



McKinlay Shire Council 2015-16

# ANNUAL REPORT

# Welcome

## to the McKinlay Shire Council 2015/16 Annual Report

*Our 2015/16 Annual Report is an important component of Councils performance management process. This is an essential document that will inform the community how McKinlay Shire Council has performed over the 2015/16 financial year. It captures the achievements, hopes, aspirations, priorities and goals of our community.*

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## Vision and Mission

Council is required under the Local Government Act 2009 and the Local Government Regulation 2012 to prepare an Annual Report of its operations each financial year. Our 2015-16 Annual Report reflects our commitment to achieving effective corporate governance through openness and accountability and ensuring resources are used efficiently to provide value for money service to the McKinlay Shire community.

Our communication objective is to provide ratepayers and other stakeholders with:

- An account of our revenue and related policies and how we have used public funds.
- An insight into the challenges and opportunities that have influenced our actions and delivery of strategic outcomes.
- Our priorities for the year ahead, and
- An accurate, balanced and transparent assessment of our achievement in implementing our Community, Corporate and Operational Plans.

A great place to live with a well connected, strong, healthy and friendly community, McKinlay Shire will continue to sustain and grow as a place that represents the best aspects of outback living.

McKinlay Shire supports our population to meet the key thresholds for social, health, education and commercial services and also underpins a sustainable, diversified rural economy.

The community welcomes new industries that contribute to its overall vision and sustainability. Ongoing improvements to infrastructure, amenities and services will continue to improve the healthiness and quality of life for residents and make McKinlay Shire an increasingly attractive and connected place for residents, tourists and visitors.

Through good governance and partnerships, we strive to achieve quadruple bottom line outcomes that maximize the social, cultural, environmental and economic benefits of all our future actions.



# Profile of our Shire

McKinlay Shire is the gateway to the Gulf of Carpentaria. The Shire spans some 41,000 square kilometers and embraces the townships of Julia Creek and Nelia on the Flinders Highway, and McKinlay and Kynuna on the Landsborough Highway.

A rural and regional Shire, McKinlay is home to a productive and innovative pastoral industry, as well as the world's richest single mine producer of silver, lead and zinc, at Cannington, and a copper mine in Eloise. The world's largest natural aquifer, the Great Artesian Basin, underpins and supports our community and the diversity of the rich grazing lands and unique animal life that the Shire has to offer. McKinlay Shire has a proud history, industry and is a close family community. Looking into the future, the Shire will shortly enter a steady growth phase as more people discover this little gem of the North West.

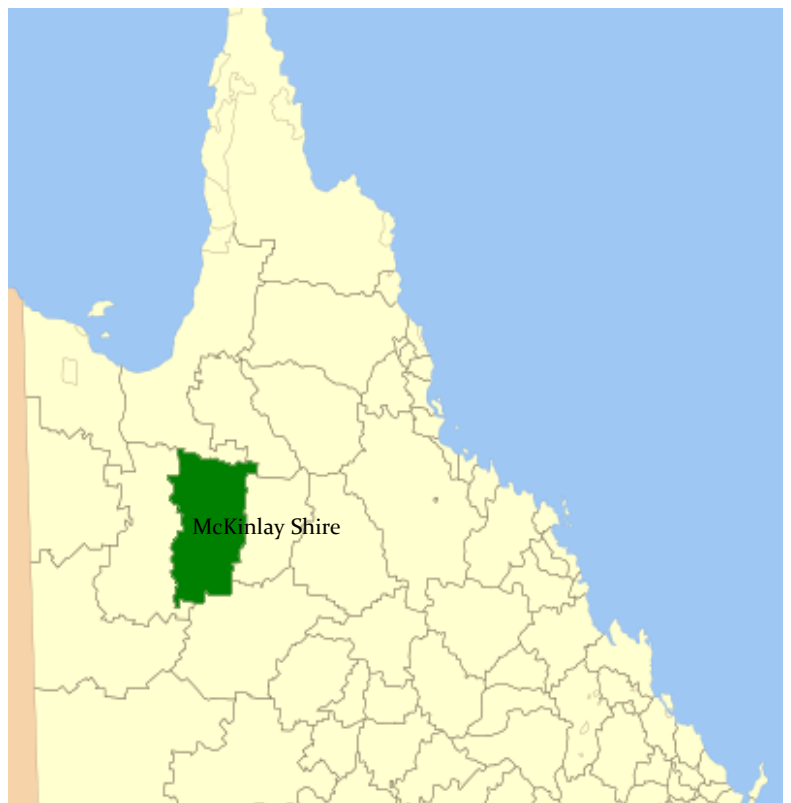


## Scale

Size	40 818 sq/km
Population	1000
Land Reserve	32421.91 ha
Administration Centers	2
Budget - Operational	\$24,460,470
Budget - Capital Works	\$13,660,573

## Recreation Facilities

Julia Creek Indoor Sports Centre  
Julia Creek Swimming Pool  
Julia Creek Participation Space  
Bike Safety Park  
Kev Bannah Oval  
McIntyre Park  
Tennis Courts  
Nerida Currin Skate Park  
George Sills Park  
Peter Dawes Park  
Centenary Park



## Infrastructure

Road lengths total TMR controlled roads)	2041.26km (including 408.91 km
Council owned road Rural	1633.26km (13.5% sealed)
Council owned road Town	9.50 km (85% sealed)
State roads	408 km
Aerodromes	3
SES buildings	3
Medical Centre	2
Amenities block	6
Aged persons unit	8
Caravan Park	1
Cattle Yards	1

## Community Centres

Julia Creek Civic Centre  
 CSA Building  
 Julia Creek Library  
 McKinlay Library  
 Jan Eckford Memorial Centre  
 Crafty Old School House  
 Fr. Bill Busuttin Centre



## Workforce / Total number of employees

Permanent	38
Permanent Part-Time	5
Contract—Executive & Managerial	5
Contract—Other	3
Casual	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>

*Leading the way towards a future  
 that can sustain growth and  
 economic development, while  
 retaining a lifestyle that is uniquely  
 “Outback”.*

# Mayors Overview

Welcome to the Annual Report for McKinlay Shire for the 15/16 Financial Year. The drought that gripped the shire and a large part of Queensland has persisted during this time with a limited and patchy wet season. Some properties in the area still experienced no significant rain for the fourth year. Despite this the shire continues to maintain a strong position and the community have pulled together on many levels to support each other. Consistent lobbying for works and funding saw approvals for some significant projects that will not only benefit the community long term but provide much need economic stimulus for the year to come during the construction phase.

In Engineering Council was extremely excited by the funding approvals from both the State and Federal Government in early 2016 for the new Punchbowl Bridge. This \$3.5 million project will be significant for not only local landholders, transport operators and residents but also Visitors utilising the Punchbowl Drive Route. Works began in June 2016 and are projected to be completed on time prior to the end of the calendar year. The Queensland State Government's announcement of the Western Roads Upgrade Package provided a much needed capital works project for Council on the Flinders Highway. This project not only supported investment into this supply chain but also provided Council workforce with ongoing jobs.

Ongoing works with NDRRA and general Council maintenance have been completed and we are constantly looking to improve not only the way we deliver these works but our value for money. Capital works and upgrades were focused on the main local roads of significance within the Shire being Gilliat/McKinlay, Taldora/Iffley, Punchbowl, Nelia/Bunda and Malpas/Trenton. Re seal works were also completed on some town streets.

In the midst of the Christmas season saw the unfortunate derailment of a train to the east of Julia Creek containing sulphuric acid. I would like to commend all the parties involved in the stabilisation of the site and the months of subsequent work to ensure a full clean up was handled efficiently and effectively during this holiday season which was also hampered by localised rain. Work also began on the Mt Isa to Townsville rail line by QRail which, aside from the upgrade to the line being welcome, provided again an economic injection into our main town of Julia Creek for the second part of the year.

This year saw the start of some major infrastructure projects that will have long lasting impact on the Community. The Julia Creek Community Precinct Upgrade inclusive of the Jan Eckford Centre refurbishment went to tender and was awarded in the early part of 2016. Construction began on site in April and will be finished in November in time for the many end of year functions. I would like to thank the community who have worked with us around this upgrade which has impacted some annual events such as Julia Creek Dirt and Dust Festival and the MISOTA School Camp however the new facility will be very welcome for these groups in 2017. Other projects that were completed and open such as the Darren Ginns Participation Space which has seen membership grow to over 100 people and is an extremely well utilised space along some essential works to the Julia Creek Swimming Pool.



Council has continued its participation in regional groups such as the North West Regional Organisation of Councils, MITEZ, FRAP and Overlanders Way group. This has ensured our collaborative approach continues and that we maintain a focus on economic development. Council hosted some regional forums such as the Flinders River Irrigation Investment Forum which was held in Julia Creek in December 2015. Council began work in collaboration with South32 Cannington Mine on a web based local business portal which should launch in early 2017. I also continued as the MITEZ representative on the Outback Tourism Board and became the LGAQ Policy Executive Member for the North West in May 2016.

Linked to Economic Development and certainly continuing support our shire financially we saw another wonderful end and start to the Tourist Season. Initiatives started by Council in 2012 and 2013 have continued to grow and become renowned across the sector. These include the Caravan Park Bush Dinners, the wonderful At the Creek Visitor Information Centre, the Julia Creek RV site and Camp Host Program to name a few. Not only are these initiatives successful but the ongoing efforts of Council, staff and Community saw McKinlay Shire take home five awards at the annual Outback Tourism Awards.



Telecommunications has been a focus and the Shire is not without telecommunication issues. We will continue to be at the table in this area to ensure long term fit for purpose telecommunications and adequate staffing for the region. The main achievement for Council in this area has been funding announcement for the McKinlay Mobile Service Tower as part of the Federal Black Spot Funding program. Ensuring ongoing works within the Shire through roads and other projects to continually stimulate the economy during this difficult time of drought was a strategic approach by Council which certainly has proven successful.

Community Services is an extremely important area for local governments of our size and McKinlay Shire continues to provide and strive in this area from the provision of health services through HACC and the Community Nurse in partnership with the North West Hospital and Health Service along with support of the McKinlay Led Nurse Clinic. Provision of Sport and Recreation services, After School Care and the continuation of the Julia Creek Middle School delivery ensure that we maintain liveability in the Shire. This year saw Council become the provider for the Julia Creek Day Care and Kindergarten to ensure long term sustainability of this service whilst ensuring that the community was still engaged on the fund raising side.





Council maintained strong financial management for the 15/16 financial year ensuring that reserves remain intact at \$1.3 million. This has been made possible by successfully leveraging of State and Federal funds for capital works projects that are based on sound long term rational for the community. Moving forward Council would like to see our financial position strengthen and with all debts paid out by June 2017 Council will be a in good position to borrow if the situation arose for the benefit of Community.

During this year we saw Local Government Elections which occurred in April 2016. I would like to both recognise and thank Mr Tony Batt and Mrs Edwina Hick for their service, commitment and unwavering passion for the shire over the previous four years. The new Council has seen Cr Phillip Curr and Cr Neil Walker (Deputy Mayor) return along with new Councillors Cr Shauna Royes and Cr Janene Fegan.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Mr John Kelly our interim CEO for the second part of the year and welcome our new permanent CEO Mr Peter Fitchat. Last but certainly not least I would like to thank our staff for their continuing efforts in working for the betterment of the shire and I look forward to the exciting year to come.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Belinda Murphy".

Cr. Belinda Murphy  
Mayor

# CEO Overview

Returning to McKinlay Shire Council as the Acting Chief Executive Officer on 1st February 2016 for six months was an absolute delight for me both professionally and personally.

McKinlay Shire Council is an excellent Organisation to lead and to work with both at the elected representative level and at a staff level.

The Council under the leadership of Mayor Belinda Murphy is a committed and innovative local government and “punches well above its weight” in delivering for the McKinlay Shire community. With the assistance of an enthusiastic and professional staff many initiatives have been delivered with others well advanced. Some of these initiatives and my highlights have been:



## Punchbowl Bridge

The original bridge built over the Flinders River on the Punchbowl Road was inspected in 2014 and closed to all vehicles over 5 tonne gross vehicle weight. The bridge was built in the 1960’s and endured many years of increasing truck loads and cumulative damage to this structure due to regular flooding in the river. Council were successful in obtaining both Commonwealth and State Funding to the value of \$3.1M for the new bridge. The bridge is designed at 1.5m higher than the original bridge and will thus provide greater flood immunity.

## Civic Centre and Jan Eckford Centre Upgrade

Council has embarked on a much needed full refurbishment of the Civic Hall. This has been made possible by Council securing funding of \$1.2m from the State Government and \$400,000 from South 32 this combined with council’s own contribution of \$600,000 has made this a viable and exciting project that will see an upgraded Civic Hall benefit the community and their events.

The concept design was completed and put on public display at various community events. LGIS were appointed project managers for the project and Richardson Builders as the Contractor to complete the Upgrade.



## Solar Business Initiative

The McKinlay Solar Project is unique in Australia and born out of an idea to help local businesses and Council become more sustainable. 22 “shop front” businesses in the Shire had a business case completed for them. From there Council ran a tender process which has been very involved to ensure that both businesses that opt in and Council get the best possible product, installation and maintenance for a competitive price.

The sole aim of this project was to make a positive financial impact for every-one involved. From a Council perspective we pay a power bill of over \$320,000 per annum. Solar once installed on 6 Council premises will be paid off in four(4) years and will save approximately \$40,000 per year based on today’s power pricing.

Additionally Council is assessing the practicality of a Geothermal plant in Julia Creek to further complement the Solar Project and have further savings for Council in the future .

## Julia Creek Early Learning Centre

Council took over ownership and management of the Julia Creek Kindergarten & Child-Minding Centre, as of January 2016. Council has endeavoured to maintain the facility and service unchanged although sadly farewelled the previous Director Nicole Schiemer. The facility is now known as the Julia Creek Early Learning Centre.

The Julia Creek Kindergarten & Child-Minding Association will stay on as the parent fundraising committee.

The challenge for Council into the future is to maintain appropriately qualified Directors to satisfy legislative requirements – a problem confronting many western and remote Early Learning Centres.

## Crocodile Dundee Celebrations

30 years ago, McKinlay township helped to create modern folklore with the filming of Crocodile Dundee in this small outback town. The 30 year celebrations on 23rd April 2016 with a street party, movie screening, market stalls, live entertainment, rides, street parade, Mick’s truck and genuine movie sets from the film were an absolute hit and with the presence of Ernie Dingo added an authentic touch to the weekend. The efforts put in by Council staff and the McKinlay community made for an exceptional celebration.



I wish to thank McKinlay Shire for once again having me. I look forward to what is in store in 2017 for the Julia Creek community and in deed the Shire .

- John F. Kelly

# Highlights—Infrastructure

## Participation Space Opening

McKinlay Shire Council was proud to officially open the Daren Ginns Centre on the 22nd July 2015. The Centre is a 24/7 gym and fitness area, furnished with equipment including treadmills, stationary bikes, free weights and assisted weights stations and more.

