



State of Shire Report

Progress in delivering the goals of the Community Strategic Plan 2017–2021



LEETON
SHIRE COUNCIL

Acknowledgment of Traditional Owners

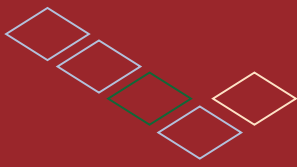


Leeton Shire Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land, the Wiradjuri people. As a community, we pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging. We also acknowledge and recognise the strength, resilience and capacity of all Aboriginal people of this Land.

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Previous page: *The Wind Messenger* by Carla Gottgens, one of the artworks making up the Lyrics, Landscapes and Lintels Art Heritage Trail, is installed in the park across the road from the Visitor Information Centre. The artist worked on the design in consultation with members of the Leeton and District Local Aboriginal Land Council (L&DLALC)



Community members and visitors enjoy the Leeton Farmers and Makers Market

About this Report

The State of the Shire Report 2016–2021 is a report on progress in implementing the *Leeton on the Go – Towards 2030 Community Strategic Plan (CSP)* during the elected Council's 5.25-year* term of office. The aim of the report is to provide the community with an update on how Council and other stakeholders are progressing toward achieving the goals set out in the CSP.

Leeton on the Go – Towards 2030 is a long-term plan that describes where the Leeton Shire community was in 2016 when the document was developed, where it wanted to be in the future (aspirations/goals) and how it planned to get there (strategies).

As well as community goals and strategies, *Leeton on the Go – Towards 2030* identifies a series of trend data 'indicators', or signposts, that have been selected to measure whether there have been improvements for the community over time. These data indicators do not measure everything. Instead, they give a general sense of whether or not the community aspirations are being achieved.

The principle behind the CSP is that it is the community's plan and achieving the goals set out in the CSP is a whole-of-community responsibility. Everyone has a part to play: Council, other levels of government, businesses, organisations, groups and individuals.

For Council, the CSP is the key document in Council's Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework. All Council's strategic documents have regard to and are linked to the CSP and feed into Council's Delivery Program and Operational Plan. The Delivery Program (usually a 4 year plan but in this case a 5.25 year plan) and Operational Plan (1 year plan) detail the activities Council will undertake in order to help the community achieve its aspirations.

The State of the Shire Report 2016–2021 provides an overview of Council's and the community's progress toward achieving the vision and outcomes of *Leeton on the Go – Towards 2030* during the term of the Council.

The main section of the report, the section called Achieving Our Community's Aspirations, is divided into the themes used in the CSP. Details of the strategies and key activities undertaken to achieve the CSP goals are listed under each theme. Council activities are listed, as are the activities of the stakeholders and state agencies who provided information. If the activity is not a Council activity, the name of the responsible stakeholder/agency is provided in brackets at the end of the activity.

The effectiveness of these actions and progress in achieving the community's goals is measured by changes in the trend data 'indicators' identified in the CSP. The data is presented graphically in each theme under the heading 'Measuring Our Success Over Time'. Data for some, but not many, of the indicators was found not to be available. Where this is the case, it has been noted.

The last section of the report, the Financial Overview, gives a brief outline of Council's financials for the years 2016/17 to 2020/21 including the major capital works projects undertaken during those years and the contributions and donations made to help other stakeholders play their part to further the goals of the CSP.

* A Council's term of office is usually 4 years but COVID-19 caused the Local Government elections to be postponed for 1.25 years, so the Council served for 5.25 years, from September 2016 to November 2021.



Leeton Shire's Community Strategic Plan: *Leeton on the Go – Towards 2030*

From the Mayor and General Manager

I retire after 35 years as a councillor, and 16 of those as Mayor, very proud that I and my fellow Councillors have done our very best to serve the people of Leeton Shire.

Cr Paul Maytom
Emeritus Mayor

We are delighted to present this State of the Shire Report 2016–2021 on behalf of Leeton Shire Council. Reflecting on the 5 years that have passed, we have made a lot of good progress as a community towards achieving the goals of the Leeton on the Go – Towards 2030 Community Strategic Plan (CSP).

Considering the Shire has endured two years of significant drought over the term, as well as the Covid-19 pandemic, we applaud everyone for their resilience and adaptability. Leeton has most certainly bounced back, our population is growing steadily, and our economy continues to thrive.

We still believe that there isn't a better place to live, work, play and raise a family and there are a whole host of Leeton based agencies, businesses, not-for-profits and individuals who have contributed to this excellent result. Thank you most sincerely for making a positive difference.

Council contacted as many of our partners as we could find with an invitation to contribute information on their activities over the term, to add to this report. While we were delighted with the response, we know there are others whose important contribution has yet to be shared. We hope this report will inspire them to share their successes next time.

Leeton Shire has benefited from generous funding from the state and federal governments over the past 5 years and we now enjoy:

- new life breathed into the state heritage listed WCIC building which is now home to the fabulous Leeton Museum and Art Gallery, the Leeton Family and Local History Society and Western Riverina Arts
- fabulous new sport and active leisure opportunities including a revamped regional aquatic centre with two sparkling pools and a magnificent extension to the Leeton Skate Park
- increased opportunity to study degree courses at the Leeton campus of the Country Universities Centre which is situated in the Leeton Shire Major Dooley Library
- a brand new Showground grandstand with good seating, quality changerooms and excellent function capability
- a safe new bridge over the Sturt Canal on the Whitton to Darlington Point Road
- easier and tidier recycling and waste services at Whitton's new transfer station
- a refreshed CBD, with Wade Avenue complete, an attractive and well-lit taxi rank and more than 30 shop facades repainted to show off our impressive art deco heritage
- a vibrant visitor economy, including a relaunched Art Deco Festival, a new visitor guide 'Murrumbidgee Trails' and an inspiring Lyrics, Landscapes and Lintels art heritage trail
- greater connectivity, with free WiFi in the CBD and public facilities like the library and stadium and fibre to the node NBN services in our Vance Industrial Estate
- a series of refurbished playgrounds, including new ones at Helson Park and Graham Park
- a truly caring community and 'welcoming city' that everyone is proud to call home, no matter their descent.

Other major projects significantly advanced during the period but not yet finished, include:

- the redevelopment of the Roxy Theatre, which will be home to RIPA (Roxy Institute of Performing Arts)
- the redevelopment of Chelmsford Town Square to a bold design that would make Sir Walter Burley Griffin and his wife Marion proud
- the full establishment of the WRConnect freight intermodal at Wumbulgal, which was selected for a detailed feasibility study as part of the Inland Rail Interface Improvement Program.
- the expansion of Vance Estate to the north, with the land secured and plans under development
- the extension of the Leeton Early Learning Centre, to meet increased demand for childcare services for Leeton's diverse and vital workforce
- water tower art in Whitton and Leeton
- a reticulated sewerage scheme for Wamoon.

Steps are underway to complete a housing strategy for Leeton to help meet the growing demand for rental accommodation and affordable housing, as well as a more detailed feasibility study for a heated pool. The community also remains deeply concerned about Leeton's hospital services (in particular the availability of doctors) and ambulance services (which all too often seem to be coming from other towns, instead of Leeton). These remain a priority focus for our community and will, without doubt, continue to be pursued by the new Council.

Council was also very pleased to note that our community rated Council's performance highly. The independent company that undertook the Leeton Community Satisfaction Survey said that the 94% satisfaction rate with Council administration was the highest the company had measured in more than 9 years. This reflects a cohesive Council where elected representatives and management work together to genuinely engage the community and drive through results.

As a community (Council, local business, local organisations and individuals) our collective efforts have helped achieve progress in many areas, as evidenced by the trend data in the indicator graphs or signposts we are tracking in an attempt to 'Measure Our Success Over Time'. For instance, the percentage of residents who feel welcome in the community has increased, as has the number of visitors to Fivebough Wetlands, the number of users of the Leeton Indoor Stadium and our Gross Regional Product.

On the other hand, there has been little or no progress in some areas and in health outcomes and school results we are trending in the wrong direction. Clearly, as a community, we have more work to do to achieve our full range of aspirations and now is the time to reflect on what is most important.

Once again, we would like to extend our gratitude and sincere thanks to the community, Council staff and Councillors for their support and hard work over the past 5 years towards ensuring Leeton Shire continues to thrive well into the future. It has been a challenging but highly productive term.

We also wish the next term of Council well as they pick up the mantle of stewarding the next Community Strategic Plan on behalf of the residents of Leeton Shire Council.

Thank you
to everyone
– for doing
your part to
ensure our Shire
continues to
be wonderfully
successful and
a truly caring
and welcoming
place.



Paul Maytom
Cr Paul Maytom
Emeritus Mayor



Jackie Kruger
Jackie Kruger
General Manager

Our Councillors for the 2016–2021 Term



Clockwise from top:

The Councillors and General Manager, from left: Cr Sandra Nardi, Cr Tony Ciccia, Cr Tracey Morris, Cr Michael Kidd, General Manager Jackie Kruger, Cr Peter Davidson, Mayor Cr Paul Maytom, Cr Tony Reneker, Deputy Mayor Cr George Weston and Cr Paul Smith

Cr Peter Davidson in the pump room at the Leeton Regional Aquatic Centre

Councillors and staff, from left: Group Manager Tom Steel, Cr Michael Kidd, Deputy Mayor George Weston, Mayor Cr Paul Maytom, General Manager Jackie Kruger, Cr Tracey Morris and Cr Peter Davidson

Snapshot of Council's Achievements



6,452T
Waste recovered at
the Leeton Landfill and
Recovery Centre



More than
30
Events coordinated



DA's Approved



Average of
23km
Roads
resealed
per year



Trees planted

Average of
9km
Roads
rehabilitated
per year



New Australian Citizens



Population increased by
3.6%



More than
\$20M
in grants received

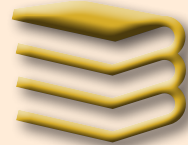
95,243
users of the
Leeton Indoor Stadium



Rounds of golf played
82,694

More than
165,065

items
loaned at
the library



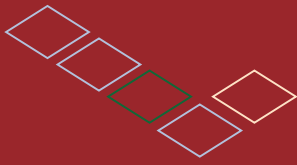
Provided
\$485,693
community grants
and donations



102,997
entries into the
swimming pools



Total value of
Capital Works
\$40,844,787



Council Highlights

Some highlights under the six themes in the *Leeton on the Go – Towards 2030* Community Strategic Plan include:

A Healthy and Caring Community

- Country Universities Centre – Leeton Campus opened
- Regional Resettlement Project commenced
- Shared cycleways constructed along Cherry Avenue and Racecourse Road
- Leeton Shire Major Dooley Library celebrated its 30th birthday

An Active and Enriched Community

- Stage 1 of the Leeton Regional Aquatic Centre redevelopment completed
- Leeton Showground Grandstand completed
- Lyrics, Landscapes and Lintels heritage art trail launched
- Leeton Skatepark Extension completed
- The Leeton Museum and Art Gallery officially opened

A Healthy Natural Environment

- Whitton Transfer Station completed
- Refurbishment of the Parkview Water Reservoir completed
- Built and commissioned a 99.7kW Solar Power Plant at the Leeton Sewerage Treatment Plant

A Thriving Economy with Good Jobs

- Successfully relaunched the Australian Art Deco Festival
- Supported and facilitated the painting of facades of 23 CBD buildings through the Facade Painting Project
- Launched the Western Riverina Intermodal Freight Terminal (WRIFT) master plan and business case

A Quality Built Environment

- CBD Enhancement Project – Phases 1 and 2 – Wade Avenue completed
- MR359 Bridge project completed
- Road rehabilitation works completed on Payten Road, Young Road, Merungle Hill Road, Mount Harris Road, McNeil Road, Contour Road and Fivebough Road
- New playgrounds installed at Helson Park and Waipukurau Park
- Toilet facilities refurbished in Mountford Park
- McCaughey Park Splash Pad opened

Strong Leadership

- Undertook two Community Satisfaction Surveys
- Advocated on a range of issues of importance to our community, including water security and health services
- Undertook community consultation on a range of key projects, including the Leeton Skate Park and the CBD Enhancement Project

Captions for the images featured on the previous page are listed on page 50



How Our Community Rates Council's Performance

Independent contractor Micromex Research and Consulting conducted a Community Satisfaction Survey on behalf of Leeton Shire Council in June 2021.

