife and protected under the <i>Wildlife Act 1975</i> . Dingoes cannot be reliably visually distinguished from wild dogs, making it impossible to ensure they are not inadvertently destroyed in wild dog control programs in any given area where both exist. To allow the continued control of wild dogs where they threaten livestock, an Order in Council is in place under the <i>Wildlife Act 1975</i> , declaring the dingo as unprotected wildlife in certain areas of the state. This Order expires on 1 October 2023. The Order in Council <u>unprotects</u> dingoes on all private land and on public land within 3km of any private land boundary, across sections of the north-west and east of the state. Dingoes remain protected on all other public land across Victoria. Dingoes are <u>unprotected</u> on all private land in Victoria, except when kept in captivity. Therefore, farmers and private landholders can destroy a dingo on their

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	property, where it is threatening livestock. On public land, only employees of, and persons engaged to kill or take dingoes in writing by, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning or Parks Victoria may kill or take a dingo.
In Western Australia	The dingo is a declared pest across the whole of the state under the <i>Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007</i> .

APPENDIX B: Australian legislation relevant to the management of wild dogs

Authority	Name	Relevance
Commonwealth	<i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i>	Managing diseases and pests that may cause harm to human, animal or plant health or the environment
	<i>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994</i>	Control of agricultural and veterinary chemical products
	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>	Protection of environment and conservation of biodiversity
	<i>Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956</i>	Importation of firearms into Australia (noting firearm licencing is regulated separately by each state and territory government in line with the National Firearms Agreement)
Australian Capital Territory	<i>Pest Plants and Animals Act 2005</i>	Pest animal management – wild dogs and dingoes are declared pest animals under this Act
	<i>Nature Conservation Act 2014</i>	Excludes protection of dingoes as native animals. Prohibits the keeping, selling, import or export of wild dogs, without a licence
	<i>Environment Protection Act 1997</i>	Regulate use of hazardous substances, coordinate environment protection
	<i>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994 (Cwlth)</i>	Regulate the use of poisons and agricultural and veterinary chemicals
	<i>Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act 2008</i>	
	<i>Animal Welfare Act 1992</i>	Trapping, handling and destruction of animals
	<i>Firearms Act 1996</i>	Regulates the possession and use of firearms
	<i>Prohibited Weapons Act 1996</i>	Regulates the possession and use of weapons, including suppressors
<i>Work Health and Safety Act 2011</i>	Secure health, safety and welfare of employees at work	

Authority	Name	Relevance
New South Wales	<i>Biosecurity Act 2015 (NSW)</i>	Under the Biosecurity Act 2015 (NSW), the General Biosecurity Duty requires any person dealing with biosecurity matter (such as wild dogs), and who knows or ought to know of the biosecurity risks posed by that biosecurity matter, to take measures to prevent, minimise or eliminate the risk as far as is reasonably practicable. This means that the occupier of lands (both private and public) is required to take all practical measures to minimise the risk of any negative impacts of wild dogs on their land or neighbouring lands. The General Biosecurity Duty is informed by the NSW Wild Dog Management Strategy which promotes a balance between managing wild dogs in areas where they have negative impacts and preserving the ecological role of dingoes. The conservation of dingoes is listed under the Goals of the strategy and is to be achieved by having Wild Dog Management Plans focus control on areas where the risk of negative impacts are greatest and not undertaking control in other parts of the landscape with a low risk of negative impacts from wild dogs, to allow dingoes to fulfil their natural ecological role
	<i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>	Plans of management for each reserve must be prepared and implemented under the Act and must consider the identification and mitigation of threatening processes such as pest animals and weeds; and the social and economic context of the reserve so as to ensure, for example that pest species management programs are co-ordinated across different tenures.
	<i>Pesticides Act 1999</i>	Regulate use of pesticides and poisons
	<i>Game and Feral Animal Control Act 2002</i>	Wild dogs that are not dingoes may be hunted as game animals by permitted recreational hunters on some State Forests and Crown Lands
	<i>Border Fence Maintenance Act 1921</i>	Maintenance of the dog-proof fence along the South Australian and Queensland Borders
	<i>Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979</i>	Trapping, handling and destruction of animals
Northern Territory	<i>Livestock Act 2008</i>	Detection, prevention and control of stock diseases
	<i>Emergency Management Act 2013</i>	Emergency management (natural disasters or human-induced)
	<i>Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1976</i>	Feral animal management, use of pesticides – feral dogs are a declared feral animal under this Act. Whereas dingoes are regarded as 'native wildlife' and have full legal protection, making it an offence to possess, interfere with, or kill dingoes unless authorised to under a permit to take protected wildlife. <u>Note: legislation.nt.gov.au/states/TPWC/Act/1976/As in force at 7 November 2019</u>
	<i>Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Act 2012</i>	Regulate supply and use of poisons
	<i>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Control of Use) Act 2004</i>	Regulate sale, use and application of chemical products, including 1080 Pest Animal Management Authorisation (PAMA) for the control of wild dogs
	<i>Firearms Act 1997</i>	Possession and use of firearms
	<i>Animal Protection Act 2018</i>	Trapping, handling and destruction of animals <u>Note: The Animal Protection Act is expected to commence in the first quarter of 2020 once supporting Regulations have been approved.</u>
	<i>Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011</i>	Health and safety of workers