The \$367,000 project was funded in partnership with South32 Cannington (\$175,000), the Queensland Governments Local Government Grants and Subsidy Program (\$100,000) and Council (\$92,000). The Centre is named in honour of the late Mr Daren Ginns who served the McKinlay Shire community as a Councillor from 1976-1983 and then as Mayor from 1985-2000. The opening was attended by 35 residents and members of the Ginns family.

Mayor Belinda Murphy said the centre is a great addition to the community's infrastructure. "We all want a healthier and active community and being able to provide this new centre is exciting. The 24/7 nature will minimise expense for Council and therefore ratepayers whilst providing flexibility for everyone to exercise at times that suit them best around work and family commitments."

Council are encouraging people to use it as much as possible, whether just by themselves or organising a time with a couple of friends to workout together. Council believe it will go along way to adding to the liveability of the shire and support people to improve their overall health.

The Centre has televisions and is air-conditioned. To launch the Centre residents were able to use the facility free of charge until the end of August, following completion of an induction.



## Civic Centre Up Grade

Funding was announced in June 2015 of Julia Creek's new \$2.2 million Community and Cultural Precinct upgrade thanks to \$1.2 million from the Palaszczuk Government. It's progression through out the 2015/16 financial year has seen many benefits creating new jobs and an estimated economic benefit of more than \$150,000 per year, with spin-offs for local businesses in opportunities including event catering.

The new precinct will be able to host regular industry events including Mount Isa to Townsville Economic Zone meetings, agricultural industry events including Cattlemen's Association functions, and tourism events such as Outback Queensland Tourism Association (OQTA) meetings and symposiums.

McKinlay Shire Council has committed \$600,000 along with an industry contribution of \$400,000 from South32.

McKinlay Shire Council Mayor Belinda Murphy said the upgrade would see a bigger range of events and activities come to the region, and boost the local economy.

"This is an exciting project for council. The benefits of this project go beyond the jobs created during construction but will extend to the economic activity generated by hosting events we were previously unable to," Cr Murphy said.

"The town will have the capacity to support vital community events that help improve the social and emotional wellbeing of the community and make the region a more attractive place to live.

"And with the shire hard hit by drought in the last few years, council is especially keen on projects such as this one that inject into the local economy and provide a long-term economic boost."

The refurbished centre will have new flooring, stage AV equipment, air-conditioning and an outdoor area, as well as revamped hall amenities, kitchen and bar area, and the arts and cultural buildings attached to the complex.



## Punchbowl Bridge Funding Announcement

In January 2016, McKinlay Shire Council was advised that they were successful in their application to the Federal Government's Bridge Renewal Program and received funding of \$1.7 million.

In an announcement from the Queensland State Government on 5th February 2016, McKinlay Shire Council was advised that their application submitted in September 2015 for \$1.4 million through the Community Resilience Fund was also successful. The total project cost is \$3.5 million for this shovel ready project.

Both lines of funding committed will significantly lessen the impact on ratepayers for this critical infrastructure. This new bridge will enhance the access to community members who are often cut off during wet season rain due to the waters exceeding the height of the current bridge. The new bridge will have a greater load limit thus reducing the number of diversions that heavy vehicles such as cattle trucks have to make.

# Highlights— Awards

## Queensland Information Association Awards

*Statistics*

*Signage*

*Visitor Servicing*

*Professional Development*

*Overall Visitor Information Centre of the Year*

The Julia Creek Visitor Information Centre has been crowned the 2015 Queensland Visitor Information Centre of the Year.

Seventy delegates from across the state descended on Caloundra for the 2015 Queensland Information Centre Association (QICA) Conference and Awards on 5th-7th October.

The conference covered industry-wide topics such as volunteer management, designing interactive displays, online marketing and face-to-face engagement.

Tourism and Events Queensland Chief Executive Officer, Leanne Coddington, provided industry-wide data and an insight into trends and direction.

In an unprecedented fashion, the Julia Creek Visitor Information Centre won five categories and were runners up in two categories to be crowned the 2015 Overall Winner of the QICA VIC of the Year Awards, sponsored by Sunshine Coast Destination Limited.



McKinlay Shire Council Mayor, Belinda Murphy, attributes the bevy of accolades to the Shire's commitment to tourism excellence and willingness to take risks to try new things.

"The collective efforts of staff and Council to provide our guests with unique and authentic experiences have culminated to us receiving this recognition from our peers," Mayor Murphy said.

"This year, we have innovated how we connect with our guests. We have hosted long-table lunches with primary producers, town tours, morning teas and camp fire dinners. All of these experiences connect guests with locals. They find out pretty quickly what makes the outback so special. Our guests leave feeling like they have made new friends," she added.

As a result, throughout 2015 the Julia Creek Visitor Information Centre has observed record tourist numbers - up more than 30% than 2014 figures.

"We can also deduce through visitor surveys that we have increased the wider economic impact of our actions ensuring that tourism is a viable industry for our local business operators and our entire region," Mayor Murphy said.

Mayor Murphy indicated that McKinlay Shire Council will build on this momentum in 2016.

"Whilst we may implement innovations and continue to grow, we will never deviate from our core promise of providing friendly, insightful and reliable face-to-face visitor service," she said.

## Outback Queensland Tourism Awards

*Visitor Information and Servicing (Julia Creek VIC)*

*Local Government Award for Tourism*

*Cultural Tourism*

*Young Achiever Award (Georgia Fleming)*

*The Overlander's Way was inducted into the Hall of Fame*



McKinlay Shire Council has been recognized for its contribution to outback Queensland tourism, collecting five accolades at the 2015 Outback Queensland Tourism Association (OQTA) Awards Night in Barcaldine.

McKinlay Shire Council won the Local Government Award for Tourism and the Cultural Tourism Award. The Julia Creek Visitor Information Centre, 'At the Creek', collected the gong for Visitor Information and Services whilst McKinlay Shire Council Tourism Coordinator, Georgia Fleming, was recognized as the Young Achiever in Tourism. McKinlay Shire Council is also an active member of the Overlander's Way who was inducted into the OQTA Hall of Fame.

Elated with the results, Mayor Murphy commented, "These awards are a reflection of the outstanding achievements made by Council and the entire community over the last 12 months."



Council has further developed the success of the free RV Friendly Site, volunteer Camp Host Program, Julia Creek Caravan Park Bush Dinners to name a few. New to 2015, Council innovated to offer our guests Town Tours with an authentic outback smoko, Paddock to Plate Long Table Lunches featuring local beef and red claw producers.

“This year was very special in that we were able to immortalise our servicemen and women with the unveiling of a new cenotaph in McKinlay and the Spirit of the Light Horse statue at the Julia Creek RSL for the 100 year anniversary of our First World War campaign,” Mayor Murphy said.

“Our local stockmen were naturals on a horse thus we were very well represented in the Light Horse Brigade making this statue, created by Townsville artist Sue Tilley, so special for the community,” she added.

Extensive research into each of these servicemen led to uncovering some amazing examples of heroism and the development of profiles which are on proud display at the McKinlay Centenary Museum and Julia Creek RSL.

“We have also worked with community groups across the Shire to raise the profile of local events.

“McKinlay Shire is very fortunate in that we have six race meetings, three campdrafts, three rodeos, the iconic Julia Creek Dirt n Dust weekend and many other exciting cultural events.

“These events are major draw cards for our guests as they get to meet and share a story with the local characters that make the outback so special,” Mayor Murphy added.





# Highlights – Community

## Ministerial Visit to McKinlay Shire

Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries Leanne Donaldson visited McKinlay Shire in April to meet with producers and with community representatives to discuss the issues that are important to them.

Minister Donaldson and Member Rob Katter met with the newly sworn in councillors who took their Declaration of Office that morning. After the meeting the Minister and State Member left with Mayor Belinda Murphy and newly appointed Deputy Mayor Cr. Neil Walker to travel 70km south of Julia Creek to Glenbervie Station. Owners Ted and Kathy Parry graciously hosted a number of representatives from the Shire’s grazing community to talk with Minister Donaldson and Member Robbie Katter about the drought, generational adjustment as cattle producers and current industry change.



During the two day trip the Minister met with Mayors and councillors in Cloncurry, Julia Creek, Hughenden, Normanton and Mt Isa and toured Rockvale Station, a number of properties in Hughenden, and Stanbroke Pastoral. Discussions surrounded the proposed tick line changes and impacts, increasing debt for landholders to just keep their business a float along with succession issues and children not having a future on the family farm. Mayor Murphy also commented that the way forward is for constant communication and strong collaboration from industry and government. “Not one industrial or government can make it rain or make this right but if each focuses on playing their part and collaborating I certainly hope for a bright agricultural future”.



## Local Government Elections

McKinlay Shire's newly elected council made their Declaration of Office Tuesday 5th April at the Post Election Council meeting held in the Boardroom at Julia Creek Council Chambers. The new council consisted of re-elected Mayor Belinda Murphy and four councillors. Returning for a second term was Cr. Philip Curr and Cr. Neil Walker who was unanimously elected as the new Deputy Mayor. New to their roles Council welcomed Cr. Janene Fegan and Cr. Shauna Royes.

Also attending the meeting and swearing in ceremony were family and friends of the elected. Mayor Belinda Murphy commented “ I would also like to thank the previous Deputy Mayor Tony Batt and Cr Edwina Hick for their passion and commitment and I along with the Councillors are excited for the term ahead”.



## Community Benefit Assistance Scheme 2015/16

The Community Benefit Assistance Scheme offered dollar for dollar funding to local community groups under the categories of infrastructure, equipment and volunteer support. In the 2015/16 program \$8,526 went towards community organisations, enabling local groups to deliver their events and activities to a high standard, ensuring longevity for the benefit of the community as a whole.

A revised community grants policy was adopted in September 2015 by Council.

Applicant	Description	Amount
Sedan Dip Sport & Recreation	Pump	\$1,540
Saxby Roundup Inc	Chutes	5,000
McKissa Sports Association	High jump mats	\$1,918
Qld Ambulance Service	eFlares	\$682.15
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$8,526.15</b>



## Community Donations 2015/16

The Community Donation Program assists non-profit community groups and organisations to make positive contributions to the quality of life of McKinlay Shire residents through the provision of donations towards for a range of purposes and causes.

Applicant	Amount
Careflight	\$16,000
Blazeaid	\$1,000

## Community In-kind

Applicant	Amount
Aust. High School Rodeo	\$1,225
JC Western Riding Club	\$1,225

## Community Sponsorship

Throughout 2015/16 a number of not-for-profit community groups were assisted in making positive contributions to the quality of life for McKinlay Shire residents with the provision of sponsorship via the Community Sponsorship Program.

Applicant	Amount
Julia Creek Campdraft	\$4,549
Dirt & Dust Festival	\$50,000
Hughenden Country Music Festival	\$300
Saxby Roundup Inc	\$5,000
McKissa	\$430.50
McKinlay Races	\$4,690

## Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF)

Abiding by the revised Regional Arts Development Fund guidelines, of 2015, the following projects were committed to.

Applicant	Description	Amount
JC Pony club	Outback Spectacular Sets and Costumes	\$6,200
Musical garden	Peter Dawes Park garden	\$11,710
Crafty Old School House	Glass working	\$3,487
Roaring Twenties	Theatre	\$4,675
Debating	School holiday program	\$3,117





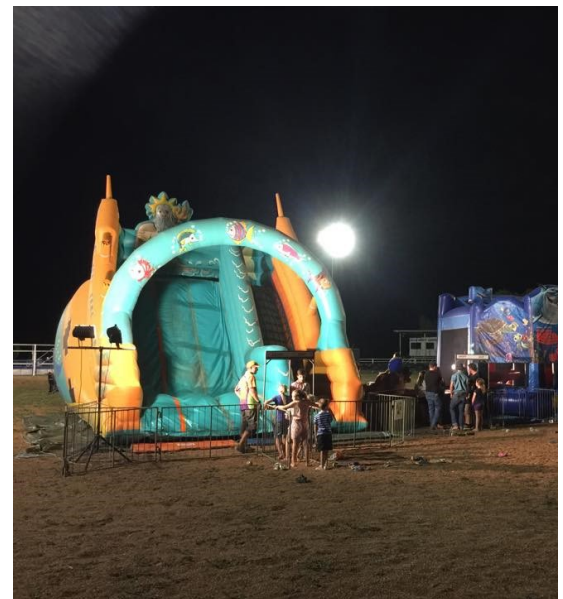
## Highlights – Events



### Community Christmas Tree

The McKinlay Shire Community Xmas Tree was held on Friday 4th December 2015. The event was supported by the State Government, through the Community Drought Support Package. These funds were put towards kids rides, kids presents and catering. The Local Fire Truck brought Santa into McIntyre Park.

The family friendly event consisted of a variety of market stalls both non for profit and private. Guest speakers and appearances were made by NRL legend Brent Tate and Country Music Artist Tania Kernaghan Working the crowd during the night was Ranger Dan with his array of snakes and reptiles for all to touch and learn about specific species. The overall winner of the local buy promotion was also announced being



## Australia Day



The McKinlay Shire Australia Day Awards held in Julia Creek captured the true spirit of Australia Day. Australia Day Ambassador, Barry Watson, acknowledged that the recipients' accomplishments and actions at grass roots' level is what makes our country so great.

The Australia Day Awards Ceremony provides an opportunity to recognise the quiet achievers in our midst. None more so than the 2016 Citizen of the Year, Mrs Pauline Fegan.

Mrs Fegan was recognized for a life-long contribution to the McKinlay Shire. She has been and continues to be totally involved in all functions in McKinlay and is often the driving force behind these events. She is the coordinator of the Catholic Church for the McKinlay District and is the Secretary of the QCWA McKinlay Branch. Pauline sees a job needing to be done and gets on with it.

Other Award-winners include: Sam Lyttle (Junior Sports Award), Sheree Pratt (Sports Administration Award), Abbie Pratt (Junior Cultural Award), Getting Back in the Saddle Weekend (Small Community Event), Julia Creek Turf Club Beach Races (Large Community Event), Colin Malone (Volunteer of the Year) and Renae Hick (Young Citizen of the Year).

