



Delivery Program Progress Report

January – June 2018

Cover Page:
Oran Park Library

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Every reasonable effort has been made to ensure that this document is correct at the time of publishing.

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Acknowledgement to Country

Council acknowledges the Dharawal people as the traditional custodians of this land and pays our respect to their Elders both past and present and the Aboriginal community.

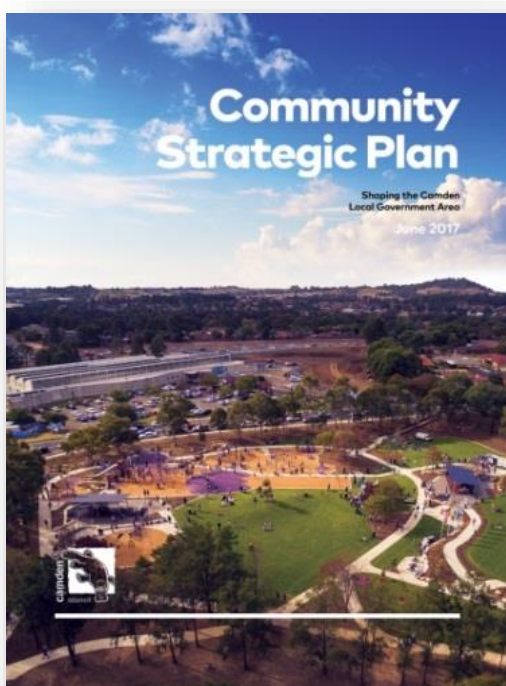
1. Council's Obligations

All councils across NSW commenced implementing the Integrated Planning and Reporting (IPR) framework from 2013. This framework allows councils to draw various plans together and plan holistically for the future.

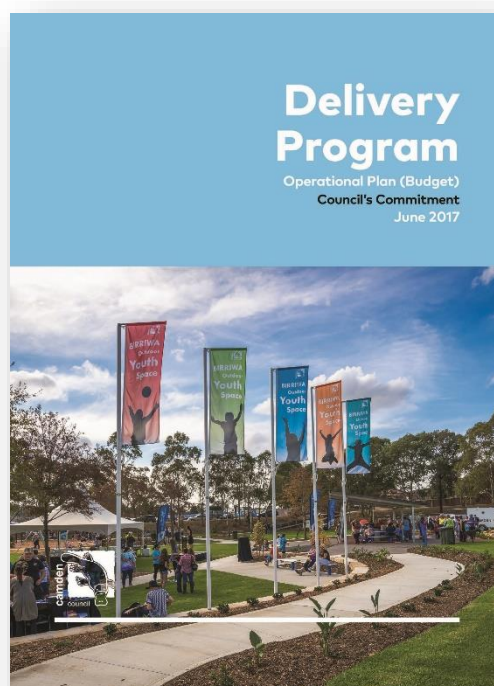
In accordance with the IPR framework, all councils are required to develop a Community Strategic Plan. The Community Strategic Plan provides a clear direction for the long-term community vision and is underpinned by the Delivery Program, Operational Plan (Budget) and Resourcing Strategy. Council reviews and develops the Community Strategic Plan, followed by preparation of Council's four-year Delivery Program and determines appropriate methods to measure its progress.

The Delivery Program turns the strategies and objectives of the Community Strategic Plan into principal activities and identifies actions that Council commits to undertake over the next four years.

To help maintain focus for Council and provide feedback to the community, Council is required to prepare a six-monthly progress status on the adopted four-year Delivery Program. In accordance with the [IPR framework](#), Camden Council has prepared, and adopted in June 2017, the following documents:



[Community Strategic Plan](#)



[Delivery Program and Operational Plan \(Budget\)](#)

A suite of documents relating to the [IPR framework](#), are available on Council's website

www.camden.nsw.gov.au

Camden Council actively monitors its progress in achieving the objectives stated in the Community Strategic Plan through the implementation of the Delivery Program under six Key Directions.

These six Key Directions are aligned with the four elements of the quadruple bottom line - Social, Environmental, Economic and Civic Leadership. The six Key Directions are:

1. Actively Managing Camden LGA's Growth
2. Healthy Urban and Natural Environment
3. A Prosperous Economy
4. Effective and Sustainable Transport
5. An Enriched and Connected Community
6. Strong Local Leadership

Council has 30 Local Services to assist in addressing the Key Directions with specific principal activities against the Community Strategic Plan's strategies.





2. Executive Summary

This Delivery Program Progress Report January to June 2018, is the second report cycle on the adopted four-year Delivery Program 2017/18 – 2020/21 for this Council term.

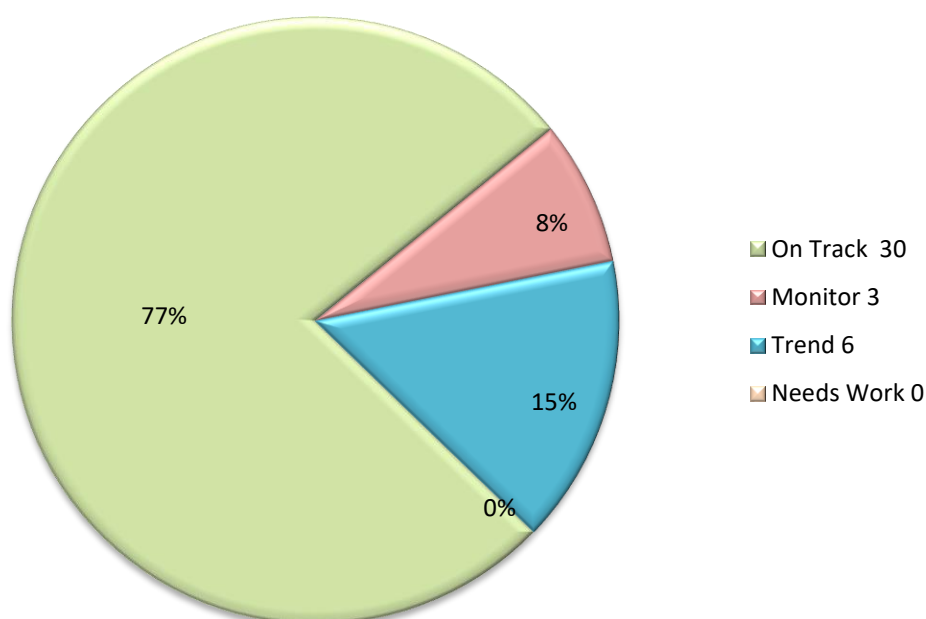
The report reflects Council’s six-month progress status against 39 performance indicators and provides information on how Council is progressing with its Delivery Program.