Authority	Name	Relevance
Queensland	<i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i>	The Act provides the framework for an effective biosecurity system in Queensland. The general biosecurity obligation requires a person to take all reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimise biosecurity risks associated with invasive animals. Failure to manage the impact of invasive animals such wild dogs and dingoes on a person's land may constitute a failure by the person to discharge a general biosecurity obligation. Wild dogs and dingoes (other than owned domestic dogs) are restricted invasive animals with specific offences relating to their release, keeping, movement, supply and feeding. These provisions do not apply to dingoes on land that is a protected area under the Nature Conservation Act 1992. The Act establishes the wild dog barrier fence and its management.
	<i>Nature Conservation Act 1992</i>	The conservation of nature - the dingo is defined as 'native wildlife' and is protected as a cultural and natural resource of protected areas (e.g. National Parks). The cardinal principle for managing protected areas is to provide, to the greatest possible extent, for the permanent preservation of the area's natural condition and the protection of the area's cultural resources and values. Dingoes hold a significant place in the spiritual and cultural practices of First Nation people and there is community expectation to conserve core populations as part of Queensland's natural ecosystems. Wild dogs are managed on protected areas under strict protocols so that stewardship obligations are equally met.
	<i>Animal Care and Protection Act 2001</i>	Trapping, handling and humane destruction of animals
	<i>Weapons Act 1990</i>	Regulate possession, use and sale of firearms
	<i>Workplace Health and Safety Act 1995</i>	Protection in the workplace
	<i>Medicines and Poisons Act 2019</i>	Regulates possession, supply and use of poisons
South Australia	<i>Livestock Act 1997</i>	Regulate livestock matters, including exotic disease control
	<i>Dog and Cat Management Act 1995</i>	Power to destroy an unaccompanied dog/s for the protection of property
	<i>Emergency Management Act 2004</i>	Emergency management
	<i>Natural Resources Management Act 2004 (Landscape South Australia Act 2019 applies from July 2020)</i>	Pest animal management - dingoes (including dingo crosses) are declared pests inside the Dog Fence and all land managers must destroy dingoes on their properties. Keeping of dingoes or their crosses inside the fence is prohibited except by permit (generally limited to zoos and wildlife parks)
	<i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972</i>	Conservation of wildlife – dingoes are an unprotected wildlife species
	<i>Controlled Substances Act 1984</i>	Sale and use of poisons including vertebrate pesticides
	<i>Animal Welfare Act 1985</i>	Trapping and destruction of animals
	<i>Dog Fence Act 1946</i>	Owners of the Dog Fence must maintain the fence in dog-proof condition and take all reasonable steps to destroy wild dogs in the vicinity of the fence
	<i>Firearms Act 2015</i>	Regulate possession, use and sale of firearms
	<i>Work Health and Safety 2012</i>	Health, safety and welfare of workers

Authority	Name	Relevance
Tasmania	<i>AnimalHealthAct1995</i>	Prevention, detection and control of animal diseases
	<i>Biosecurity Act 2019</i>	Dingoes would be regarded as invasive pest and listed as a prohibited species. Note this process is still being finalised.
	<i>DogControlAct2000</i>	Control and management of dogs – the control of feral and commensal dogs preying upon livestock is covered under this Act
	<i>NationalParks and Reserves ManagementAct 2002</i>	Protection of national parks and wildlife against introduced species and diseases
	<i>NatureConservationAct2002</i>	Protection and conservation of native flora and fauna – dingoes have never colonised Tasmania dingoes are a restricted species and the import of dingoes is banned under this Act without the approved permissions
	<i>PoisonsAct1971</i>	Regulate sale, supply and use of poisons
	<i>PoliceOffencesAct1935</i>	Use and application of agricultural and veterinary chemical products
	<i>AnimalWelfareAct1993</i>	Use of traps and poisons, destruction of animals
	<i>FirearmsAct1996</i>	Regulate possession, use and sale of firearms
	<i>WorkplaceHealthandSafetyAct 1995</i>	Health and safety of workers
Victoria	<i>LivestockDiseaseControl Act1994</i>	Prevention, monitoring and control of livestock diseases
	<i>Emergency ManagementAct1986</i>	Organisation of emergency management
	<i>CatchmentandLandProtection Act1994</i>	<i>Landowners have a general duty to</i> , in relation to his or her land, take all reasonable steps to prevent the spread of, and as far as possible eradicate, established pest animals.
	<i>WildlifeAct1975</i>	Feral or wild population of Dog (<i>Canis lupus familiaris</i>) and dingo-dog hybrids (<i>Canis lupus dingox Canis lupus familiaris</i>) are declared as established pest animals. This declaration is for the whole of the State of Victoria Wildlife protection and management. Dingoes cannot be reliably visually distinguished from wild dogs, making it impossible to ensure they are not inadvertently destroyed in wild dog control programs in any given area where both exist. To allow the continued control of wild dogs where they threaten livestock, an Order in Council is in place under the Wildlife Act 1975 declaring the dingo as unprotected wildlife in certain areas of Victoria. This Order expires on 1 October 2023The Order in Council unprotects dingoes on all private land and on public land within 3km of any private land boundary, across sections of the north-west and east of the state (within the hatched areas shown in the map in Schedule 1 of the Order in Council). Dingoes remain protected on all other public land across Victoria
	<i>FloraandFaunaGuaranteeAct 1988</i>	Management and control of native fauna and flora. Dingo listed as a threatened species under s16 of the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988.
	<i>NationalParksAct1975</i>	Management of natural environment in designated parks. Provides for the protection of Indigenous fauna and the control of exotic fauna.
	<i>Agriculture and Veterinary Chemicals (Control of Use) Act 1992</i>	Sale and use of poisons
	<i>Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981</i>	Transportation of baits
	<i>Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986</i>	Trapping, handling and destruction of animals
	<i>FirearmsAct1996</i>	Regulate possession, use and sale of firearms
	<i>Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004</i>	Health, safety and welfare of workers

Authority	Name	Relevance
Western Australia	<i>Exotic Diseases of Animals Act 1993</i>	Prevention and control of exotic diseases
	<i>Stock Diseases (Regulations) Act 1968</i>	Prevention and control of diseases in livestock
	<i>Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007</i>	Control of declared pest or disease, use of chemicals
	<i>Wildlife Conservation Act 1950</i>	Protection of fauna and flora, illegal use of traps – in this Act a subsidiary notice lists dingoes as ‘unprotected fauna’
	<i>Poisons Act 1964</i>	Sale and use of poisons
	<i>Health Act 1911</i>	Use, storage and transport of certain pesticides
	<i>Animal Welfare Act 2002</i> <i>Firearms Act 1973</i>	Humane handling, and destruction and control techniques Improved standards of occupational safety and health

NATIONAL WILD DOG ACTION PLAN



NSW Wild Dog Management Strategy

2022–2027



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Foreword

Wild dog attacks on livestock can have major financial impacts on graziers and affects their choice of land use and enterprise mix in some areas. Attacks on other animals, including pets, can have severe emotional impacts on people in areas where wild dogs occur.