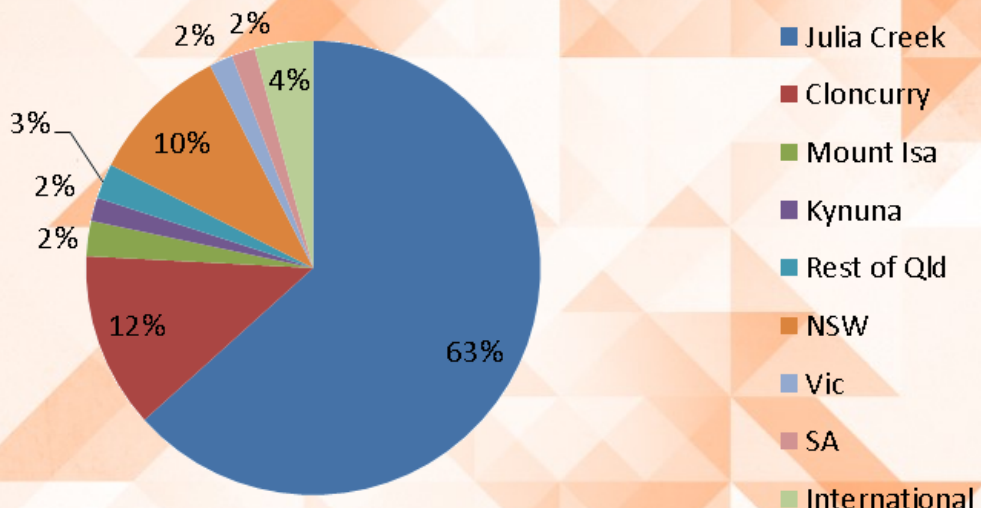
## Queensland Week Celebrations – Markets and Paddock to Plate Lunch

McKinlay Shire's Queensland Week celebrations culminated with an event on Saturday 4th June 2016 with markets, kids' rides, live music and a Paddock to Plate lunch with special guests, Jac and Shaz from My Kitchen Rules. With 120 attendees, the lunch showcased AACo's 1824 Premium Beef.

AACo's Gulf Regional Manager, Ray Thieme, spoke to the sell-out crowd on the processes involved in getting this quality product to the table. The event attracted local, intrastate, interstate and international visitors. Council extends their appreciation to AACo and the Queensland Government for their generous support towards the event.



### 2016 Qld Week Attendees



## Crocodile Dundee 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

McKinlay celebrated the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Crocodile Dundee on 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> April. There were many drawcards for the weekend which included markets, street parade, reptile show, bush skills show, live band, kids' rides, tent city accommodation and an appearance from Ernie Dingo. The event was free and it was estimated that there were between 600-700 attendees at one point during Saturday's celebrations. 62.16% of event attendees indicated in a post-event survey that they travelled from outside of McKinlay Shire to attend the event. 5.4% travelled from interstate or overseas.



Following persistent contact with Channel 9 about McKinlay's Crocodile Dundee 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations, the *Today Show* broadcasted live from McKinlay on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016. Iconic images of McKinlay were beamed to approximately 350,000 Australian households.



## Getting Back in the Saddle

A Ladies Confidence Building Weekend was held at McIntyre Park on 8th and 9th August, 2015.

The Event was organised to build up the confidence of ladies who do not ride on a regular basis and need encouragement to get back into the saddle and enjoy riding again.

A meet and greet was held on the evening of the 7th August, 2015 together with a Trivia Night. There were 28 ladies that attended the weekend. Instructors for the weekend were Sally Kirkwood, Doug O'Neill, Matt Stanger and Dallas Daley. Between them they provided a wealth of knowledge and horsemanship skills. Groups were kept to a maximum of 6 per group to ensure each and every participant received as much time and assistance from each instructor as necessary.

Matt Stanger instructed the ladies on campdrafting and we were lucky enough to have cattle donated for the weekend by Pat and Edwina Hick from Rutchillo.

Anglicare provided karaoke and music entertainment on Saturday Night and Corrina's catering provided all meals for the weekend. Corrina put on a wonderful spread of food to feast on and this enabled the ladies to concentrate on themselves instead of cooking over the weekend. All the ladies that attended took home something new to practice and improve their riding ability.





## Corporate Services

The objective of Corporate Services is to implement financial strategies to bring about financial stability for current and future generations and maximize and develop the potential of Councils human, physical and financial resources.

### Human Resources

The objective of human Resources is to promote the harmonization of the organisations people and councils values to ensure that staff are provided the support and development necessary to achieve job satisfaction and deliver quality and innovative services to all customers.

### Policy Review

Our Policies are available for download from our website or a hardcopy can be viewed at Councils administration office.

This year a number of policies were reviewed and established, including;

- ◆ Investment Policy
- ◆ Debt Policy
- ◆ Arts and Cultural Policy
- ◆ Community Grants Policy
- ◆ Procurement Policy
- ◆ Motor Vehicle, Plant and Equipment Policy
- ◆ Community Engagement Policy
- ◆ Conduct and Performance of Councillors Policy
- ◆ Code of Conduct for Councillors Policy
- ◆ Active Community Policy
- ◆ HACC Client Contribution Policy
- ◆ Environmental Policy
- ◆ 2016/17 Revenue Policy



## Professional Development

Council recognises that the ability to deliver the required standard of service to its community is highly dependent upon the skills and capabilities of its staff. Council offer training and development assistance to employees to provide long term benefits to both Council and the employee in terms of competence, satisfaction and efficiency.

Councils Employee Professional Development and Training Policy outlines the framework in which Council supports employees to achieve competence and best practice service standard as well as the guidelines in which Council supports employees in further educational development such as undergraduate or postgraduate studies.



## Employees at a Glance

Gender Balance	M	F
Executive and Managerial	4 (80%)	1 (20%)
Community and Personal Services	1 (7%)	14 (93%)
Clerical and Administrative	2 (17%)	10 (83%)
Labourer/Unskilled	25 (75%)	12 (25%)
Trades	2 (100%)	0 (0%)
Team Leaders/Supervisors	3 (75%)	1 (25%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>37 (49%)</b>	<b>38 (51%)</b>



### Workforce/Total number of employees

Permanent	38
Permanent Part-Time	5
Contract—Executive & Managerial	5
Contract—Other	3
Casual	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>

### Employees Departed

Employee Initiated separation	12
Employee turnover rate	16%

### Employees recruited

Internal	6
External	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>

# Community Services

Community Services aim is to deliver a broad range of community based programs, services and facilities to meet community needs and expectations.

These services include the provision of aged care services, the operation of sport and recreation facilities, to support community organisations achieve heritage and cultural activities, supporting festivals and events, promoting tourism, providing for library services, operating community infrastructure including a caravan park and to ensure at all times the appropriate engagement and consultation of the community on issues affecting individuals, specific interest groups, or the community itself.



## Drought funding

McKinlay Shire was drought declared on 1st April 2013 by the State Government, enabling helping primary producers manage their business through a range of drought services including financial assistance, livestock nutrition and animal welfare information, and business-management strategies.

Council secured funding from the Queensland Government to assist with local annual events and activities.

Funding from the Department of Communities, Child Safety & Disability Services was distributed as follows:

EVENT	AMOUNT
Dirt N Dust Festival	\$5,000
Saxby Round -Up	\$5,000
Julia Creek Campdraft	\$5,000
Sedan Dip sports and Recreation, Races, Rodeo and Campdraft	\$5,000
Julia Creek Turf Club Annual races	\$5,000
CSA Town V's Country	\$5,000
McKinlay Races	\$5,000
McKinlay Shire Cultural Association - Cultural Capers	\$5,000
Julia Creek Western Riding Club Challenge	\$5,000
Julia Creek Pony Club Gymkhana	\$3,500
North West Pony Club camp	\$3,500
McKissa athletics	\$1,000
Julia Creek Mini School	\$2,000
McKinlay Shire Community Christmas Tree	\$5,000
Local Buy Campaign	\$10,000
McKinlay & Nelia Xmas Tree presents	\$2,000
Get Back in the Saddle	\$5,000
School holiday activities	\$5,000
Women's Day	\$5,000



## Julia Creek Swimming Pool



### Julia Creek Amateur Swimming Club

The motivation and energy of the Swimming Club is a highlight of the community usage of the pool. During 2015/16 a revised MOU was committed to, so as to ensure smooth cooperation between the community volunteers and the Council. Also an asset list was created so as to clarify the extensive equipment list that belongs to the Club. The Julia Creek Swim Club also held a swim carnival one afternoon and clubs from Richmond and Hughenden attended.

### Julia Creek State School

In Term 4 of 2015 the Julia Creek State School held their carnival and end of year party at the pool. For the party the pool had around 35 children and teachers spend the day swimming and playing games. The then school principal and then head teacher provided feedback on how much they enjoyed the pool and its facilities.

### Learn to Swim

Due to Learn to swim numbers increasing concurrent classes were run during the busy period.

### Tri Training

Both children and adults utilised the pool for their training toward the Dirt n Dust festival in the two months before the event. Everyone is really up beat and positive about all aspects of their training, with some asking advice about stroke correction and breathing techniques to improve their chance while at the pool. Dirt n Dust was a great success with both competitors and spectators a like.

The 2016 triathlon event was the first time people used the newly upgraded pool. Council received a lot of positive feedback regarding the pool and the cleanliness of our changing rooms and concourse, with one customer placing feedback on an international Facebook site encouraging people to visit. There were 300 visitors to the pool over the festival.

## Upgrades

The extensive renovations to the pool have been well received by the community. The new water testing machinery and computerisation has had a number of issues but were dealt with internally by staff. The main benefit was the improved amenities and look of the pool. Also a modem was attached to the pool motor, sending a message to the pool managers work mobile when the pump stops; this is usually due to power surges or power cuts. Each time the pump is stopped for an extended amount of time the water quality is impacted and requires substantial chemical adjustment. In the first month of it being installed the pool had 25 stoppages to the plant room motor so immediately saved the pool from having to close for hours while the chemicals are adjusted.

## Aqua Aerobic Grant

The free classes held over the month of February 2016 was a huge success. Council received great feedback from the ladies attending the classes, such as how good everyone felt after Aqua, how well they slept, it was better for their joints and how there wasn't any soreness in their muscles the next day. Participants found the Aqua aerobics class to be harder than they anticipated but those that became regulars saw a change in body shape and felt they have increased energy. The free classes also broke down the stereotype that Aqua classes are only for the older generation. A core group of keen exercisers continue with the Aqua aerobic classes, paying the pool entry and class fee.



## Community Nurse

The clinical needs of the community has increased and the number of non Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) clients who are being referred to the Community Nurse for follow up care has increased markedly. This is a great outcome as community nurses interact with a wider ranger of the local community. One benefit is that its also easier to ensure that potential senior clients who could receive commonwealth funding for home support, can be identified.

The use of community nursing for informal wound care, advice on the medical agencies or ways to get referrals, assessing if a client remains capable of living independently and reinforcing doctor's advice such as recommended dietary changes and education on reducing slips and falls makes this type of nursing service diverse in its outcomes. Council and the local hospital administration remain happy with the local variety and breadth of services being offered through the community nurse.

The employment of Community Nurses is on short term contracts, operating under a Memorandum of Understanding with Queensland Health. The office, vehicle and resource support is provided by the McKinlay Shire Council. The recruitment for each nurse is managed by Queensland Health until a suitable applicant is found. Since January 2016 Council have been thrilled to have Alison Berry as the one year contract nurse, who had previously also worked in Julia Creek. Alison was a welcome addition to the services offered from Father Bill Busuttin Community Centre.

Often these types of roles have a stronger health promotion role. Due to the position not being permanently filled there is a period of settling in for the new nurse, including getting to know the range of agencies that operate in the north west. As a result, there are time constraints in the initial period. In the later part of the short term contracts, sometimes nursing time can be directed towards organised health promotion activities on an opportunistic basis during home and hospital visits. It is the intention to eventually have a longer term permanent community nurse who then could make some longer term health promotional campaign plans, in collaboration with visiting medical agencies.



## Julia Creek Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP)

As part of the on going Aged Care Reforms by the federal government there has been significant changes for HACC ( Home and Community Care Program) The CHSP commenced on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2015 when the previous HACC program ceased. It was an administrative change for funding and program detail and all existing HACC clients were continued to be supported under the CHSP.

The change was intended to streamline the current offering of support services and included the introduction of My Aged Care, which is also a new federal government program for the referral and assessment of potential new clients prior to receiving home support services.

From the perspective of service delivery to the clients nothing did change, and council staff did well to keep on top of the changes with no interruption to those services.

The program funding for the Social Support –Group activities (formerly Centre-Based Day Care) includes the weekly luncheon , Monday games and several outings through out the year. Those trips in 2015-16 included traveling to Lindfield Station , Mount Isa, Richmond, Biggest Morning tea at the Julia Creek State School as well as the Julia creek Information Centre, Ladies Day, Lions ladies luncheon, swimming carnival and we also had a luncheon at Godiers on a Friday to replace our Friday pub luncheon after Gannons burnt down.

Other program services of CHSP transport, home maintenance, home modifications, domestic assistance, social support for individual, personal care, nursing care and Meals on Wheels.



## Sport & Recreation



### The Daren Ginns Centre

McKinlay Shire's very first gymnasium, The Daren Ginns Centre, opened its doors on July 22, 2015. Over 250 people have been through the induction process in the first 15 months of operation and gym membership has been consistently around the 90-120 members. There is a small percentage of members that are dedicated users, while the majority of members use the facility in an irregular fashion.

### Cowboys Trophy Visit

After winning the Premiership in 2015, the North Queensland Toyota Cowboys sent the Premiership Trophy on a tour of North Queensland. The trophy visited Julia Creek on October 19. Community members were invited to head to the airport for their chance to see the trophy and have their photo taken with it, with many residents taking the opportunity as proud Cowboys supporters.



### Bike Muster

The bike muster is still as popular as ever, and this year saw participants receive a hoodie to proudly wear, showing they take part in the weekly ride to and from school.

Kids from all year groups at the Julia Creek State School are picked up from their houses on a Monday morning and ridden to school. They are then dropped off again in the afternoons. The rides teach the kids about road rules, how to ride their bikes correctly on a road, group riding and bike maintenance.



### Get Out, Get Active Grant

Council received \$10,980 from the Department of National Parks, Recreation, Sport and Racing as part of the Get Out, Get Active grant to encourage women and girls to become active for life. The money has been used to run aqua aerobics classes, circuit classes, 50+ gym classes and high-school aged circuit classes. Babysitting has also been provided during these classes to allow parents the opportunity to participate.

### Sporting Schools

Council has delivered the Sporting Schools program that began in Term 1, 2016. The program replaced the Active After Schools Community Program, and has been delivered three times per week during the school terms. Participants have taken part in swimming, cricket, triathlon, rugby league, athletics and badminton under the program to date.

### School Holiday Programs

The school holiday programs were again varied and exciting throughout 2015-2016. We went on camp to the Julia Creek Caravan Park, at the same time The CrackUp Sisters visited and we spent the mornings learning all the tricks of the trade. Kids then performed their learned routines to the tourists on the bridge over Julia Creek.

Kids had a lot of fun playing Hungry Human Hippos and Waterslide Kickball as well as trips to the movies in Mount Isa, cooking days and all night movie marathons.



There was the enormously popular Junior Detective Day, where the kids spent the day discovering clues, learning policing techniques and protocols and eventually arresting the suspect. Participants still talk about this day, 12 months on.



## Library

The year started off with a bang. With Summer reading club enrolling a huge 66 kids, the best year yet. We had plenty to do over the break.