A total of 403 residents participated in the survey, which measured residents' satisfaction with various aspects of Council and their perceptions of their quality of life.

A similar survey was conducted in September 2019, which meant that Council could compare the data from both surveys and track changes in the community's quality of life and satisfaction ratings over time.

Some of the key results of the survey were:

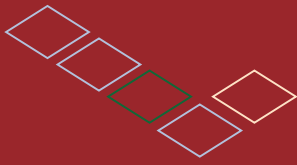
- **Quality of life:** Ninety-seven percent (97%, up from 91% in 2019) of those surveyed rated their quality of life in Leeton Shire as Good (26%), Very Good (44%) or Excellent (27%).
- **Satisfaction with Council's performance:** Ninety-four percent (94%, up from 93% in 2019) were at least somewhat satisfied with the performance of Council administration. The overall satisfaction rating of 3.81 is the highest rating Micromex has measured for a regional council in the past 9 years.
- **Satisfaction with the elected body:** The vast majority of residents (92%, the same percentage as in 2019) were at least somewhat satisfied with the performance of elected Councillors.
- **Highest satisfaction ratings:** As demonstrated by a high rating out of 5, residents were most satisfied with Council's provision of: library services (4.36); ovals, sportsgrounds and sporting facilities (4.26); tourism/the Visitor Information Centre (4.20); playgrounds and parks (4.20); cemeteries (4.16); waste management (4.11); swimming pools (4.11); community and heritage buildings (4.04); and cultural opportunities such as the Roxy Theatre, museums and public art (4.00).
- **Lowest satisfaction ratings:** As demonstrated by a lower rating out of 5, residents were least satisfied with: local roads (2.97); building certification and development approvals (3.21); recreational areas along the river (3.26); Council considering community opinion when making decisions (3.26); storm water drainage in rural areas (3.28).
- **Levels of importance:** When asked to rate levels of importance, respondents rated water supply services (4.74) as being of most importance, followed by public safety (4.71), local sealed town roads (4.70), waste management (4.67), street lighting (4.58), Council keeping the community informed (4.57), sound financial management (4.54) and Council engaging the community when planning for the future (4.54).
- **High levels of agreement:** When asked whether they agreed with a number of statements, the majority of respondents agreed that they feel safe during the day (94%), that Leeton Shire gives you a sense of living in community (85%), that people in Leeton Shire have fair opportunity to participate in community life (84%), that sporting facilities in the area meet their needs (81%) and that we are preserving an attractive urban landscape and protecting our heritage (80%).
- **Low levels of agreement:** There were much lower levels of agreement with the statements: we have access to a good range of health services (25%), police services in Leeton Shire are responsive and effective (26%) and public transport is adequate for needs (38%).

For more information, please see the *Leeton Shire Council Community Satisfaction and CSP Research Results*.

The overall satisfaction rating of 3.81 is the highest rating Micromex has measured for a regional council in the past 9 years.

Previous page, top to bottom:
Community members show support for the Roxy Redevelopment Project

Tonetta Nardi provides her input into the content of the new Community Strategic Plan



Every second Easter, the Leeton SunRice Festival enlivens Leeton with a celebration aimed at recognising the important role the rice industry plays in the region. The biannual festival is organised by members of Council's SunRice Festival Committee. The festival program includes Leeton's Longest Lunch, the Festival Street Parade, Festival on Mountford, Riggz Cup Riverina Skate Championships, Balloon Glow and the Ambassador Competition. In all, the program comprises around 20 events and attracts crowds of more than 10,000 people!

Achieving Our Community's Aspirations

Details of the key actions we took in order to progress the goals set by the Leeton Shire community are outlined in the following pages.

The information is organised according to the themes and goals set out in the *Leeton on the Go – Towards 2030 Community Strategic Plan*.

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Captions for the images featured on this page are listed on page 50

Achieving Our Community's Aspirations

Theme 1: A Healthy and Caring Community

What you said

We love living in Leeton because we enjoy an excellent quality of life from childhood through to our senior years. Healthy lifestyles are enjoyed by all in a caring, safe and friendly community. Learning is a constant, with access to quality education opportunities for all ages.

There were five goals selected to move us towards our 10 year aspiration. Let's see how we are tracking.

Goals	Key activities undertaken by Council and other stakeholders
A community that focuses on being healthy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Constructed a shared cycleway along Cherry Avenue (2017) and Racecourse Road (2020)Participated in the annual Bush Bursary student doctor programParticipated on the Leeton Local Health Advisory CommitteeProvided subsidised accommodation to student doctors from the University of Wollongong undertaking placements in LeetonSupported students from University of Wollongong during their medical placements in Leeton/Griffith (Murrumbidgee Primary Health Network)Coordinated a healthy eating program (Whitton Murrumbidgee Public School)Coordinated the Youth Aware of Mental Health (YAM) program in which Leeton High School participated (Murrumbidgee Primary Health Network)Provided multiple mental health and wellness community grants for projects such as mental health training, the SMART recovery program, concerts, Parkrun, the Multicultural Support Group, the multicultural festival, and a decision making and stress management workshop for businesses (Murrumbidgee Primary Health Network)Supported local medical practices in delivering programs and initiatives such as the Murrumbidgee Lifestyle and Weight Management Program, Murrumbidgee Winter Strategy Program, General Practice Capability Building and Quality Improvement (GPCB&QI) Initiative and Wellness and Resilience Achieved Through Allied Health – WARATAH (Murrumbidgee Primary Health Network)
A community that embraces lifelong learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Operated the early learning centre and after school/vacation care serviceSupported the establishment of a Country Universities Centre in LeetonImproved access to academic, administrative and wellbeing support to those wanting to pursue higher education in Leeton (Country Universities Centre)Increased access to higher education in Leeton (Country Universities Centre)Provided a safe, well-equipped and well supported space for local members of the community to achieve their higher education dreams (Country Universities Centre)Provided free academic and wellbeing workshops (Country Universities Centre)Provided free WiFi services in the CBDContinued to provide library services through the Leeton Shire Major Dooley Library, which celebrated its 30th birthday in April 2020, offering a diverse program of activities including storytime, brain games, baby rhyme time and book clubCoordinated intergenerational activities such as Grandparents Day and Adopt a Grandparent (Whitton–Murrumbidgee Public School)

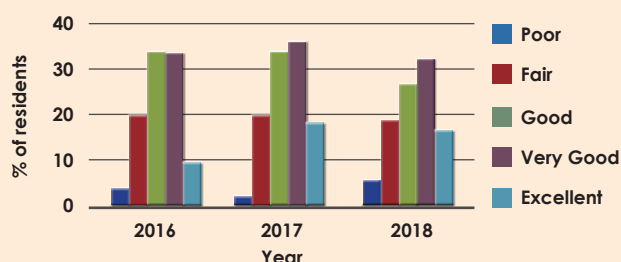
Goals	Key activities undertaken by Council and other stakeholders
A community that embraces lifelong learning cont.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosted a mobile dental service for students (local schools) • Hosted the Western Riverina Careers Expo (Leeton High School) • Sponsored students to attend leadership programs such as the NSW Youth Parliament Camp and the Secondary Schools Leadership Program • Hosted 29 work experience students from schools across the Shire, enabling them to gain experience in fields such as engineering, horticulture, finance, childcare, administration and library services • Provided childcare work placements to 15 students from the Country Universities Centre, TAFE NSW Leeton and the University of New England • Through programs such as Futures R US and the WIN Program, enabled 27 students from St Francis De Sales Regional College Leeton and Leeton High School to gain experience in administration, childcare, engineering, finance horticulture and visitor services
A community that is friendly and inclusive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed and maintained an online Leeton Community Directory • Provided hireable venues to the community through the Leeton Multipurpose Centre and community Halls in Murrumbidgee, Whitton and Yanco • Supported the operation of Leeton Community Transport • Auspiced the setup and ongoing operation of Leeton Connect • Hosted two Community Services Expos, one in Leeton and one in Whitton (more seniors-based, delivered in partnership with the Whitton community), to connect residents with the range of community services based in or providing outreach to Leeton Shire • Coordinated annual Youth Week events • Organised and hosted the annual Riggz Cup Riverina Skate Championships • Developed and implemented a new Ageing Well Strategy 2021–2025 • Developed and implemented a Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2017–2021 • Commenced the Regional Resettlement Project • Developed and distributed a New Residents' Kit • Supported the Leeton and District Aboriginal Land Council on projects such as Red Dust Healing, NAIDOC Week and the Aboriginal Men's Group • Constructed a new footpath and Memorial Wall at the Leeton Cemetery • Hosted 13 citizenship ceremonies with 105 people naturalised • Hosted the inaugural Festival of Cultures: Multicultural Gala in partnership with the Leeton Multicultural Support Group
A community that is safe to live in and move about	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installed CCTV cameras at various locations across the Shire • Installed streetlights along the pathway between Wamoon Avenue and Wattle Hill to enhance visibility and safety • Installed two vehicle-activated signs, one on Murrumbidgee Road (2019) and one at the intersection of Back Yanco Road and Research Road (2021) • Coordinated a range of road safety initiatives including speed campaigns, drink driving campaigns, a Rotary Youth Driver Awareness Program, a Graduated Licensing Scheme Workshop, Child Restraint Workshops and an annual 'Bike Week' event • Re-established alcohol-free zones in Leeton and Yanco for a further 4 years until 2025

Goals	Key activities undertaken by Council and other stakeholders
A community that is safe to live in and move about cont.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided emergency responses to call outs for dog attacks in accordance with Council's Companion Animals Management Plan • Installed footpath and accessibility ramps on Cudgel Street, Cherry Avenue, Gidgee Street, Lilac/Park Avenue, Cedar Street, Coolibah Street, Cypress--Sycamore Street, Waratah Street, Corbie Hill Road, Racecourse Road, Myall Street, Melaleuca Avenue, Yarran Street and Main Avenue • Enforced Disability Car Parking restrictions to ensure equitable car parking access to people with disabilities • In conjunction with NSW Food Authority, undertook annual food safety inspections of all food premises to ensure safe food is sold within Leeton Shire • Undertook annual inspections at all skin penetration establishments to ensure compliance with the <i>Public Health Act 2010</i> • Carried out annual mosquito monitoring for early detection of Arbovirus • Undertook regular swimming pool safety inspections to ensure private swimming pools comply with the <i>Swimming Pools Act 1992</i> • Supported White Ribbon Day • Provided subsidised micro-chipping services for companion animals and offered two free pet microchipping days each year • Coordinated programs and initiatives such as Lovebites, Community Safety Precinct Committee meetings, Police and Aboriginal Consultative Committee meetings, Bunbinya Mawang, Local Liquor Accord, Ngumbaay Leeton engagements and Fit for Life (Murrumbidgee Police District)
A community that enjoys good housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed a Housing Strategy for Leeton Shire • Successfully sought to amend the land use table in the Leeton Local Environmental Plan 2014 to permit a greater range of suitable residential developments to occur within the main business area of Pine and Kurrajong Avenues, Leeton • Provided an ongoing affordable housing service in Yanco of fourteen units (Argyle Homes)

Please note: If an activity isn't attributed to an organisation in brackets, it is a Council undertaking.

Measuring Our Success Over Time

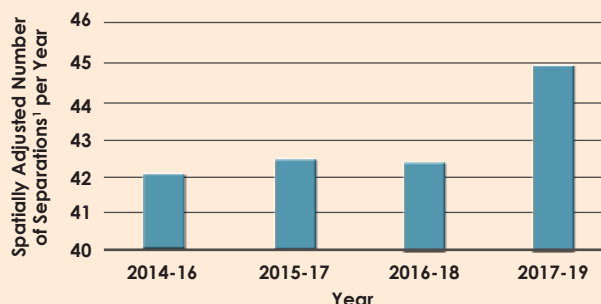
Community Perception – General Health of Residents



Source: Regional Wellbeing Survey

The aim was to improve the general health of residents. This was not achieved. Additional advocacy for adequate health services needs to be undertaken.

