



Community Engagement Program

Berrigan Shire 2027

17 October – 18 November 2016

Where are we now?

Where do we want to be in 10 years?



What is a Community Strategic Plan ?

The Council is working toward the development of a new **10 year Community Strategic Plan**. This plan is the Plan used by the NSW Councils to inform a Council's 4-year Delivery Program, its 10 year Resourcing Strategy and its Annual Operational Plans

The Community Strategic Plan asks

Where are we now?

Where do we want to be in 10 years times?

How will we get there?

The current Community Strategic Plan is Berrigan Shire 2023. Its 10 year vision for the Berrigan Shire is

In 2023 we will be recognised as Shire that builds on and promotes our natural assets and advantages to create employment and economic activity to attract residents, families and tourists.

How to use this Program

at a Street Stall ...

use the sticky notes to make a comment , or discuss your thoughts with Councillors and complete the survey

Online...

Comment online (Council's Facebook) and or complete the online survey

At your business, school, sport or service club

Start a conversation with a colleague, friend, Councillor or Council staff member – as a group complete the online survey, prepare a submission and email feedback@berriganshire.nsw.gov.au

or post to the Council, 56 Chanter Street, Berrigan NSW 2712 by 18 November 2016

Looking back ...

In 2011, 70 local residents, businesses, service clubs and representatives from government agencies and other service providers met and discussed, online survey findings, the preferred futures of our towns, and information about the environmental, social and economic health of our communities. Identifying, as part of the development of Berrigan Shire 2023, the following challenges:

- Attracting new business and investment
- Demands of an ageing population on health and social services
- Higher than regional, state dependency ratio's i.e: population not in the workforce
- Young people and families leaving our communities
- The age of our volunteers
- Increasing cost of maintaining and improving our network of roads



Berrigan Shire in 2011

Population	8591
Area	2066 km ²
Median Age	45 yrs
Lived at another address 5 years ago	42% residents
No. of employed persons (2010)	3968
Average taxable income 07/08	\$40,719
% Pop15+ yrs post-school qualifications	32%
GV Main Industry (Agriculture) June 2010	\$137 million
Net Business Entries and Exits 2009/10	-51
Internet occupied dwellings (Berrigan Shire) Shire	50.8%
Internet occupied dwellings (Murray Region)	54.8%
SEIFA Relative Advantage/Disadvantage	938
Household Size	2.1
Registered Cars per 1,000 pop	504

Preferred Futures of our Towns

Berrigan

The area's heritage, traditions and customs will be largely maintained
Transport connections between here and other places will be faster and or busier
We will be noticeably affected by new technologies / technological change

Tocumwal

Families with young children will want to live in or come to the area
Tourists will go out of their way to come to the area
Transport connections between here and other places will be faster and or busier

Barooga

There will be more business owned and run by local people
People will be more concerned about their health and wellbeing
The future of the area is likely to be a residential one

Finley

Families with young children will want to live in or come to the area
People will be more concerned about their health and wellbeing
The area will be a service centre for the region as a whole

Drivers of Change

Outside the direct control or influence of local communities include:

- The impact of technology upon business and competitiveness
e.g.: change in agricultural practice
- Policy – e.g.: Change in how we use or can use natural resources
- Population decline / growth
- Drought/Flood/Natural Events
- Regionalism



Berrigan Shire Today

- ✓ Population growth has remained steady
- ✓ The median age of residents continues to increase from 45 years of age to 48 years of age
- ✓ The percentage of the population with post-secondary qualifications has increased from 32% to 34%.
- ✓ Water policy is still of critical importance to long-term well being
- ✓ Rural districts are connected to satellite broadband
- ✓ Aged care industry continues to grow and expand
- ✓ Young families living in the Shire are generating demand for more child care places, and an extension of the Council's early intervention services
- ✓ Technology has changed how we live, conduct business, and communicate with family and friends.
- ✓ Council now communicates and responds to customer requests via its twitter and Facebook accounts