Each Key Direction has a set of individual performance indicators. Council utilises a rating scale to ensure consistency, accountability and transparency, when assessing the status of each performance indicator under the six Key Directions and associated symbol descriptors. The rating scale is:





Table 1

Rating Scale	Symbol	Description
• “On Track”		When the ‘actual’ is either equal, less or greater than the set target.
• “Monitoring”		Corporate variance of $\pm 10\%$ applies to the set target and is considered achievable, feasible and realistic for performance improvement, with the exception of Legislative requirements.
• “Needs Work”		When the ‘actual’ is either below or above the corporate variance
• “Trend”		Shows a pattern of change data over time where setting a target is not possible

Below is the six-monthly progress summary of Council’s overall performance for the January to June 2018 reporting period against 39 Performance Indicators.



The table below provides a status update on the performance indicators under each Key Direction.

Key Direction	No. of Performance Indicators	Status			
		On Track 	Monitoring 	Needs Work 	Trend 
Actively Managing Camden LGA's Growth	4	4	0	0	0
Healthy Urban and Natural Environment	12	7	2	0	3
A Prosperous Economy	3	1	0	0	2
Effective and Sustainable Transport	5	4	1	0	0
An Enriched and Connected Community	8	8	0	0	0
Strong Local Leadership	7	6	0	0	1
TOTALS	39	30	3	0	6

In brief of the 39 Performance Indicators, 30 Indicators (77%) were assessed as 'On Track'; 0 Indicator (0%) as 'Needs Work'; 6 Indicators (15%) as 'Trend' and there were 3 Indicators (8%) as 'Monitoring'. In other words, 30 of the 39 performance indicators (77%) were assessed as 'On Track'.

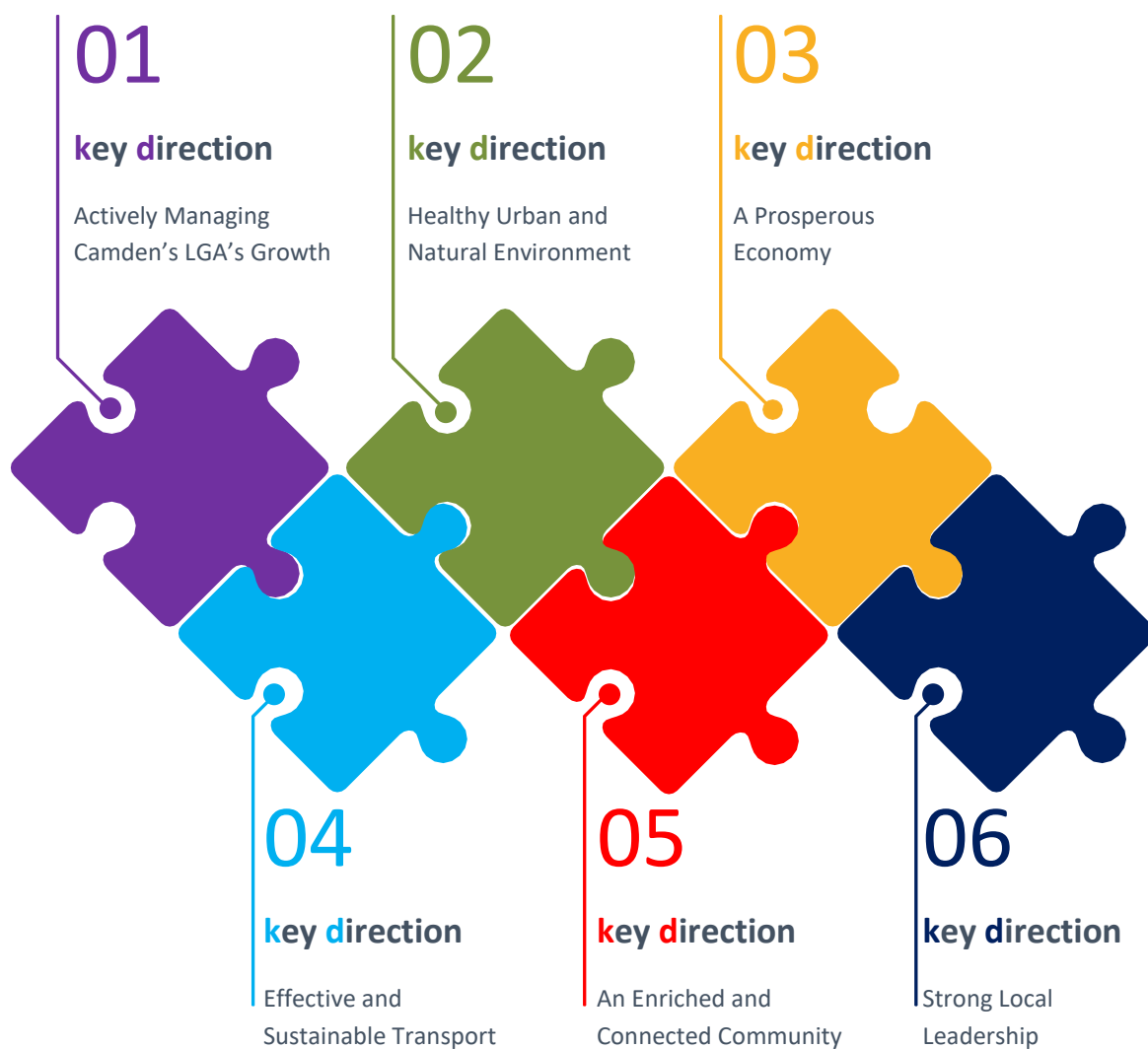
Section 3, 'Key Directions and Performance Indicator Status', provides progress comments and the status of each performance indicator along with an explanation of each Key Direction.