Then there was Dirt and Dust, the kids decorated the library window in the dirt and dust theme during the Easter break. Due to civic centre renovations we had the senior Tri sign on at the library which turned out to be quite successful.

We were lucky enough to receive funding to run a Tech Savvy for seniors program. We broke it into one evening and one day session per week. It was a great success with most seniors having a great time.

Its great to see regular use of the library for things like Mums and bubs, once a month Judy the child health nurse from Cloncurry came out and has an informal session with new and returning mums.

Friday's have become the busy day of the week with mums who come in for kids dance and or swimming utilising the library as a base for the day, running backwards and forwards to the necessary points of call. This is on top of our regular Friday library where the kids come from school and we have reading, story time and free time .

Another exciting new addition to our list of services to the community that started this year is the availability of a room for students who need to sit for external exams. we have been approached by two different universities to provide the space and supervision to students who are sitting their exams . We are fortunate to have the spare office that is used for funeral arrangements.

The years loans total of: 5,616 were up on 2014's figures which were: 5,357 a modest increase of 259. The year's visitors were harder to gauge as we had no counter for quite a portion of 2014-15. Our figures for 2015-16 were : 22,760

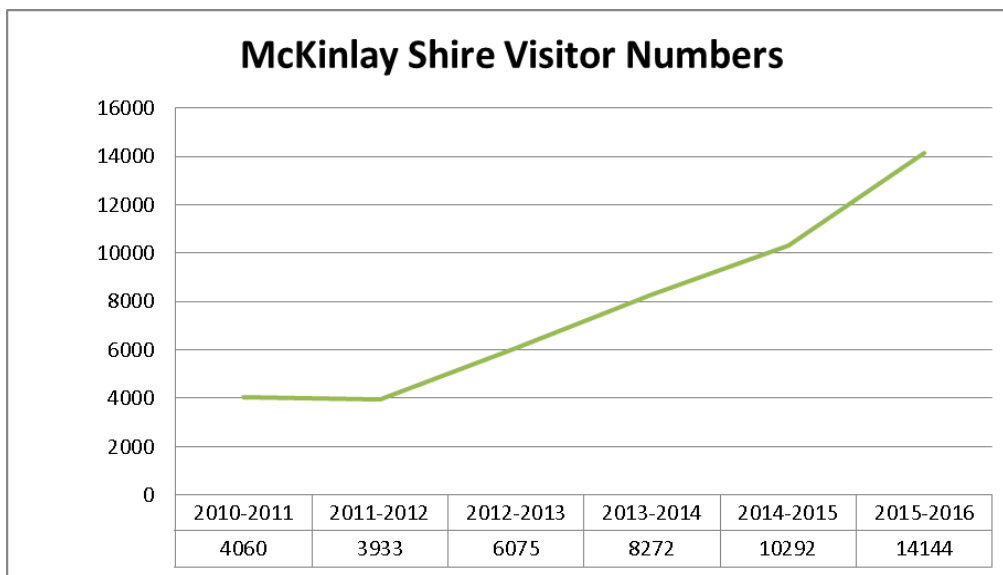
McKinlay Library had its second year of staying open for 5 days a week throughout the tourist season.



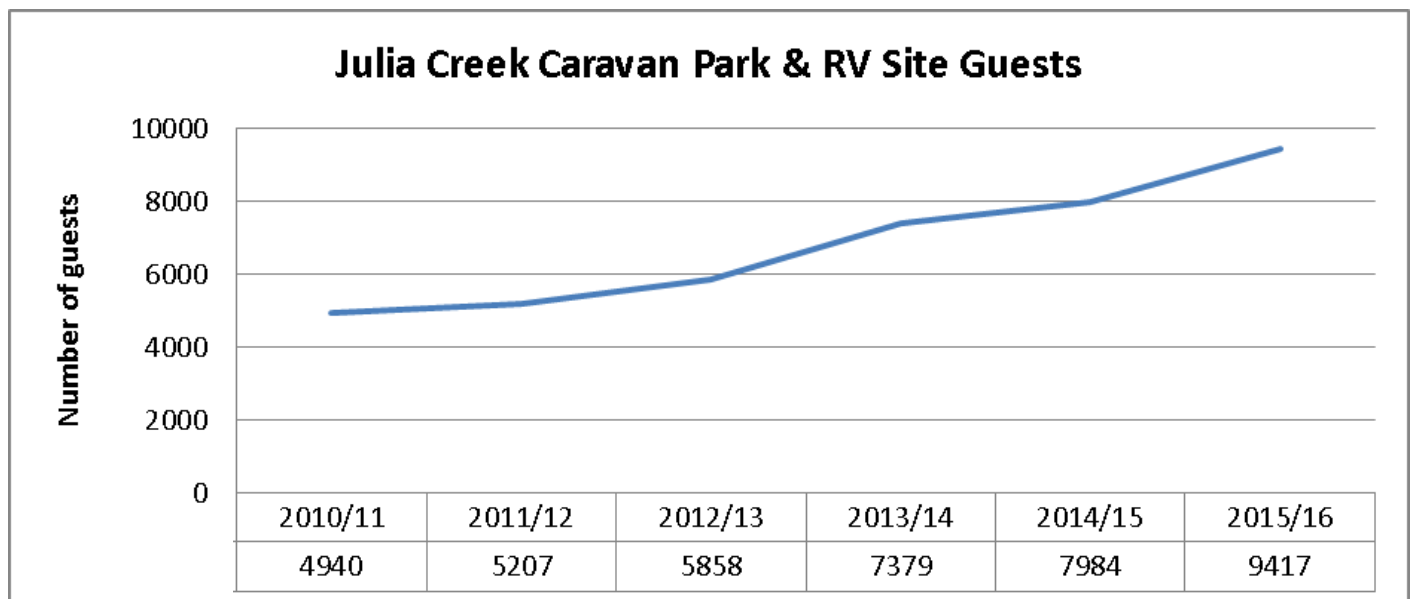


## Tourism

For the financial year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016, McKinlay Shire welcomed 14,144 guests to the Julia Creek Visitor Information Centre and McKinlay Library/Visitor Centre. This represents a 37.43% increase from 2014/15 figures – refer to the below graph which illustrates the unmistakable increasing trend in financial year visitor numbers.



Further evidence of our tourism excellence is reflected in our Julia Creek Caravan Park and RV Site tourist numbers which have increased by 17.95% between 2014/15 and 2015/16 figures – refer to the below graph for more information.



## Julia Creek RV Friendly Site

Council has developed and heavily promoted the Julia Creek RV Friendly Site, turning it into a location that is widely gaining recognition among the travelling fraternity. 2175 permits were issued in 2015/16 compared with 1607 in 2014/15 – a 35% increase in 12 months. From data obtained from RV Site surveys, Council can extrapolate that RV Site guests spent \$295,686.70 in local businesses in 2015/16 which is up 18.25% on 2014/15 figures.



### RV Site Permits

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
July	287	446	625
August	203	453	407
Sept	84	101	214
Oct	14	36	47
Nov	6	14	5
Dec	0	0	0
January	0	1	1
February	0	0	0
March	0	6	6
April	78	75	87
May	220	101	241
June	336	374	542
<b>Total</b>	<b>1228</b>	<b>1607</b>	<b>2175</b>

## Julia Creek RV Site Camp Host Program

*“We have thoroughly enjoyed our time as camp hosts at Julia Creek. The town and its people are lovely and very welcoming. We would definitely come back to Julia Creek again to be camp hosts – we love the place!”*

Phil Jones and Alayne Russell



The Camp Host program is lauded as an outstanding Outback Queensland experience. For two to four weeks, volunteers can sign up to manage the RV Site. There are various perks of the position however, it is the experience these volunteers have whilst in Julia Creek that keeps them coming back. Camp Hosts love meeting fellow travellers and being a part of the community.

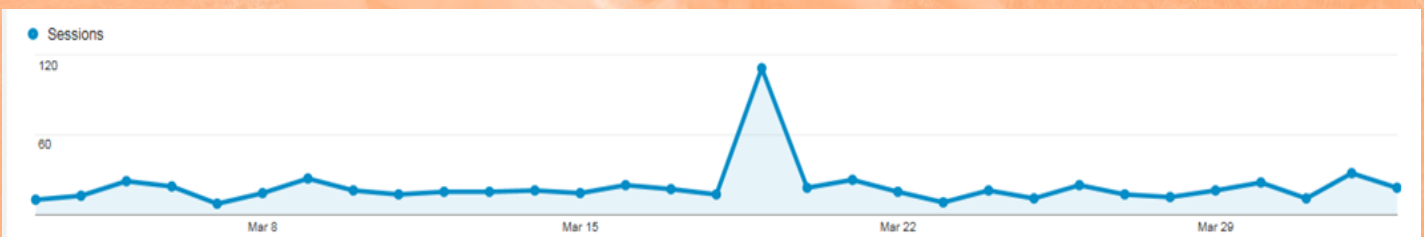
## Overlander's Way Education Itineraries

Led by McKinlay Shire Council, the Overlander's Way completed the preparation of education itineraries in January 2016. This project received funding from MITEZ to cover the majority of costs associated with preparing, collating, printing itineraries and presentation folders and the production of digital clips presented on USBs. The itineraries were launched at McIntyre Park on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016. There were approximately 60 attendees including MITEZ and Overlander's Way representatives. The Julia Creek Pony Club and local campdraft enthusiasts provided a demonstration and attendees enjoyed a BBQ dinner.



## McKinlay Shire Queensland Weekender Episode

On 19<sup>th</sup> March 2016, McKinlay Shire featured on Channel 7's *Queensland Weekender* in an episode that was commissioned by Council. The show featured Julia Creek Town Tours, Nelia, Kynuna, McKinlay, the Julia Creek VIC and the 2015 Sedan Dip Races, Rodeo and Campdraft, to name just a few. In the wider Brisbane market, the show obtained 25% share of the audience which was 105,000 viewers. Viewer statistics are not reported for greater Queensland, but it is estimated at 50,000-100,000 viewers (approximately 150,000-200,000 total). The show was repeated to a wider audience. Subsequent spikes in Google searches on our Shire on 19<sup>th</sup> March are evidenced from Google Analytics below.



## Bush Dinners

Throughout 2015/16, there were 1748 meals served at the Julia Creek Caravan Park Bush Dinners. This has increased by 10.90% from 2014/15 whereby 1576 meals were served. Bush Dinners are not only an outstanding experience for guests to our Shire, they are also a valuable opportunity for local not for profit groups to raise funds. Council applauds the efforts of the groups for making Bush Dinners what they are today.



## Julia Creek Town Tours

The inaugural Julia Creek Town Tour commenced in August 2015. Rather than being a recitation of facts, we endeavour to colloquially showcase these locations by sharing local 'yarns' which cannot be found in tourist brochures. The tour takes in cultural sites such as: Light Horse Sculpture, Water Tower, Town and Country Club, Livestock Centre, World War II Bunkers and Julia Creek Visitor Information Centre.



## McKinlay Shire Bus Tours

On 16<sup>th</sup> June 2016, Mayor Belinda Murphy and Councillor Janene Fegan took off on the maiden voyage for McKinlay Shire Bus Tours. The tours take in Julia Creek, Combo Waterhole, Kynuna and McKinlay. These tours will form a part of our tourism portfolio ongoing and have the bigger picture strategy of building a business case to attract a private tourism operator to McKinlay Shire.



## Major Community Events

### Promotions Scheme

In April 2016, Council sought Expressions of Interest for the inaugural *Major Community Events Promotions Scheme*. The scheme was devised to assist local community events with marketing. The dollar for dollar grant created a \$2000 marketing budget for each event. The events who engaged the program reported pleasing results with their marketing which typically featured: radio, print, social media advertising and merchandise.



## At the Creek

### Statistics – At the Creek Visitor Numbers

Month	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Jul	1134	939	1177	2054	2172	3129
Aug	897	743	1050	1503	1731	2628
Sept	540	427	496	813	915	1347
Oct	167	220	231	262	203	655
Nov	106	69	94	125	120	211
Dec	47	34	78	58	81	90
Jan	48	71	92	50	230	119
Feb	51	66	65	85	108	200
Mar	101	105	55	105	234	236
Apr	182	240	509	523	553	605
May	328	381	857	844	1044	1127
Jun	459	638	1371	1388	2047	2304
<b>Total</b>	<b>4060</b>	<b>3933</b>	<b>6075</b>	<b>7810</b>	<b>9438</b>	<b>12651</b>



## Dunnart

McKinlay Shire Council works in close cooperation with our program partners, the University of Queensland’s Native Wildlife Teaching and Research Facility. In July 2015, the University of Queensland conducted a small animal survey within the Julia Creek aerodrome. The major aim of this survey was to determine if a population of Julia Creek dunnarts was still present. This survey confirmed the presence of Julia Creek dunnarts within the aerodrome. During the survey, stripe-faced dunnarts and long-tailed planigales were also found. This survey is a step towards re-establishing a captive breeding colony of Julia Creek dunnarts. Council continues to display two fat-tailed dunnarts at the Julia Creek Visitor Information Centre, ‘Duncan’ and ‘Donald’. From survey results, 35% of our visitors indicated that seeing the dunnarts was their primary intention for stopping at the Julia Creek Visitor Information Centre. Obtaining brochures (10%) and RV Site permits (9%) rated second and third priority.



## Community Engagement with Tourism Initiatives

We seek our community's input for tourism initiatives through holding community meetings. For example, we held a meeting on the Water Tower climbing concept on 15th December 2015, a community tourism meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2016 and a Bush Dinner debrief meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> March 2016.



## Social Media Insights

	Likes as at	Likes as at	Increase
	6/30/2015	6/30/2016	
<b>Julia Creek Visitor Info Centre Facebook Page</b>	588	1237	110.37%
<b>McKinlay Shire Council Facebook Page</b>	1267	2528	99.53%
<b>@juliacreekqld Instagram Account</b>	500	801	60.2%

# Environmental Health & Regulatory Services

The Environment and Regulatory Services Department delivers a wide and diverse range of services to the McKinlay Shire community. These services include;

- Pest Animal and Plant Control
- Live Stock Operations
- Stock Route and Reserves
- Julia Creek Swimming Pool
- Corporate and Community Facilities
- Building and Development Control
- Disaster Management



The Julia Creek livestock facility is a combined, cattle yard and weighing facility operated by Council with a neighboring Dip and rail head operated by Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and Aurizon respectively. McKinlay Shire Council coordinates the rail loading on behalf of Aurizon.

The facility has again seen a large amount of cattle through the facility due mainly to the drought conditions and property owners destocking their properties.

The facility has seen a decrease in numbers due to seasonal changes. At the end of June 2016 10,377 head of cattle were weighed and scanned at the facility and 19,977 head were loaded onto trains.



