



PLANNING for OUR COMMUNITY

Wyong Shire Council

The Planning for **OUR COMMUNITY** section of Council’s Settlement Strategy considers community services and facilities, open space and recreation, educational and health facilities, and emergency services available to residents. The chapter identifies ways in which Key Objectives 3 and 8 of our Community Strategic Plan can be achieved:

‘Communities will have access to a diverse range of affordable and coordinated facilities, programs and services.’

‘The community will be well educated, innovative and creative. People will attain full knowledge potential at all stages of life.’



Establishing our Vision

What do we want to achieve?

Planning for new urban communities has traditionally focused on land capability issues, the natural environment and provision of hard infrastructure (sewer, water, gas, roads and drainage), with community services and facilities provided well after residents move in. These resources are often not commensurate with population growth and the delivery of services can be fragmented.

It is anticipated that Wyong LGA will experience substantial population growth into the future and as a result, an increase in demand for a range of community facilities and services. A large number of services and facilities will need to be planned and provided to ensure an efficient and sustainable settlement pattern is achieved. Early consideration of community facilities and services, and how these connect to the centres and distribution of housing will be essential. It is therefore important to integrate community planning within the overall planning process. It is also vital that any plans by Council or other entities to provide new or upgraded facilities need to be balanced by its capacity to afford to operate, maintain and eventually replace these facilities.

Key Documents for Planning for **OUR COMMUNITY**:

The following key documents are applicable to Planning for our Community:

Youth Engagement Strategy (2010)	Community Plan (2008)
Central Coast Regional Strategy (2008)	NSW State Plan (2010)
North Wyong Shire Structure Plan (2010)	Cultural Plan (2005)
Recreation Facilities Strategy (2009)	Local Parks Strategy (2005)
Bicycle and Shared Pathways Strategy (2010)	Community Strategic Plan (2011)
Community Engagement Strategy (2011)	Community Facilities Strategy (2012)
Promoting Choice: A Local Affordable Housing Strategy for Wyong Shire (2008)	Draft Learning Communities Strategy
Warnervale/Wadalba Community Support and Human Services Strategy (2002)	Wyong DCP 2013 - Public Art Chapter

What legislation do we need to consider?

The following legislation governs the way we plan for our community:

Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979	SEPP (Infrastructure) 2007
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999	Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998
Children (Education and Care Services National Law Application) Act 2010	State Emergency and Rescue Management Act, 1989
Children’s Services Regulation 2004	

Planning for COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

HOW DO WE SUSTAINABLY CATER FOR OUR RESIDENTS, BUSINESS AND VISITOR POPULATION, IN TERMS OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES?



Background to our **COMMUNITY FACILITIES** and **SERVICES**:

Wyong LGA continues to experience population growth, placing demands on the provision of and access to a range of community services and facilities. Historically, this population increase has not been resourced by the provision of adequate social infrastructure and there is a backlog in the provision of community facilities and services. In the Quality of Life Survey (2007), 56.2% of residents indicated that *inadequate public infrastructure* was the single most negative impact of population growth.

Community facilities support the development of a strong community by providing a focus for community activities and spaces for the delivery of community services, programs and activities. Community facilities often provide the vehicle through which social capital is nurtured and developed – where people establish networks, develop community trust and engage in organised community activities. A social outcome identified in the Wyong Shire Community Plan (Wyong Shire Council, 2008) is for “*a community that has a variety of great public spaces and places for people to come together that are conducive to community connectedness and activity, are safe, inviting, attractive and reflective of community identity.*” This is reinforced in the Community Strategic Plan (Wyong Shire Council, 2011) with a key objective being “*communities will have access to a diverse range of affordable and co-ordinated facilities, programs and services.*”

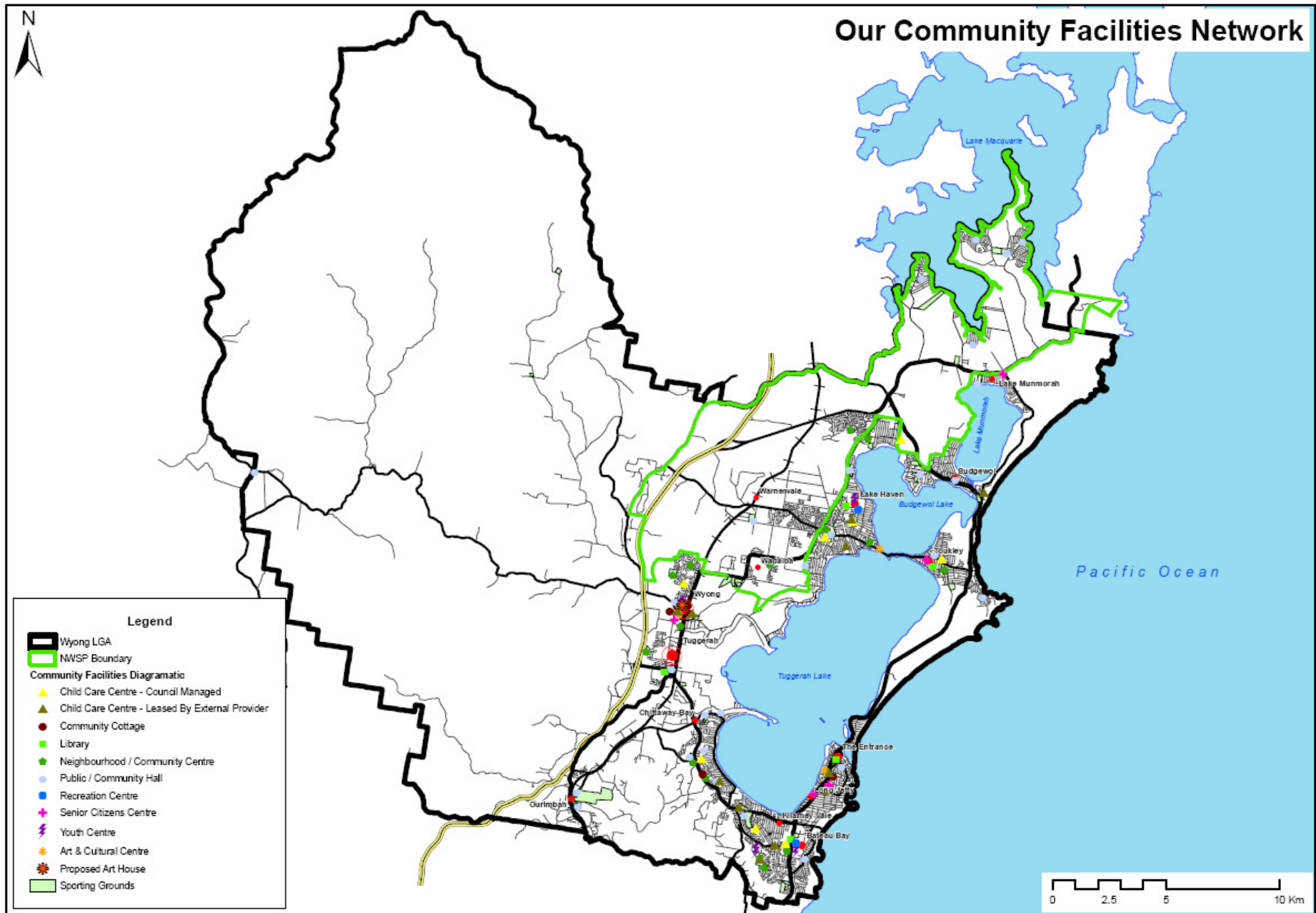
There are multiple stakeholders involved in community service provision. Wyong Council has an established and important role in providing current and long term direction for social planning and community development in the LGA. Council provides leadership to the community and is a strong advocate on the key issues and challenges faced by the community. However, other entities such as not-for-profit organisations and the State Government also have a significant role in the provision of community facilities and services.