Section 4, 'Overall Progress Highlights' elaborates on Council activities, under 30 local services, in supporting the Community Strategic Plan, and provides supplementary information on some of the key highlights during this reporting period (January – June 2018).

3. Key Directions and Performance Indicator Status

This section provides a narrative on outcomes that supports the Community Strategic Plan under each Key Direction and associated Objectives. It provides progress comments and the status of each performance indicator along with an explanation of each Key Direction.

The diagram below shows the six Key Directions.





Key Direction 1 – Actively Managing Camden LGA’s Growth

Effectively managing growth, determined under the State Government’s Metropolitan Strategy and Western City District Plan (former South West District Plan), will be an important focus area for Council and its various partners.

The community of the Camden LGA does not want to lose the character that they so highly value - its rural setting, country town feel, and the lifestyle associated with these attributes, at the same time it must cater for well-managed development. Achieving a balance between large population increases and keeping the valued heritage/rural characteristics of the Camden LGA, will be an ongoing challenge with significant new opportunities in terms of infrastructure, services, employment, housing choices and economic benefit.




The community would like to see public transport, roads, infrastructure, parks and recreational facilities, and the effective management of development as major priorities for the Camden LGA.

1.1 Urban development is managed effectively

Performance Indicator	Status	Progress Comment
Development assessments are completed in a timely fashion	✓	The median processing time (34 days) was well within the target service level of 40 days. Council determined DA’s to the value of \$766,189,889 during this six-month period.
Construction certificates are provided in a timely fashion	✓	Construction Certificate processing timeframes continue to exceed target service levels despite ongoing growth in this area. This result reflects the strong performance across the range of Certification Services provided by Council.
Developers Contribution Plans are developed and monitored in a timely manner	✓	Two Works-In-Kind Agreements have been executed. IPART has finalised its assessment of the Camden Growth Areas Contributions Plan and have forwarded the Plan to the DPE for review. The Contributions Plan Review project and the monitoring of s7.11 (formerly s94) plans and Voluntary Planning Agreements is ongoing.

1.2 Rural land is adequately administered

Performance Indicator	Status	Progress Comment
Rural Lands Strategy and associated Action Plan are delivered		<p>Information on Rural Living has now been included on Council’s website, this information addresses the action in the strategy to prepare educational material for the community about land use conflicts.</p> <p>Council have been actively advocating to protect rural lands as part of our objection to the proposed location of the M9 Orbital. This ongoing advocacy supports Principle 1 Protect Camden's Remaining Rural Lands.</p>

 On Track	4	 Needs Work	0	 Monitoring	0	 Trend	0
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Key Direction 2 – Healthy Urban and Natural Environments







The Camden LGA’s natural and built environment are the “setting” for all aspects of life and are essential for sustaining the health, well-being and prosperity of people who live here.




The natural environment encompasses all living and non-living things, occurring both naturally, and as a result of human activities. The built or urban environment is the human-made surroundings that provide the physical setting for human activity and enables private, economic and community life to function effectively and healthy.







2.1 Caring for urban and natural environment including heritage sites

Performance Indicator	Status	Progress Comment
Waste diverted from landfill		Council is progressing toward the Environmental Protection Authority target of 75% of waste being diverted from landfill by 2021/22.
Incidents of illegal dumping (observed by Council Officer)		<p>A total of 216 incidents (36 per month) of illegal dumping on public land were identified and investigated as a result of proactive patrol services. A slight rise from the previous reporting period (July to December 2017), which can be attributed to the rapid growth and development within the LGA.</p> <p>Council proactively and reactively addresses instances of illegal dumping and takes compliance action against identified offenders.</p> <p>Council continues to undertake a number of educational initiatives around illegal dumping including education and Builders BBQ's.</p>
Incidents of illegal dumping (advice from residents)		<p>Council investigated a total of 337 illegal dumping incidents (56 reports per month) as advised by residents.</p> <p>This is a good result and indicates that residents continue to take an active role in reporting incidents of illegal dumping to Council.</p>

Performance Indicator	Status	Progress Comment
Companion animals are appropriately identified		<p>106 dogs impounded with 71 microchipped - 67%. 46 cats impounded with 8 microchipped - 17%. Council returned 58 dogs to their owners instead of impounding.</p> <p>To assist in improving microchipping and registration rates, Council continues to run an extensive Companion Animal education program including school visits, advertising campaigns and promotion at local events. As a result of Council's free microchipping program, 110 companion animals were microchipped.</p>
Monitor water quality in rivers and waterways		<p>During the reporting period, lakes and waterways monitoring was undertaken across all sites on a monthly basis.</p> <p>While seasonal changes influenced results, high nutrients, in particular nitrogen, were consistently high. Blue-green algae testing during the summer months were also indicating a high growth of algae in the lakes.</p> <p>Recycled water delivered at two Council reserves was monitored in accordance with the Recycled Water Management Plan.</p>
Number of initiatives promoted to reduce air pollution		<p>During the winter months, Council completed 100% of its initiatives to promote better practices for wood heater operations to help reduce air pollution through local media, Council's website and educational programs.</p>
Number of complaints received regarding noise concerns		<p>There were a total of 136 complaints received in the last six-months; this is an increase over the 115 received for the previous period July to December 2017.</p> <p>These complaints include those relating to barking dogs and noise due to amplified music and other sources. All complaints were investigated with appropriate compliance action taken.</p>
Increase number of public amenities, recreation facilities, open space and parks		<p>Across the Camden LGA there are 106 playgrounds, 19 sports fields, 279 reserves and 42 amenities.</p> <p>Works are progressing on the new sports fields and amenities at Gregory Hills and the new playground in Bandara Circuit, Spring Farm.</p>
Bushland under active management – number of volunteer bush care hours		<p>Volunteers undertook 488 hours of bush care in the reporting period, equating to 69 days (based on a seven hour working day). Preparation is underway for National Tree Day 2018.</p>