## Julia Creek Work Camp

McKinlay Shire Council is proud to be part of a joint initiative between Council and the Department of Community Services, Queensland Corrective Services. Work Camp continued delivering a wide range of projects in and around the McKinlay Shire area. This includes regular mowing and maintenance of community group facilities such as the CWA and churches. Work Camp also delivered a number of other projects over the 2015-16 Financial Year including;

- ◆ Dismantle train carriage at Duncan McIntyre Museum
- ◆ Erection of security fence on the northern side of the rubbish dump
- ◆ Installation of shade sails at Livestock Facility, Swimming Pool and RV Site
- ◆ Clean up of all landfills on a regular basis or when needed
- ◆ Security fence around sewerage pond
- ◆ Footpath in front of school
- ◆ Fence between Peter Dawes Park and Butchery
- ◆ Paving around Catholic Church.

## Stock Route and Reserves

Council has the overall responsibility in maintaining over 1000 Km of the States primary, secondary and minor or unused stock routes along with numerous stock and water reserves throughout the shire on behalf of Stock Routes Queensland.

Maintenance demands on these facilities are very high with regular inspections to ensure water is available, cleaning of troughs, maintenance of bores and turkey nests etc. Council, in conjunction with Stock Routes Queensland and water agreement holders upgraded a number of facilities by replacing the old wind mills with new solar powered pumps.

Another key maintenance need is the continued control of weeds in and around the facilities. This necessitated regular spraying of weeds in a number of areas in order to maintain access to the facility.

Stock Routes Queensland implemented a new web based Stock Route Management System (SRMS) throughout Queensland and successfully implemented within the current shire operations.

The SMRS also allows the coordination of stock movements between shires and manages various assets on behalf of the state.

Council secured funding through the DNRM Capital Works Program for the removal of windmills and erection of solar pumps at Hampden, 40 Mile & Kulwin.



## Disaster Management

The McKinlay Shire community needs to be prepared for any event either natural or manmade. The Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) is there to provide that overall control in those situations.

The Group is chaired by the Mayor and supported by a wide range of Council, Emergency and supporting services. The Group meets on a regular basis in order to ensure that should the community be challenged by a local disaster, we are in a position to deal with the moment and get the community back to or as close to as normal as soon as possible.

McKinlay Shire Council has the primary responsibility for managing the impacts of disasters and emergencies within our boundaries. The McKinlay Shire Council Disaster Management Plan outlines our disaster management system roles and responsibilities, and provides a framework of sub-plans for our most likely threats, and for the recovery phase following an event.



## Pest Animal and Plant Control

Council continued to control pest weeds around the Shire, focusing mainly on Council owned or controlled facilities.

Free bait offer for landowners wishing to not use the aircraft for 1080 baiting. A total of 9 eligible property owners claimed this offer.

Council done two rounds of baiting during the 2015-16 financial year. A total of 11,850kg of baits were prepared and delivered in the October 2015 round of baiting and a total of 10,200kg in the May 2016 round.

Wild dog scalp bounty saw a total of 56 scalps presented.

Mesquite on the McKinlay Common along the McKinlay River was poisoned. Cannington Road was also poisoned for both mesquite and prickly acacia.

# Engineering and Works



## Objectives

The Engineering and Works Services unit of any rural Council is the greatest creator of employment within the organisation. They deliver many facets including disaster resilience programs and town beautification. Our Engineering and Works department plans, develops and maintains key infrastructure for its communities, including roads, bridges, aerodromes, water and sewerage, stormwater drainage, waste disposal and parks and recreational facilities.

The Engineering and Works Services also provides utilities that deliver a level of service that will meet community expectations and legislative requirements.

The largest asset managed by the Engineering Department is roads with a total of 2041.26 kms of Shire Roads and 408.91 kms of Main Roads. Roads are critical to the economy and social fabric of the Shire.

Road infrastructure works including construction and maintenance account for 67% of the Council's Annual budgeted expenditure. All gravel roads were graded at least once during the year and some of the more heavily trafficked roads received additional maintenance.



## Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA)

The Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) are a joint funding initiative of the Commonwealth and State Governments to provide disaster relief and recovery payments and infrastructure restoration to help communities recover from the effects of natural disasters.

Most relief measures under NDRRA are funded 75% by the Commonwealth Government and 25% by the Queensland Government.

NDRRA works to repair damaged roads within McKinlay Shire continued during the previous year, with approximately \$ 6.8 Million in works being completed (2014 Event - \$ 4.5 Million and 2015 Event - \$ 2.3 Million).

Over 600 individual sites have been approved for works. This consists of over 322 km of blacksoil roads and 61 km of gravel roads.

The majority of these works have been delivered with the help of Councils own workforce together with local Contractors. Between Christmas 2015 and early January 2016, McKinlay Shire experienced significant flooding causing more damage to the road network.

Council has applied for NDRRA funding to help restore the network and works are likely to commence early in 2017.

Council wishes to acknowledge our local Contractors with the help provided in restoring the network after these events.

Council also thanks the residents for their patience as the NDRRA restoration works are completed.



## Achievements 2015/16

### Main Roads Flinders Highway Upgrade

Reconstruction of 7kms of the Flinders highway in the Nelia area as sole invitee contractor to Main Roads department for a value of \$6M (30% complete)

### Main Roads Maintenance (RMPC)

Ongoing maintenance activities including pothole patching, shoulder grading and slashing were carried out on the Flinders Highway, Kynuna Road and Wills Development Road.

### Cannington Road Works

Repairs and reseal to various sections of this road from McKinlay to Cannington Mine were undertaken during this period.

### Flood Damage Restoration Works

2014 NDRRA Works value \$ 5,338,082 and 84% complete

2015 NDRRA Works value \$ 9,225,723 and 44% complete

### Punchbowl Bridge

Funding of \$3.1M secured for construction of a new bridge over the Flinders River at Punchbowl

### Council Roads Upgrading

Taldora Road: Gilliat McKinlay Rd	13 kms gravel resheeting 5 kms gravel pavement and Seal.
Punchbowl Rd Malpas Trenton Rd	3 kms gravel resheet 5 kms floodways and gravel Resheeting
Pelham Rd Nelia Bunda Rd Town Streets	5kms gravel resheeting Reseal Reseal Byrne St, Shaw St, Matthew St and Church Ln.

### McKinlay Shire Infrastructure

The Council's Engineering Group plans develops and maintains key infrastructure for its communities including town and rural roads, bridges, footpaths and aerodromes, water supplies and sewerage, stormwater drainage, and parks and gardens.

In addition Council's Engineering group develops and maintains roads for the Transport and Main Roads Department.

In order to ensure that Council infrastructure assets are managed effectively, an asset management plan has been developed and the condition of all assets is now maintained at such a standard to enable acceptable levels of service to be provided to Council ratepayers and other users of the assets.

The largest asset managed by the Engineering Department is roads with a total of 1633.26 kms of Shire Roads and 408.91 kms of Main Roads. Roads are critical to the economy and social fabric of the Shire.

Road infrastructure works including construction and maintenance account for 67% of the Council's Annual budgeted expenditure.

All gravel roads were graded at least once during the year and some of the more heavily trafficked roads received additional maintenance.

### Infrastructure Construction and Maintenance

The following works were planned/undertaken for the 2015/16 financial year:

- ◆ Grid replacement program
  - ◆ Council Plant and vehicle replacement program
  - ◆ McKinlay vehicle wash facility
  - ◆ Parks and gardens activities continued throughout the Shire
  - ◆ Funding acquired for new Sewage treatment plant for Julia Creek
  - ◆ Traffic counts continued on four principal shire roads.
  - ◆ Data collected included total number of vehicle by classification, vehicle speeds and average daily numbers
- Construction of two long distance coach stops in Julia Creek



# Governance

The role of Councillor is a strategic role within Council similar to that of a board of directors for a company.

The analogy between councils and companies would see councilors main responsibilities include:

- Establishing Corporate culture
- Setting and approving strategy
- Setting Policy
- Monitoring Risk
- Ensuring Compliance
- Monitoring executive performance, and
- Accountability



McKinlay Shire Council, comprising the Mayor and four Councillors, is the elected body responsible for McKinlay Shire. The elected body has legal obligations requiring members to represent the current and future interests of the residents. They are democratically elected and accountable to their communities for the decisions they make and the services they provide. Their role also includes other responsibilities such as providing high quality leadership to the community, participating in Council meetings, policy development and making decisions that are in the interest of the whole community.

The Mayor and Councillors are bound by a Code of Conduct, which is the Council's public commitment to open, accountable and ethical standards of behaviour. The community also plays an important role in contributing to good democratic governance by participating in Council elections, active involvement in community engagement programs and providing feedback on current issues and the services provided.

# Elected Representatives

## Mayor Belinda Murphy

Tourism, Economic Development and Governance



Born in Tasmania, Belinda completed year 12 at St Michaels Collegiate Girls School and trained as a commercial pilot and grade 3 flying instructor in Hobart. Belinda moved to Queensland in 1998 and spent the following years working as a pilot on various stations in the North West Qld and Northern Territory for cattle company's such as Stanbroke Pastoral, NAPCO and McDonalds Pastoral Company.

Belinda met her now husband Wayne Murphy and moved to Julia Creek in 2004 as the Branch Manager for the Queensland Country Credit Union and then became a Senior Manager for McKinlay Shire Council from 2005 - 2010. During this time Belinda completed a graduate degree in Public Sector Management and various Local Government training programs. Belinda has been on many community organisations since moving to Julia Creek and enjoys triathlon training and camp drafting in the North west. Belinda, now in her second term as Mayor, is passionate about the Shire and the lifestyle that it provides which is only enhanced by the people who reside here. Belinda and Wayne have two children , daughter Madeline and son Liam.

*"I feel honoured to be representing our Shire for a second term . We have many opportunities to come and though not without challenges for a small rates based Shire, I see a bright future ahead."*

## Deputy Mayor Neil Walker

Environmental Management and Regulatory Services

Born in Gordonvale, I completed secondary education at the Southport School. Moving then to the Shire in 1981. Managing the Millungera Santa Gertrudis Stud at Crowfels since 1984 , a qualified JP and past president of the local Pony Club and ICPA, my involvement within the community is important. I am currently involved with a number of Campdrafts throughout North and Central Qld as an announcer. Any spare time is spent making saddlery items or plaiting. My wifes name is Susan and I have two children Kate and Callum.

*"Is a privilege to represent McKinlay Shire for a second term. The term has started off with the completion of some major projects and advanced planning for future development. I hope as a Council we can continue to develop new projects in the Shire while maintaining our older infrastructure and unique identity."*



## Cr. Shauna Royes

### Community Services and Economic Development

Shauna was born in Julia Creek and raised on Shire properties such as Dalgonaally, Canobie, Millungera and 6 years at Burleigh Station north of Richmond. Schooling consisted of primary correspondence in Brisbane to then completing high school studies at the Julia Creek State School. Shauna has worked in the stock and station industry most of her life and currently is employed by Booth Rural Julia Creek branch.

Shauna has always been passionate about the community and contributing in way of serving on committees and clubs such as the Julia Creek Rodeo Association, Julia Creek Campdraft, Isolated Children and Parents Association, QCWA and currently the president of the Julia Creek Pony Club.

Shauna lives with her partner Jim and has a daughter Rachel who is currently attending the conservatorium of music at Griffith University and spends any free time with family, friends and a menagerie of animals.

*“Thank you to the community members of the McKinlay Shire for giving me the opportunity to represent you as a Councillor for the current term. I have been a resident of Julia Creek for 40 years and have always been passionate about the continued success of the Shire in moving forward and putting Julia Creek on the map.*

*I have seen Julia Creek grow in leaps and bounds in the past 20 years with the erection of an Information Centre, the Free RV Site, the refurbishment of the Julia Creek Swimming Pool and Civic Centre and progressing with the upgrading and extension of the Caravan Park and the Julia Creek Hospital and continuation of the all important bush dinners.*

*Improving these assets have encouraged visitors to the Shire to take advantage of our outback hospitality which in turn supports the local businesses.*

*McKinlay Shire is becoming an integral part of the Overlanders Way network and we are proud to continue to work closely with our neighbouring Shires to enhance outback opportunities. I am looking forward to the next 3 years.”*



## Cr. Janene Fegan

### Health and Tourism

Born in Cairns, Janene was raised in Hawaii and lived and worked throughout Queensland. After completing her nursing training in Mackay in 1990 she briefly worked at the Townsville General Hospital before travelling and working overseas. Janene moved to Julia Creek in 1992 to take up a Registered Nurses position at the Julia Creek Hospital. It was here that she met her husband Trevor, a local electrician, originally from Milgery Station near McKinlay. Prior to having children she also worked part time at Richmond Hospital. Janene lived on the family property for 8 years before moving back to Julia Creek. Janene has four young adult children Caleb, Riley, Jesse and Macey. Most of Janene's time is taken up managing their electrical/refrigeration and tyre business, occasional shifts at the hospital and renovating houses.

She has been involved with several committees and community services and currently involved with The Health Advisory Committee, the CAN (Community Advisory Network) Committee, The Julia Creek Dirt and Dust Festival and volunteers for Meals on Wheels. Janene enjoys being able to give back to her community and has learned a lot from her different roles. Her hobbies include travelling, water skiing, swimming, fishing, cooking and reading when she has time.

*"Coming into this role as a new councillor this term has provided in site to the many roles council plays in our community. With many projects nearly completed such as the new Punchbowl Bridge, Shire Hall and Jan Eckford Centre upgrade, the shire has certainly been a hive of activity and this has created a great boost to our local economy."*

*Tourism continues to grow with the "grey nomad" market, primarily encouraged by council's free RV Camping areas. Council finding ways to entice other visitor groups such as families and young travellers. Funding for an upgrade to the Julia Creek Caravan Park will see new and exciting additions in the new year. I look forward to being part of this and other future projects that will be underway in 2017."*



## Cr. Philip Curr

### Roads

Philip has lived in the district all his life apart from going to boarding school, a few trips overseas and working on other cattle properties. The cattle industry has been the main part and focus of his life. He lives on Arizona Station with his wife Tania and has 3 girls, Charli, Chloe and Mackenzie. Philip has been the president of Saxby Roundup for 12 years and in his spare time likes to read and go to a few campdrafts.

*"its an honor to serve a second term as Councillor. I am committed to continuing to work hard for our community to ensure that we strive together and work with State and Federal Government bodies for continual improved services and to help maintain stimulating our economy. I look forward to the year ahead."*

Council would like to personally thank the efforts of previous Councillors Edwina Hick and Tony Batt for the past four years of service to Local Government and efforts in promoting a sustainable and proactive Council. Their contribution not only consisted of representing our Shire at a Local Government capacity but also our community in way of volunteering, serving on committees outside their council roles and positively promoting our local businesses and events.



### **Cr. Edwina Hick**

**2012-2016**

Edwina Hick has been a resident of the McKinlay Shire for the past 16 years, when she moved to the Shire from South Australia, upon marrying her husband Patrick. Edwina lives at Argyle Station, just north of Julia Creek with Patrick and their two children.