NSW has good processes in place for forming Wild Dog Management Groups and supporting their development of Wild Dog Management Plans –and this type of coordinated action is key to reducing wild dog impacts. Importantly, the formal planning and coordination of wild dog management in NSW is increasingly being used as a model to manage other pest animals more effectively.

Wild dog management in NSW is supported by a strong pest animal management research and training capability to develop improved control techniques and promote their adoption.

This updated NSW Wild Dog Management Strategy (2022-27) is based on the 2017-2021 version and identifies specific actions to ensure that existing wild dog management, policy, research and training approaches in NSW are maintained and built upon.

The strategy supports the goals of NSW Biosecurity Strategy, *Biosecurity Act 2015* (NSW) and the NSW Invasive Species Plan and has been endorsed by the NSW State Pest Animal Committee.

1. About this Strategy

The overarching aim of the *NSW Wild Dog Management Strategy 2022–2027* is to reduce the negative impacts of wild dogs within our state. This strategy updates the *NSW Wild Dog Management Strategy 2017-2021* and is consistent with the revised *National Wild Dog Action Plan (2020-2030)*.

The strategy guides specific actions to more effectively reduce the negative impacts of wild dogs. It also clearly defines the roles and responsibilities of government agencies, public and private land managers, and other community members in managing wild dogs in NSW.

Wild Dog Management Plans (WDMPs) assist land managers, regional groups, industry and government to effectively manage wild dogs, improve their profitability and sustainability, and fulfil their biosecurity duties. WDMPs are an essential part of best practice wild dog management and should be developed for all areas of NSW affected by wild dogs. Each WDMP should cover all land tenures within a defined management area. WDMPs should consider the economic, environmental and social impacts of wild dogs and incorporate measurable strategies to address these impacts. WDMPs will be guided by the broad species management objectives of Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plans (RSPAMPs).

2. Situational overview

Wild dog definition and distribution

In NSW, the term 'wild dog' refers to all wild-living dogs (*Canis familiaris*) and includes dingoes, feral domestic dogs and the hybrid descendants of these. Dingoes have been present in Australia for over 4000 years and occurred across all habitats of mainland Australia prior to the arrival of Europeans, after which time they began hybridising with modern domestic dogs (Figure 1). With the advent of pastoralism and cropping, the overall distribution of wild dogs was reduced in south-eastern Australia by a long history of lethal control and use of exclusion fencing. However, the distribution and impacts of wild dogs have recently increased in some parts of NSW, particularly in the Western Division (Figure 2).

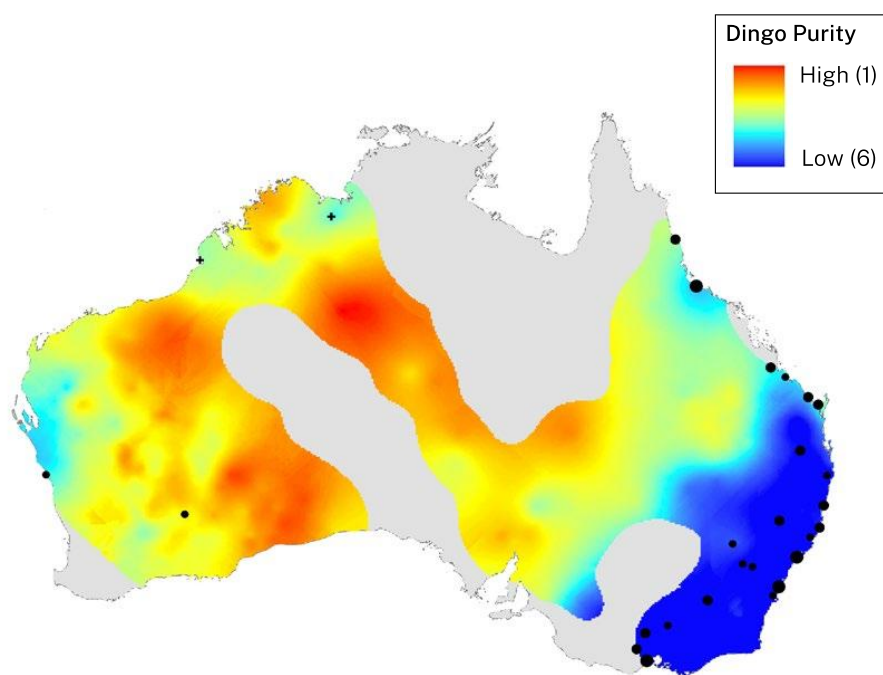


Figure 1: Most NSW wild dog DNA samples collected between 2007 and 2010 were hybrids, but pure dingoes were present in all areas where wild dogs occurred [Stephens et al. (2015). *Death by sex in an Australian icon: a continent-wide survey reveals extensive hybridization between dingoes and domestic dogs. Molecular Ecology* 24, 5643-5656.]