2016	
Population (2016 forecast based on 2011 Census)	8501
Area	2066 km ²
Median Age	48 yrs
Lived at another address 5 years ago	38%
No. of employed persons	3,571
Average taxable income 10/11	\$44,681
% Pop15+ yrs post-school qualifications	34%
GV Main Industry (Agriculture) June 2010	\$137 million
Net Business Entries and Exits	N/A
SEIFA Relative Advantage/Disadvantage	938
Dwellings with internet connection	65%
Household Size	2.1
Number of registered motor vehicles	3,245



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Berrigan Shire 2023 & Council Operations

CSP Strategic Outcome	CSP Strategic Objective	Council Activities and Services
1. Sustainable Natural and Built Landscapes	1.1 Support sustainable use of our natural resources and built landscapes 1.2 Retain the diversity and preserve the health of our natural landscapes and wildlife 1.3 Connect and protect our communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storm water • Council roads, paths, levees • Land use planning and development • Waste • Weed Control
2. Good Government	2.1 <i>Berrigan Shire 2023</i> objectives and strategies inform Council planning and community led projects 2.2 Ensure effective governance by Council of Council operations and reporting 2.3 Strengthen strategic relationships and partnerships with community, business and government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council governance • Strategic planning • Enterprise risk management • Plant and business operations
3. Supported and Engaged Communities	3.1 Create safe, friendly and accessible communities 3.2 Support community engagement through life-long learning, culture and recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Libraries and community services • Parks, reserves, recreation facilities • Cemeteries • Water and sewerage treatment • Social planning • Environmental health • Animal Control • Emergency Services
4. Diverse and Resilient Business	4.1 Invest in local job creation, retention and innovation 4.2 Strong and diverse local economy 4.3 Diversify and promote local tourism 4.4 Connect local, regional and national road, rail and aviation infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business and economic development • Tocumwal Aerodrome • Tourism and events promotion • Sale yards • Quarries • Caravan Parks



Berrigan Shire 2023: Sustainable natural and built landscapes Report Card

<i>What the Council & the community said it would or could do?</i>	In the past 4 years
Reduce, reuse & recycle organic and domestic waste	The Council through its recycling program has diverted 2,960 tonnes of waste from landfill.
Use energy and water efficiently	The Council and its Committees have installed 448 solar panels generating during daylight hours approximately 114 kilowatts of electricity per day.
Plant more trees	The Council spent \$20,000 on re-seeding and re-vegetation projects across 11 hectares.
	The Council planted 225 street trees.
Maintain nature strips & private reserves	<p>The Council mowed 2,621ha hectares of open space – the equivalent of mowing the MCG 1,092 times.</p> <p>The Council has slashed on its roadsides the equivalent of 10,168 hectares.</p>
Volunteer LLS projects	The Council with Local Land Services undertook environmental projects e.g.: Native Dog Swamp Project and Roadside Re-seeding Projects.



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Berrigan Shire 2023: Good Government Report Card

<i>What Council & the community said it would or could do?</i>	In the past 4 years
Implementation of Integrated Management System	The Council implemented its integrated management system receiving a \$102,056 rebate from its insurers.
Engaging communities in <i>Berrigan Shire</i> 2023 projects & initiatives	<p>The Council engaged Nexus Consulting to conduct a Telephone Survey rating the Satisfaction of 350 Residents and 101 Local Business.</p> <p>Results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 78% of surveyed residents rated their satisfaction with Council services as 5 or higher. • 90% of surveyed business rated their satisfaction with Council services as 5 or higher. <p>The Council developed 6 new Strategies integrated these with <i>Berrigan Shire</i> 2023. In the development of these strategies it considered 774 responses from residents, local business and other agencies obtained through surveys, street stalls, public meetings and or focus groups.</p>





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Berrigan Shire 2023: Good Government Report Card

<i>What Council & the community said it would or could do?</i>	In the past 4 years
Engaging communities in <i>Berrigan Shire</i> 2023 projects & initiatives	The Council has partnered with 18 volunteer Committees of Management in the management of community infrastructure and facilities.
Participating in region & cross border forums and initiatives	The Council through its participation in regional initiatives and competitive grant programs attracted additional funding. \$ 2.6 million for Roads \$ 1.1 million for Community facilities