Edwina served as the Chair of the Health Advisory Panel whilst in term with Council and is secretary for the Sedan Dip race club and Agforce locally. She is a member of the Isolated Children's Parents association and has previously been involved with the Julia Creek Arts council. In her spare time Edwina likes to read, play tennis, ride horses and spend time with family and friends.



### **Deputy Mayor Anthony Batt**

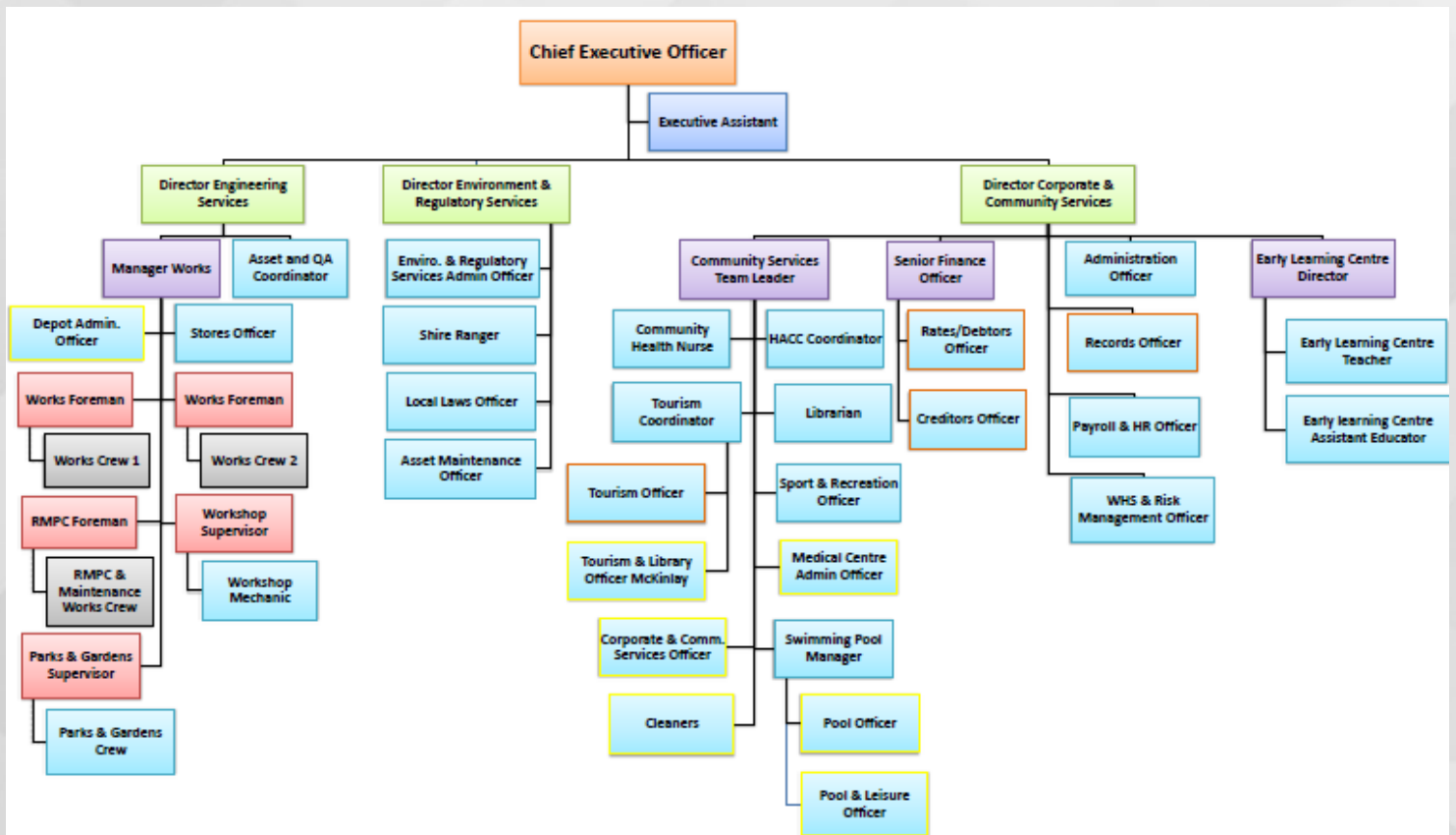
**2012-2016**

The first 30 years of Tony's life was spent at "Plainby" Richmond district to then making the move to " Malvie" in 1987. First job out of school was in the shearing industry for 10 years. Tony is also heavily involved in the trucking industry. He is married to Gayle and has four children; Elizabeth, Rhianna, Neil and Jessica.



# Corporate Structure

Our Corporate structure consists of various departments that contribute to McKinlay Shire Council's overall mission and goals. Works, Tourism, Finance, Accounting, Human Resource and Community Services are just a few departments that work within this structure that contribute to a successful Local Government. As per the Local Government Act 2009 'A local government must, by resolution, adopt an organisational structure that is appropriate to the performance of the local governments responsibilities'.



# Council Directors



## Director of Engineering Brian Wood

Brian started with Council October 2014 and permanently contracted April 2015. Previously he worked for with AECOM Consulting Engineers in Mackay as the Program Manager for Isaac Regional Council NDRRA, in the design of roads, water and sewerage infrastructure for Mackay and Whitsunday Councils. Main areas of expertise and interest is in the upgrading of road networks and water and sewerage infrastructure.

Brian sits on the McKinlay Shire Council Roads Strategy committee; Counter Disaster committee and the North West Qld Regional Roads Group. Brian oversees Asset Management; Roads Construction and Maintenance; NDRRA Flood Damage Rehabilitation programs for Council and TMR; Water Supply and Sewerage Services; Workshop and Fleet Services and Parks and Gardens. Outside of work Brian enjoys Fossicking for gemstones and Lapidary and Faceting of gems.

## Director of Environment and Regulatory Services Geoff Rintoul

Geoff Rintoul commenced work in April 2013 appointed as Director of Environment and Regulatory Services. Geoff's experience in Local Government includes managing the engineering and operations with Northern Peninsular Area Regional Council and the planning, development and water and sewerage management with Townsville City Council. Geoff has a strong environmental and engineering background including undergraduate and post graduate qualifications in business, construction, environmental and civil engineering. Geoff was involved with QLD DOG (Wild Dog Offensive Group) and the Southern Gulf Pest Taskforce for the 2015/16 financial year.

The Director of Environment and Regulatory Services oversees Planning and Development, Feral Pests Management, Refuse Management, Stock Routes and Reserves, Environmental Health, Corporate Building Asset Management, Project Delivery, Work Camp, Funerals and Cemeteries and Disaster Management.

## Director Corporate and Community Services Tenneil Cody

Tenneil Cody commenced with McKinlay Shire Council as Senior Finance Officer in 2009. In March 2010 Tenneil was appointed to the position of Manager of Corporate and Community Services. Tenneil started her career in local government with Croydon Shire Council and with this she brings six years of experience to McKinlay Shire, along with a broad range of executive management, finance and community service skills. As part of her role in Council Tenneil oversees the Corporate & Community Service areas. Corporate, inclusive of HR, Finance, WH&S, Governance, Economic Development. Community – Community Health, HACCC, Sport & Recreation, Libraries, Swimming Pool, Tourism, Caravan Park, Arts & Culture, Community Support (Sponsorship & Grants). She is also on the Health Advisory panel and also assists with the McKinlay Shire Response Group (Drought Group). Outside of Council Tenneil is involved with the Sedan Dip Sports & Recreation Inc organisation.

*“McKinlay Shire Council have undoubtedly had an eventful 2015/16 with numerous projects being rolled out across the Shire for the benefit of the whole community. Highlights for me would be the unprecedented success we had within tourism.*

*We implemented a number of new initiatives and, as such, our Shire-wide visitor numbers were the strongest they have ever been. For these efforts, Council was acknowledged by the industry by winning five awards at the Queensland Information Centre Association's October 2015 awards night and four awards at the Out-back Queensland Tourism Association's awards night in November 2015.*

*Other highlights include the opening on 22 July 2015 of the Daren Ginns Centre - a 24 hour accessible Gym for our community, Council's assistance with McKinlay's 30th Anniversary Crocodile Dundee Celebrations in April 2016 and Council taking over the ownership and running of the Childcare and Kindergarten in January 2016.”*





# 05/ Statutory Information

## Transparency and Accountability

### Information relating to Councillors

The Local Government Regulation 2012 Section 186 requires Council to report;

- the particulars of the total remuneration, including superannuation contributions, paid to each councillor during the financial year; and
- the expenses incurred by, and the facilities provided to each councillor under Council Expenses and Reimbursement Policy, during the financial year; and
- the number of local government meetings each councillor attended during the financial year.

	Cr Belinda Murphy Mayor	Cr Anthony Batt	Cr Edwina Hick	Cr Neil Walker	Cr Philip Curr
Councillor Remuneration	\$97,683.96	\$42,266.97	\$36,631.44	\$50,720.43	\$48,841.92
Facilities and Equipment Provided	Office Laptop, Printer				
Facility Communication Equipment Provided	\$ 2,315.16 Mobile Phone, Ipad	\$ 575.46 Ipad			
Secretarial Support					
Conference & Workshop Expenses	\$ 1,730.00	\$0	\$ 1,730.00	\$0	\$0
Travel (Flights & Accommodation)	\$ 10,944.32	\$ 4,804.97	\$2,317.93	\$ 569.69	\$0
Mileage Allowance*	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 134,255.79</b>	<b>\$43,512.43</b>	<b>\$39,979.44</b>	<b>\$50,720.43</b>	<b>\$48,841.92</b>

	Cr Janene Fegan	Cr Shauna Royes
Councillor Remuneration	\$12,210.48	\$12,210.48
Facilities and Equipment Provided		
Facility Communication Equipment Provided		\$191.82 Ipad
Secretarial Support		
Conference & Workshop Expenses		
Travel (Flights & Accommodation)	\$263.25	\$125.00
Mileage Allowance*	Nil	Nil
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 12,210.48</b>	<b>\$12,402.30</b>

A Council car is made available to all Councillors for their use to travel to any Council meetings or functions held outside of Julia Creek.

\*Mileage Allowance is reimbursed to Councillors at the Australian Tax Office Rates (cents per kilometre) where a Councillor uses their private vehicle for Council business or commuting to official Council meetings or functions from their place of residence.

There were no orders or recommendations made as referred to in section 186 (d) and (e) of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

Furthermore, there were no complaints during the financial year to report as required by section 186(f) of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

## Reporting against Legislative Requirements

A local government must prepare an annual report for each financial year. The Local Government Regulation 2012, sets out the reporting requirements for the annual report of a local government.

## Resolutions made under Sections 250 (1) and 206 (2)

McKinlay Shire Council did not make any resolutions under Section 250 (1) and Section 206(2) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 during the financial year.

## Councillor Meeting Attendance

Attending council meetings is not only about achieving good outcomes for the community and constituents, but contributing to the good governance of council overall. Elected representatives are expected to attend the relevant Council and committee meetings as part of their commitment and responsibility to their role. Section 186 (c) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council is required to report on the number of meetings attended by each Councillor during the financial year.

Councillor	Ordinary Meetings Held	Ordinary Meetings Attended	Special Meetings Held	Special Meetings Attended
Cr. Belinda Murphy	12	12	4	4
Cr. Anthony Batt	8	7	2	2 (Pre Election)
Cr. Neil Walker	12	12	4	4
Cr. Philip Curr	12	12	4	4
Cr. Edwina Hick	8	8	2	2 (Pre Election)
Cr. Janene Fegan	3	3	2	2
Cr. Shauna Royes	3	3	2	2

## Administrative Action Complaints

McKinlay Shire Council is committed to providing an open and accountable local government. To assist Council achieve this Council has endorsed a General Complaints Process Policy to ensure an effective and transparent method of responding to complaints regarding its services, actions and conduct of Councillors and Council officer's to better enable Council to undertake this role. Council is committed to dealing fairly with administrative action complaints. A summary of complaints as required by section 187 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* is detailed below:

Administrative Actions Complaints Made 2015/16	2
Administrative Action Complaints resolved 2015/16	2
Administrative Action Complaints Unresolved 2015/16	0
Administrative Action Complaints Unresolved (from above) made in 2015/16	0

## Council's Expenditure

Council provides support to the local community by providing financial assistance to various community organisation. Grants are provided under Councils Community Grants Policy, which offers support under three funding streams; Community Donations, Community Sponsorship and Community Benefit Assistance Scheme.

A total of 12 Community Grants were approved for the reportable period with a combined total amount of \$94,010.65. McKinlay Shire Councillors do not have a Councillor Discretionary fund for community grants.



## Summary of Expenditure on Grants to Community Organisations

Under Section 189 In the Local Government Regulations 2012 Council must provide information on expenditure on grants to community organisations.

Organisation	Amount	Grant Type
Sedan Dip Sport & Recreation	\$1,540	Community Benefit Assistance Scheme
Saxby Roundup Inc	5,000	Community Benefit Assistance Scheme
McKissa Sports Ass	\$1,918	Community Benefit Assistance Scheme
Qld Ambulance Service	\$682.15	Community Benefit Assistance Scheme
Julia Creek Camp draft	\$4,549	Sponsorship
Dirt & Dust Festival	\$50,000	Sponsorship
Hughenden Country Music Festival	\$300	Sponsorship
Saxby Roundup Inc	\$5,000	Sponsorship
McKissa	\$430.50	Sponsorship
McKinlay Races	\$4,690	Sponsorship
Careflight	\$16,000	Donations
Blazeaid	\$1,000	Donations
Aust. High School Rodeo	\$1,225	In-Kind
JC Western Riding Club	\$1,225	In-Kind

## Current List of Registers kept

Council is required by Section 190(1) (f) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 to detail a list of registers kept by Council. The registers open to public inspection include:

Register of Interests ( Councillors)  
Delegations Register  
Local Laws Register  
Register of Roads  
Policy Register  
Regulatory Fees and Charges  
Asset Register  
Fees & Charges Register  
Register of pre-qualified suppliers

Council also make available other information to the public which can be downloaded electronically from Councils Website [www.mckinlay.qld.gov.au](http://www.mckinlay.qld.gov.au)

The information available includes:

- Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes
- Operation Plan
- Community Plan 2010-2020
- Infrastructure Plan
- Tourism Plan
- Corporate Plan
- McKinlay Shire Planning Scheme
- Revenue Statement
- Annual Budget
- Publication Scheme ( Right to Information)
- Financial Statements



## Code of Conduct

No breaches or alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct for Councillors were reported from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016. No complaints were received through Council's General Complaints Process relating to alleged breaches by Councillors.

As required under the Public Sector Ethics Act 1994, McKinlay Shire Council developed and implemented a revised Code of Conduct, in line with the Public Sector Ethics Act 1994 ethics and principals and values. The Code of Conduct is a set of standards and behaviours that guide and direct all Council employees, consultants and contractors. It puts a responsibility with the individual to use sound judgment in the workplace. All Council employees are given access to appropriate training and education on the revised Code and its content, as well as their rights and obligations in relation to contraventions of the Code. The Code of Conduct is included in the employees induction and a copy provided on commencement of employment.