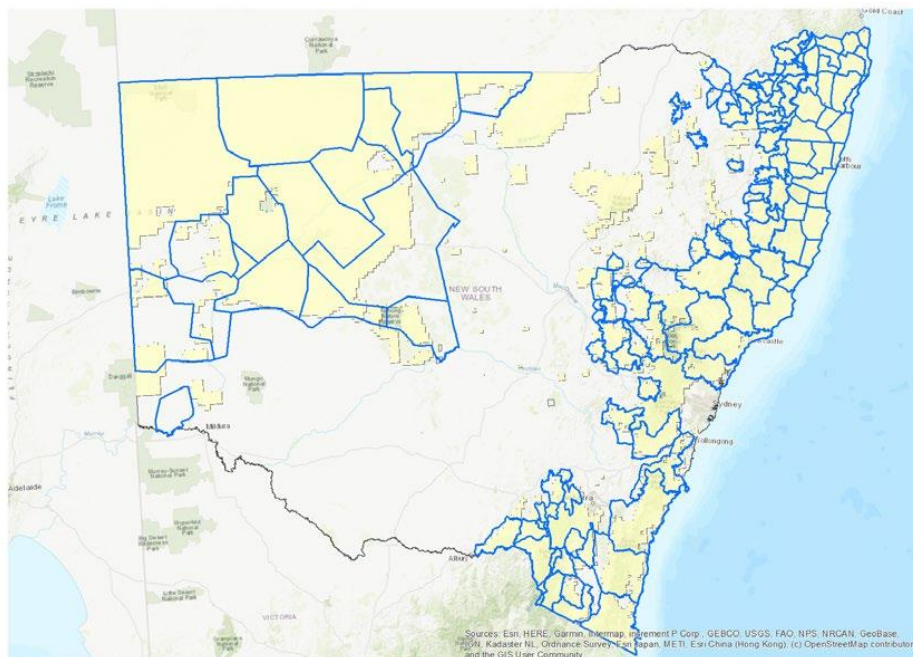


Figure 2: Wild dog distribution in NSW (yellow shading) overlaid with WDMP areas (blue polygons).

The economic, environmental and social impacts of wild dogs

The negative impact of wild dogs includes predation and harassment of livestock and other animals, and the spread of diseases. Wild dog presence is generally incompatible with small livestock production (i.e. poultry, sheep, goats, calves) and once predation begins it will usually continue until either the wild dogs or the susceptible stock are removed. Opinions vary on the impact of wild dogs on cattle production. Although there is strong evidence that calf predation by wild dogs can be substantial and costly, some cattle producers believe that this cost is offset by wild dogs reducing the density of competing native herbivores. These divergent views can cause local conflict and pose a challenge for the development and implementation of WDMPs.

Shifts in land use away from small livestock production can reduce total productive capacity and income, and negatively affect sustainable land use through sub-optimum livestock enterprise mixes. Where this occurs as a broader trend, local economies can be severely affected by wild dog-induced enterprise change.

Wild dogs spread diseases that affect livestock, pets, native animals and humans. Common examples include hydatids (*Echinococcus granulosus*) and *Neospora caninum*. A more recently introduced threat is the potential spread of Ehrlichiosis (which was detected in Australia in 2020) from wild dogs to domestic dogs. Wild dogs may also pose a direct threat to the safety of pets and humans, particularly in peri-urban areas.

Wild dogs have adapted to many niches across Australia and occupy a range of ecological roles. The extent to which wild dogs could limit kangaroo and feral goat populations in NSW is uncertain. Wild dogs can have negative impacts on some threatened native fauna, particularly when such species are already under stress from other threatening processes such as habitat fragmentation and predation by foxes and feral cats, through direct predation, canid-borne disease and competition for food. There is considerable research being undertaken to better understand the interactions between wild dogs, foxes, feral cats and threatened native fauna in different bioregions and management scenarios.

Social impacts of wild dogs occur at four levels: individual landholders directly affected by wild dog predation; agency staff who deal with affected landholders day-to-day; flow-on effects to the local community of the affected producers; and effects felt by the wider community. Social impacts include acute and chronic distress, depression, anxiety, insomnia and conflict, and social disruption. Conflict can occur between: family members; public and private land owners and managers; operators of different enterprises among private land owners (e.g. sheep producers, cattle producers, absentee land owners and agroforestry); and affected rural/peri-urban communities and unaffected urban communities.

Wild dog policy and planning in NSW

Land managers and owners have a *general biosecurity duty* to prevent, eliminate or minimise biosecurity risks caused by wild dogs and other pest animals under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (NSW). The RSPAMP for each LLS region identifies priority pest animals in that region, and wild dogs are listed as a priority pest in all NSW regions. Local WDMPs then provide more detailed guidance on the specific areas that wild dogs are posing an unacceptable biosecurity threat, and the management options to reduce this threat. WDMPs help inform local landholders about what their general biosecurity duty may be in terms of expected wild dog management effort.

Effective wild dog management requires a strategic and proactive approach where private and public land managers use an integrated across-tenure planning process. This typically involves:

- » mapping land use overlaid with wild dog populations, travel routes (accounting for key tracks and dog fences) and impacts
- » determining which other pest animals are present; particularly those that may interact with wild dog populations and impacts and control measures, such as foxes and feral pigs
- » assessing the locations and effectiveness of past management actions.

WDMPs are then developed, specifying what control and monitoring work will be done and where, who is responsible for conducting and/or paying for that work, and timelines for achieving the work. WDMPs assist with management of wild dogs through:

- » improving community awareness and cooperation to support across-tenure wild dog management
- » prioritising wild dog management in the context of other natural resource management work
- » considering interactions with other pest animals and their management
- » focusing effort at the appropriate time and scale
- » increasing adoption of best practice wild dog management approaches that account for the latest control techniques and research
- » formalising monitoring and reporting on WDMP performance to improve their effectiveness and efficiency.

An important principle of any WDMP is that resources need to be targeted to those areas and those times where the likelihood of reducing impacts is the greatest. Management must be maintained at an adequate intensity and scale to reduce pest animal populations and impacts indefinitely.