1250 NEW TAIPEI CITY 2016
INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S GAMES 50th

Berrigan
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Berrigan Shire 2023: Supported & Engaged Communities Report Card

<i>What Council & the community said it would or could do?</i>	In the past 4 years
Promote and support events	<p>39 community development events were hosted by the Council e.g.: International Women’s Day, Youth Week, Children’s Week, Senior’s Week and Men’s Health Week.</p> <p>36 community organizations, local schools, businesses or service clubs partnered with the Council sponsoring and supporting community development events hosted by the Council.</p> <p>Over 4,000 people participated in Council Community Events.</p>
Planning for an ageing population	<p>\$326,085 has been spent improving pedestrian mobility and access in our towns</p>
Water & Public Health	<p>residents used 1 Gigalitre of treated water the equivalent of 1,000 Olympic Sized Swimming Pools.</p>

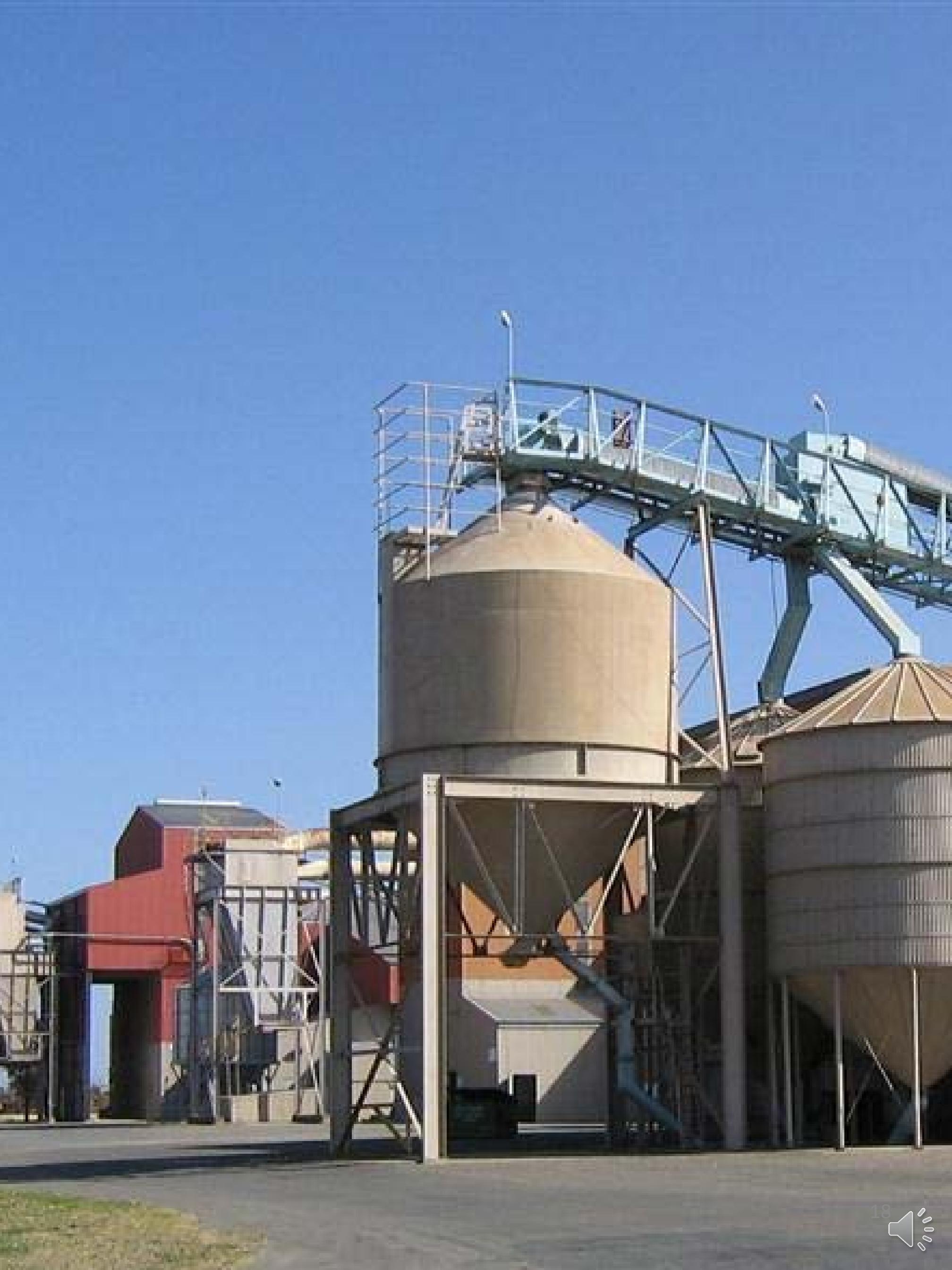
Berrigan Shire 2023: Supported & Engaged Communities Report Card