Council's Code of Conduct is available on Council's website and a hardcopy is available at Council's administration Office.

Total number of orders and recommendations made under section 180 (2) and (4) of the Local Government Act 2009	Nil
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Total number of orders made under section 181 of the Local Government Act 2009	Nil
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The name of each Councillor in relation for whom an order or recommendation was made under section 180 of the Local Government Act 2009 or an order made under made under 181 of the Local Government Act 2009.	N/A
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A description of the conduct or inappropriate conduct engaged in by each Councillor (related to the above)	N/A
--	-----

A summary of the order or recommendation made for each Councillor ( from above)	N/A
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The number of complaints referred to the department's Chief Executive under section 177 (5) (a) of the Local Government Act 2009	Nil
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The number of complaints referred to the Mayor under section 177 (5) (b) of the Local Government Act 2009	Nil
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The number of complaints referred to the departments' Chief Executive under section 177 (6) of the Local Government Act 2009	Nil
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The number of complaints assed by the Chief Executive Officer as being about official misconduct	Nil
--	-----

The number of complaints heard by a conduct review panel	Nil
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The number of complaints heard by the tribunal	Nil
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The number of complaints dealt with by the Chief Executive Officer under section 177 (8) of the Local Government Act 2009	Nil
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**Particulars of other issues relevant to making an informed assessment of the Local Government's Operation and Performance for each financial year.**

There are no contingent issues which have affected McKinlay Shire Council's performance for the reportable period.

**Annual Operations report for each commercial business unit**

There are no Commercial Business Units operated by McKinlay Shire Council for the reportable period.

**Details of any action taken for expenditure on a service facility or activity**

- Supplied by another local government under agreement of conducting joint government activity, and
- For which local government levied special rates or charges.

McKinlay Shire Council did not have any matters to report for the financial year in this regard.

**Neutrality Complaints**

There are no complaints in relation to competitive neutrality for the reportable period.

**Number of Invitations to change Tenders under Section 228 (7) ( Change of Specifications )**

McKinlay Shire Council did not issue any invitations to change tenders during the reporting period.

**Report of any overseas travel taken by a councillors or Local Government Employee in an official capacity**

No Councillor or local government employee of McKinlay Shire Council has represented the Council in an official capacity while travelling overseas.

## A Summary of all Concessions for Rates and Charges granted by Council

### Rates rebates and concessions

Under section 190 (g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* Council must provide a summary of all concessions for rates and charges granted by Council. Councils Revenue Policy was adopted in June 2016 and set out the principles used by Council for:

- Levying rates and charges
- Granting of concessions for rates and charges
- Recovery of overdue rates and charges
- Cost-recovery methods

McKinlay Shire Council exempts religious organisations, and other charitable organisations from general rating in accordance with the Local Government Act and Regulation.

### Granting Concessions for Rates and Charges

In accordance with *Section 119 of the Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council may grant a rate payer a concession for rates or charges.

*Section 120 of the Local Government Regulation 2012*, provides Council authority to grant concessions only if it is satisfied:

- The land is owned or occupied by a pensioner
- Transparency by making clear the requirements necessary to receive concessions

Communication by raising awareness to the community of concessions.

## Rebates and Concessions on Rates and Charges

In accordance with the *Local Government Regulation 2012 Part 10* Council granted a remission equal to 55% of gross rates and charges to property owners who qualified for the current State Government pensioner rate remission scheme. This policy only applied to ratepayers in categories 1 - 4.

## Discount

In accordance with *Section 130 of the Local Government Regulation 2012*, a discount of 10% was allowed on all rates and charges (excluding Fire Services Levy) if paid in full including overdue rates and charges before the end of the discount period. Further, the maximum discount allowed on the general rate only is \$3,500 per levy or \$7,000 per annum. The discount period is a period that ends on or before the due date for payment.

Concession	Cost
Pensioner Concession	\$267466.57.
Discount	\$280746.12

## Internal Audit

The Local Government Act 2009 requires Council to have an internal audit function. The purpose of an internal audit is to add value and improve Council's operations. It provides a systematic approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, and governance processes.

The scope of work for each financial year is set out in an Internal Audit Plan which is endorsed by the Chief Executive Officer and the Audit Committee.

During the 2015/16 year the internal audits were carried out on the following function areas during the year:

- ◆ Caravan Park Operations & Asset Protection and Maintenance
- ◆ Floating Plant and Loose Tools
- ◆ On Cost Review
- ◆ Diesel Fuel Usage & Plant Profitability
- ◆ Stores Receivables and Issues

In 2015/16 Council continued to operate an Audit committee which is comprised of two Councillors and one external member.

The Audit Committee membership is comprised of:

- ◆ Councillor Belinda Murphy – Chair
- ◆ Deputy Mayor Anthony Batt – Member (following the 2016 Quadrennial elections, Deputy Mayor Neil Walker joined the committee)
- ◆ Mr Neil Warner – Member

The committee met twice during the financial year.

# Useful Contacts

## Customer Contact

McKinlay Shire Council

29 Burke Street

Julia Creek QLD 4823

PO Box 177

Julia Creek QLD 4823

Phone: (07) 4746 7166

Fax: (07) 4746 7549

Email: reception@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

## Staff Contacts

### Peter Fitchat

Chief Executive Officer

Email: ceo@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

### Tenneil Cody

Director Corporate and Community Services

Email : finance@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

### Kerry Krogh

Works Manager

Phone: 07 4746 4211

Email: worksmanager@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

### Andrew Boardman

Director Environment and Regulatory Services

Phone: 07 4746 4213

Email: ders@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

### Joanna Seczkowski

Community Services Team Leader

Email: community@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

### Brian Wood

Director of Engineering

Phone: 4746 4212

Email: engineer@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

### Linda McNab

Executive Assistant

Phone: 07 4746 4218

Email: executiveassistant@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

## Councillors

### Cr Belinda Murphy (Mayor)

Phone: 07 4746 4223

Email: mayor@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

### Cr Neil Walker (Deputy Mayor)

Phone: 07 4746 8773

Email: neil.walker@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

### Cr Philip Curr

Phone: 07 4746 8480

Email: Philip.curr@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

### Cr. Janene Fegan

Phone: 0429 468 485

Email : Janene.Fegan @mckinlay.qld.gov.au

### Cr. Shauna Royes

Phone: 0427 467 666

Email: Shauna.Royes@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

## Tourism Information Centre

Phone: 07 4746 7690

Email: tourism@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

## Library Services

### Julia Creek Library

Phone: 07 4746 7930

Email: jclibrary@mckinlay.qld.gov.au

### McKinlay Library

Phone: 07 4746 8848

## Website and Facebook

[www.mckinlay.qld.gov.au](http://www.mckinlay.qld.gov.au)

[Facebook.com/mckinlayshire](https://www.facebook.com/mckinlayshire)





Financial Performance Report 2015/16  
**Community Financial Report**

# Community Financial Report

for the year ended 30 June 2016

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The Community Financial Report is a plain English summary of Council's Financial Statements prepared in accordance with Section 179 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

## 1. 2015/16 Snapshot

Key highlights of the 2015/16 financial year include:

- 4.5 kilometres of bitumen sealing (in three sections) completed on the Gilliat McKinlay Road.
- Reseal Julia Creek Town Streets; Amberley Drive, Byrne Street and Shaw Street.
- Gravel resheeting for 7 kilometres on the Taldora Road.
- Gravel resheeting for 16 kilometres on the Malpas Trenton Road.
- Gravel resheeting for 5 kilometres on the Trenton Woodstock Road.
- 4 kilometres reseal on the Nelia Bunda Road.
- Construction of 2 long distance coach stops in Burke Street, Julia Creek.
- Purchased the Julia Creek Early Learning Centre and commenced operations through Council.
- Renovations to the McKinlay Library and the McKinlay Community Hall.
- Upgrade to the Julia Creek Caravan Park existing Amenities Block.
- External paint to the two McIntyre Park Amenities Blocks and upgrade to the sewerage lines.
- Finalised renovations to the Julia Creek Swimming Pool.
- Purchased one skid steer and replaced 4 work vehicles.

## 2. About Council's End of Year Financial Statements

### What you will find in the Financial Statements

The Audited Financial Statements of Council set out the financial performance, financial position, cash flows and the net wealth of Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2016.

### About the Management Certificate

The Financial Statements must be certified by both the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer as "presenting fairly" the Council's financial results for the year, and are required to be adopted by Council - ensuring both responsibility for and ownership of the Financial Statements by management and elected representatives.

### About the Financial Statements

The Financial Statements incorporate 4 "primary" financial statements and accompanying notes.

#### 1. A Statement of Comprehensive Income

A summary of Council's financial performance for the year, listing both regular income and expenses and other comprehensive income which records items such as changes in the fair values of Council's assets and investments.

#### 2. A Balance Sheet

A 30 June snapshot of Council's Financial Position including its Assets and Liabilities.

#### 3. A Statement of Changes in Equity

The overall change for the year (in dollars) of Council's "net wealth".

# Community Financial Report

for the year ended 30 June 2016

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## 4. A Statement of Cash Flows

Indicates where Council's cash came from and where it was spent.

## 5. Notes to the Financial Statements

Provides greater detail to the line numbers of the 4 "primary" financial statements.

### About the Auditor's Reports

Council's Financial Statements are required to be audited by the Queensland Audit Office. The audit of many Queensland Councils is contracted to Audit firms that specialise in Local Government. The Auditor provides an audit report which gives an opinion on whether the Financial Statements present fairly the Council's financial performance and position.

### Where to find a complete version of Council's 15/16 Financial Statements?

A complete version of Council's Financial Statements for the 12 months to 30 June 2016 is contained in this annual report and can also be found at our website:

[www.mckinlay.qld.gov.au/council/annual\\_report.shtml](http://www.mckinlay.qld.gov.au/council/annual_report.shtml)

or at Council's administrative office at:

29 Burke Street  
JULIA CREEK QLD 4823

## 3. An Overview of this year's Financial Result and Financial Position

### 3.1 Council's Statement of Comprehensive Income (Profit and Loss) for 2015/16

Council's headline "profit/loss" result for the 2015/16 year was a \$23,834,770 surplus.

This included the following key financial performance highlights:

- Completion of the Shire Roads flood restoration works for the 2014 flood event.
- Commencement of the Shire Roads flood restoration works for the 2015 flood event.
- Maintenance grading works completed on shire roads with the majority done on the Gilliat McKinlay Road, Nelia Bunda Road, Punchbowl Road and Taldora Road.
- Rehabilitation and maintenance works completed on the Toolebuc (Cannington) Road.
- Drought funding received from Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services. Funding was distributed out to community groups to assist with their annual events.
- A full revaluation of Council assets which resulted in an increase to the asset valuation by \$18mil.

### Council's Result

\$ '000	Actual 2016	Budget 2016	Actual 2015
Expenditure	17,872	24,460	20,999
Revenues (excl. income for capital purposes)	12,879	14,217	13,090
<b>Net Result before Capital Grants and Contributions</b>	<b>- 4,993</b>	<b>- 10,243</b>	<b>- 7,909</b>
Capital Grants and Contributions	10,385	14,190	9,750

# Community Financial Report

for the year ended 30 June 2016

Increase in asset revaluation	18,442		
<b>Net Result</b>	<b>23,834</b>	<b>3,947</b>	<b>1,841</b>

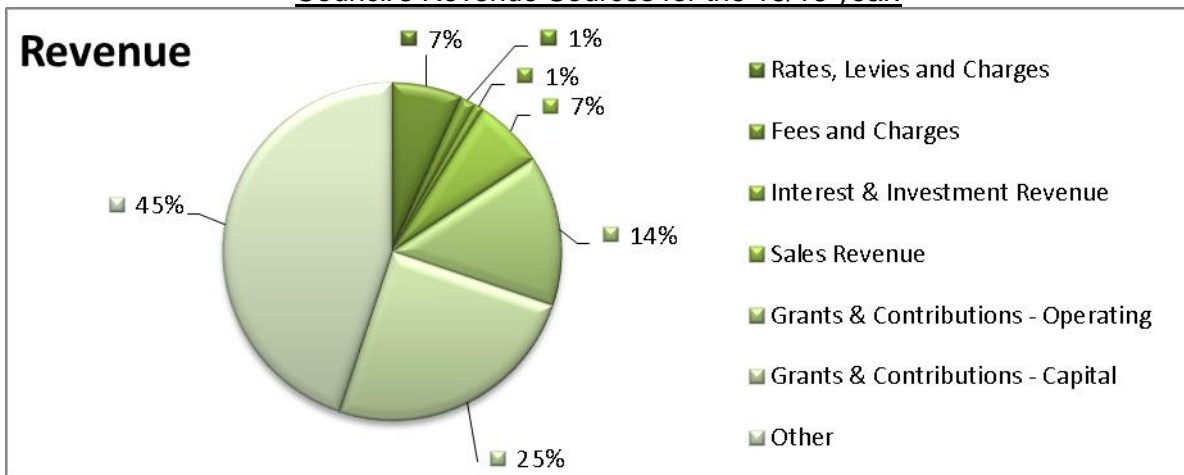
The budgeted "profit/loss" for 2015/16 was \$3,947,740 meaning Council came in better than budgeted. The main reasons relating to this difference between the actual result and the budgeted performance was:

- Councils increase in the valuation of non current assets by \$18.442mil.

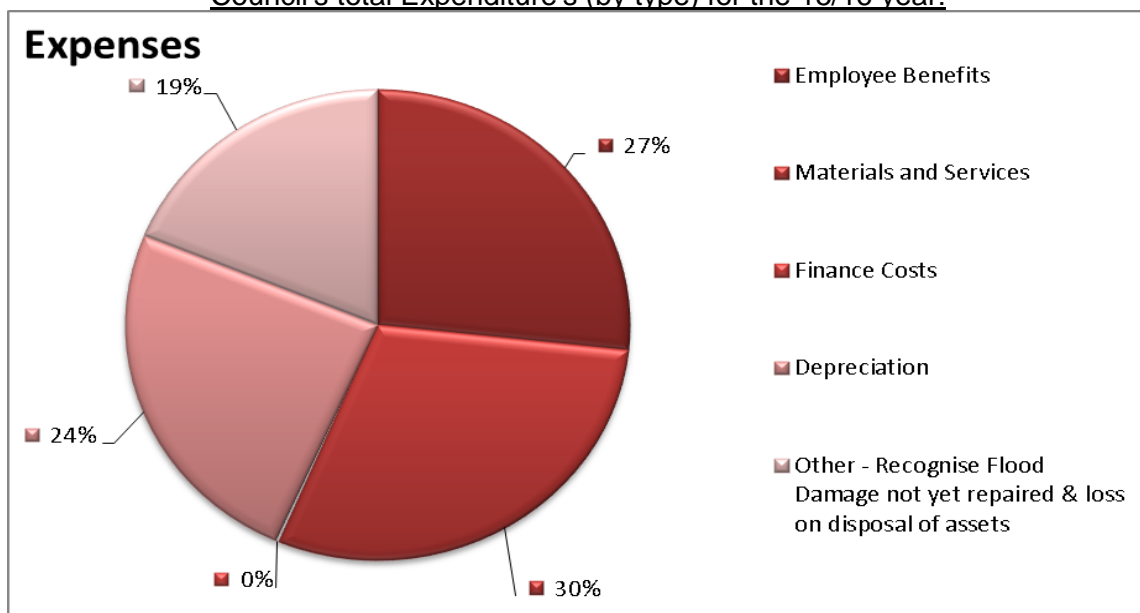
Overall Council and Management believe the financial result for 15/16 to be satisfactory.