Performance Indicator	Status	Progress Comment
Maintain biodiversity across Camden LGA		<p>During the reporting period, Council actively maintained 50ha of natural areas.</p> <p>Referral responses were provided for development applications. Biodiversity Certification was gazetted for El Caballo Blanco and Gledswood Hills.</p>
Number of Sustainability community education programs conducted		<p>During the reporting period Council's scheduled sustainability education programs continued to be on target and implemented. This includes the Amazing Sustainability Race at Camden Show and planning for the Threatened Species Art and Writing Competition and Macarthur Nature Photography Competition.</p>
Number of community education activities conducted to promote heritage and historical sites across the Camden LGA		<p>On 12 June 2018, Council established a Heritage Advisory Committee with membership consisting of Councillors and members of the community. The Committee's purpose is to help inform strategic heritage directions and community education around the importance of Camden's heritage to our unique identity.</p> <p>In addition, during the reporting period Council finalised the preparation of the draft Camden Town Centre Urban Design Framework. The preparation of the draft Framework included hosting a series of community engagement forums. The draft Framework recognises the distinct heritage character of the Camden town centre and includes a number of initiatives to retain and enhance the historical attributes of the town.</p>

 On Track	7	 Needs Work	0	 Monitoring	2	 Trend	3
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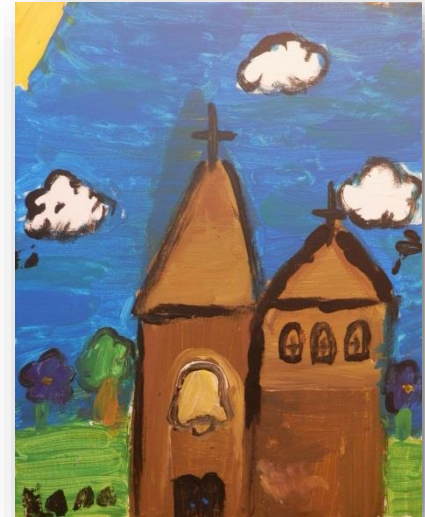
Key Direction 3 – A Prosperous Economy

Prosperity means that people have enough – that they are satisfied with their standard of living and have a balance between their financial and social well-being. Financial well-being relies on access to education, employment, housing, and a strong and diverse local economy.

A strong local economy for the Camden LGA is characterised by vibrant towns and commercial centres, thriving local businesses, stable and diverse employment opportunities, skilled local residents, infrastructure that supports economic growth, and a thriving tourist/visitor market.

The development of a strong local economy is essentially about developing an environment that supports a diversity of business and industry to invest, establish, grow and be sustainable over time.

The economic development and prosperity of the Camden LGA is linked with the broader South West Sydney region and much of the focus for the Camden LGA into the future will continue to be working with relevant partners, as well as through the Camden Regional Economic Taskforce (CRET) and the Macarthur Regional Organisation of Councils (MACROC), on the development of a strong regional economy.



3.1 Tourism and economic development is supported

Performance Indicator	Status	Progress Comment
Utilisation of the regional tourism website is increasing		Macarthur website has received 74,136 visits during this period. An increase of 1.5% on the previous reporting period.
Monitor the visitation to the Tourism Information Centre		The Visitor Information Centre has received 103 phone calls (down 23%), 73 emails (down 42%) and 1,004 walk ins (down 18%). This is due to the changing nature of Visitor Information Centres and the increased use of online information.
Increase in number of registered businesses operating within the Camden LGA		There is a total of 7,373 active and registered for GST businesses in the Camden LGA, an increase of 5.52% from the previous figure of 6,987. (Source - ABS)

On Track	1	Needs Work	0	Monitoring	0	Trend	2
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Key Direction 4 – Effective and Sustainable Transport

Effective and sustainable transport underpins all aspects of an accessible and functioning place.

Transport impacts on the health of the natural environment as well as the health and well-being of people able to connect with their community and services. It impacts on the effectiveness and amenity of the urban environment, and on the viability and growth of the local and regional economy.

An accessible Camden LGA means that people are able to travel easily within their own local area and are well connected to the wider Macarthur and metropolitan regions.





Effective and sustainable transport for the Camden LGA would include:

- affordable, convenient and integrated public transport that is a viable choice over private vehicles
- infrastructure that enables and encourages healthy forms of transport such as walking and cycling
- safe and uncongested roads
- support structures that enable public and private transport systems to operate effectively, including interchanges, traffic management and parking.

4.1 Integrated and safe transport system

Performance Indicator	Status	Progress Comment
Successful completion of Black Spot funded projects	✓	Council has successfully completed the following Black Spot funded projects - Deepfields Road intersection and Catherine Fields Road shoulder works.
Number of transport options delivered through Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan (PAMP) and Bike Plan	✓	Footpaths completed in Queen Street and Richardson Road (Narellan), Merino Drive (Elderslie) and Belgenny Avenue/Peter Avenue (Camden) as a transport option as per PAMP and Bike Plan. Further plans for associated works such as footpaths, zebra crossings, pram ramps and kerbs are progressing at Banksia Road and Welling Drive (Mount Annan), Cawdor Road, Old Hume Highway (Camden) and Doncaster Avenue, Elyard Street (Narellan).
Number of Road Education Programs conducted	✓	Over the past six-months Council has continued to coordinate and work in partnership on the following road education programs: RBT Plan B Campaign, Drive 2 Stay Alive, School Safety Program, Slow Down, Choose Right Buckle Right, Graduated Licensing Scheme Workshops, Drives for Learners In Macarthur, Community Safety Plan, Traffic Offenders Program.