Research, development and adoption of improved wild dog monitoring and management practices

The *Australian Pest Animal Strategy 2017–2027* identifies key principles of effective pest animal management. Three of these principles in particular highlight the need to continually improve monitoring, reporting and control tools for more effective wild dog management:

- » *Pest animal management should be based on actual rather than perceived impacts and should be supported by monitoring to measure whether impact reduction targets are being achieved.*
- » *Best practice pest animal management balances efficacy, target specificity, safety, humaneness, community perceptions, efficiency, logistics and emergency needs.*
- » *Best practice pest animal management integrates a range of control techniques (including commercial use where appropriate), considers interactions between species (e.g. rabbits and foxes) and accounts for seasonal conditions (e.g. to take advantage of pest animal congregations during drought) and animal welfare.*

This need for continual improvement requires a comprehensive research capacity and NSW has a strong record of research collaboration within the State, nationally and internationally. Productive links have been developed with industry, the Commonwealth Government, other jurisdictions and universities. Being an active participant of the Centre for Invasive Species Solutions (CISS) helps NSW achieve maximum leverage from limited research and extension resources. There is a focus on applied research that involves land managers and other stakeholders identifying research needs and implementing research projects. This capacity needs to be maintained as identified in the 'Goals and Strategies' tables in this document.

The focus of pest animal management should be reducing impacts, rather than removing pest animals *per se* – this is particularly the case for wild dog management where certain 'problem' dogs may have a disproportionate impact. A major component of pest animal management research is to identify a range of practical management tools that, when used at the appropriate intensity, frequency and scale, and in the appropriate combination, can achieve and sustain required levels of impact reduction.

Research to identify improved pest animal management approaches needs to be supported by training, extension and engagement to expedite adoption. NSW is fortunate to have formal pest animal management training available through Tocal Agriculture College, as well as through training within individual government agencies. Local Land Services provides a regional network of extension and training opportunities for landholders. In the case of wild dog management, national and regional facilitators supported by CISS and industry groups provide a valuable supplement to NSW Government extension and coordination activities.

National Wild Dog Action Plan

The first National Wild Dog Action Plan (NWDAP) was published in 2014 to *"guide the implementation of a nationally-agreed framework for a strategic and risk-based approach to wild dog management, emphasising humane, safe and effective management techniques and appropriate scales for mitigating the impacts of wild dogs"*. The NWDAP was revised in 2020 but the 'Vision' of this plan is consistent with the original version: *"Stakeholders working together to deliver effective, coordinated and humane management of wild dogs"*.

The NWDAP provides opportunities to raise awareness about the wild dog problem and for national collaboration to develop improved and consistent policy, monitoring and management approaches. NSW is represented on the NWDAP Coordination Committee.

3. Roles and responsibilities for wild dog management in NSW

State Pest Animal Committee

The State Pest Animal Committee (SPAC) provides a forum for key government and non-government stakeholders to help guide pest animal policy, programs and research in NSW. SPAC provides oversight of the development, implementation and review of RSPAMPs.

Regional Pest Animal Committees

Regional Pest Animal Committees (RPACs) were formed in each of the 11 Local Land Services regions in late 2017 to develop the inaugural RSPAMPs for each LLS region – published in 2018. RPACs include public and private land manager representatives and other interest groups. They have an ongoing role in overseeing the implementation and modification of RSPAMPs. Local WDMPs are guided by and consistent with the RSPAMPs (see Figure 3).

Private landholders

Private landholders are responsible for the management of wild dogs on land they own or occupy. Wild dogs are highly mobile animals requiring a coordinated approach across private and public tenure boundaries for effective management. RSPAMPs identify priority pest animals in each LLS region and all 11 plans identify wild dogs as a priority pest that requires effective coordinated management in areas where they are likely to have negative impacts. LLS and public land managers work with private landholders to ensure that general biosecurity duty obligations in relation to wild dogs and other species are discharged on both public and private lands.

NSW Government agencies

Department of Primary Industries

The Department of Primary Industries (DPI) represents the NSW Government at national forums where invasive species management is discussed and coordinated, including the Environment and Invasives Committee (EIC). DPI is also represented on the NWDAP Coordination Committee.

DPI coordinates accredited pest animal management training at Tocal Agricultural College to promote a strategic approach to pest animal management in NSW and effective community engagement processes.

DPI's Vertebrate Pest Research Unit (VPRU) liaises closely with affected stakeholders, industry, other NSW agencies, other States and Territories, the Commonwealth Government and national and international universities. The wild dog management objectives of the VPRU are to develop and refine management techniques and strategies based upon improved knowledge of wild dog biology, ecology, movements and impacts. The VPRU continues to liaise with stakeholders and collaborators directly, and through CISS.

Local Land Services

Local Land Services (LLS) is the lead agency for coordinating the on-ground management of established terrestrial pests such as wild dogs. LLS plays the lead role in coordinating RPACs and regional planning processes under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (NSW). Under this Act, LLS biosecurity officers are responsible for education and compliance to ensure that all landholders are addressing biosecurity risks, including wild dog predation on livestock.

LLS is the primary authorised distributor for the vertebrate pest poison sodium fluoroacetate (1080) and provides 1080 and other pesticide training for landholders. LLS is also involved in inter-agency pesticide research and training to develop and promote additional management techniques and strategies for wild dog management.

LLS assists Landcare, community groups and other stakeholders to seek financial assistance and funding for large-scale coordinated programs.

National Parks and Wildlife Service

The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) represents the NSW Government at national forums where invasive species management is discussed and coordinated, including the EIC. NPWS is also represented on the NWDAP Coordination Committee.

NPWS manages an estate that covers over seven million hectares (approximately 9% of NSW). NPWS undertakes strategic pest management to mitigate the impacts of pest species on the natural and heritage values of the National Parks estate, as well as mitigating their impacts on neighbouring properties. In line with this strategic approach to pest management, NPWS undertakes extensive wild dog control as part of coordinated across-tenure programs to minimise the impacts of wild dogs on neighbouring livestock producers.