As part of the provision of community facilities and services, it is common for Council to plan and develop the facility, whilst State Government provides recurrent funding for service provision provided by government agencies, non-government agencies and community groups. Council pays for the capital and maintenance costs for these facilities. Other facilities are provided directly by government, non-government agencies and private providers.

Community Facilities and Services within Wyong LGA

There are a range of community facilities and services provided within Wyong LGA by Council, State Government, private sector, church and community groups. These include Community, Church and School Halls; Neighbourhood, Family and Community Centres; Youth Centres; Senior Citizens Centres; Child Care Facilities; Libraries; Arts and Cultural Centres; Cemeteries; and a Community Road and Education Scheme facility.

Figure 4: Our Community Facilities Network



Issues**What are the current and foreseeable issues that impact upon our COMMUNITY FACILITIES and SERVICES?****Cost of Land**

The cost of land in Wyong LGA and a shortage of appropriate Council-owned sites has resulted in increased establishment and operational costs for new facilities, creating challenges for delivering affordable community facilities and services. If cost pressures increase further, residents may need to travel further to utilise services. Council needs to monitor the implications of this issue when considering asset disposal.

Backlog of Facilities and Services and Continued Population Growth

The LGA has experienced a significant increase in population over the last 20-30 years resulting in considerable expansion of our urban areas and the creation of new suburbs. In many areas the provision of social and economic infrastructure has not been commensurate with this growth and there are gaps in the provision of facilities and services to meet the current population. This issue will be exacerbated as the population continues to grow. Community facilities will need to be properly planned, managed and maintained to meet current and future needs of the population.

Demographic Profile

The LGA's population is characterised by peaks in both younger and older groups, as well as a low socio-economic profile and a large proportion of families/people requiring support. These groups place the greatest demands on community facilities and services.

Large Number of Residents Commuting outside the LGA for Employment

Commuting outside of the LGA for employment by a high proportion of the community significantly impacts on the amount of personal leisure time, sport and recreation opportunities, and access to community facilities and services. Ensuring community facilities and services are available outside of traditional operating hours will be important in ensuring accessibility for commuters.

Sustainable and Recurrent Funding

Recurrent funding for staffing, service delivery, programs and activities services has not been commensurate with population growth. This has been exacerbated by different agencies grouping the Central Coast with Hunter and/or Northern Sydney regions. Many agencies are trying to "catch up" with the demands of the existing population, often at the crisis end of the spectrum, and demand for services outweighs the supply.

Ability to Fund Facilities from S.94 Development Contributions

On 4 June 2010, the State Government announced a revised approach for setting local development contributions, including a \$20,000 per residential lot or per dwelling limit on

local development contributions within established areas. This cap increases to \$30,000 per dwelling or per residential lot in new release (greenfield) areas to recognise the higher costs of creating well-planned communities in these areas. As a result, it is unlikely that Council will be able to collect development contributions for the full cost of providing a range of facilities and services, including community facilities and services.

Introduction of the State Infrastructure Contribution (SIC)

The State Government levies a SIC for certain growth areas to contribute to State Government assets such as hospitals, rail lines and schools. The SIC levy is charged in addition to existing Section 94 Development Contribution charges, and increases the cost of development of residential land. This will place additional pressure on the economic feasibility of development. There is also no requirement for a nexus between where the SIC levy is generated and where it is spent. This means that the local area may not benefit from SIC levies imposed as part of the development of new urban release areas, placing further strain on services and infrastructure. In Wyong LGA, SIC levy areas apply to the Warnervale Town Centre and the Wyong Employment Zone. SICs are currently under review by the State Government.

Equity of access

Residents wishing to utilise community facilities and services should be able to do so regardless of their age, gender, race, culture, religion, language, disability or health status, financial situation etc. There is an increasing tendency for State and Federal Government services to be centralised, reducing the range of locally based services and facilities available for local communities. Facilities need to be located so they are accessible to the community they are intending to serve.

Adaptability of Facilities

With the extreme differences in the dominant age structure of the community (0-14yrs and 65+yrs), facilities need to be multi-functional to accommodate the different needs. With an ageing population and constant changes in trends/interests, facilities need to be designed to be adaptable so as to meet future needs of the changing community.

Ageing Infrastructure – Sustainable management and maintenance

Many facilities, such as community halls, were constructed between 1950 and 1970 and are limited in their capacity to accommodate different types of uses, and are not always suited to the changing needs and expectations of the community. Many facilities require maintenance and upgrading to meet current standards. The current costs associated with delivering and maintaining community facilities are not sustainable.

Increasing Maintenance and Operational Costs

Operating community facilities is becoming more expensive, with ageing facilities increasing maintenance and operational costs. There is a need to ensure whole-of-life cycle costing and sustainability issues are addressed in planning for new or upgraded

facilities. The use of innovative design and construction methods and alternative materials should be examined to reduce ongoing costs by developing facilities that are more durable and maximise environmental sustainability. There is a need to establish an appropriate level of cost recovery whilst still ensuring facilities are accessible and affordable. Facility planning and design should also be linked to environmental sustainability with consideration given to efficient heating and cooling, waste minimisation, water re-use, integrated land use planning and transport planning.

Planning for our Population

How do we plan for our COMMUNITY FACILITIES and SERVICES?

Long-term Strategic Planning

As the LGA continues to grow and develop, the provision of community facilities will need to match the changing demands and needs of residents and desired social outcomes. Further work is required to assess the provision, functionality, quality and accessibility of existing facilities and services, identify gaps in provision and develop a longer term plan for the provision/upgrade of facilities and services to meet population growth. Factors which need to be taken into account include:

- Population and demographic changes
- Growth and settlement pattern, geography and public transport linkages
- Hierarchy of facilities to service different catchment levels of population
- Location, usage and functionality of existing facilities available in the area
- Opportunities to expand/upgrade existing facilities, or co-locate with other facilities
- Desired social outcomes to be achieved
- Community identified needs, interests and expectations
- Collaborative partnerships with potential service providers
- Funding –capital, operational and ongoing costs
- Supply of cemetery land and associated infrastructure within Wyong LGA.

As part of long-term strategic planning for community facilities and services, Council will develop a Human Services Strategy for the NWSSP area, using a model similar to human services planning undertaken for the Warnervale/Wadalba area.

Youth Engagement Strategy and Community Facilities Strategy

Council has recently completed the Youth Engagement Strategy and the Community Facilities Strategy. The Community Facilities Strategy focuses on Council owned facilities including community halls, community centres, youth centres, senior citizen centres, arts and cultural centres, heritage buildings, community cottages, libraries, child care centres, scout and guide halls, recreation centres, recreation clubhouses and surf clubs. Council facilities not within the scope of this Strategy include swimming pools, tourist information centres, amenities blocks and buildings that are used for commercial purposes.