4.2 Road infrastructure and transport connections are effectively established

Performance Indicator	Status	Progress Comment
Traffic Committee recommendations are actioned within the timeframe		All Traffic Committee recommendations were actioned within the set timeframes as agreed by the Committee for each discussed item. There was a total of 47 items for discussion during the six-month reporting period.
Road and traffic facility construction projects completed on-time and within budget.		The majority of projects were completed during the 2016/2017 financial year. Some projects incurred minor delays that were outside of Council's area of control.

 On Track	4	 Needs Work	0	 Monitoring	1	 Trend	0
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Key Direction 5 – An Enriched and Connected Community

An enriched and connected community involves arts and culture, community safety, healthy lifestyles and community health. In addition, the community is further enriched through learning, access to information, recreation and leisure to build social capital and cohesion.




These are all elements that lead to a community with high levels of well-being. This is usually characterised by connection, networks and support within the community; participation and ownership; equity and access; and democratic governance. Equity and access means that all people are able to access a variety of opportunities within a community, both social and economic, regardless of background, ability or circumstance.





Community well-being describes the state of satisfaction, contentment and fulfilment of needs experienced within a particular group of people.





5.1 Celebrating social diversity and cultural expression

Performance Indicator	Status	Progress Comment
Number of programs delivered to various community groups including identified target groups	✓	A wide range of activities and events have been held. These included interagency meetings, Seniors Program Committee meetings, Cohesive Communities Advisory Group meetings, Youth Council Meetings and Access Community Advisory Group meetings, the second new residents bus tour, skate clinics and the following: Multicultural March, International Women's Day, Teen Parenting sessions, Youth Public Art projects, Cool Off in Camden, Paint the Town REaD Reading Day, Camden Play Day for Families, Seniors Festival (Concert, Bus Trip and Pool entry), Youth Week, Access Communication Tool Training. Large number of programs delivered from a small team.
Number of arts/cultural events hosted across the Camden LGA	✓	A number of arts/cultural events were hosted by Council including - Camden Shorts, Live and Local Music, Marketing for Creatives and the Creative Camden Hub. A varied and interesting range of events have successfully been held.
Increase number of participants in active recreational activities using	✓	Camden Pool closed for the summer season on 24 March 2018, a total of 26,515 participants used the facility. This is an increase of 3,517 on the previous reporting period.

Performance Indicator	Status	Progress Comment
Camden Memorial Pool (seasonal)		
Increase number of participants in active recreational activities using Mount Annan Leisure Centre (seasonal)		During the reporting period, 168,387 participants participated in gym, fitness and/or swimming activities within the Mount Annan Leisure Centre.
Ratio of returning clients to new clients for hiring Camden Civic Centre		7.5% of hirers in the January to June period were first time users, a large portion booking in for repeat hire either weekly or monthly. Ratio of 1:13 new to returning clients and 5% new clients.
Number of non-Council events hosted at the Camden Civic Centre		Of the 543 events held within the venue 351 were non-council related events. 64.6% non-council events exceeding the 50% target. Good result with some really high profile events including The Reuben's Album launch and Business Awards.

5.2 Opportunities for life-long learning

Performance Indicator	Status	Progress Comment
Number of programs conducted at local libraries		100% of all scheduled programs, a total of 638, were conducted at Council libraries during this period including children's, youth, adult, community learning, local studies and exhibitions as well as HSC programs. Number will increase as Oran Park Library programs are implemented.
Camden families have access to a quality Family Day Care service – hours of care provided		Camden Family Day Care (FDC) continues to provide local families with a high-quality service. Camden FDC completed its Regulatory Authority assessment and continues to offer a service that aligns with current early childhood research and the National Quality Framework. The average utilisation rate for this six-months is 175, which is in line with seasonal trends and remains on track as a self-sustaining service.

 On Track	8	 Needs Work	0	 Monitoring	0	 Trend	0
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Key Direction 6 – Strong Local Leadership

Strong local leadership means that the Camden LGA has strong organisations and individuals representing its interests, who are responsive to the community, and who are working together to achieve the community’s vision for the future.

Strong local leadership will be needed from all levels of government, as well as the private sector, non-government organisations, business, industry groups, and community organisations. Developing leaders within the community will place the Camden LGA in good stead for the years to come.




Camden Council, as the level of government in closest contact with the local community, has a particular role in the planning, advocacy and delivery of good outcomes on behalf of the Camden community. This role is important as the Camden LGA faces massive urban and population growth, particularly in advocating for the delivery of major infrastructure provision, and in balancing the needs and desires of the current population with the pressures of growth.




Importantly, strong local leadership can influence the way that government engages with, and responds to, the local community needs and aspirations in decision making and planning process as well as delivering services.





6.1 Maintain strong partnerships and shared responsibilities with stakeholders

Performance Indicator	Status	Progress Comment
Number of Community Small Grant Agreements		This Grant round is annual and held in the first quarter each financial year and was reported previously in the July to December 2017 Progress Report. Grant round did not fall within the current time period.
Number of donations for charitable programs		Three donations for charitable purposes were provided to: Mother Hubbard’s Cupboard – 10 th Anniversary celebration, Dilly Drought Drive – to cover cost of BEP hire and NSW Police for the fundraising for injured officers.
Number of annual subsidies extended to community organisations		This Grant round is annual, and all subsidies were distributed, and was previously reported in the July to December 2017 Progress Report. Grant round did not fall within this time period.