NPWS is an authorised distributor for the vertebrate pest poison 1080, primarily for control programs on NPWS estate. NPWS is also involved in inter-agency research and training to develop and promote additional management techniques and strategies for wild dog management.

Crown Lands

Crown Lands is responsible for facilitating the sustainable use of land and natural resources to deliver environmental, social and economic benefits for NSW. Crown Lands is responsible for managing the NSW Crown Estate comprising approximately 42% of the State of NSW, including some of the most iconic and diverse public land in NSW. Crown Lands develops, funds and implements invasive species management strategies on land under its direct control. It also supports activities undertaken by community groups and other stakeholders that manage land on its behalf, including appointed Crown Land Managers. Crown Lands incorporates a risk-based approach to managing invasive species on Crown land, in collaboration with neighbouring landholders and other land management agencies where appropriate. This includes education, extension, project implementation, audit and compliance activities.

Forestry Corporation

Forestry Corporation manages over two million hectares of native and plantation forests for sustainable timber production, recreation and biodiversity. Where wild dogs are a threat to neighbouring properties, Forestry Corporation is involved in integrated management programs using baiting, trapping and guard animals.

Border Fence Maintenance Board

The Border Fence Maintenance Board (previously the Wild Dog Destruction Board) oversees the management, maintenance and upgrade of the wild dog barrier fence in NSW. This fence has been constructed to exclude wild dogs from entering the grazing lands of the NSW Western Division from Queensland and South Australia. The fence is being extended east and south. Landholder rates and the NSW Government jointly fund the maintenance of the fence.

Other public land managers

All Commonwealth, State and Local Government agencies that manage land have an important role in the management of invasive species in NSW. These areas include: land reserved for its biodiversity, historic or scenic value; land that has a commercial resource value; land used for the State's infrastructure or transport corridors; and land that has not been claimed for any specific purpose. The role of public land managers includes the development and implementation of pest management strategies and the education of the community and other stakeholders.

Research organisations and funders

NSW DPI's Vertebrate Pest Research Unit, the NPWS Pests and Weeds Unit and other NSW government agencies, universities and other research and innovation organisations play a significant role in driving advances in invasive species technology and management. State, national and international collaboration is a key focus for these teams to maximise the value of NSW investment in research.

State agencies, the Australian Government, and wool and meat industry groups are funders of wild dog research, management and capacity building. They have actively supported the NWDAP, Wild Dog Management Groups (WDMGs) and their facilitation, and the development and rollout of additional wild dog control tools and strategies.

Dingo conservation interests

There is considerable interest in dingo conservation in Australia, including concerns about their genetic integrity and preserving their ecological roles. This strategy promotes a balance between managing wild dogs in areas where they have negative impacts and preserving their ecological roles elsewhere.

General public

The public of NSW is interested in wild dogs from several perspectives. There are documented cases of wild dogs harassing or attacking pets and people. There is some risk to people of zoonoses that are carried by wild dogs and to their pet dogs from parasites and pathogens that wild dogs carry. People that enjoy the amenity of areas where wild dogs occur want to know what is being done to reduce these threats.

The public also has an interest in the roles of dingoes and other wild dogs in ecosystems and the value of dingoes as an iconic species. There is also a legitimate and growing interest in the humaneness, target specificity and safety of all forms of pest animal management.