The Community Facilities Strategy provides a review and assessment of the current provision and operation of Council's community facilities and a strategic framework to guide decision-making about the sustainable provision, development and management of community facilities over the longer term. The aim is to position the community facilities asset portfolio to better serve the needs and expectations of the community in the future.

Voluntary Planning Agreements / Public-Private Partnerships

As part of the planning process, additional sources of capital funding will need to be identified. Increasing the number of Voluntary Planning Agreements that are utilised instead of Section 94 Development Contributions, as well as Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) may provide improved opportunities for Council to negotiate provision of community facilities as part of new development. This could enable the provision of funds towards community facilities which are currently outside the bounds of the current Section 94 Development Contributions regime. Council will actively seek opportunities for joint venture and PPPs to provide community facilities and services, as well as continue to encourage flexible Section 94 practices, including Works in Kind and Voluntary Planning Agreements, to ensure the timely delivery of necessary community facilities.

Improved Community Consultation

Community and stakeholder participation and involvement are fundamental in the planning, development, management and operations of facilities and services. Engagement of residents and community representatives in the planning and design process will encourage a sense of ownership of facilities and can assist in ongoing management and maintenance. It is important to develop and encourage participatory structures and processes in planning, service delivery and evaluation, recognise the input of community members and keep the broader community informed of progress.

Lobby State and Federal Government for increased funding

Council will continue to lobby for State and Federal Government funding for the provision of new and upgraded community facilities and services, including sustainable recurrent funding for staffing, programming and activities.

What are other Government Authorities currently doing?

Whilst Council is a primary provider of community facility infrastructure and services, the State and Federal Governments have a significant role in the provision of, or the establishment of funding programs that enable the provision of, community facilities and services. However, funding for capital infrastructure is often limited and ad hoc.

Federal Government

Federal Government initiatives include (but are not limited to):

- Centrelink support programs
- National Youth Mental Health Foundation
- Seniors programs
- Grant funding for not-for-profit organisations.

State Government (Department of Family and Community Services)

State Government initiatives include but are not limited to:

- Regulation of childcare centres, such as staff qualifications and staff-to-child ratios
- Home and Community Care (joint funded with the Federal Government)
- Wyong Youth Service (operating on Council land at Gravity Youth Centre)
- Links Youth Service (operating on Council land at San Remo Neighbourhood Centre)
- Grant funding programs for not-for-profit organisation offering community services.

Non-Profit Organisations

Not-for-profit organisation initiatives include (but are not limited to):

- Beyond Blue
- Lifeline
- Mensheds
- Samaritans Youth Services
- Central Coast Meals on Wheels
- Coastwide Community Transport
- Police and Community Youth Club (PCYC)
- Salvation Army – Oasis Youth Centre.

The Standard Instrument, Wyong LEP 2013 and Wyong DCP 2013

What provisions can be incorporated into our Planning Instruments to ensure planning for COMMUNITY FACILITIES and SERVICES can be met?

Wyong LEP 2013

The following measures can be incorporated into Wyong LEP 2013 to improve planning for our community facilities and services:

- Wyong LEP 2013 permits Community Facilities in the same range of zones as currently permitted under Wyong LEP 1991:

Residential Zones	Business Zones	Recreation Zones	Waterway Zones
R1 General Residential	B1 Neighbourhood Centre	RE1 Public Recreation	W1 Natural Waterways
R2 Low Density Residential	B2 Local Centre	RE2 Private Recreation	W2 Recreational Waterways
R3 Medium Density Residential	B3 Commercial Core	Environment Protection Zones	Rural Zones
R4 High Density Residential	B4 Mixed Use	E3 Environmental Management	RU1 Primary Production
Special Purpose Zones	B6 Enterprise Corridor	E4 Environmental Living	RU5 Village
SP3 Tourist	B7 Business Park		

Table 8: Permissible Standard Instrument Zones – Community Facilities

Wyong DCP 2013

The following measures can be incorporated into Wyong DCP 2013 to improve our planning for our community facilities and services:

- No identified actions for Wyong DCP 2013.

Key Considerations:

Key Considerations for improved COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES:

- Provide a network of facilities that are equitable and accessible.
- Provide flexible and multi-purpose facilities to adapt to changing community needs and expectations, government funding programs and new models of facility provision.
- Embellish existing facilities, where feasible, to increase functionality of facilities.
- Co-locate community facilities with complementary facilities, such as sport and recreation facilities, schools and retail centres to create a "community hub".
- Collaborate with State and Federal Government and non-government agencies to improve planning and identify opportunities for integrated service delivery appropriate to community needs and desired social outcomes.
- Engage community members in the planning and design process to provide an opportunity for people to share their ideas about their community.
- Identify opportunities for joint ventures to provide community facilities and services.
- Incorporate design elements which respond to community needs – functional, practical, flexible, accessible, safe - to promote efficient use of the facility and effective delivery of services and programs.
- Maintain community facilities to promote community pride, increased usage and safety.
- Establish preferred model(s) and standardised policies and procedures for the sustainable operation, management and maintenance of community facilities.
- Identify whole-of-life costs, including construction, operation and maintenance costs, and funding sources, at the commencement of the planning process.

Strategic Actions and Local Initiatives:
COMMUNITY FACILITIES and SERVICES

#	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY	IMPLEMENTATION				Other	COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL STRATEGY
			LEP 2013	Am.	DCP 2013	Am.			
CM01	Continue to implement the Community Plan and Youth Engagement Strategy Action Plans.	WSC					X	Providing and maintaining local and regional community facilities for recreation, culture, health and education. Providing and maintaining a range of community programs focused on community development, recreation, culture, environment, education and other issues. Providing recurrent funding for community support and development services. This should target all ages and abilities and include business support programs, cultural and recreational programs as well as educational and health services. Promoting community facilities to help maximise their benefits and use. This should ensure people know what facilities are available, how to make use of them, how to participate in the programs offered and how they can help maintain and manage them. Balance the provision of facilities and amenities between towns/suburbs to enhance the quality of life in the LGA. This includes review and enhancement of current use of facilities. Maximise access to, and potential for, new and existing facilities/infrastructure to support growth. This includes expanding use of facilities and innovative ways of providing facilities and infrastructure. Expanding and resourcing children and family service programs. This will help monitor child development, provide parenting advice, support positive family relationships and encourage community involvement from an early age. Encouraging and valuing genuine youth and senior participation in the community. This will help ensure involvement of young people and seniors, respect for their ideas and involvement in their community.	There are no CCRS actions that apply to this component.
CM02	Approach the State and Federal Government and advocate for funding of new and upgraded facilities and sustainable recurrent funding for staffing, programming and activities.	SG / FG					X		
CM03	Actively seek opportunities for joint ventures and partnerships to provide community facilities and services, such as the use of school facilities for a range of community, recreation and sporting activities.	WSC					X		
CM04	Encourage the use of flexible S.94 Development Contribution practices, including Works in Kind and Voluntary Planning Agreements, to ensure the timely delivery of necessary community facilities.	WSC					X		
CM05	Develop a Human Services Strategy for the NWSSP area, using a model similar to human services planning in Warnervale/Wadalba.	WSC					X		
CM06	Undertake a review of cemetery infrastructure within Wyong LGA to ensure that there is an adequate supply of cemetery land and associated infrastructure.	WSC					X		
CM07	Implement the Community Facilities Strategy.	WSC					X		

Planning for OPEN SPACE and RECREATION

HOW DO WE SUSTAINABLY CATER FOR OUR RESIDENTS, BUSINESS AND VISITOR POPULATION, IN TERMS OF OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION?