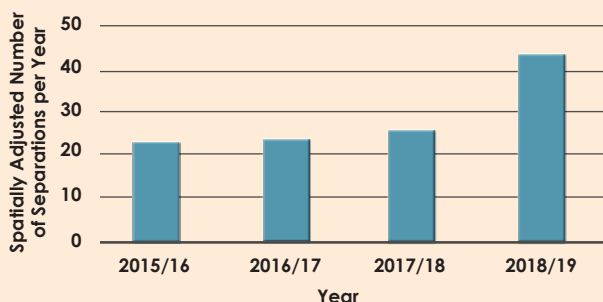
Alcohol Attributable Hospitalisation



Source: HealthStats NSW

The aim was to decrease the incidence of alcohol-attributable hospitalisations. This was not achieved. Further advocacy for drug and alcohol rehabilitation services needs to be undertaken.

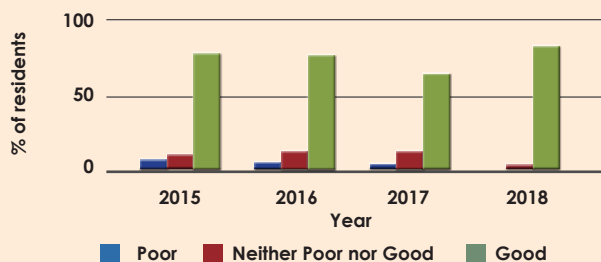
Diabetes Attributable Hospitalisation



Source: HealthStats NSW

The aim was to decrease the incidence of diabetes attributable hospitalisations. This was not achieved. Further work to improve prevention strategies need to be undertaken.

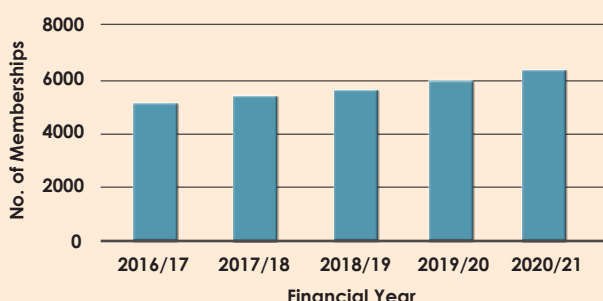
Community Perception – Access to Education Services



Source: Regional Wellbeing Survey

The aim was for a 'good' trend upwards. This was achieved, indicating that the community perceives Leeton Shire to have sufficient access to education services.

Leeton Library Membership

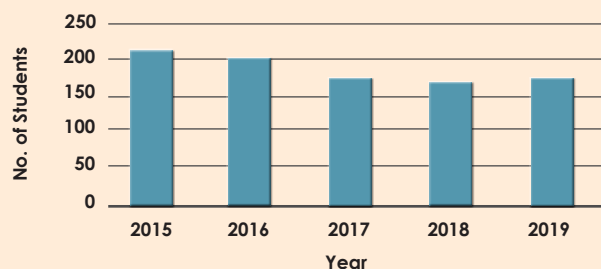


Source: Leeton Shire Council

The aim was for memberships to remain constant. We achieved this goal with memberships increasing each year.

¹. 'Separation' is the process by which an episode of care for an admitted patient is completed.

Completed Senior Secondary School Year 12

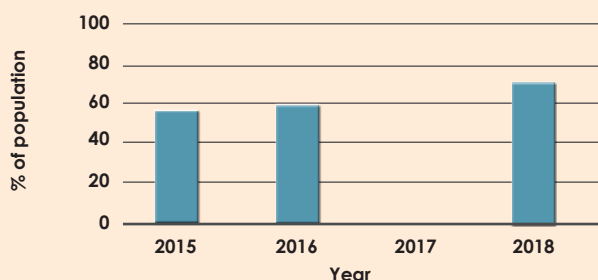


Source: myschool.edu.au

The aim was for high school completion rates to increase. We did not achieve this target. In fact, completion rates decreased. The drop could be partially attributed to students having greater access to alternative pathways such as traineeships.

Measuring Our Success Over Time **cont.**

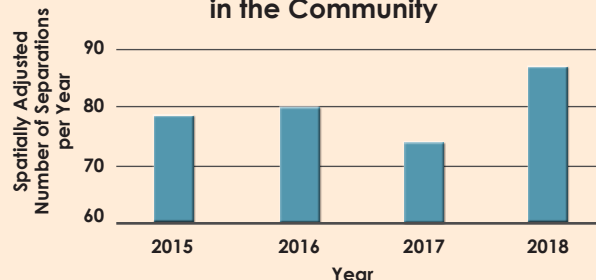
Community Perception – Residents Who Feel Part of the Community



Source: Regional Wellbeing Survey

The aim was for all residents to feel part of the community. This was achieved. There is no data for 2017 as the question was excluded from the survey that year. There is no data available for 2019 and 2020.

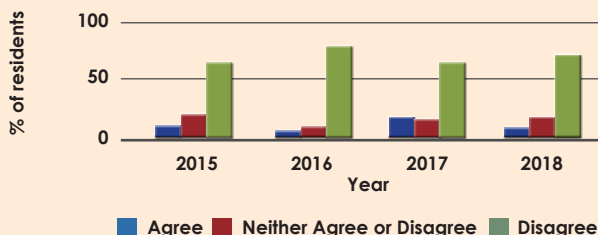
Community Perception – Residents Who Feel Welcome in the Community



Source: Regional Wellbeing Survey

The aim was for all residents to feel welcome in the community. This was achieved. There was a marked increase in the percentage of residents who feel welcome in 2018. There is no data available for 2019 and 2020.

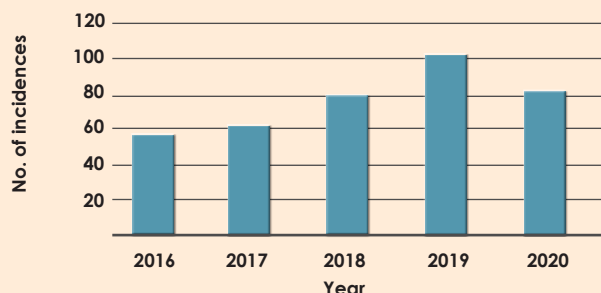
Community Perception – A safe place to live



Source: Regional Wellbeing Survey

The aim was to see an increase in residents feeling safe. The trend remained consistent, which indicates additional advocacy and consultation with the Murrumbidgee Local Area Command regarding community perceptions of safety needs to be undertaken.

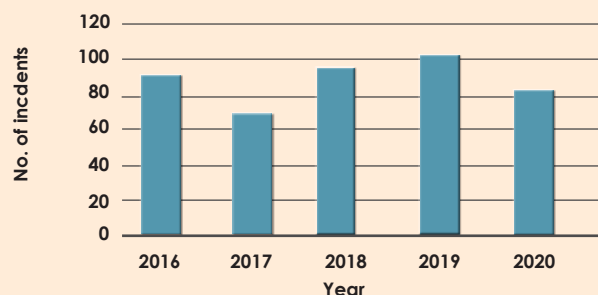
Domestic Violence Incidences



Source: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research

The aim was for the number of incidences to decrease. While there was an increase, this may be due to the presence of a Domestic Violence Liaison Officer within the Murrumbidgee Local Area Command and more confidence in the reporting mechanisms.

Residential Break and Enters



Source: NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research

The aim was for the number of incidences of residential break and enters to decrease. While the 2020 figures do represent a reduction, there is no real downward trend because the figures fluctuate.

Note 1: Data for the following indicators was unavailable:

- Community Perception – Residents Who Feel the Community is 'In It Together'
 - Source: Regional Wellbeing Survey
 - This question was not included in surveys after 2015
- Leeton Mortgage Repayments
 - Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics
 - Data was not available past the 2016 Census
- Residential Dwelling Types
 - Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics
 - Data was not available past the 2016 Census
- Residents Living in Rented State Housing Accommodation
 - Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics
 - Data was not available as part of the 2016 Census

Note 2: The 2019 Regional Wellbeing Survey did not provide LGA specific statistics and the 2020 report is yet to be released.



Captions for the images
featured on this page are listed
on page 50

Theme 2: An Active and Enriched Community

What you said

We love living in Leeton because we can join in with a variety of sports and leisure activities at any age. Our community has a diverse arts and culture following and supports a wide array of artistic events. We come together regularly to celebrate our history with pride and celebrate what makes our community great. We enjoy sharing our past with younger generations.

There were three goals selected to move us towards our 10 year aspiration. Let's see how we are tracking.

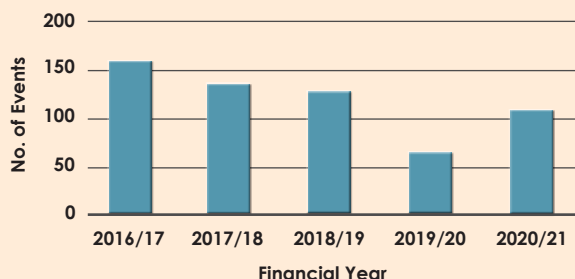
Goals	Key activities undertaken by Council and other stakeholders
A community that participates in sports and active leisure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Secured \$3 million in funding for the redevelopment of the Leeton Swimming Pool. The new Leeton Regional Aquatic Centre opened during the 2020/21 seasonBuilt a new Leeton Showground GrandstandCommissioned a study into the feasibility of constructing and operating a heated pool in LeetonRenovated the dressing room at the Yanco SportsgroundConstructed a new kiosk at No.1 OvalCompleted a condition and renewal options report for Whitton PoolCommenced the Leeton Sporting Walk of Fame, which will be launched within the next six monthsExpanded the Skate Park by an additional 370m² and treated its surface to extend its life by up to 20 yearsInstalled an extensive irrigation system at the Leeton Golf CourseInstalled retractable basketball goals at the Leeton Indoor Stadium to improve Work Health and Safety for staffInstalled six hydration stations along the town circle shared pathwayConstructed a new junior netball court – the Meg Thomas Memorial Court – at the Leeton Showgrounds (Leeton Whitton Football Netball Club)Constructed a new senior netball court and COLA at the Leeton Showgrounds (Leeton Whitton Football Netball Club)Amalgamated the Leeton and Yanco Swimming Clubs for a stronger volunteer presence (Leeton/Yanco Swimming Club)Constructed a half basketball court in Gossamer Park, Wattle Hill (Creative Community Concepts)Secured \$1,015,000 in funding for the development of a new golf clubhouse (Leeton Golf Club Committee)
A community that enjoys arts and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Developed a Master Plan for the Roxy Community Theatre RedevelopmentSponsored the short film 'Inside Water', which was shot in Leeton and tells the story of a young man taking over his recently deceased father's failing sheep farm during a period of severe droughtOpened the Leeton Museum and Art Gallery (LMAG) in the newly refurbished former offices of the Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission. The LMAG is home to a permanent exhibition: <i>Water by design, the Leeton water story</i>Completed and launched the Lyrics, Landscapes and Lintels Art Heritage Trail

Goals	Key activities undertaken by Council and other stakeholders
A community that enjoys arts and culture cont.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commenced planning for the Leeton and Whitton Water Tower Public Art installations • Conducted regular art workshops and painting days (Leeton Art Society Inc) • Coordinated the Penny Paniz Arts Acquisitive Prize (Leeton Art Society Inc) • Provided training to Leeton Art Society Inc members and the broader community (Leeton Art Society Inc) • Hosted 'Make Music Day' in partnership with Western Riverina Arts • Coordinated the annual Leeton Eisteddfod (Leeton Eisteddfod Committee) • Hosted nine exhibitions at the Leeton Museum and Art Gallery
A community that values its heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivered the Heritage Grants Program to help owners, custodians and communities recognise, value and care for heritage buildings • Leeton Shire Council provides expert heritage advice to assist with the conservation of heritage places • Supported and facilitated the painting of facades of 23 CBD buildings through the Facade Painting Project • Operated Henry Lawson Cottage including the hosting of open days

Please note: If an activity isn't attributed to an organisation in brackets, it is a Council undertaking.