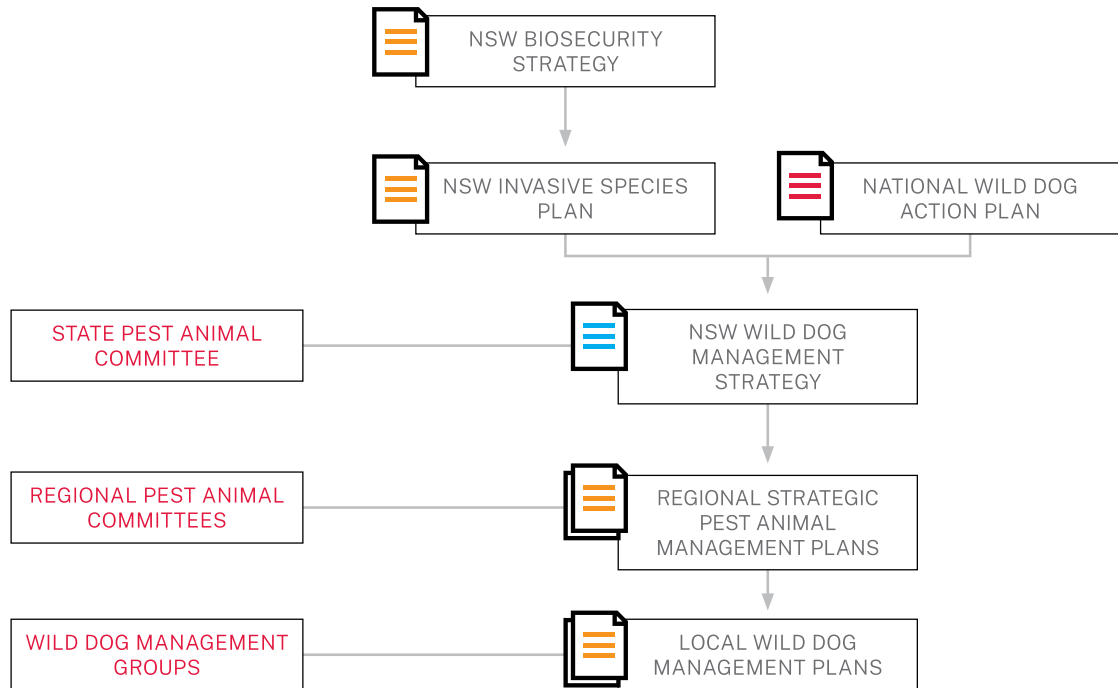


Figure 3: Governance and guiding documents affecting wild dog management in NSW

4. Goals of the NSW Wild Dog Management Strategy

Goal 1: Provide leadership and coordination

Key deliverables	Responsibility (lead agency identified in bold text where appropriate)	Timeframe
OUTCOME 1.1 Wild dog management is underpinned by a responsive and consistent policy framework		
STRATEGY 1.1.1 Ensure regulations, policies and procedures under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> support wild dog management		
Review and revise <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> regulations, policies and procedures as required	DPI, SPAC	Ongoing
Review and update RSPAMPs as required	LLS, RPACs, SPAC	Mid-term review in 2021; end-of-term review in 2023
OUTCOME 1.2 Proactive development and promotion of environmentally, economically and socially acceptable wild dog management approaches		
STRATEGY 1.2.1 Active discussion of social and political wild dog management issues		
Provision of a regular forum to enable the discussion and resolution of issues and identification of policy, training and research needs	SPAC	Ongoing
STRATEGY 1.2.2 Conservation of dingoes		
RSPAMPs and WDMPs focus control on areas where the risk of negative impacts are greatest rather than across entire area of wild dog distribution	RPACs, WDMGs	Ongoing
STRATEGY 1.2.3 Active promotion of research results to end users		
Regular updates through public and private land manager networks	All NSW land management agencies and industry groups	Ongoing

Key deliverables	Responsibility (lead agency identified in bold text where appropriate)	Timeframe
STRATEGY 1.2.4 Formalise wild dog management procedures to promote the most humane, target-specific and effective control approaches		
Develop and promote Code of Practice and Standard Operating Procedures for wild dog management	DPI, LLS, NPWS, SPAC	December 2021

OUTCOME 1.3 WDMPs are in place for all wild dog impacted areas		
STRATEGY 1.3.1 Regional oversight, coordination and promotion of wild dog management planning, implementation and evaluation		
Provide advice to industry and the general community about meeting wild dog management biosecurity obligations	DPI, LLS	Ongoing
Coordination of wild dog management planning in impacted areas according to agreed state-wide guidelines and processes	LLS, regional wild dog management facilitators	Ongoing

OUTCOME 1.4 Effective cross-jurisdictional liaison on wild dog policy, training and research		
STRATEGY 1.4.1 Active participation in NWDAP and EIC		
NSW representatives involved in NWDAP and EIC wild dog discussions	NSW NWDAP and EIC representatives	Ongoing
STRATEGY 1.4.2 Maintain communication and engagement with wild dog fence maintenance agencies nationally		
Update SPAC on national wild dog fence activities	Border Fence Maintenance Board , National Wild Dog Facilitator as required	As required
Facilitate cross-jurisdiction wild dog fence meetings to discuss common issues	Border Fence Maintenance Board , National Wild Dog Facilitator as required	As required

Goal 2: Increase awareness, understanding and capacity

Key deliverables	Responsibility (lead agency identified in bold text where appropriate)	Timeframe
OUTCOME 2.1 Improved adoption of best practice wild dog management		
STRATEGY 2.1.1 Communicate best practice management to stakeholders		
Use government and industry communication avenues to promote best practice wild dog management	DPI, LLS, NPWS, RPACs	Ongoing
STRATEGY 2.1.2 Maintain extension materials		
Identify and address gaps in extension materials	DPI, LLS, NPWS, RPACs	Ongoing
Maintain currency of existing materials	DPI, LLS, NPWS, RPACs	Ongoing
STRATEGY 2.1.3 Support development and delivery of nationally recognised qualifications		
Maintain NSW training capacity (e.g. Total Vertebrate Pest Management course)	DPI, LLS, NPWS	Ongoing
STRATEGY 2.1.4 Support applied training in monitoring and control techniques		
Continually review and revise Total Vertebrate Pest Management course materials	DPI, LLS, NPWS	Ongoing
STRATEGY 2.1.5 Support sharing of knowledge on new approaches in policy, best practice management and community engagement		
Maintain a regular NSW Vertebrate Pest Management Symposium	DPI, LLS, NPWS	Biennially
OUTCOME 2.2 Enhanced national effort to maximise the suite of monitoring and control tools and to improve management strategies		
STRATEGY 2.2.1 Maintain and increase NSW research capacity and national and international collaboration		
Improve knowledge of wild dog ecology to refine management strategies	DPI, LLS, NPWS	Ongoing
Refine existing monitoring and control techniques	DPI, LLS, NPWS	Ongoing
Develop additional monitoring and control techniques	DPI, LLS, NPWS	Ongoing

Key deliverables	Responsibility (lead agency identified in bold text where appropriate)	Timeframe
OUTCOME 2.3 Increased stakeholder engagement with, and public acceptance of, wild dog management		
STRATEGY 2.3.1 Support the implementation of the NWDAP communication strategy, particularly the need for wild dog management and the regulation of management activities		
Specific deliverables to be identified over the life of the NWDAP	NSW NWDAP representatives	Ongoing

Goal 3: Enhance Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement (MERI)

Key deliverables	Responsibility (lead agency identified in bold text where appropriate)	Timeframe
OUTCOME 3.1 More consistent WDMPs		
STRATEGY 3.1.1 Promote adoption of more formal and consistent WDMPs across NSW		
Consistent WDMP template used throughout NSW	LLS, WDMGs	Ongoing
STRATEGY 3.1.2 Ensure standard metrics are used in WDMPs		
Include standard core metrics in all new/revised WDMPs	LLS, WDMGs	Ongoing
OUTCOME 3.2 Improved capacity to audit and benchmark wild dog management activities at regional and state levels		
STRATEGY 3.2.1 Compile NSW WDMPs		
LLS ensures WDMPs are available to DPI, for analysis as required	LLS	February each year
STRATEGY 3.2.2 Maintain spatial database of NSW wild dog planning areas		
WDMP boundaries are made available via BioMap	LLS, DPI	Ongoing
STRATEGY 3.2.3 Ensure high quality data is stored centrally and available for analysis		
Wild dog predation, observation and poison data is recorded in an agreed statewide central database	LLS	Ongoing
Oversee quality of wild dog data stored and make accessible to DPI for analysis as required	LLS	Ongoing