Performance Indicator	Status	Progress Comment
Number of community sponsorship programs supported		Council seeks applications for sponsorship of community programs twice per year. A total of 13 applications met the criteria and were recommended for funding, with 100% of the allocated budget for this period distributed.

6.2 Community and stakeholders are kept informed

Performance Indicator	Status	Progress Comment
Maintain publication of regular Council information		Council has continued to achieve all publication deadlines throughout the reporting period. All advertisements have been placed during this period. Rates Notice promotions have continued and Let's Connect has been distributed. Council's weekly news column has been redesigned to align with the new Corporate Style that is being rolled out across all publications and has received positive feedback from staff and community members.
Maintain Council's social media platform		Council has implemented a 7 day a week social media coverage to report on weekend events, improve community engagement and ensure that customer enquiries are answered promptly. Over the past six months 328 Facebook posts were published, an increase of 10% on the previous period. Council has also produced and posted 21 videos over the past six months. Our Facebook following has increased to 16,438, this is an increase of 13.7% on previous period. For the first time we have utilised a LinkedIn account to promote the new Employer Brand.
Maintain Council's community engagement and communication practices		Council continues to communicate and engage with the community in an appropriate and timely manner. A number of projects and events have been communicated to the community throughout the reporting period including the Alan Baker Art Gallery opening, Water Play Park and Youth Spaces, Oran Park Library opening and Live and Local.

 On Track	6	 Needs Work	0	 Monitoring	0	 Trend	1
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4. Overall Progress Highlights

This section elaborates on a few of the projects Council has undertaken over the six-months (January to June 2018), under 30 local services, in supporting the Community Strategic Plan.

Alan Baker Art Gallery

The largest collection of art by Australian artist, Alan Baker, is on exhibition at the new public art gallery in Camden.

The gallery, known as the Alan Baker Art Gallery, is in the heritage listed building Macaria (C.1860), which has been renovated to create the dedicated art space.

Council has demonstrated its commitment to the Camden Town Centre and the promotion of Arts in the region by investing in and restoring Macaria.

Council ensured that Macaria was used in a way that would showcase the historic building itself but also be home to a unique attraction that would contribute to the prosperity of the town centre.

The gallery also provides an opportunity to connect local artists, foster future artists and promote art in Camden – to locals and the wider community.

The renovation project was completed in five-months with each original design element of Macaria being respectfully restored to preserve the heritage of the building, while creating a functional public gallery.

Max Tegel and Gary Baker donated Mr Baker's artworks to the gallery which are displayed in themes and capture the many years of his work as he travelled through the stages of his development as an artist.

The gallery is open free to the public from Thursday to Sunday.



Oran Park Library and Community Centre

Council's new state-of-the-art Library and Community Centre in the heart of the Oran Park Precinct is now open.

Officially opened in June and boasting a collection of more than 12,000 books and e-resources, this facility is contemporary in design offering zones to enable different stages of learning for all ages of the community.

Reflecting on a motor racing theme, celebrating the motor racing history of Oran Park, the Library is the first major community asset to be developed in the new growth residential area.

The Library's interior design incorporates artworks made from car and motorcycle parts as well as grid motifs on the carpet and walls.

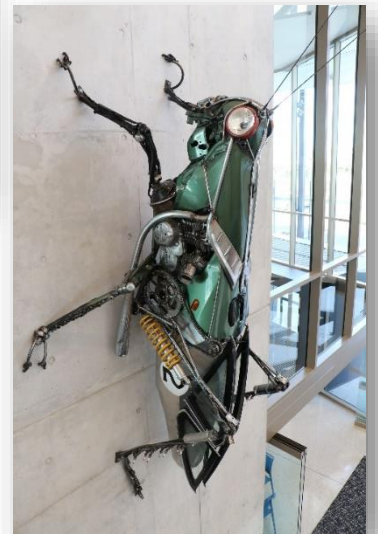
The \$14M facility was delivered under a Voluntary Planning Agreement between Camden Council, Landcom and Greenfields Development Company to offer life-long learning opportunities and a safe place for the community to meet.

The Library is designed to offer space dedicated for people to sit, lounge, socialise and interact with a focus on digital media and E-Learning.

The Centre includes:

- a high-tech open library floor plan
- two media pod rooms that include creative spaces with audio visual facilities
- IT training lab
- interactive technology, Wi-Fi, public access computers, 3D printer and touch screen TV's
- function centre seating up to 250 people, including commercial kitchen
- mini kids amphitheatre for story/activity time
- offices for community support
- a community centre to foster art, culture and community activities
- high ceilings, a sun-drenched foyer and picturesque views across the Town Park
- external space designed to encourage cycling and walking
- an outdoor recreation area with user-friendly street furniture





Community Celebration – Australia Day

Camden celebrated Australia Day with a wide range of activities being held including the Macarthur Lions parade along Argyle Street.

Australia Day provides an opportunity for the community to come together to celebrate our diverse nation, to recognise traditional owners of our land and to show pride for our country.

It is also an opportunity to recognise local citizens who have contributed to the Camden region through the Australia Day Civic Awards ceremony and to welcome new citizens to our country by holding a citizenship ceremony.

The Australia Day Civic Awards Ceremony recognised 19 individuals and organisations that have made outstanding contributions to our community in areas such as education, health, fundraising, voluntary services, business, sport, arts, the environment and community events.

The winners in each of the six categories were:

Citizen of the Year

David Funnell

Young Citizen of the Year

Lubna Sherieff

Sportsperson of the Year

Maddison Lewis

Young Sportsperson of the Year

Amy Sligar and Natalie Sligar

Community Event of the Year

Macarthur Lions Australia Day Parade

Community Group of the Year

Camden Lioness Club and Everyone Can Dance



Easy to Do Business Initiative

Council has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Service NSW to support Service NSW's 'Easy to do Business' initiative, which aims to make it easier for those looking to open a small business or grow their existing business.