<i>What Council & the community said it would or could do?</i>	In the past 4 years
<p>Be a volunteer</p> <p>Look out for each other</p> <p>Welcome new residents</p>	<p>29.5% of the Shire’s residents over 15 years of age or 1,969 people – regularly volunteered compared to the New South Wales state percentage of 17% of residents aged 15 years and over.</p> <p>The economic value of volunteerism is estimated to be in excess of \$5.5 million per annum.</p> <p>Annual welcome BBQs / Events in Berrigan and Finley were hosted by the BDDA and Finley Soroptmist Club</p>
<p>Use a park</p>	<p>Approximately 402,000 people visited sports grounds and Reserves managed by Council or Council Committees of Management.</p> <p>30 sporting clubs and user groups regularly use Council recreation reserves.</p>

Berrigan Shire 2023: Supported & Engaged Communities Report Card

<i>What Council & the community said it would or could do?</i>	In the past 4 years ...
Join a club	The Council published a community directory identifying volunteer opportunities and local clubs in the wider district / region.
Initiate or support a Town Plan Project	<p>18 Town Plan projects were completed by service clubs, volunteers and community groups these included:</p> <p>Barooga – Establishment and publication of community newsletter – Barooga Bulletin and the continued success of Carols by Candlelight.</p> <p>Berrigan – Installation of heritage plaques and continued growth of the Berrigan Men’s Shed.</p> <p>Finley – Establishment and ongoing success of the Finley Farmers Market.</p> <p>Tocumwal – The redevelopment of Visitor Information Centre, and the Annual Big Breakfast.</p>





Berrigan Shire 2023: Diverse and resilient business Report Card

<i>What Council & the community said it would or could do?</i>	In the past 4 years
Strategic Investment	The Council's investment of \$342,423 from its Economic Development Reserve generated an additional 6 local jobs.
Renewal of Economic Assets	<p>The Council paid \$342,423 from its Economic Development Reserve Fund to develop for sale lots of land at the Tocumwal Airpark.</p> <p>The Council sold all lots developed and in doing recouped its investment returning funds to its Economic Development Reserve.</p>
Economic Development Initiatives	15 Industry Development Projects were undertaken involving 149 participants.
Engagement with Local Business	The Council has partnered with local Chambers of Commerce on 3 projects. 56 businesses and or business personnel have been recognised through Councils Annual Business Awards.





Berrigan Shire 2023: Diverse and resilient business Report Card

<i>What Council & the community said it would or could do?</i>	In the past 4 years
Visitor and Events	<p>\$94,944 has been granted to 14 local business and community groups for tourism related events</p> <p>Event program funding has generated 14.4 FTE additional jobs</p> <p>an additional \$120,000 included \$56,380 for Tourism Strategy development & delivery and \$41,302 in Regional Tourism contributions</p> <p>Domestic day visitors to the region spent on average \$169 per person</p>
Regional Transport & Freight Infrastructure	<p>The Council received \$2.63 million in additional funds to widen roads and upgrade facilities used by our Agricultural Industry with additional funds provided by the Council (\$870,000) generated 6 FTE jobs during the year of construction and 20 ongoing local jobs due to increased activity in the facilities served and servicing grain handling facilities.</p>