Note: Bicycle and Shared Pathways are addressed in the 'Planning for TRANSPORT' chapter.



Background to our OPEN SPACE and RECREATION:

Open space and recreation facilities support healthy lifestyles, social engagement and community connectedness by facilitating community participation in recreation and sporting activities. The adequacy of these facilities is associated with their location, accessibility, durability, hire costs, usability, and quality of infrastructure.

Table 9: Open Space and Recreational Facilities

Recreation Centres	2
Aquatic Facilities	3
Sportsgrounds	36
Skate Facilities	15
Hard Courts	64
Playgrounds	162
Parks and Reserves	409
Patrolled Beaches and Surf Clubs	6
Toilet Facilities	61

Active vs. Passive Open Space

Open space can be separated into two main components: active and passive open space. Active open space areas include outdoor sports areas such as football fields, whereas passive open spaces areas include parks, ornamental gardens and community gardens.

Public Domain

Public domain includes public spaces such as lanes, streets and road reserves, town plazas and squares which accommodate walking, cycling, social gatherings or outdoor dining.

Public Art

Public Art refers to creative and original works in public places or locations visible from the public domain. Public art can contribute to an active and vibrant public domain. Public art can encompass a wide range of mediums including free standing sculpture, custom designed furniture, lighting, interpretive components, kinetic works, gateways, walk-through installations and facade treatments.

Issues

What are the current and foreseeable issues that continue to impact upon our OPEN SPACE and RECREATION facilities?

Increased Land Value

Increasing land values and a shortage of appropriately located and sized sites has resulted in the increased costs for building new facilities, creating challenges for delivering affordable and appropriately designed facilities that are able to meet community needs.

Increasing Population – Backlog of Required Open Space

As the population increases, demands on open space and recreation facilities will increase. Capital expenditure and forward planning for open space and recreation facilities will need to be adjusted accordingly. In the Quality of Life Survey (Central Coast Research Foundation, 2008), almost 28% of Central Coast residents believed there are inadequate public spaces for people to come together in their neighbourhood.

The amount of money spent by local councils on recreation and leisure has been increasing, from \$418.2 million in 2004/05 to \$577.2 million in 2008/09 –
Department of Planning (2010)

Increasing Demand for Quality Facilities

There is increased community demand for high quality sporting facilities that are sufficient in size, multi-purpose in design, accommodate significant levels of use and are accessible quickly after wet weather events. This demand for high quality facilities will increase the cost of providing new, upgrading existing and maintaining facilities.

Access to Facilities

The LGA has a high proportion of residents that commute outside of the LGA for employment, significantly reducing the amount of leisure time, sport and recreation opportunities, and access to facilities for these people. Ensuring facilities are available outside of traditional operating hours is important in making recreation opportunities accessible to commuters. This will increase access and participation opportunities for commuters. Increased usage also needs to be considered in regards to the associated increased maintenance and operational costs.

Changing Community Needs

As the population ages, the community profile changes and people respond to new innovations and trends, the demand for open space and recreation facilities will change. This creates challenges in delivering appropriate facilities. Recreation facilities should be designed to facilitate multi-functional use, and infrastructure should be located to meet current needs whilst being adaptable and allowing for potential changes in use. For example, consideration should be given to the needs of emerging sports such as personal training and boot camp style training groups in the provision and operation of open space and recreation facilities.

Affordability of Facilities

The LGA has a significantly lower income profile than the NSW average and in 2006 was ranked the 6th most disadvantaged LGA under the SEIFA Index of Relative Social – Economic Disadvantage (id consulting 2012). For sport and recreational facilities to be accessible to all members of the community, hire fees and charges should reflect the low social economic profile of the community.

Increasing Public Liability Costs, Maintenance and Operational Costs

High annual costs of managing and operating open space and recreation facilities is also an issue, with ageing facilities increasing maintenance and operational costs, etc. Open space and recreation facilities should be built using appropriate and durable materials, in order to reduce maintenance costs. The use of innovative design and construction methods and alternative materials should be examined to reduce ongoing operational costs by developing facilities which are more durable to sustained use and maximise environmental sustainability. However, some costs such as rubbish and graffiti removal will be ongoing. In addition, increasing public liability costs for operating open space and recreation facilities will continue to impact on provision of adequate facilities.

Planning for our Population

How do we plan for our OPEN SPACE and RECREATION facilities?

Open Space and Recreation Strategies

In light of the LGAs continuing population growth, it is important that the future development of open space and recreation facilities throughout Wyong LGA are appropriately planned and managed. Council has prepared a number of strategies to plan for these needs including:

- Open Space Principles Place 1992 – Amended June 2005
- Local Parks Strategy (2005)
- EMP - Foreshore Recreation Facilities Strategy (2008)
- Wyong Recreation Facilities Strategy (2009)
- Bicycle and Shared Pathway Strategy (2010)

Council will need to continuously update existing and develop new planning strategies in order to meet open space and recreation requirements and reflect changing needs.

Partnerships with State and Federal Government

Schools are valuable facilities and there are times when the buildings and grounds are not in use and could be shared with the community as a significant resource. As part of the Department of Education & Training's Community Use of School Facilities Policy, schools are encouraged to make their facilities available for community use outside of school hours for appropriate purposes, provided this does not interfere with the school's provision of quality learning programs for its students.

Community Partnerships for Use of School Playing Fields provides guidance for schools and local government seeking to negotiate joint use agreements associated with school playing fields for sports training and competition. An example of this is the recent signing by Council of a 50-year lease of the playing fields located on the University of Newcastle (Ourimbah Campus), The lease will provide community access to the sports fields and also allows Council to consider plans from sporting clubs to improve the current built facilities.

What are other Government Authorities currently doing?

State Government

Recreation and Open Space Planning Guidelines for Local Government (2010)

The Department of Planning & Infrastructure prepared this guideline as a resource for councils to develop their own recreational and open space policies to meet community needs and inform the preparation of:

- Open space and recreation strategies
- Planning for new release areas
- Planning for renewal or infill development in established areas
- Community Strategic Plans and Resourcing Strategies
- Local Environmental Plans (LEPs)
- S.94 contributions plans.

Development and Active Living: Designing Projects for Active Living (2010)

In 2010, the Premier's Council for Active Living released this document to:

- Assist Councils and the State Government with the preparation of Active Living policy documents, such as Development Control Plans (DCPs), to provide an improved legal basis for addressing Active Living matters at the DA/Project stage.
- Advise consultants/applicants and Assessment Officers on matters for consideration that will promote Active Living in development proposals.

The Standard Instrument, Wyong LEP 2013 and Wyong DCP 2013

What provisions can be incorporated into our Planning Instruments to ensure planning for our OPEN SPACE and RECREATION facilities can be met?