Key deliverables	Responsibility (lead agency identified in bold text where appropriate)	Timeframe
OUTCOME 3.3 Greater transparency and consistency in how wild dog management in NSW is planned, implemented and monitored		
STRATEGY 3.3.1 Develop a wild dog management activities reporting system		
Improved data capture systems across agencies that can provide data on planning and management as required	DPI, LLS, NPWS	By December 2022
STRATEGY 3.3.2 Provide ongoing feedback to encourage regular and consistent monitoring and reporting against WDMPs		
Provide wild dog planning and management data to state, regional and local levels	DPI, LLS	Ongoing

APPENDIX 1: Key legislation influencing wild dog management in NSW

BIOSECURITY ACT 2015 (NSW)

Under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (NSW), the negative impacts of wild dogs will be primarily managed through the general biosecurity duty. The general biosecurity duty requires any person dealing with biosecurity matter (such as wild dogs), and who knows or ought to know of the biosecurity risks posed by that biosecurity matter, to take measures to prevent, minimise or eliminate the risk as far as is reasonably practicable. The occupier of lands (both private and public) is required to take all practical measures to minimise the risk of any negative impacts of wild dogs on their land or neighbouring lands. The occupier could discharge their general biosecurity duty by complying with control actions outlined in a WDMP and the overarching guidance provided by RSPAMPs.

BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT 2016 (NSW)

Schedule 5 of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* identifies that native amphibians, birds, mammals and reptiles are classified as protected animals, but dingoes are specifically excluded from this classification.

NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE ACT 1974 (NSW)

Under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*, NPWS is responsible for conserving nature and cultural heritage in all areas of the National Parks estate and the broader landscape within the state. The National Parks and Wildlife Act also states that management of land reserved under the Act should consider the social and economic context of the reserve to ensure pest management programs are coordinated across different tenures.

One of the conditions of the Act is that no animals may be harmed on National Parks estate without authorisation and this includes wild dogs. Authorisation to harm wild dogs may be granted under Section 171 of the Act where it is necessary to mitigate their impacts.

WILD DOG DESTRUCTION ACT 1921 (NSW)

The *Biosecurity Act 2015* (NSW) has repealed parts of the *Wild Dog Destruction Act 1921* relating to destruction of wild dogs and has renamed that Act to the *Border Fence Maintenance Act 1921* to more accurately describe its major purpose.

PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS ACT 1979 (NSW)

The Act requires people to treat animals in a humane manner and establishes offences of cruelty upon an animal and requires notification of injuries.

COMPANION ANIMALS ACT 1998 (NSW)

The *Companion Animals Act 1998* is designed to identify and register companion animals, including domestic dogs, and to describe the duties and responsibilities of their owners. In NSW, no permit is required to keep dingoes or dingo-hybrids. If dogs are not owned, they are assumed to be wild dogs and managed under the provisions of the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (NSW).

AGRICULTURAL AND VETERINARY CHEMICALS CODE ACT 1994 (CTH)

The Act provides for the evaluation, registration and control of agricultural and veterinary chemicals.

PESTICIDES ACT 1999 (NSW)

The focus of the *Pesticides Act 1999* is to protect health, the environment, property and trade while ensuring responsible pesticide use.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

1080: Sodium monofluoroacetate

CISS: Centre for Invasive Species Solutions

DPI: Department of Primary Industries (NSW)

EIC: Environment and Invasives Committee

LLS: Local Land Services

NPWS: National Parks and Wildlife Service (NSW)

NWDAP: National Wild Dog Action Plan

RPAC: Regional Pest Animal Committee

RSPAMP: Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plan

RSPCA: Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (NSW)

SPAC: State Pest Animal Committee

VPRU: Vertebrate Pest Research Unit

WDMG: Wild Dog Management Group

WDMP: Wild Dog Management Plan

Definitions

Across-tenure planning process — A process where wild dog (or other invasive species) control is planned and applied across all land tenures by all stakeholders at a 'landscape' rather than 'property' scale in a cooperative and coordinated manner. This process is also known as nil-tenure planning or cross-tenure planning.

Dingoes — *Canis familiaris*. An ancient breed of dog originating from south-east Asia. Dingoes were imported to Australia about 4000 years ago and are considered native under the *Australian Government Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Domestic dogs — *Canis familiaris*. A dog kept in compliance with the *Companion Animals Act 1998*.

Feral dogs — Formerly domestic dogs (and their descendants) that have escaped from domestication and returned, partly or wholly, to a wild state.

General biosecurity duty — The general biosecurity duty is described in Part 3 of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*. Specifically, section 22 of the Act provides: *Any person who deals with biosecurity matter or a carrier and who knows, or ought reasonably to know, the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by the biosecurity matter, carrier or dealing has a biosecurity duty to ensure that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised.* [Wild dogs are considered to be 'biosecurity matter' that pose a 'biosecurity risk' in some situations]

Peri-urban — Landscapes that combine urban and rural activities. These areas often contain a mixture of land uses including suburban, rural residential and small to medium agricultural holdings.

Wild dogs — All wild-living dogs (*Canis familiaris*), including dingoes and their hybrids, and free-living modern dogs but excluding any dog kept in accordance with the *Companion Animals Act 1998*, the *Exhibited Animals Protection Act 1986* and the *Animal Research Act 1985* or any other legislation made in replacement of any of those Acts.

Wild Dog Management Group — A group that may include public and private landholders or land managers within a well-defined area for whom wild dogs pose problems and for which a coordinated management effort is being made by the group.

Wild Dog Management Plan — A documented strategic approach for the management of wild dogs. Wild Dog Management Plans generally aim to reduce the impact of wild dogs in the vicinity of the asset of concern, e.g. a livestock enterprise.

Zoonoses — diseases that can be transmitted from animals to humans.