Measuring Our Success Over Time

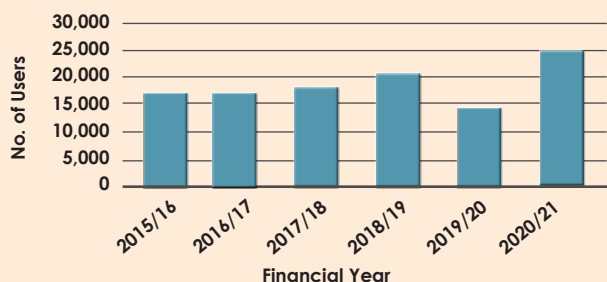
Sporting Events on Shire Ovals



Source: Leeton Shire Council

The aim was for the number of sporting events to remain constant. Unfortunately, sporting events were impacted negatively by COVID-19, so numbers of events have dropped. Sports that were allowed to continue, such as golf, experienced significant increases. In 2018/19 (pre-COVID-19) 13,712 rounds were played. In 2019/20 15,531 rounds were played and in 2020/21 17,744 rounds were played.

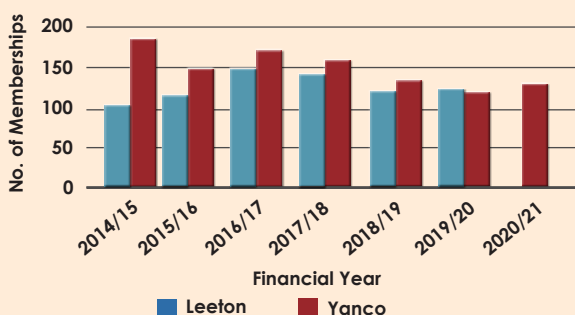
Usage Numbers for Leeton Indoor Stadium



Source: Leeton Shire Council

The aim was for usage numbers to grow steadily. While the stadium experienced consistent growth in usage, it was impacted by COVID-19 with the closure of the facility for a period in 2019/20. The stadium has increased its programming to include social netball, badminton, basketball, clinics and training.

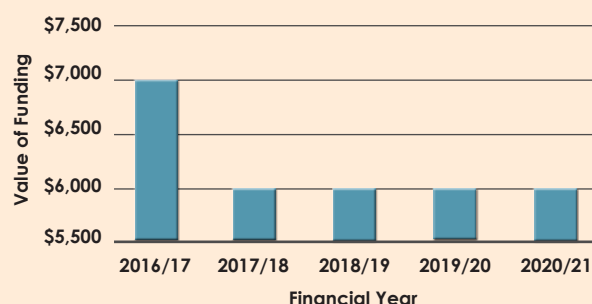
Swimming Club Memberships



Source: Leeton Shire Council

The aim was to grow the number of swimming club members. Unfortunately, this has not been the case. The lack of members and volunteers resulted in the two clubs amalgamating in 2020/21.

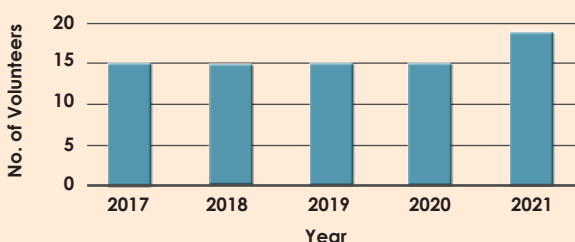
Leeton Shire Council Heritage Advisor Funding



Source: Leeton Shire Council

The aim was to maintain levels of Heritage Advisor Funding. While the figure dropped by \$1,000 in 2016/17, it has remained constant at \$6,000 in the years since.

**Number of Volunteers
Leeton Family and Local History Society**



Source: Leeton Family and Local History Society

The aim was to increase the number of volunteers. Numbers remained steady for the period 2017 to 2020 but increased in 2021.

Note: Data for the following indicators was unavailable:

- Community Perception – Participation in Arts or Cultural Events
 - Source: Regional Wellbeing Survey
 - This question was not included in surveys after 2016
- Biggest Concern in Relation to Delivering Arts and Cultural Projects
 - Source: Western Riverina Arts Strategic Plan
 - Data was not available past 2015
- Percentage of History Collection Digitalised
 - Source: Leeton Family and Local History Society
 - Digitalised History Collection was put on hold (will resume in 2021/22)



Captions for the images
featured on this page are listed
on page 50

Theme 3: A Healthy Natural Environment

What you said

We love living in Leeton because we have beautiful natural attractions that we can appreciate and enjoy. As a community we come together to preserve and enhance our Fivebough/Tuckerbil Wetlands and Murrumbidgee River systems to ensure their value will be able to be maintained and enjoyed by residents and visitors for many years to come. We love participating in outdoor activities and playing in our natural environment.

There were two goals selected to move us towards our 10 year aspiration. Let's see how we are tracking.

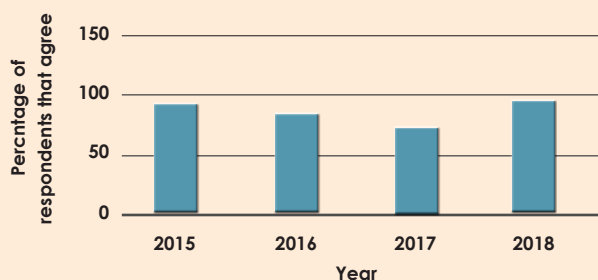
Goals	Key activities undertaken by Council and other stakeholders
A community that respects the natural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provided ongoing waste management services to the Shire• Constructed and opened the Whitton Transfer Station to make it easier for residents of Whitton and surrounds to recycle and responsibly dispose of waste• Achieved Weed Action Plan targets every year• Controlled weeds in and around Fivebough and Tuckerbil Wetlands utilising Riverina Local Land Services funding• Expanded the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) control system to include stormwater. The system enables real time remote monitoring of infrastructure and now incorporates three water supply systems, three sewage plants and 40 pump stations• Built and commissioned a 99.7kW Solar Power Plant at the Leeton Sewerage Treatment Plant. The power plant supplies power to run the treatment plant• Conducted three waste and recycling education programs (2018, 2019, 2020) for school-aged children to expand their knowledge of recycling• Detected and responded to graffiti incidents and removed graffiti in a timely manner• Investigated illegal dumping incidents and issued infringement notices where possible• Investigated and monitored overgrown properties and worked with owners to achieve voluntary compliance• Removed and Impounded abandoned vehicles and other articles from public places• Established a \$100K Reserve Fund to fund Renewable Energy Efficiency Projects into the future• Relined the town sewer system to prevent blockages caused by tree roots and to extend the life of the system by a further 50–80 years• Refurbished the Parkview Water Reservoir to improve water quality and extend the life of the reservoir• Hosted community engagement activities to inform the community about the importance of the local riverine and wetland environments and improvements to the health of waterways, floodplains and wetlands across the Murrumbidgee River valley (Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder)• Managed watering actions in the Murrumbidgee Valley to build resilience and help wetlands and their dependent species through future dry periods (Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder)

Goals	Key activities undertaken by Council and other stakeholders
A community that enjoys our natural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued to work with Crown Lands and the Fivebough Committee on the management of the RAMSAR-listed Fivebough Wetlands Completed sections of the Fivebough Wetlands Walking Track to link the Glossy Ibis Shelter to Wiradjuri Walk (Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Crown Lands) Installed sheltered seating around Wetlands Walk (Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Crown Lands) Erected 'Welcome to Fivebough Wetlands' signage at the entrance to Fivebough Wetlands Installed safety rails at both the Turkey Flat and McCaughey's Lagoon regulators (NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service) Hosted four successful Bidgee Classic Fishing Competitions capturing more than 12,000 fish. This data gathered from these fish is analysed by NSW Fisheries scientists and used to determine health and sustainability measures for local waterways (Leeton Bidgee Classic Committee) Sponsored the Leeton Bidgee Classic Committee to support the release of 45,689 Golden Perch and 17,507 Murray Cod fingerlings Delivered water for the environment to Tuckerbil wetland annually since 2017 at Fivebough (Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder) Coordinated activities as part of World Wetland Day at Fivebough to raise awareness in the Leeton community on the amazing environmental assets they have within the two Ramsar listed sites of Fivebough and Tuckerbil in their back yard (Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder) Upgraded Middle Beach by installing picnic tables and replacing carpark fencing (NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service) Carried out grading works in MIA 2 precinct of the Murrumbidgee Valley National Park, and graded Forest Drive and River Drive (NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service)

Please note: If an activity isn't attributed to an organisation in brackets, it is a Council undertaking.

Measuring Our Success Over Time

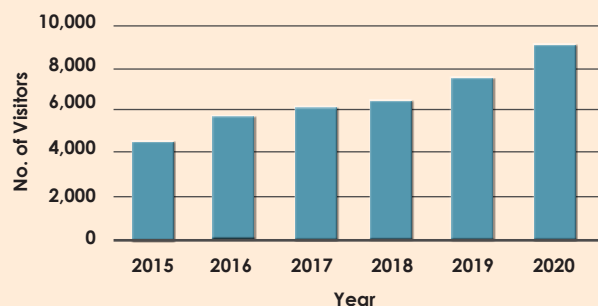
**Community Perception
Leeton Shire has Attractive Natural Places**



Source: Regional Wellbeing Survey

The aim was for the percentage of community members who agree that Leeton Shire has attractive natural places to remain constant. This was achieved. No data was available for 2019 and 2020.

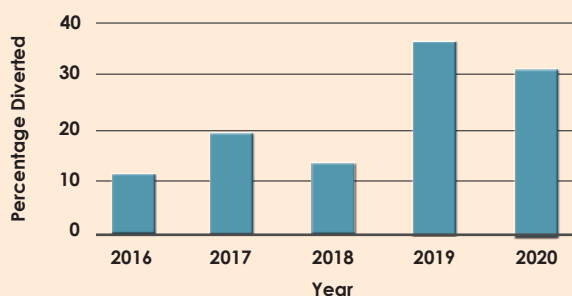
Visitor Numbers – Fivebough Wetlands



Source: NSW Department of Planning, Industry & Environment – Crown Lands

The aim was for the number of visitors to the wetlands to increase. This has been achieved. The increase could be the result of several factors including increased promotion and improvements to the walking track and amenities.

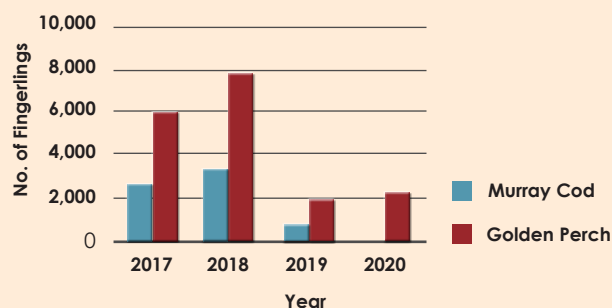
Landfill Diversion Rates



Source: Leeton Shire Council

The aim was to increase landfill diversion rates. While rates vary, they have significantly improved over the past two years.

Fingerlings released into Murrumbidgee River



Source: Leeton Bidgee Classic Committee

The aim was for fingerling releases to remain consistent. No Murray Cod fingerlings were released in 2020 and no fingerlings were released at all in 2021 because the focus has shifted to river restoration.

Note 1: Data for the following indicators was unavailable:

- Solar Panel Installations in Leeton Shire
 - Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics
 - Data from 2019 to 2021 was not available

Note 2: The 2019 Regional Wellbeing Survey did not provide LGA specific statistics, and the 2020 report is yet to be released.