Wyong LEP 2013

The following measures can be incorporated into Wyong LEP 2013 to improve our planning for our open space and recreation facilities:

- Incorporate Open Space planning principles identified in the Wyong Open Space Principles Plan (2005). These principles provide clear guidance as to the minimum amount and type of open space provision required throughout the LGA.
- Existing public and private open space / recreational areas zoned RE1 Public Recreation and RE2 Private Recreation within Wyong LEP 2013.
- Recreation areas are permissible with consent in all zones within Wyong LEP 2013, except RU3 Forestry and W1 Natural Waterways.
- Clause 5.1 Relevant Acquisition Authority in Wyong LEP 2013 provides for the acquisition of land for public purposes, such as local or regional open space. The

Land Reservation Acquisition Map will identify the parcels required for acquisition. This information will be reflected in the corresponding 149 Certificates.

Wyong DCP 2013

The following measures can be incorporated into Wyong DCP 2013 to improve our planning for our open space and recreation facilities:

- The incorporation of open space and recreation provisions into planning instruments will significantly influence the level of infrastructure provision throughout the LGA.
- Identification of new and/or embellishment of existing infrastructure and facilities;
- Funding for new and/or embellishment of existing infrastructure and facilities.
- The Public Art DCP Chapter recognises that public art is varied and consists of different forms depending on the multiple identities of an area or community. Council's Public Art Policy and DCP Chapter places a high value on public art that is site specific, innovative and integrated into current or future urban design themes.

Key Considerations:

Key Considerations for improved OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION:

- *Provide a hierarchy of play opportunities within open space areas from district playgrounds and all access playgrounds to landscaped areas for imaginative play.*
- *Consider supply and demand for open space and recreation facilities, including the location, variety and service capacity of existing open space and recreation facilities and the ability of new residents to access them.*
- *Consider the demographics of the new community and the potential implications for specific recreation opportunities and facilities.*
- *Maintain and provide for a variety of open space and recreation facilities to service existing and new development.*
- *New Greenfield and Infill development areas to include appropriate open space facilities within the urban interface area in bushfire prone areas.*
- *All new open space and recreation facilities to utilise sustainable materials to increase energy efficiency.*
- *Build connectivity into residential precincts via footpaths, cycleways and shared pathways.*
- *Create public places and spaces that are conducive to community connectedness to enable residents to meet and use the facilities and services in the area.*
- *Ensure open space and recreation facilities are safe, inviting, attractive and reflective of community identity, through landscape design, public art, street furniture etc.*
- *Consider whole-of-life costs, including construction, operation and maintenance, and identify funding sources, when planning for open space and recreation facilities.*

Strategic Actions and Local Initiatives

OPEN SPACE and RECREATION

#	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY	IMPLEMENTATION				Other	COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL STRATEGY
			LEP		DCP				
			2013	Am.	2013	Am.			
CM08	Review open space and recreation zones to determine future zonings under Wyong LEP 2013.	WSC	X				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanding and supporting programs that increase participation among all ages. This could be in the community, business, sports and recreation, education and creative sectors. It could also encourage training or leadership programs which foster lifelong community involvement. Expanding and supporting programs and activities that encourage and enhance neighbourhood connections. This could include street parties and a "Get to know your Neighbours" Program. It will help improve interaction between different generations and cultures and encourage more neighbourly support. Encouraging and valuing youth and seniors participation in the community. This will help ensure involvement of young people and seniors, respect for their ideas and active involvement in the life of their community. Expanding and resourcing children and family service programs. This will help and monitor child development, provide parenting advice, support positive family relationships and encourage community involvement from an early age. 	<p>4.18: In planning for development and redevelopment of urban areas, councils are to consider the need for civic open space and access to a variety of open space and recreation opportunities (e.g. coastal foreshore and riparian land), in a manner that is consistent with the maintenance of ecological values.</p> <p>6.17: The Department of Planning is to continue to expand the NSW Government's Metropolitan Greenspace program and further investigate opportunities to expand regional facilities for families such as picnic areas and walking trails within the Central Coast Region.</p> <p>6.18: Councils are to continue to maintain or improve the provision of local open space, particularly in centres along strategic bus routes and around centres where urban growth is being located.</p>	
CM09	Integrate open space planning principles identified in the Wyong Open Space Principles Plan (2005) into Wyong LEP 2013.	WSC		X					
CM10	Review Wyong DCP 2013 Chapter (Subdivision) to ensure that new subdivisions provide community open space and possible locations for community gardens.	WSC				X			
CM11	Integrate open space and recreation land and infrastructure provisions into Wyong DCP 2013.	WSC				X			
CM12	Implement the Recreation Facilities Strategy (2009). Evaluation and rationalisation of facilities to be undertaken in future reviews of the Recreation Facilities Strategy.	WSC							X
CM13	Implement the Local Parks Strategy (2005).	WSC							X
CM14	Review the Wyong Open Space Principles Plan (2005) to develop a benchmark for Open Space and Recreation requirements.	WSC							X
CM15	Pursue recreation opportunities for young people as identified in the Youth Engagement Strategy (2011).	WSC							X
CM16	Investigate and implement a program of development of bushland and forest parks.	WSC							X
CM17	Complete the Aquatic Infrastructure Audit.	WSC							X
CM18	Liaise with State Government to provide increased opportunities for appropriate recreation facilities.	SG					X		

Planning for EDUCATION

HOW DO WE SUSTAINABLY CATER FOR OUR RESIDENTS, BUSINESS AND VISITOR POPULATION, IN TERMS OF EDUCATION?

Background to our EDUCATION:

An educated community is vital to our economy, assists in increasing our productivity and can ensure Wyong LGA is regionally competitive. Education and lifelong learning are important to quality of life and have a positive impact on our social fabric via improvements in individual capacity, community participation, and health and employment opportunities. 'Educational Establishments' is a group term prescribed by the *Standard Instrument (Principal Local Environmental Plan)* and includes such land use activities (both public and private); universities; and TAFE institutes. There are currently 48 educational establishments within Wyong LGA:

Public	Schools	Private	Schools
Primary Schools	27	Primary Schools	4
Secondary Schools	7	Secondary Schools	1
Kindergarten – Year 12	1	Kindergarten – Year 12	3
Special Schools	2	Special Schools	0
	TAFE Institutes	Adult Education Centres	
Ourimbah and Wyong	2	Community Colleges	2
		Universities	
		University of Newcastle (Ourimbah)	1

Table 10: Summary of Educational Establishments

Issues

What are the current and foreseeable issues that impact upon EDUCATION within Wyong LGA?

Wyong LGA has low high-school retention and adult education rates that impact upon the social and economic fabric of our community. As reported within the State of the Shire Report for 2009/2010 (Wyong Shire Council, 2011), Wyong LGA has a lower than average school retention rate for students completing Year 12 (44%), a statistic that is more than 20% lower than the NSW average. Whilst the number of Wyong LGA residents participating in TAFE and University has increased, the proportion of residents participating is noticeably below the NSW average, with only 8% of residents holding

degree qualifications (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2011). The Quality of Life Survey (Central Coast Research Foundation, 2008) found that '14% of Central Coast residents believed that post-school education and training opportunities were inadequate to meet their needs.'