The charts below summarises where Council's revenue and expenses came from:

Council's Revenue Sources for the 15/16 year:



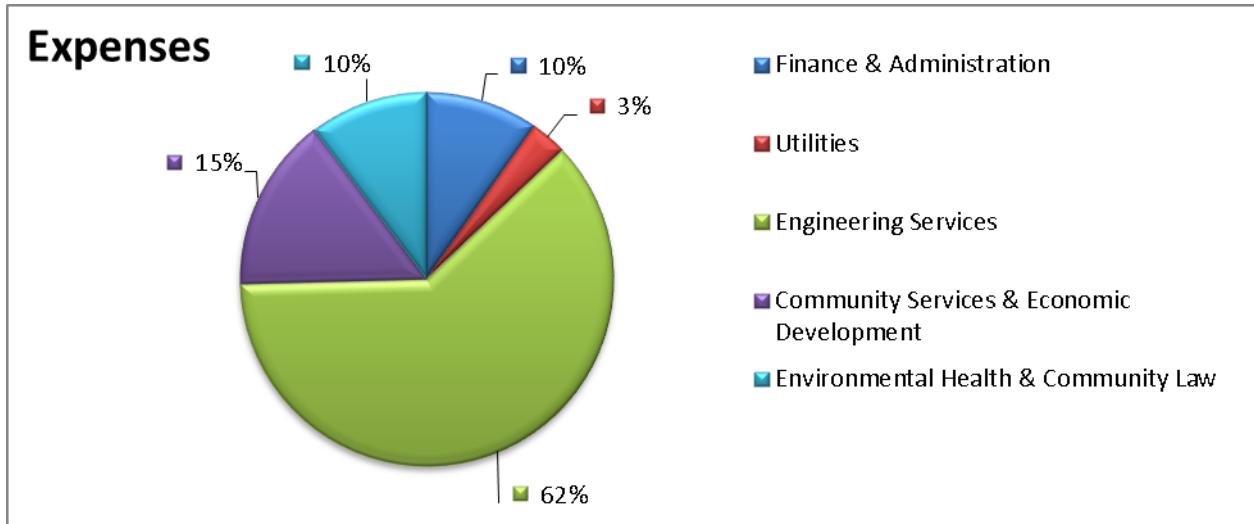
Council's total Expenditure's (by type) for the 15/16 year:



# Community Financial Report

for the year ended 30 June 2016

Council's total expenditure's (operating and capital) covered the following activities/functions:



## 3.2 Councils Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet) for 2015/16

### Council's Net Wealth

The Balance Sheet "bottom line" discloses the Net Community Equity of Council, which represents its wealth as measured by a dollar value of its asset less liabilities.

### Council's Wealth

\$ '000	Actual 2016	Actual 2015
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#### The major items that make up Council's wealth include the following assets:

Available Cash & Investments	13,289	11,406
Inventories (stores, raw materials & land purchased for development & sale)	259	281
Debtors	785	1,252

#### Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment

- Capital Work in Progress	88	1,401
- Land and Improvements	1,754	1,875
- Buildings	23,444	22,741
- Other Plant and Equipment	3,868	4,395
- Road, Drainage and Bridge Network	131,410	105,597
- Water	3,190	3,728
- Sewerage	3,510	3,632
- Other Infrastructure Assets	7,744	9,599

# Community Financial Report

for the year ended 30 June 2016

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- Office Furniture and Fittings	282	276
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**Council has funded some of its operations and assets by the following liabilities:**

Trade & Other Payables	1,460	1,741
Loans & Borrowings (refer Councils Debt Policy for further information)	193	368
Provisions	408	348
<b>Net Community Equity</b>	<b>187,562</b>	<b>163,727</b>

## Council's Capital Expenditure for 2015/16

**Council's Capital Expenditure by Asset Class was as follows:**

- |                                    |                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| • Water Infrastructure             | \$40,000           |
| • Sewerage Infrastructure          | \$101,000          |
| • Roads and Streets Infrastructure | \$2,752,000        |
| • Buildings                        | \$899,000          |
| • Other Structures                 | \$902,000          |
|                                    | <b>\$4,694,000</b> |

**Council's Major Projects for 2015/16 included the following:**

4.5 Kilometres Bitumen Sealing \$760,000

Bitumen sealing of approximately 4.5 kilometres of the Gilliat McKinlay Road was completed in various sections measured from the Flinders Highway turnoff to start point at the railway crossing.

28 kilometres Gravel Resheeting \$1,537,000M

Supply and the placement of gravel pavement completed on various roads to improve access during the wet season. These roads being the Taldora Road 7km, Malpas Trenton Road 16km and the Trenton Woodstock Road 5km.

Purchased the Julia Creek Early Learning Centre \$35,000

Council purchased the Julia Creek Early Learning Centre and commenced operations as of January 2016.

Renovations to Amenities \$95,000

The ablution block at the Julia Creek Caravan Park was renovated including new doors, flooring, toilets, showers and internal painting. The 2 ablution blocks at the McIntyre Park were painted and sewerage lines replaced.

Plant Replacement \$283,000

As per Council's plant replacement program a 236D skid steer loader, CAT generator, tandem trailer and 4 work vehicles were purchased with a value of \$89k worth of plant sold by trade in, auction or tender.

**The total Capital Works Program Expenditures were funded by:**

- |                          |          |
|--------------------------|----------|
| • Grants & Contributions | \$2.977M |
| • General Revenue        | \$1.717M |

# Community Financial Report

for the year ended 30 June 2016

## 3.3 Council's Key Financial Figures - A Snapshot

A summary of some key financial figures over the past 5 years let's you see some overall trends.

<b>Financial Performance Figures (\$'000)</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
<b>Inflows:</b>					
Rates, Levies & Charges	2,765	2,672	2,594	2,501	2,380
Fees & Charges	627	551	493	438	343
Interest Received	378	362	372	533	477
Sales Revenue	2,785	3,451	10,733	3,749	14,870
Other Revenue Grants, Subsidies, Contributions & Donations	293	85	191	284	238
- Operating & Capital	6,031	5,969	3,233	5,004	5,716
<b>Total Income from Continuing Operations</b>	<b>12,879</b>	<b>13,090</b>	17,616	12,513	24,028
Grants, Subsidies, Contributions & Donations - Capital	10,378	9,750	5,002	4,567	11,369
Capital Income	8	-	2	-	-
Sale Proceeds from PP&E	-	-	4	598	437
New Loan Borrowings & Advances	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Outflows:</b>					
Employee Benefits	4,774	4,169	4,161	4,098	4,158
Materials & Services	5,303	5,576	10,851	5,129	18,540
Finance Costs	45	45	63	116	149
Depreciation and Amortisation	4,391	4,103	4,183	4,159	2,382
Inventory write-down	-	-	-	-	-
Loss on Disposal of Non-Current Assets	-	1,733	-	-	-
Write-off Flood Damaged Roads	3,359	8,293	3,433	-	-
<b>Total Expenses from Continuing Operations</b>	<b>17,872</b>	<b>23,919</b>	22,691	13,502	25,230

# Community Financial Report

for the year ended 30 June 2016

Total Cash purchases of PP&E	4,694	5,458	6,561	5,042	6,214
Other Capital Expenses	-	-	-	186	-
Total Loan Repayments (incl. Finance Leases)	176	181	564	720	1,098
<b>Operating Surplus/(Deficit) (excl. Capital Income &amp; Exps)</b>	<b>(4,993)</b>	<b>(10,829)</b>	<b>(5,075)</b>	<b>(990)</b>	<b>(1,202)</b>
<b>Financial Position Figures (\$'000)</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	2014	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
Current Assets	1,044	1,532	2,471	2,709	4,371
Current Liabilities	1,429	1,682	1,804	1,614	2,014
Net Current Assets	(385)	(150)	667	1,095	2,357
Cash & Cash Equivalents	13,289	11,406	11,321	12,639	15,207
Total Borrowings Outstanding (excl. any overdraft) (Loans, Advances & Finance Leases)	193	368	549	1,113	1,833
Total Value of PP&E (excl. Land & Improvements)	175,290	153,245	150,802	146,653	140,192
Total Accumulated Depreciation	4,391	4,103	4,183	4,159	2,382
Indicative Remaining Useful Life (as a % of GBV)	97%	97%	97%	97%	98%

**Source:** Published audited financial statements of Council (current year & prior years annual financial statements)

## 4. Financial Sustainability Measures

**The Financial Sustainability of Councils is now a cornerstone of the Local Government Act and a core responsibility of individual Councils across Queensland.**

Financial Sustainability is defined as when a **"Local Government is able to maintain its financial capital and infrastructure capital over the long term"** [source: Local Government Act 2009 section 102(2)].

The Financial Sustainability indicators (in accordance with the *Local Government Regulation 2012*) that Council must publish are as follows:

### Operating Surplus Ratio – Target 0-10%

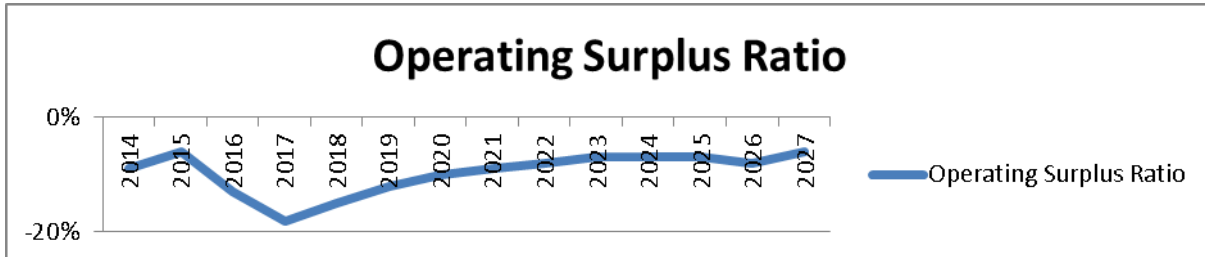
*Net Result divided by Total Operating Revenue*

This is an indicator of the extent to which revenues raised cover operational expenses only or are available for capital funding purposes or other purposes.



# Community Financial Report

for the year ended 30 June 2016



### Asset Sustainability Ratio – Target >90%

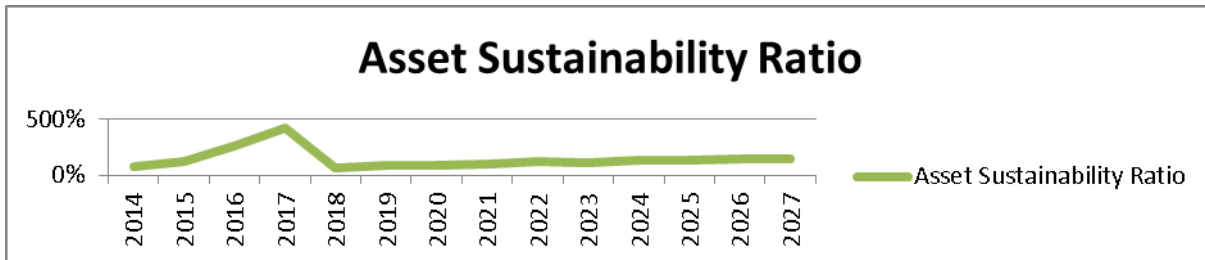
*Capital Expenditure on the Replacement of Assets (Renewals) divided by Depreciation Expense*

This is an approximation of the extent to which the infrastructure assets managed by the local government are being replaced as these reach the end of their useful lives.

Depreciation expense represents an estimate of the extent to which the infrastructure assets have been consumed in a period.

Capital expenditure on renewals (replacing assets that the local government already has) is an indicator of the extent to which the infrastructure assets are being replaced.

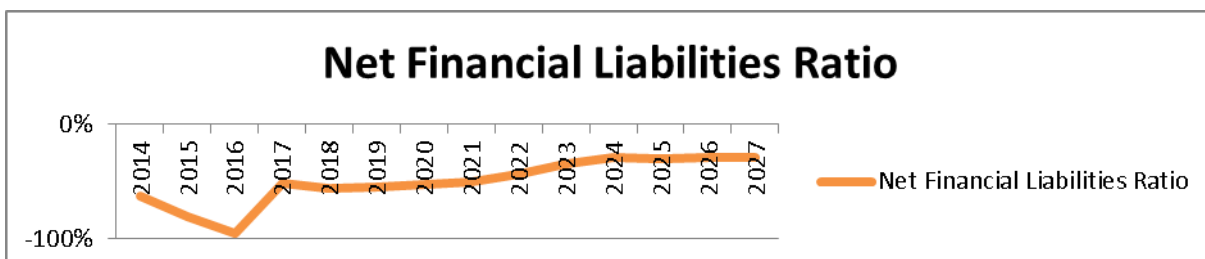
This ratio indicates whether a local government is renewing or replacing existing non-financial assets at the same rate that its overall stock of assets is wearing out.



### Net Financial Liabilities Ratio – Target <60%

*Total Liabilities less Current Assets divided by Total Operating Revenue*

This is an indicator of the extent to which the net financial liabilities of a local government can be serviced by its operating revenues.



# Community Financial Report

for the financial year ended 30 June 2016

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## Financial Sustainability Indicators

for the year ended 30 June 2016

	Target	Actual 2014	Actual 2015	Actual 2016	Budget 2017	Long Term Financial Plan Projections									
						Yr 1 2018	Yr 2 2019	Yr 3 2020	Yr 4 2021	Yr 5 2022	Yr 6 2023	Yr 7 2024	Yr 8 2025	Yr 9 2026	Yr 10 2027
<b>Ratio</b>															
Operating Surplus Ratio	0 - 10%	-9%	-6%	<b>-13%</b>	-18%	-15%	-12%	-10%	-9%	-8%	-7%	-7%	-7%	-8%	-6%
Asset Sustainability Ratio	> 90%	75%	121%	<b>264%</b>	418%	61%	85%	93%	100%	124%	111%	130%	133%	146%	146%
Net Financial Liabilities Ratio	< 60%	-63%	-80%	<b>-95%</b>	-51%	-56%	-55%	-53%	-50%	-43%	-34%	-29%	-30%	-29%	-29%