Captions for the images featured on this page are listed on page 50

Theme 4: A Thriving Economy with Good Jobs

What you said

We love living in Leeton because we have a wide range of employment choices available to us. The community loves to celebrate together at festivals and events and share with fun and excitement with visitors to our town. Water is our lifeblood and we continue to innovate to ensure our ongoing success.

There were four goals selected to move us towards our 10 year aspiration. Let's see how we are tracking.

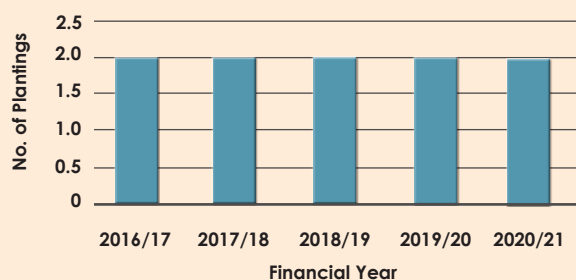
Goals	Key activities undertaken by Council and other stakeholders
A community that thrives on irrigated agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completed a feasibility study for WRConnect, the region's major intermodal freight hub at Wumbulgal• Participated as an active member of the Murray Darling Association and hosted the Annual Conference in 2018• Released a 'Water Policy Position Statement' aimed at fostering the sustainability of the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area and Leeton Shire specifically• Represented Leeton on the Murrumbidgee Environmental Water Advisory Group and provided advice on the management of water for the environment within the catchment with Commonwealth and State governments• Worked with the NSW Government to accredit the Murrumbidgee Water Resource Plans for ground and surface water to help secure a reliable water supply and support irrigated agriculture (Murray-Darling Basin Authority)• Worked with local communities and agencies to oversee the management of environmental water within the region in the most efficient way (Murray-Darling Basin Authority)• Encouraged opportunities to showcase water conservation and optimisation efforts by collaborating with farmers and industry groups (Murray-Darling Basin Authority)
A community that is strong in business and employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developed the Leeton Shire Business Prospectus to showcase Leeton as a vibrant place to live, work and play• Developed the Western Riverina Economic Development Strategy for 2018–2022• Actively participated in the Western Riverina 'Grown Our Own' initiative• Re-established the Leeton Business Awards in 2019 and the virtual COVID safe Leeton Pivotal Awards in 2020. The Pivotal Awards recognised the efforts of Leeton Shire businesses to counteract or adapt to the impacts of COVID-19 (Leeton Business Chamber)• Sponsored the Inaugural Leeton Pivotal Awards• Coordinated workshops and events as part of NSW Small Business Month (Leeton Business Chamber)• Coordinated a regular business leaders zoom catchup and a fortnightly newsletter with the latest business information as COVID-19 began to impact (Leeton Business Chamber)

Goals	Key activities undertaken by Council and other stakeholders
A community that has great attractions and events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosted the Australian Art Deco Festival, Leeton Chill and Grill, SunRice Festival, Light Up Leeton and Australia Day Celebrations • Established the Murrumbidgee Trails marketing collective consisting of Leeton Shire, Lockhart Shire, Narrandera Shire and Murrumbidgee Council • Supported the annual Leeton Town Band Spectacular, Formula 1.0 International Gliding Competition and the Leeton Bidgee Classic Fishing Competition • Coordinated Annual Christmas Promotion events (Leeton Business Chamber) • Developed the 'Leeton Food Guide' (Leeton Business Chamber) • Secured the Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission (WCIC) Building as a community arts and culture space • Developed and launched a new Visitor Guide • Developed the Leeton Shire Council Community Events Guidelines • Hosted the annual Leeton Town Band Spectacular (Leeton Town Band) • Successfully facilitated and implemented the Love NSW Media Campaign in collaboration with Destination NSW (Visit Riverina Inc) • Assisted Destination NSW in facilitating famils (familiarisation visits) by social media influencers The Blonde Nomads and NRMA Open Road (Destination Riverina-Murray) • Promoted Leeton and the wider Riverina region at consumer shows such as the Caravan and Camping Show in Sydney and Canberra, and the Handmade Markets in Canberra (Destination Riverina-Murray)
A community that enjoys a vibrant town centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported and facilitated the painting of facades of 23 CBD buildings through the Facade Painting Project • Installed art deco themed Christmas decorations and banners in Leeton CBD • Completed work on the Leeton CBD Enhancement Project Phases 1 and 2 – Wade Avenue • Installed parking sensors in the main street to monitor trends in parking behaviour to inform a new Parking Strategy • Supported the Leeton Farmers and Makers Market and Yanco Village Markets • Re-established the 'Leeton Gift Card' Local Shopping program (Leeton Business Chamber)

Please note: If an activity isn't attributed to an organisation in brackets, it is a Council undertaking.

Measuring Our Success Over Time

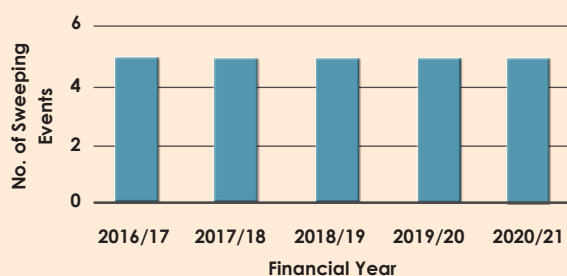
**Annual Plantings
in the Central Business District**



Source: Leeton Shire Council

The aim was for the number of plantings in the Leeton CBD to remain constant. This was achieved.

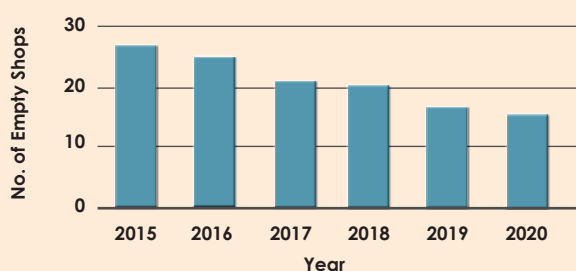
**Weekly Street Sweeping Events
in the Central Business District**



Source: Leeton Shire Council

The aim was for the number of street sweeping events to remain constant. This was achieved.

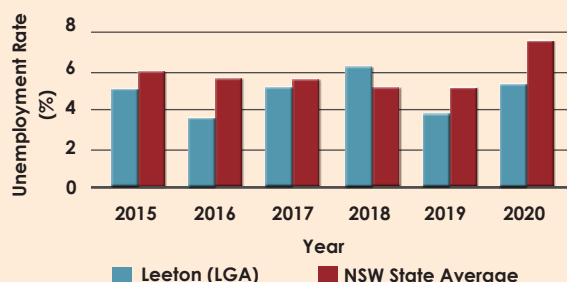
**Number of Empty Shops in Pine Avenue
(Between McDonalds and Roxy Theatre)**



Source: Leeton Shire Council

The aim was for the number of empty shop fronts to decrease. This was achieved.

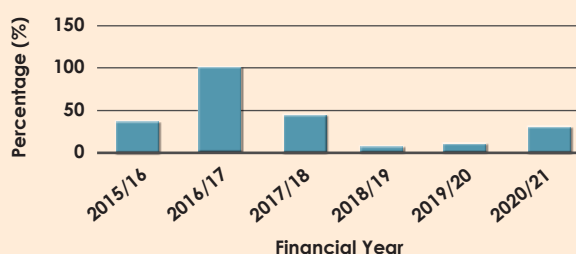
Leeton Shire Unemployment Figures



Source: Small Area Labour Markets Data

The aim was for unemployment figures to decrease. While unemployment rates varied over the years, the rate of unemployment in Leeton Shire was below the State average in all years except 2018.

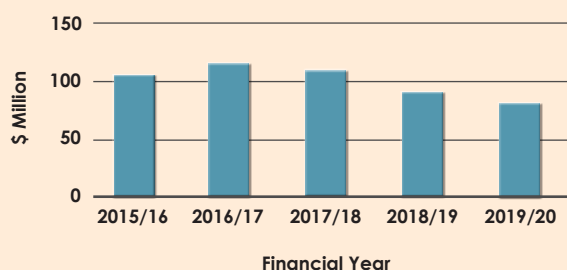
**Murrumbidgee Irrigation Limited
General Security Water Allocations as at 30 June**



Source: Murrumbidgee Irrigation Limited

The aim was for General Water Allocations to increase. This was not achieved and the percentage allocation was less over the past three years that it was in 2015/16. This allocation is dependent on a range of factors including dam storage levels, river flows and catchment conditions.

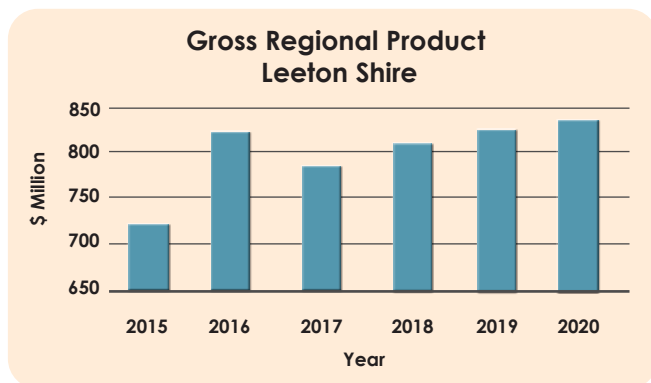
Gross Value of Agriculture in Leeton Shire



Source: Economy id

The aim was for the gross value of agricultural production in Leeton Shire to increase. This was not achieved, and agricultural production has decreased steadily since 2016/17. A large proportion of this decrease can be attributed to drought, lower water allocations and, to some extent, producers turning to new ventures that will not produce for some years.

Measuring Our Success Over Time **cont.**

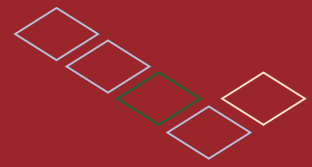


Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics

The aim was for the Gross Regional Product to increase annually. This was achieved and indicates that the local economy is strong.

Note: Data for the following indicators was unavailable:

- Community Perception – Availability of Jobs in Leeton Shire
 - Source: Regional Wellbeing Survey
 - This question was not included in surveys after 2016



In 2019/20 Council transformed the former Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission (WCIC) building into the Leeton Museum and Art Gallery. One area of the building now houses a permanent exhibition called *Water by Design: the Leeton Water Story*, which opened on 15 June 2020. Another section of the building is now a gallery that will host an ever-changing array of exhibitions. Its first exhibition *Underworld*, a travelling exhibition from Sydney Living Museums, was opened in July 2019



Captions for the images
featured on this page are listed
on page 51

Theme 5: A Quality Built Environment

What you said

We love living in Leeton because we have reliable infrastructure such as water, sewer and roads. We take great pride in our lovely towns and villages and enjoy the abundance of open space and park areas around our Shire. The community is well serviced with regular public transport options available to us when we need to travel.

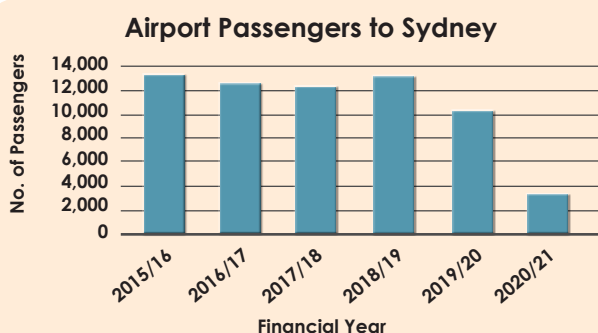
There were three goals selected to move us towards our 10 year aspiration. Let's see how we are tracking.