Planning for our EDUCATION

How do we plan for improvements to EDUCATION within Wyong LGA?

Council has a limited role in the provision of education facilities and services to the community, as this is predominantly the domain of State Government. Through the Community Strategic Plan (Wyong Shire Council, 2011) and key recommendations of the Community Plan (Wyong Shire Council, 2008) Council is aiming to facilitate a community which is well educated, innovative and creative by improving access to local education and lifelong learning opportunities. Council can improve learning and education outcomes for the community in a number of ways:

Strengthen Council's Role in Lifelong Learning

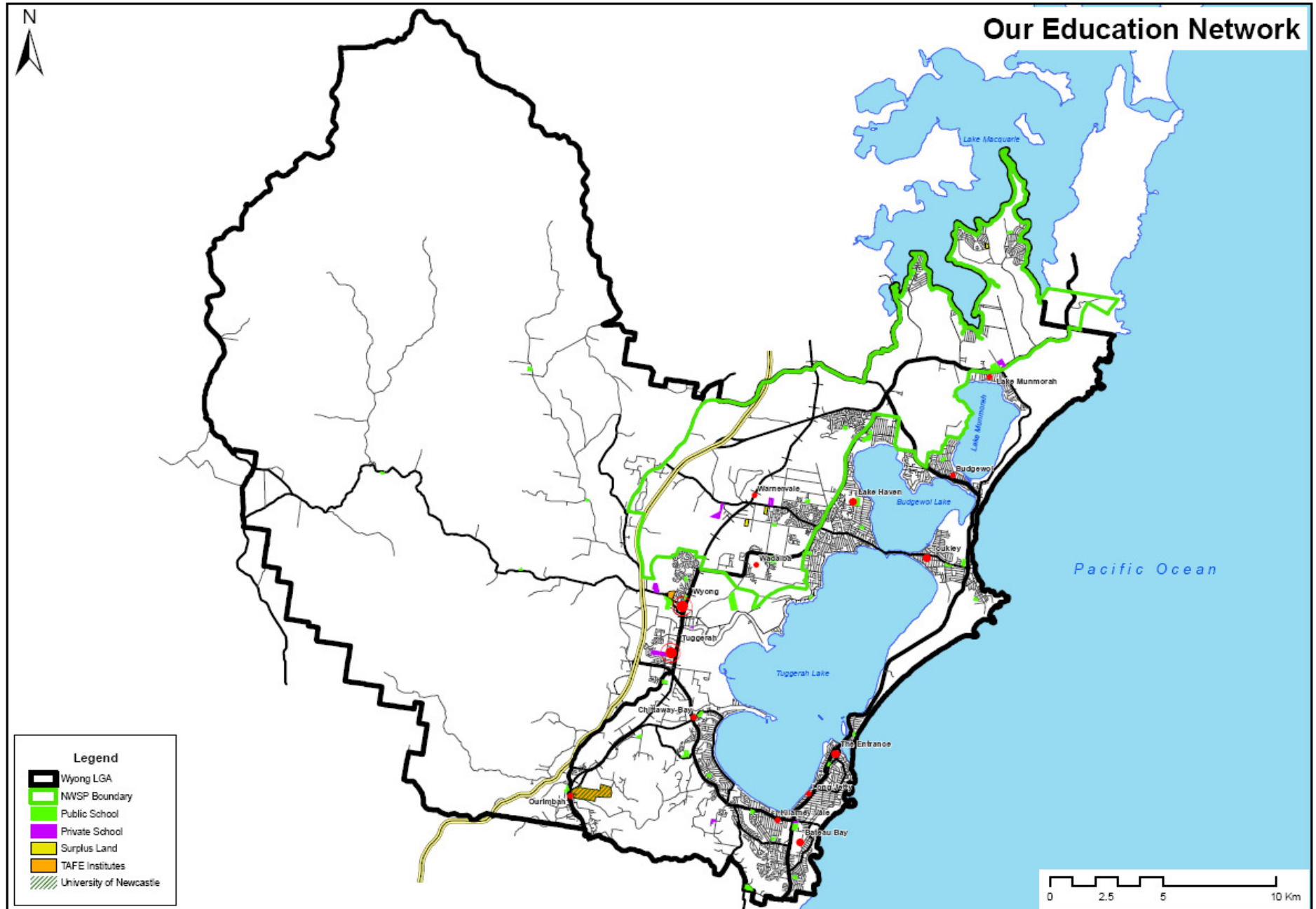
A key outcome of lifelong learning is enhanced community networks, social capital, community cohesion and economic development. As a result, quality early childhood education and childcare programs have a profound effect on children's development, influencing their ability to acquire early literacy, numeracy and positive social skills, and assisting children to transition to primary school. Therefore, both Council-run and private childcare facilities have an important role in establishing lifelong learning habits in young children, having a direct impact on future educational, employment and health outcomes.

Similarly, lifelong learning also involves adult education and alternate education facilities. Libraries can provide direct learning opportunities such as classes on how to use the internet or write resumes, as well as access to informal learning opportunities. Community halls have a role in lifelong learning, providing a venue for groups to meet. Opportunities exist for the temporary use of education establishments and community facilities for adult learning when such establishments are not being utilised, such as evenings or school holidays. Therefore, consideration of these facilities from an education perspective should be undertaken when planning for community facilities and services.

Planning for Educational Establishments

To some degree, planning for educational establishments is beyond the control of Council. However, Council can encourage development of new or the expansion of existing institutions in appropriate locations. It is also important that Council maintains close contact with the Department of Education & Communities (DEC) in planning for new urban release areas to ensure adequate forward planning for educational establishments to service new and growing communities. In particular, it is important that existing schools within the North Wyong Shire Structure Plan (NWSSP) area have future capacity for increasing student populations as urban release areas are developed.

Figure 5: Our Education Network



Ourimbah University Masterplan

Council, the University of Newcastle & Hunter TAFE are partnering to develop a masterplan for the University of Newcastle (Ourimbah Campus). The overall aim of the project is to identify opportunities to accommodate future growth of the Ourimbah Campus, which in turn is expected to promote business, investment and development in Ourimbah, as well as improve tertiary education outcomes for the Central Coast.

What are other Government Authorities currently doing?

Federal Government

The Federal Government has a key role in setting standards for education, including the national curriculum and testing regimes to measure progress. Some Federal Government's initiatives include (but are not limited to):

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR)

DEEWR is the lead Federal Government agency providing national leadership in education and workplace training, transition to work and conditions and values in the workplace. DEEWR administers the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) commenced in Australian schools for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA)

Part of DEEWR, ACARA is developing a national curriculum from Foundation to Year 12, beginning with the learning areas of English, mathematics, science, history, languages, geography and the arts. In 2010, the first national curriculum from Foundation to Year 10 in English, mathematics, science and history was endorsed, with a national curriculum for languages, geography and the arts to follow.