The initial focus will be given to the café and small bar sector with housing and construction to follow.

Typically to open a new business it requires an owner to deal with 13 agencies, including Council, and to complete 48 forms.

Easy to do Business is an online platform that tackles the time, complexity and duplication issues that businesses can face when starting or growing a business in NSW.

This service will provide a single point of contact to help navigate all the required approvals to operate the business such as registering the business, obtaining an ABN and required Council approvals.

The free service also offers personalised support and step-by-step guides tailored specifically for business.

This service will assist the customer in submitting 'decision ready' application forms for approval reducing the likelihood of assessments being delayed due to an incomplete application and will speed up assessment timeframes.



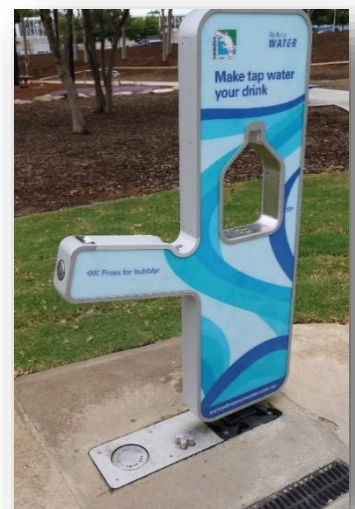
Permanent Drinking Stations Installed

Council, in partnership with Sydney Water, has installed six new water drinking stations at recreational spaces across our LGA. In addition, Council has funded the installation of a further five water drinking stations.

Supporting the health and wellbeing of residents, including the reduction of waste generated by disposable bottles, these water stations will provide residents with high quality drinking water in convenient locations.

The water stations allow residents to readily refill reusable water bottles or to drink from a bubbler. There is also a dog water bowl which refills with fresh water for each dog.

The new water stations have been installed at:



- Onslow Oval, Camden
- John Peat Reserve, Camden
- Harrington Park Lake, Harrington Park
- Bicentennial Equestrian Park, Camden
- Mount Annan Leisure Centre, Mount Annan (no dog bowl at this location)
- Birriwa Youth Space, Mount Annan
- Kirkham Park, Elderslie
- Curry Reserve, Elderslie
- Elizabeth Reserve, Narellan Vale
- Narellan Sports Hub, Narellan
- River Road Off Leash Area, Elderslie

Youth Public Art Projects – Narellan Library and Kirkham Skate Park

Council has a commitment to youth public art with projects recently completed in public spaces and streetscapes at Narellan Library and Kirkham Skate Park.

The street front and entrance to Narellan Library has been transformed with the installation of a public art work.

Professional artist, Mandy Salter, worked with young people to design the artwork mural as part of Council's Youth Public Art Participation Project 2017/18.

The large-scale artwork incorporates bold colours and imagery that brings colours and aspects of the library out into the street.

The use of plants as part of the art creates a dynamic sensory and textural element to the project.

The design of the two artworks, that span more than 10 metres each, were developed with 24 young people and represents the world of imagination, the aspirations of young people and symbolises their connection to place.

At Kirkham Skate Park, artist Charlie Nivison, collaborated with 24 local school students to create a design inspired by local flora and fauna.



Live and Local

Camden's Argyle Street became a venue for local up and coming musicians when the second Live and Local event kicked off in June.

The free live music event involved more than 50 artists and 15 local businesses in the Camden Town Centre.

Increasing in size since its inception last year, Live and Local is a unique event that showcases both the talent of local musicians and the great venues Camden has to offer. It is an event that continues to grow and provide a platform for local artists.

Residents of all ages enjoyed both traditional and non-traditional music venues and musicians.

The event is part of the Western Sydney Live and Local Strategic Initiative, funded by the Live Music Office and Create NSW, and another way Council has committed to making stronger connections between business and the community.



Western Sydney City Deal

Camden residents are set to benefit from significant investment in the region as Council, along with seven other west and south-west councils, secured funding for local projects through the landmark joint signing of the Western Sydney City Deal.

The Western Sydney City Deal is a partnership between Local, State and Federal Governments to ensure a coordinated and unified approach to deliver infrastructure, manage growth, investment and job creation in the region.

With the Camden LGA ideally located to harness the many benefits of the new airport at Badgerys Creek, this agreement will stimulate economic growth and drive investment, boost connectivity, reduce commute times, provide educational opportunities, job diversity, liveable and sustainable communities.

The Deal offers many benefits and is a commitment from the three levels of government to deliver projects under six priority areas over the next 20 years:

1. Connectivity
2. Jobs for the Future
3. Skills and Education
4. Liveability and Environment
5. Planning and Housing
6. Implementation and Governance

Highlights of the Deal include:

- The establishment of a 114 hectare Badgerys Creek Aerotropolis at North Bringelly which will include a world class science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) university, a high performance secondary school and advanced vocational education and training (VET) facility

- Creation of a Western Sydney Centre of Innovation in Plant Science at the Australian Botanic Garden in Mount Annan
- The development of a 5G strategy for the Western Sydney City, which will include partnering with a telecommunications carrier to deliver a trial of 5G Technology
- Development of a Western Sydney Investment Attraction Office aimed at attracting domestic and international investment
- The development of a strategy for the South Creek corridor from Narellan to Hawkesbury that will investigate its restoration and protection
- The establishment of a western Sydney Health Alliance to improve the coordination and effectiveness of health services in the region
- New \$150M Liveability fund, in which the Camden LGA will receive \$15M for stage two of the Sports Hub, Synthetic Sporting Ovals and the Ferguson Lane Cricket project
- Introduction of Rapid Bus services linking the region to Badgerys Creek Airport
- Investigation of integrated transport and delivery options for a full North South Rail Link from Schofields to Macarthur and a South West Rail Link to connect Leppington to the Western Sydney Airport.