Goals	Key activities undertaken by Council and other stakeholders
A community that has reliable water and sewerage services in towns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operated sewage treatment plants at Leeton, Yanco and Whitton Relined 30km of sewer network, refurbished the Leeton trickling filter plant and carried out electrical and telemetry upgrades on the Leeton sewerage system Built and commissioned a 99.7kW Solar Power Plant at the Leeton Sewerage Treatment Plant. The power plant supplies power to run the treatment plant Completed the Automated Meter Reading System (TAGGLE) project, installing smart water meters at 99% of properties serviced by reticulated water networks Developed plans and secured funding to construct a sewage treatment plant for village of Wamoon Completed water main replacements in Dooley Lane, Myall Street, Wamoon Avenue, Watsonia Lane and Coonong Avenue (Yanco)
A community that has good road, rail and air transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduced REX community fares (Regional Express) Developed and launched the WRConnect Master Plan Completed upgrade works on the Whitton–Darlington Point Road Bridge Rehabilitated Payten Road, Young Road, Merungle Hill Road, Mount Harris Road, McNeil Road, Contour Road, Fivebough Road, Davis Road, Innisvale Lane and Palm Avenue Relocated the Leeton taxi rank as part of the CBD enhancement project Upgraded Quadling Road and Tabain Road using Otta Seal technology On behalf of Transport for NSW, realigned the curve on MR80 McCauley Road intersection to improve road safety
A community that enjoys attractive towns and parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed Phases 1 and 2 of the CBD Enhancement Project Secured \$2 million in grant funding from the NSW Public Spaces Legacy Fund to transform Chelmsford Town Square Completed playground renewals in Graham Park, Wamoon Playground, Enticknap Park and Noel Pulbrook Park, and installed fences and shade sails at the Graham Park playground Installed new playgrounds in Waipukurau Park and Helson Park Installed new toilet facilities at McCaughey Bicentennial Park and Fivebough Wetlands, and refurbished the toilet facilities in Mountford Park Constructed a new Splash Pad in McCaughey Bicentennial Park, Yanco Carried out landscaping works in Whitton and landscaped the Vance Road/ Wamoon Road intersection in Leeton Installed new town entrance signs in Leeton and Whitton

Goals	Key activities undertaken by Council and other stakeholders
A community that enjoys attractive towns and parks cont.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beautified Leeton's Courthouse Precinct • Implemented the NSW Planning Portal, an online environment where community, industry and government can work together to better understand and meet their obligations under the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> • Completed drainage works as per the Stormwater Management Plan • Completed significant kerb and gutter works including along sections of Palm Avenue, Graham Park, Quandong Street and Gruie Street, Leeton, as well as in Whitton township and the Leeton Regional Aquatic Centre carpark

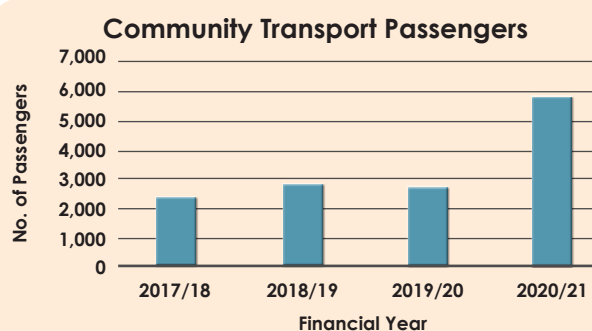
Please note: If an activity isn't attributed to an organisation in brackets, it is a Council undertaking.

Measuring Our Success Over Time



Source: Transport for NSW Bureau of Statistics

The aim was for passenger numbers to increase. This was not achieved with the service being heavily impacted by COVID-19 restrictions.



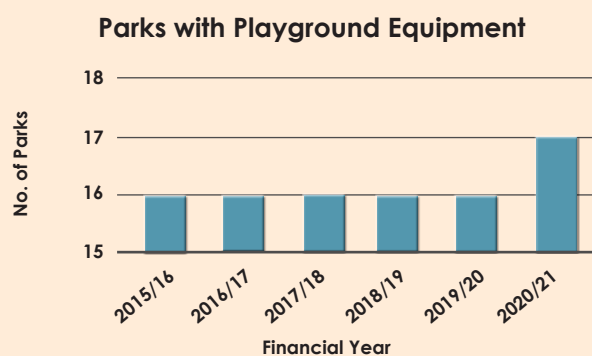
Source: Leeton/Narrandera Community Transport

The aim was for passenger numbers to remain constant. This was not achieved with the service being impacted by a range of factors including the COVID-19 restrictions, a reduction in volunteer numbers and the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme.



Source: Leeton Shire Council

The aim was for the number of tree plantings to remain constant. This has not been achieved.

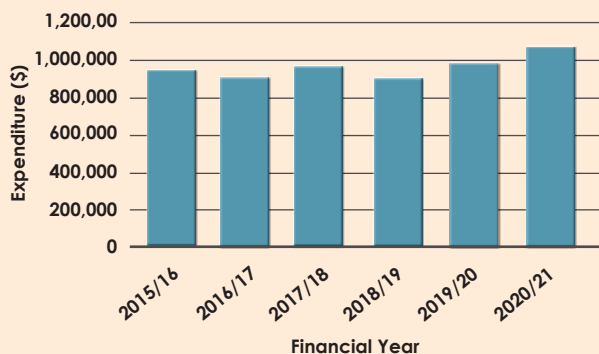


Source: Leeton Shire Council

The aim was for the number of parks containing playground equipment to remain constant. This was achieved and an additional playground was constructed in 2020/21.

Measuring Our Success Over Time cont.

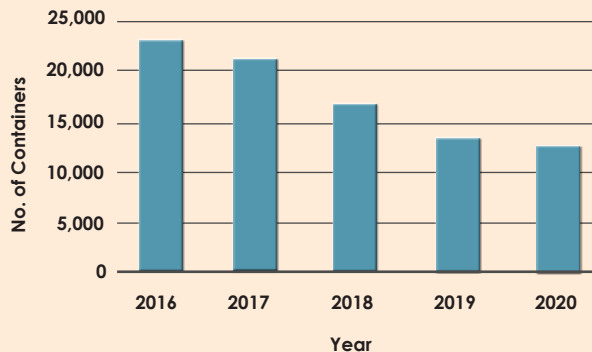
Annual Expenditure on Parks Maintenance



Source: Leeton Shire Council

The aim was for annual parks maintenance expenditure to remain constant. This has been achieved. Expenditure remained relatively constant up until 2019, when it rose slightly to reflect increases in costs.

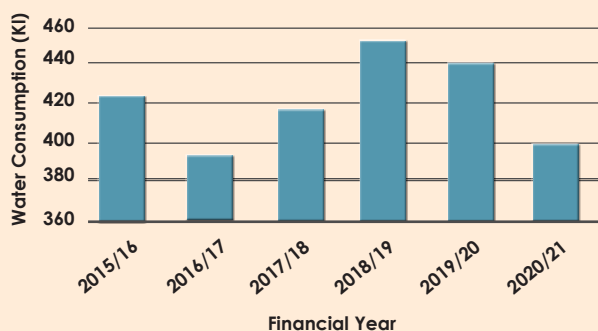
Containers Leaving Leeton Annually



Source: Port of Melbourne

The aim was for the number of containers leaving Leeton annually to increase. This was not achieved, possibly because of the impact of the drought on agricultural production and of the impact of COVID-19 on a range of businesses.

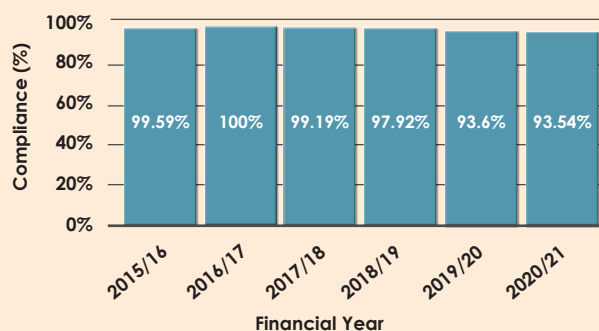
Average Water Consumption per Property



Source: Leeton Shire Council

The aim was for residential water consumption to show a reducing trend. Consumption rose sharply in 2018/19 and 2019/20 in response to drought but dropped back in 2020/21, indicating that this data is more heavily affected by environmental factors than water-saving behaviour.

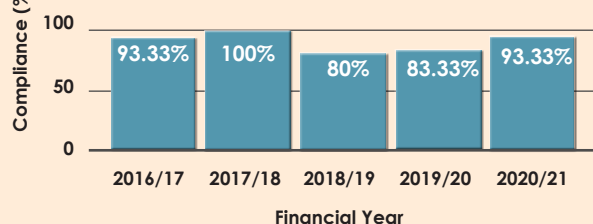
Average Water Consumption per Property



Source: Leeton Shire Council

The aim was to be 100% compliant with water quality. This has not consistently been achieved, although quality has always remained well above 90%. Further funds will be allocated to rejuvenating some of our ageing water infrastructure in the near future.

Sewerage Effluent Discharge Compliance



Source: Leeton Shire Council

The aim was to always be 100% compliant with sewerage effluent discharge. This has not been achieved.



Captions for the images
featured on this page are listed
on page 51

Theme 6: Strong Leadership

What you said

We love living in Leeton because we are confident that our leaders will listen to what we have to say, make decisions that are good and will strongly advocate with peak bodies for the betterment of our entire community. There are many opportunities available for our residents and visitors to speak and engage with each other and our leaders to make a difference towards our future. We are resilient as a community as we actively anticipate change, plan for it and deal with it well.

There were three goals selected to move us towards our 10 year aspiration. Let's see how we are tracking.

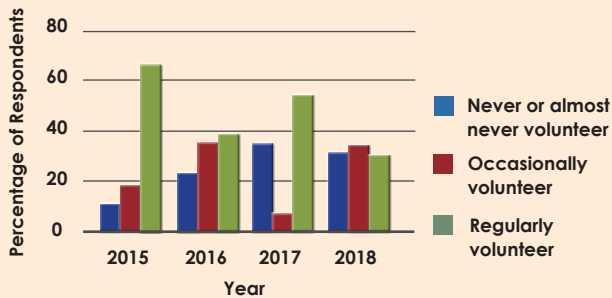
Goals	Key activities undertaken by Council and other stakeholders
A community that has politicians who act and listen	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advocated on a range of issues of importance to the Leeton Shire community including water security and health services• Facilitated the development of the Leeton Shire Community Strategic Plan: <i>Leeton on the Go – Towards 2030</i>• Directed operations and resources towards furthering the goals expressed in the Community Strategic Plan• Regularly reported to Council and the community on activities undertaken to further the goals of the Community Strategic Plan• Released a 'Water Policy Position Statement' aimed at fostering the sustainability of the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area and Leeton Shire• Represented Leeton Shire on the WaterNSW Murrumbidgee Customer Advisory Group• Participated in the Riverina and Murray Joint Organisation (RAMJO)
A community that speaks up and gets involved	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coordinated 176 registered volunteers at Council• Overhauled Council's volunteer program with a view to developing a more compliant and robust system for supporting volunteers and volunteer coordinators• Celebrated National Volunteer Week by recognising valuable volunteers across the community (Leeton Connect)• Provided a range of options for community to provide input including Council's website, Have Your Say, Facebook and public meetings• Conducted two Community Satisfaction Surveys (2019, 2021) to assess community priorities and levels of satisfaction with Council administration and services• Hosted Place Creation Workshops in Whitton and Yanco• Auspiced and supported Leeton Connect, a community organisation focussed on strengthening and connecting Not-for-Profit organisations and charities within Leeton Shire• Celebrated National Volunteer Week by recognising valuable volunteers across the community (Leeton Connect)• Hosted free networking workshops for community groups and organisations (Leeton Connect)• Purchased a community food van and coordinated fortnightly family get-togethers in Gossamer Park (Leeton Community Care Development)• Hosted school holiday activities for young people in Wattle Hill (Creative Community Concepts)

Goals	Key activities undertaken by Council and other stakeholders
A community that is always on the front foot	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coordinated an annual Community Grants Program• Revamped the Leeton Shire Council and Leeton Tourism websites

Please note: If an activity isn't attributed to an organisation in brackets, it is a Council undertaking.