Trade Training Centres

An initiative of DEEWR, \$2.5 billion will be provided over 10 years to enable all secondary students to access vocational education through Trade Training Centres. The aim is to increase the proportion of students achieving Year 12 or an equivalent qualification as well addressing skill shortages in traditional trades and emerging industries. Funding has been granted as part of this program to the following schools within Wyong LGA:

- St Peter's Catholic College at Tuggerah and MacKillop Catholic College at Warnervale, - Tuggerah-Warnervale Industry Pathways Project Trade Training Centre.
- Lakes Grammar Anglican School; Wadalba, Gorokan, Lake Munmorah, Northlakes, and Wyong High Schools - Lakes Community Trade Training Centre.

Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL)

The Federal Government's AITSL is responsible for:

- Rigorous national professional standards
- Fostering and driving high quality professional development for teachers

- Collaborating across jurisdictions and engaging with key professional bodies.

State Government

Department of Education and Communities

The State Government is the major provider of education facilities within NSW through the *Department of Education and Communities* (DEC). Some of DEC's initiatives include (but are not limited to):

- *The Department of Education and Training Corporate Plan 2008-2011*: Outlines the department's strategic direction, with key priorities being:
- *Delivering better services*: Increasing levels of attainment for all students; and more students completing Year 12 or recognised vocational training.
- *Growing prosperity across NSW*: More participation in education and training, better access to training in rural and regional NSW to support local economies.
- *Strategic Planning*: DEC has identified the need for at least two new schools (primary and secondary) within Wyong LGA growth areas as part of the State Infrastructure Strategy – 2006-07 to 2015-16. DEC owns parcels of land in the Warnervale/Hamlyn Terrace Urban Release Area, one earmarked as a future high school.
- *Funding Programs*: Adult and Community Education is supported by DEC through grants to community colleges. The Adult and Community Education Unit of DEC promotes community education, supports funded community colleges and provides information and advice on community education across the state.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007 (Infrastructure SEPP)

The Infrastructure SEPP was introduced by the then Department of Planning to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure (including educational establishments) across NSW by providing a consistent planning regime that overrides provisions contained within LEPs.

The Standard Instrument, Wyong LEP 2013 and Wyong DCP 2013

What provisions can be incorporated into our Planning Instruments to ensure planning for EDUCATION can be met?

A review of all educational facilities within Wyong LGA should be undertaken as part of the LEP Review Project and in consideration of the provisions of the Infrastructure SEPP and LEP Practice Note 08-002 – Zoning for Infrastructure.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007

The Infrastructure SEPP and the Standard Instrument permit Educational Establishments in a greater variety of zones than what is currently permitted subject to Wyong LEP 1991.

Government Schools

Under the Infrastructure SEPP, a Public Authority may develop an educational establishment with consent on land in a prescribed zone. In addition, a Public Authority is

permitted, with consent, to develop an educational establishment on any land with an existing educational establishment; or expand an existing educational establishment on any adjacent land. Prescribed zones identified by the Infrastructure SEPP are as follows:

RU2 Rural Landscape	B1 Neighbourhood Centre
RU4 Rural Small Holdings	B2 Local Centre
RU5 Village	B3 Commercial Core
RU6 Transition	B4 Mixed Use Development
R1 General Residential	B6 Enterprise Corridor
R2 Low Density Residential	B7 Business Park
R3 Medium Density Residential	SP1 Special Activities
R4 High Density Residential	SP2 Infrastructure
R5 Large Lot Residential	E4 Environmental Living

Table 11:
Prescribed Zones
for educational
establishments
under the
Infrastructure
SEPP

Private and/or Non-Government Schools

The Infrastructure SEPP dictates that development for the purposes of a private educational establishment may be carried out with consent on land in a prescribed zone. In addition, any person is permitted, with consent, to develop an educational establishment on any land with an existing educational establishment; or expand an existing educational establishment on any adjacent land.

Wyong LEP 2013

The following measures can be incorporated into Wyong LEP 2013 to improve our planning for education:

- *Public, Private and Non-Government Schools*

Council will exclude 'educational establishments' from all zones within Wyong LEP 2013, other than prescribed zones identified by the Infrastructure SEPP. The exception to this is the RU6 Transition zone where it is proposed to list educational establishments as prohibited so as not to pre-empt development in this zone until strategic planning is undertaken to determine appropriate future uses.

- *The Old Warnervale Public School Site*

Upon completion of a new primary school in Hamlyn Terrace, the old Warnervale Public School site became surplus to requirements. As part of the strategic planning for the Precinct 7A Urban Release Area, Council has commenced consultation with DEC to ascertain their desired future use for this site. In the meantime, it is considered appropriate to maintain the special use zoning for the land.

- *The Entrance Infants School Site*

In 2008, the then Department of Planning granted a Site Compatibility Certificate (SCC) under the Infrastructure SEPP to permit the use of the surplus The Entrance Infants School

site for medium density development. To reflect the SCC issued for this site, Council will zone the site R3 Medium Density Residential.

- *Summerland Point Public School site*

In 2010, the then Department of Planning granted a SCC to permit the use of the surplus Summerland Point Public School site for low-density residential development. To reflect the SCC issued for this site, Council will zone the site part R2 Low Density Residential and part E2 Environmental Conservation under Wyong LEP 2013.

- *Warnervale Education Precinct*

Warnervale Country Music Park (also known as the Warnervale Education Precinct) is located within the Precinct 7A Study Area (currently under a rezoning investigation). The site has previously been identified for educational use, however interest in developing the site for this purpose has been limited. In this regard, the Precinct 7A Study Area rezoning investigations will identify appropriate future development activities on the site. In light of the sensitive surrounding land uses, an initial preference for future activities include employment generating purposes, such as a business park or industrial development.

Wyong DCP 2013

The following measures can be incorporated into Wyong DCP 2013 to improve our planning for education:

- There are no relevant measures relating to Educational Facilities in Wyong DCP 2013. Future amendments may be made having regard to the yet to be completed Ourimbah Planning Strategy/Ourimbah Masterplan.

Key Considerations:

Key Considerations for improved EDUCATION:

- *Partner with the University of Newcastle, TAFE NSW, and the Central Coast Community College in establishing Wyong LGA as a centre of education excellence.*
- *Support further development of schools and access to local higher education opportunities through expansion of TAFE and University courses.*
- *Foster collaboration and partnerships to enable better sharing of resources and greater access to learning opportunities.*
- *Develop lifelong learning skills in people across all life stages to assist in building the community's capacity to address issues in the community.*
- *Establish a more diverse role for Council's Libraries and Community Centres as venues for education, training and lifelong learning programs and activities.*
- *Grow business by increasing the community's skill base and its capacity to contribute to expanding commercial opportunities.*