Opportunities & Threats Berrigan Shire 2023

Opportunities

National trends micro business and online business models – increase local business and ownership
 National Broadband Network – technology
 National Freight Strategy – Newell Highway, Tocumwal Rail Terminal
 Value add and promote innovation / product and processes in current industries
 Greater Melbourne – northern growth corridor – attract tree changers wanting safe, clean and green family oriented communities
 Population growth through attraction of immigrant families
 Growth of Victorian provincial centres
 Pedestrian Access and Tourism Development Murray
 River – Barooga/Tocumwal Boardwalk
 Sport / Active Recreation Tourism
 The Barmah-Millewa National Park
 Online marketing and promotional activities – Buy local - investment
 Promotional initiatives with partner organizations
 Improved packaging of products and experiences
 Tocumwal Aerodrome

Threats

Fewer families and children impact upon retention of current services and facilities
 Perceptions of drought and lack of water in the Murray
 impact re: attraction of business
 Credit squeeze and barriers to finance business/
 Personal/ housing impact upon capital value of property - business
 Impact of growth in Victorian provincial centres upon
 Local business / capacity to attract investment
 Policy driven water insecurity and impact irrigated
 agriculture, open space passive and active recreation
 water based tourism
 Creation of Barmah-Millewa National Park and legal
 Issues related to development and public access
 Change in government policy driven by urban priorities
 Lack of community and industry engagement with
 Strategic planning: social, economic and environmental
 Lack of coordination in tourism across the Shire
 Achieving buy-in from tourism stakeholders for cross-promoting the Murray region
 Competition between towns and communities
 Reliance on provision of Victorian health services



Select Top 3 Preferred Futures for your town

Business	Retail	Community	Culture	Transport	Open Spaces	Housing
Major firms will be drawn to the area	There will be no change in the number of independent shops and restaurants	People will be more concerned about their health and wellbeing	Tourists will go out of their way to come to the area	People will make more journeys on foot or by bike	Open space will be managed by the community, less by the council	Most people who live here now will still be living here
The area will be known for the high foot traffic it generates	Shops here will offer goods that are unavailable elsewhere in the region	More people will be volunteering to work on long-term Committees of Management	Young people will come into contact with a wider range of cultural and recreational experiences	Transport connections between here and other places will be faster and or busier	The foreshore's streets and adjacent open spaces will be busy at all times of day seven days a week	There will be a high level of spending on social housing
There will be more business owned and run by local people	Most of the major chains will have a branch in the area	People will be less involved in things that don't directly concern them and their family	This is likely remain a very quiet place during the week	People will get around less by public transport	There will be less green space on the foreshore as more facilities are built for visitors and locals	Families with young children will want to live in or come to the area
Young people who want a high powered career and family will be attracted to live and work in Tocomwal	Shopping here will be more about leisure than about every day need	There will be less public funding of community activities / facilities	More artists and creatives will be drawn to the area	People will get around more by public transport	The foreshore and adjacent open spaces will have clearly identifiable outdoor gathering places	There will be more properties available than there are people to live in them
The area will have a 24 hour economy	People will view the area as an evening/night time destination	Community members will organise a wider range of community activities	We will spend less money on art and culture	More people will commute out of the area for work	People will spend more time outdoors than they do now	More affluent people will move to the area
There will be a job of some kind for everyone in the area	There will be a wide range of restaurants, cafes and food outlets	People of different cultures and backgrounds will encounter each other on an everyday basis	We will spend more money on art and culture	More people will commute into the area for work	Locals will spend less time outdoors enjoying the foreshore, the river and adjacent open space than they do now	Much of the current housing stock will disappear
The area will be a major service centre for the region as a whole	More people will come to the area to shop	There will be more of a focus on leisure, less on work	The area's connection to early history and heritage of will be lost	There will be more cars in the streets	We will be more aware of nature and or/ wildlife	The future of the area is likely to be a residential one

Comments

Are we on track?

What opportunities or threats do you see?

What is the preferred future for your town?

Other comments

email feedback@berriganshire.nsw.gov.au

or post to the Council, 56 Chanter Street, Berrigan NSW 2712 by 18 November 2016 for more information contact Jo Ruffin Strategic and Social Planning Coordinator

by phoning: 03 885100