Measuring Our Success Over Time

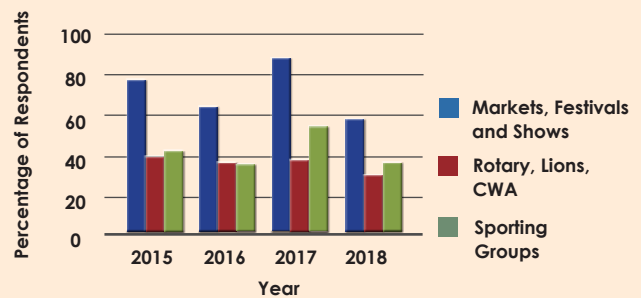
Level of Volunteering in the Community



Source: Regional Wellbeing Survey

The aim was to increase the level of volunteering. This was not achieved. Leeton Connect was established in 2020 and it is anticipated that this organisation will help increase the level of volunteering in the community. Data for 2019 and 2020 is not available.

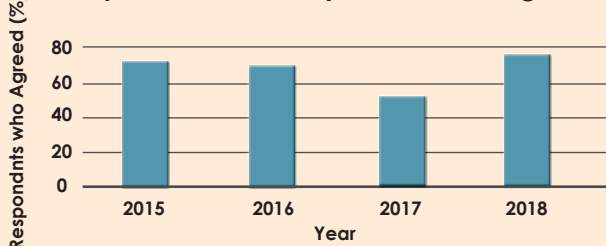
Volunteer Participation



Source: Regional Wellbeing Survey

The aim was to increase volunteer participation. This was not achieved. Data for 2019 and 2020 is not available but it is expected that COVID-19 would have further reduced volunteer participation.

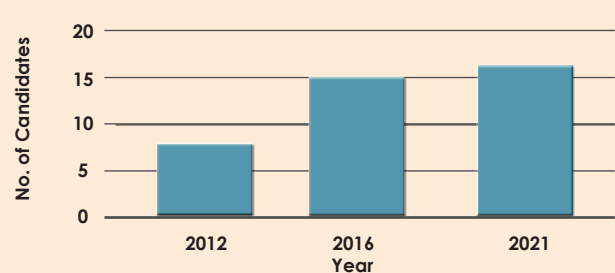
Community Perspective – Leeton Shire Council Helps our Community Face Challenges



Source: Regional Wellbeing Survey

The aim was to increase the percentage of residents who agreed with the statement: Council helps our community face challenges. The percentage remained relatively stable, with a drop in 2017, until 2018. Data for 2019 and 2020 is not available.

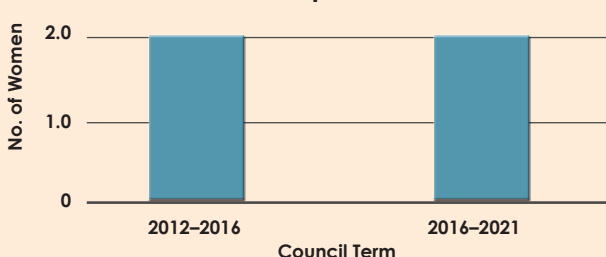
Councillor Candidates



Source: Leeton Shire Council

The aim was to increase the number of candidates. This was achieved.

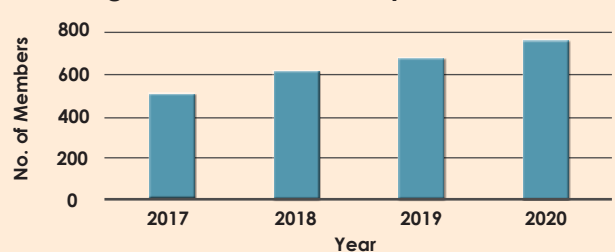
Number of Women represented on Council



Source: Leeton Shire Council

The aim was to increase the number of women represented on Council. This number was maintained. Increased promotion to encourage women to nominate occurred in preparation for the 2021 Council Election. Six women have nominated.

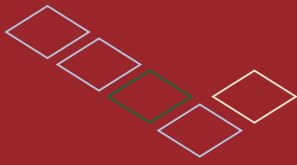
Registered Have Your Say Members



Source: Leeton Shire Council

The aim was to increase the number registered 'Have Your Say' users. This was achieved, with the numbers growing steadily since 2017.

Note: The 2019 Regional Wellbeing Survey did not provide LGA specific statistics, and the 2020 survey results are yet to be released.



Henry V was the last event held in the Roxy Community Theatre before it was closed for redevelopment

Financial Overview

2016/17

The net operating result before capital grants and contributions for the year ended 30 June 2017 was a surplus of \$4.98 million compared with a surplus of \$3.98 million for the year ended 30 June 2016.

Operating Items	Million (\$)
Total income from continuing operations	31,319
Total expenses from continuing operations	25,209
Net operating result from continuing operations (counting grants and contributions)	6,110
Net operating result from continuing operations (not counting grants and contributions)	4,985
Current assets	28,844
Non-current assets	215,734
Current liabilities	4,733
Non-current liabilities	2,024
Total equity	237,821

Contributions and Donations

Under Council's Community Grants Program, \$15,000 was made available for community projects. Funding was provided to the following community organisations:

Community Group	Grant (\$)
Lions Club of Leeton	3,000
Leeton Harness Racing Club	1,000
Inner Wheel Club of Leeton Inc.	390
Rotary Club of Leeton	1,500
Leeton Family and Local History Society	1,400
Leeton Community Christmas Party	200
The Salvation Army (NSW) Leeton	250
Leeton Eisteddfod	1,500
Brilliant and Resilient	400
Yanco Wamoon Football Club	2,000
Leeton U3A	1,500
SSAA (NSW) Leeton/Narrandera	1,860
Total	15,000

Other contributions and donations provided included:

Organisation	Contribution (\$)
Riverina Regional Tourism	6,250
Rural Doctors Network – Bush Bursary	3,300
Total	9,550

Leeton Shire Council also provided an Annual Donation of \$100 to four High Schools, \$75 to eight Primary Schools and \$250 to TAFE Leeton.

Capital Works Projects

Council undertook major capital works with a value of \$3.73 million. These projects included:

- Construction of a 99.7kW Solar Power Plant
- Refurbishment of Parkview Reservoir
- Construction of the Memorial Wall at the Leeton Cemetery
- Installation of irrigation in medians along Palm Avenue
- Road rehabilitation works on Payten Road, Young Road, Mount Harris Road, Merungle Hill Road, Contour Road and Fivebough Road
- Leeton Swimming Pool carpark upgrade, and kerb and gutter works
- Upgrades to Gossamer Park and Graham Park.

Under Council's Quick Response/Discretionary program, funding was provided to the following community organisations:

Community Group	Grant (\$)
Leeton and Narrandera Vets Week	500
Leeton Racecourse – Fixed Water Charge	2,312
Leeton Show Society	500
Leeton Town Band – Insurance	1,686
Leeton Town Band	3,000
Yanco Lions Club	500
TAFE – Leeton Campus	150
Total	8,648

Council provided Youth Development Grants to the following individuals:

Individual	Grant (\$)
S Quinlivan	100
J Quinlivan	100
Total	200

2017/18

The net operating result before capital grants and contributions for the year ended 30 June 2018 was a surplus of \$4.34 million. This surplus is inflated by the Federal Government's advance payment of the 2018/19 Federal Assistance Grant of \$2.08 million.

Operating Items	Million (\$)
Total income from continuing operations	32,062
Total expenses from continuing operations	26,723
Net operating result from continuing operations (counting grants and contributions)	5,339
Net operating result from continuing operations (not counting grants and contributions)	4,340
Current assets	36,423
Non-current assets	218,731
Current liabilities	4,886
Non-current liabilities	1,780
Total equity	248,488

Contributions and Donations

Under Council's Community Grants Program, \$15,000 was made available for community projects. Funding was provided to the following groups:

Community Group	Grant (\$)
Brilliant and Resilient	600
Leeton Aboriginal Education Consultative Group	810
Leeton Amateur Swimming Club	1,000
Leeton Apex 40	1,200
Leeton Art Society	900
Leeton Aviators Club	2,000
Leeton Eisteddfod	810
Leeton Girl Guides	1,290
Leeton Harness Racing Club	1,000
Leeton Water Ski Club	1,000
Light Up Leeton Committee	1,500
Leeton and District Local Aboriginal Land Council	890
REA Leeton District Dressage Club	1,000
Shorthorn Youth Club of Australia	1,000
Total	15,000

Other contributions and donations provided included the following:

Organisation	Contribution (\$)
Riverina Regional Tourism	9,167
'Inside Water' Film Project	15,000
Rural Doctors Network	3,300
Total	27,467

Leeton Shire Council also provided an Annual Donation of \$100 to four High Schools, \$75 to eight Primary Schools and \$250 to TAFE Leeton.

Capital Works Projects

Council undertook major capital works with a value of \$6.39 million. These projects included:

- Upgrades to Leeton and Whitton Cemetery (new paths and plinths, reconstruction of the portable shelter)
- sewer relining works
- Refurbishment of the Leeton trickling filter plant
- Electrical and telemetry upgrades for the Leeton sewerage system
- Road rehabilitation works on McNeil Road, Davis Road, Innisvale Lane and Palm Avenue
- Wamoon Playground renewal
- Power outlets installed in Mountford Park
- Graham Park shade sails
- Yanco Sports Ground Dressing Rooms upgrade.

Under Council's Quick Response/Discretionary program, funding was provided to the following community group:

Community Group	Grant (\$)
Leeton Town Band	3,000
Leeton Golf Club	500
Leeton and District Water Wheel Club	405
Leeton Family and Local History	400
REA Leeton District Dressage Club	1,000
Leeton SunRice Festival	1,000
Total	6,305

Council provided Youth Development Grants to the following individuals:

Individual	Grant (\$)
G Korovata	250
C Boardman	250
M Boardman	250
C Steele	250
R Henman	250
K O'Callaghan	250
B O'Callaghan	250
V Wate	250
Total	2,000

2018/19

The net operating result, before capital grants and contributions, for the year ended 30 June 2019 was a surplus of \$2.65 million.

Operating Items	Million (\$)
Total income from continuing operations	32,852
Total expenses from continuing operations	26,940
Net operating result from continuing operations (counting grants and contributions)	5,912
Net operating result from continuing operations (not counting grants and contributions)	2,654
Current assets	40,588
Non-current assets	224,628
Current liabilities	5,676
Non-current liabilities	1,465
Total equity	258,075

Contributions and Donations

Under Council's Community Grants Program, \$15,000 was made available for community projects. Funding was provided to the following community organisations:

Community Group	Grant (\$)
Leeton Aviators Club	3,000
Leeton Community Care and Development	2,796
Leeton Whitton Football Netball Club	500
Lions Club of Leeton	3,500
Kurrajong Disability Service Leeton	1,000
Riverina Riding Club	1,000
St Vincent de Paul Leeton	1,000
Total	12,796

Other contributions and donations provided included:

Organisation	Contribution (\$)
Leeton Harness Racing Club	550
Rural Doctors Network – Bush Bursary	3,300
24 Hour Mega Swim Event	1,584
Leeton Golf Course 'A Night Under the Stars'	415
Charlie Teo Foundation	415
Leeton Aviators Club	3,494
Total	9,758

Leeton Shire Council also provided an Annual Donation of \$100 to four High Schools, \$75 to eight Primary Schools and \$250 to TAFE Leeton.

Capital Works Projects

Council undertook major capital works with a value of \$5.73 million. Some of these projects included:

- Leeton No.1 Oval kiosk*
- New pathways at the Leeton Cemetery
- Wattle Hill solar lighting
- Lighting along Wamoon Avenue Service Road
- Leeton Skate Park surface treatment
- Automated Water Meter Reading System Project (Taggle)*
- McCaughey Park Splash Pad
- Waipukurau Park playground
- Indoor Stadium goals replacement

*Indicates work in progress

Under Council's Quick Response/Discretionary program, funding was provided to the following groups:

Community Group	Grant (\$)
Leeton Calo's Riders Club	676
Leeton Harness Racing Club	1,500
Leeton Health Advisory Committee	500
Leeton Town Band	3,000
Total	5,676

Council provided Youth Development Grants to the following individuals:

Individual	Grant (\$)
R Henman	250
K O'Callaghan	250
V Wate	250
K Henman	250
R Butler	250
C Sidebottom	250
W Maguire	250
D Demamiel	250
Total	2,000

2019/20

The net operating result, before capital grants and contributions, for the year ended 30 June 2020 was a surplus of \$2.5 million.