Advocating for our Community

Planning for the long-term transport needs of our community by identifying and protecting corridors of land is a priority for Council.

In March, the State Government proposed a route for the M9 Outer Sydney Orbital including an eight-lane motorway route and freight rail line from Menangle in the south to Box Hill in the north.

Hundreds of homes and properties across the Camden LGA could have been impacted by this proposal. As a result of strong community feedback and concern over the proposed route Council offered its support by:

- collecting copies of submissions made to Transport for NSW and feeding their input into Council's submission
- allowing free use of Council rooms for community meetings on the Orbital
- advertising through local media about the exhibition process
- meeting with affected residents
- meeting with relevant Ministers

In doing this Council's submission to Transport for NSW ensured that it was a true reflection of the issues faced by residents directly impacted by the corridors.

Because of resident feedback, working closely with the community and numerous meeting with Ministers and agencies, the State Government listened and made key changes with a combination of tunnelling, use of Government owned land and better alignment.

Council will continue to support and advocate on the community's behalf.

CRET – Camden Region Economic Taskforce Ltd

Council has established the Camden Region Economic Taskforce Ltd (CRET) to support the economic prosperity of the region.

The CRET's main purpose is to drive and facilitate the economic growth of the Camden Local Government Area (LGA) through leadership, advocacy and coordination.

The CRET has four key focus areas:

1. Job creation
2. Securing investment
3. Infrastructure development
4. Creation of an environment that supports the growth of industry and business.

The CRET will work alongside Council to diversify and strengthen the economic development process for the Camden region.

The Taskforce will bring together key local business leaders and experts to focus on helping Council to deliver the right conditions to create jobs, attract investment and to support the growth of business and industry, now and into the future.

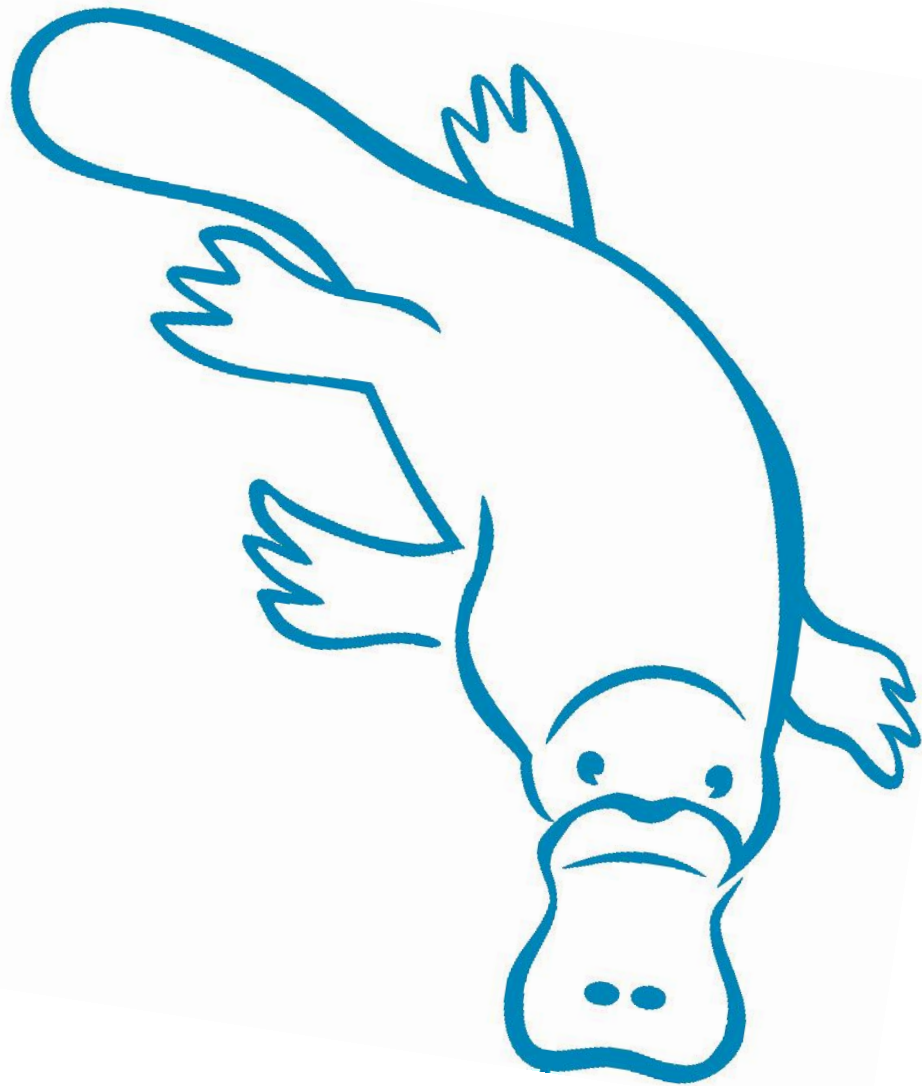


5 Conclusion

The Camden Local Government Area (LGA) is the fastest growing area in NSW, and Council continues to adapt and evolve in response to the changing expectations that come with growing communities.

The four-year Delivery Program 2017/18 to 2020/21 is Council's commitment to the community. Council, under 30 local services, will continue to implement, innovate, collaborate and work hard to achieve in delivering the best outcomes and services for our community.

The next reporting period is July to December 2018.



Images

The photographs featured have been obtained from many sources including professional photographers and Council officers. The illustrations used in this document were provided by children from the Camden LGA as part of Council's Children's Week Art Project.



The Next Reporting Period

The next reporting period for the Delivery Program Progress Report will be July to December 2018.

For further information contact

Corporate Planning Team

Camden Council

Phone: 4654 7777

Email: mail@camden.nsw.gov.au

Website: www.camden.nsw.gov.au