Operating Items	Million (\$)
Total income from continuing operations	36,692
Total expenses from continuing operations	29,254
Net operating result from continuing operations (counting grants and contributions)	7,438
Net operating result from continuing operations (not counting grants and contributions)	2,503
Current assets	42,613
Non-current assets	285,891
Current liabilities	7,808
Non-current liabilities	3,577
Total equity	317,119

Contributions and Donations

Under Council's Community Grants Program, \$20,000 was made available for community projects. Funding was provided to the following groups:

Community Group	Grant (\$)
Creative Community Concepts	1,450
Kurrajong Disability Service	1,000
Leeton Can Assist	1,000
Leeton Pipe Band	2,000
Leeton Scouts	1,300
Lions Club of Leeton	1,000
Parkrun Australia	2,500
Sarah Tiffen	2,000
Sarah Tiffen	2,000
Yanco Public School P and C	550
Yanco Wamoon Football Club	2,000
Total	16,800

Council provided Youth Development Grants to the following individuals:

Individual	Grant (\$)
C Holmes	250
D DeMarniel	250
B Thompson	250
W Rawle	250
T McMillan	250
H Gilmour	250
Total	1,500

Leeton Shire Council also provided an Annual Donation of \$100 to four High Schools, \$75 to eight Primary Schools and \$250 to TAFE Leeton.

Capital Works Projects

Council undertook major capital works with a value of \$8.03 million. These projects included:

- Leeton Regional Aquatic Centre Redevelopment Project*
- Leeton No.1 Oval kiosk
- Irrigation system at the Leeton Golf Course
- Refurbishment of the Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission building
- Whitton Transfer Station*
- Upgrade works on the Whitton–Darlington Point Road Bridge*
- HVAC Council Offices
- CBD Enhancement Project Phases 1 and 2 – Wade Avenue redevelopment*
- Leeton Showground Grandstand*
- Automated Water Meter Reading System Project*

*Indicates work in progress

Under Council's Quick Response/Discretionary program, funding was provided to the following groups:

Community Group	Grant (\$)
Kurrajong Disability Service – Leeton	1,000
Rotary Club of Leeton Central	500
Total	1,500

Other contributions and donations provided included:

Organisation	Contribution (\$)
Hilltop Accommodation Centre	5,000
Leeton Harness Racing Club	550
Leeton Eisteddfod Society	2,000
Leeton Business Chamber	4,000
Leeton Bidgee Classic	2,500
Cricket NSW	7,291
Leeton Town Band	3,000
MIA Cruisers Inc	1,039
Rural Doctors Network – Bush Bursary	3,300
Total	28,680

2020/21

The net operating result, before capital grants and contributions, for the year ended 30 June 2021 was a deficit of \$4.43 million.

Operating Items	Million (\$)
Total income from continuing operations	38,502
Total expenses from continuing operations	36,001
Net operating result from continuing operations (counting grants and contributions)	2,501
Net operating result from continuing operations (not counting grants and contributions)	(4,425)
Current assets	43,004
Non-current assets	315,951
Current liabilities	8,053
Non-current liabilities	6,464
Total equity	344,438

Contributions and Donations

Under Council's Community Grants Program, \$25,775 was made available for community projects. Funding was provided to the following groups:

Community Group	Grant (\$)
1st Leeton Scout Group	620
Kurrajong	2,000
Leeton Aviators Club	1,000
Leeton Aviators Club	1,750
Leeton Can Assist	1,000
Leeton Family and Local History	2,000
Leeton Family and Local History	1,300
Leeton Rainbow Pride Collective Inc.	749
Leeton Shire Men's Shed	828
Leeton Show Society	2,000
Leeton Show Society	1,000
Riverina Riding Club	1,000
Riverina Vintage Machinery Club Inc.	1,000
Whitton Town Improvement Committee	2,000
Writer in Residence – Auspiced by Leeton Historic Hydro Motor Inn	1,000
Yanco Agricultural High School P&C	1,000
Yanco Wamoon Football Club	2,000
Yanco Wamoon Ladies Auxiliary	1,000
Total	23,247

Leeton Shire Council also provided an Annual Donation of \$100 to four High Schools and \$75 to eight Primary Schools.

Capital Works Projects

Council undertook major capital works with a value of \$16,212,652. These projects included:

- Leeton Showground Grandstand
- Leeton Regional Aquatic Centre redevelopment*
- Sporting Walk of Fame
- Whitton Transfer Station
- New waste cells at Leeton Landfill
- Helson Park and Playground
- Upgrade works on the Whitton–Darlington Point Road Bridge
- Mountford Park toilet upgrade
- McCaughey Park toilets
- Leeton Regional Aquatic Centre carpark shade sails
- Sporting Walk of Fame
- Enticknap Park Playground renewal
- Noel Pulbrook Park Playground renewal

*Indicates work in progress

Under Council's Quick Response/Discretionary Grant Program, funding was provided to the following groups:

Community Organisation	Grant (\$)
Leeton High School	570
Leeton Motor Sports Club	1,000
Leeton Rainbow Pride Collective	185
Murrumbidgee Police District	500
Total	2,255

Other contributions and donations included:

Organisation	Contribution (\$)
Leeton Bidgee Classic	2,500
Leeton Business Chamber	1,500
Leeton Town Band	3,000
Murrumbidgee Trails Marketing Collective	10,000
Rural Doctors Network – Bush Bursary	3,300
Whitton Malthouse	245,215
Total	265,515

Council provided Youth Development Grants to the following individuals:

Individual	Grant (\$)
M Boardman	250
S Leighton	250
C Holden	250
K Henman	250
R Henman	250
Total	1,250

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Highlights

Clockwise from top left:

The Hon Sussan Ley MP and Mayor Cr Paul Maytom officially open the new Showgrounds Grandstand

Skate Park Consultation Workshop – consulting skateboarders about the design for Stage 2 of the Skate Park Extension

The Leeton Early Learning Centre (LELC) has the capacity to provide quality, age-appropriate early childhood education for up to 68 children

The redeveloped and renamed Leeton Regional Aquatic Centre opened in early February 2021

Mayor Cr Paul Maytom officially opens the Whitton Waste Transfer Station

The 2019 Australian Art Deco Festival Leeton was a huge success. Unfortunately, COVID-19 thwarted efforts to host the event in 2020 and 2021

Monica Armanini (left), General Manager Jackie Kruger, Mayor Cr Paul Maytom, Terry O'Keefe and CEO of the Country Universities Centre Duncan Taylor at the launch of the Country Universities Centre

McCaughy Park Splash Pad was installed in 2018. The shade sail was added in 2019

Page 16

Theme 1: A Healthy and Caring Community

Top images, clockwise from top left:

Leeton Community Services Expo was held in the Leeton Plaza in November 2018

A cake decorated as a book sits on an old circulation box at the 10th Anniversary of the Leeton Major Dooley Library Refurbishment

Leeton Shire Council runs Bike Week activities every year, COVID-19 permitting

Several events have been held over the term of the Council to mark International Day of People with Disability

One of Leeton's many shared pathways being installed along Petersham Road

International Women's Day Celebrations being hosted at the Leeton Shire Major Dooley Library in March 2021

Bottom images, from left:

Grandparents Day at Whitton-Murrumbidgee Public School

Wiradjuri elder and long-term Council staff member William Ingram speaking at NAIDOC Week celebrations in 2019

Leeton Shire Council, in partnership with the Leeton Multicultural Support Group, hosts Harmony Day activities on an annual basis

Page 22

Theme 2: An Active and Enriched Community

Top images, clockwise from top left:

Make Music Day: free live music in Leeton's Rotary Park

Leeton Regional Aquatic Centre ready for the first school swimming carnival of the 2021 year

The Leeton Skate Park extension completed

The Whitton Town Centre Mural parades across the front of the Whitton Community Hall

Josie Millynn enjoys the How Cities Work Exhibition at the Leeton Museum and Gallery

A netball game underway in the Leeton Indoor Stadium

Bottom images, from left:

Henry V was performed at the Roxy Community Theatre to a full house over four nights

The completed Leeton Showground Grandstand

Page 26

Theme 3: A Healthy Natural Environment

Top images, clockwise from top left:

The Leeton Recycling Second-Hand Shop at the Leeton Landfill and Recycling Centre helps with efforts to divert waste from landfill

New Fivebough Wetlands signage was installed in 2020/21

The Whitton Transfer Station under construction. The facility was officially opened in October 2020

Roadside slashing assists in controlling weeds as well as improving road safety

The Wattle Hill water tower: the provision of quality potable water is one of Council's key activities

A sod turning ceremony marks the start of construction of Photon Energy's two photovoltaic power plants (solar farms)

Bottom images, from left:

The wetlands span 400ha and are home to a wide variety of plants and animals

Council conducts DrumMuster on a regular basis

Page 30

Theme 4: A Thriving Economy with Good Jobs

Clockwise from top left:

The Miss Fisher and the Crypt of Tears Exhibition was an astounding success. It was planned to coincide with 2021 Australian Art Deco Festival Leeton which, sadly, had to be cancelled at the last moment in response to COVID-19

'Sydney Weekender' host Mike Whitney visits the Riverina

Launch of the Murrumbidgee Trails Marketing Collective

Citrus and allied industries are a major employer in Leeton Shire

An aerial view showing the businesses lining Kurrajong Avenue, Leeton

Page 36

Theme 5: A Quality Built Environment

Top images, clockwise from top left:

Upgrade of the Koonadan and Vance Road intersection underway

The newly refurbished Mountford Park Toilets

Stormwater infrastructure in Colinroobie Road handles a downpour

The Hon Sussan Ley MP and Mayor Cr Maytom officially opened Helson Park with the assistance of the Helson family

Whitton–Darlington Point Road Bridge under construction

Updated playground equipment in the Graham Park Playground

Bottom images, from left:

The WRConnect intermodal freight facility

Council staff work on the CBD Enhancement Project Phases 1 and 2 – Wade Avenue

Page 40

Theme 6: Strong Leadership

Top images, clockwise from top left:

Mayor Cr Paul Maytom (left), Cr Tracey Morris (right), General Manager Jackie Kruger (second from left) and Roxy Redevelopment Committee Chairperson Katherine Herrmann meet Minister for the Arts the Hon Don Harwin (centre) at the Roxy Community Theatre

Emeritus Mayor Cr Paul Maytom wearing his newly presented Exceptional Service Medal and holding the LGNSW Excellence Award and the Award conferring the title of Emeritus Mayor

Greg Brown (left) and Phil Williams (centre) with Manager Cultural Services Suesann Vos at a morning tea held to thank LMAG volunteers

Participants in the Whitton Place Creation Workshop

A Councillor workshop COVID-19 style, with some Councillors attending on-line

Mayor Cr Paul Maytom (second from the right) and General Manager Jackie Kruger (to the left of the Mayor) with Whitton Malthouse representatives at the Malthouse

Bottom images, from left:

The Councillors and General Manager at the second-to-last Council Meeting of their 2016–2021 term (from left):

Cr Tony Ciccio, Cr Michael Kidd, Cr Tracey Morris, Cr Paul Smith, Cr Tony Reneker, Emeritus Mayor Cr Paul Maytom (seated), Cr Peter Davidson, Deputy Mayor Cr George Weston, Cr Sandra Nardi and General Manager Jackie Kruger

Mayor Maytom (centre) and General Manager Jackie Kruger (right) meeting the Hon Victor Dominello at Parliament House in 2018



LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL

Leeton Shire Council

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