Strategic Actions and Local Initiatives:
EDUCATION FACILITIES

#	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY	IMPLEMENTATION					COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL STRATEGY
			LEP 2013	Am.	DCP 2013	Am.	Other		
CM19	Educational establishments will be zoned in accordance with Department of Planning & Infrastructure Guidelines for Zoning of Infrastructure. Specific sites to retain SP2 Infrastructure zone in some instances.	WSC	X					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generating community awareness and behavioural change about the value of ongoing education. This should seek to change local views that higher education levels do not provide advantages for job seekers or income levels. Creating programs that encourage lifelong learning for everyone. This will reduce stereotypes of traditional learning environments, create opportunities for individuals to expand and explore interests/careers and help to ensure mental activity through all life stages and all community sectors. Creating and maintaining programs to actively encourage community involvement in educational institutions. This could include volunteer reading programs, leadership and mentor projects, artists or business in residence programs and others. Regulatory restrictions to community involvement should be removed. Establishing and maintaining a committed network of education, community, business and government representatives. These sectors should work together to transform Wyong LGA into a centre of educational excellence and convey an understanding of the positive impacts of education on values such as community, health, the local economy, employment and the natural environment. Providing programs and services which respond to changes in the field of education in Wyong LGA. This should encourage continual education of community leaders through programs including mentoring, personal development and cultural pursuits and improve long-term community participation and engagement. 	There are no CCRS actions that apply to this component.
CM20	Educational establishments will be permissible under Wyong LEP 2013 within the same zones as the "prescribed" zones under the Infrastructure SEPP. The proposed exception is the Zone RU6 Transition.	WSC	x						
CM21	Prepare the Ourimbah Planning Strategy to ensure integration between the University and community. The Planning Strategy will investigate opportunities for student accommodation; improved linkages; and provision of supporting infrastructure and services.	WSC		X		X	X		
CM22	Approach the Federal & State Government and advocate for TAFE and University to provide courses which meet local industry demands and emerging skills gaps.	SG					X		
CM23	Implement the Learning Communities Strategy Action Plans.	WSC					X		

Planning for HEALTH

HOW DO WE SUSTAINABLY CATER FOR OUR RESIDENTS, BUSINESS AND VISITOR POPULATION, IN TERMS OF HEALTH SERVICE FACILITIES?

Background to our HEALTH

Good health and access to quality services and facilities are important to the wellbeing of the community. Health is fundamental in shaping residents capacity to work and to participate in the community and in leisure activities, however a concerning trend in NSW is the growing number of people living with chronic physical and mental illnesses such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, depression, osteoarthritis, and renal disease (NSW Department of Health, 2007). These ailments can be exacerbated by lifestyle factors such as poor diet, low levels of physical activity, stress, and use of tobacco, alcohol and illicit drugs.

Health Services Facilities

Under the Standard Instrument, 'Health Services Facility' is a facility that provides medical or other services, and includes day surgeries and medical centres; community health services facilities; health consulting room; facilities for the transport of patients; and hospitals. The Central Coast Local Health Network operates a number of health services facilities within Wyong LGA, including Wyong Hospital; and Community Health Centres at Wyong, Long Jetty, Lake Haven and Toukley. Private health services include the Berkeley Vale Private Hospital, a 75-bed surgical, medical and rehabilitation facility. In July 2010, 127 GPs worked within 44 practices in Wyong LGA (Central Coast Division of General Practice, 2010).

Issues:

What are the current and foreseeable issues that impact upon our HEALTH?

Ageing Population and Access to Health Care Services and Providers

As the population ages and lives longer, demands on health and transport infrastructure will increase. This will place a greater strain on health care services within Wyong LGA, and capital expenditure will need to be adjusted accordingly.

Demographic Profile and Continued Population Growth

Wyong LGA's socio-economic status and demographic structure has significant implications for the provision of health services in the area. The relationship between

social disadvantage and higher demand for health services is widely recognised.

Population Increase and Access to Health Care Services and Providers

As with other regional areas in NSW, the availability of doctors and specialists in Wyong LGA is an ongoing issue of concern, especially as our population ages. GPs are the main providers of primary health care and for referral to specialists, however Wyong LGA has a low ratio of GPs to population, and as a result there are a number of barriers that residents face in accessing GP services including lack of GPs and appointments, higher costs. Residents also find it difficult to access GP services outside of business hours. With the growing population of the LGA, access to health care services will become further stretched. The age profile of the region's GPs (average age 54.5) also means there will be additional shortages in the next 5 to 15 years. In particular, the projected population increases within the north of the LGA requires strategic planning by Public Authorities for new health services.

High Incidence of Health Problems related to Lifestyle

Central Coast residents have poorer health, higher mortality rates, increased prevalence of chronic health problems attributable to lifestyle and behavioural health in comparison to other areas. Risk factors include smoking, alcohol abuse and obesity.

Changing Way of Life

Changes in our way of life, including the increasing blurring of "business hours" and "out of hours" time; increasing numbers of single parent families and single occupant households; and rising population density in many areas are reshaping our social relationships and sense of "belonging" to a community (NSW Department of Health, 2007). There is a widespread perception that stress levels are increasing in the population and having a negative effect on our general physical and mental wellbeing.

Settlement Patterns

Over the last few decades, access to private motor vehicle transportation has contributed to our changing settlement patterns, with sprawling low density suburbs now the predominant settlement pattern within Wyong LGA. Whilst this pattern appears to be favoured by the majority of residents, poorly design subdivision patterns and a lack of public transport options can result in unhealthy communities. For example, the traditional cul-de-sac subdivision was popular in previous decades, however this type of subdivision is not amenable to walking due to the number of 'dead end' streets. In addition, isolated communities do not permit pedestrian or bicycle trips as part of day-to-day life. These subdivision patterns encourage residents to use private motor vehicles for most or all trips away from the residence, reducing the amount of daily incidental exercise for residents. This can have detrimental impacts on the health of our communities.

Planning for our Population

How do we plan for improvements to our HEALTH?

Council has a limited role in the provision of health facilities and services to the community, as the planning and provision of health facilities and services is largely controlled by the State Government, as well as provisions of the Infrastructure SEPP, which overrides Council's provisions. However, Council can advocate for improved health facilities and services, and Council has a role in encouraging and promoting health by providing social open spaces and facilities that encourage physical activity and cultural expression, such as community centres, parks, playgrounds and shared pathways.

Facilitation Role

Council has a facilitation role in promoting and developing strategies that ensure ongoing health of our population, including access to medical services and GP's. Council operates a free immunisation program, with immunisation clinics for children under the age of seven run once a fortnight at Wyong, Lake Haven, Long Jetty and Lake Munmorah; and one weekend a month at Lake Haven and Long Jetty.

Ensuring Adoption of Healthy Planning Principles

A healthy community is more than simply access to hospitals and medical centres. The built environment of our neighbourhoods can either facilitate or discourage active living (Premier's Council for Active Living, 2010). For example, neighbourhoods with good access to destinations (including public transport), connected street networks and higher residential densities are associated with increased levels of incidental exercise. Access to quality open space and recreation areas also increases physical activity levels of residents. Council needs to ensure that new urban release areas are designed with healthy planning principles in mind, to increase the levels of incidental exercise for residents, with the aim of improving the overall health and wellbeing of the community. Utilising the Healthy Planning Checklist prepared by the Premier's Council for Active Living will also lead to improved health outcomes for our community.

In addition, ensuring that our economy is robust will lead to increased employment within Wyong LGA, reducing the time residents spend commuting to work, leaving more leisure time for residents to enjoy. This is likely to also lead to improved health outcomes for residents who suffer from high stress levels and fatigue due to lengthy commutes.

What are other Government Authorities currently doing?

Federal Government

GP Super Clinic

GP Super Clinics are designed to offer an extensive range of services in a single location in areas of need – either as a result of major population growth or current service unavailability. In addition to doctors, nurses and allied health professionals, these clinics

can also include more specialised services such as renal dialysis, minor surgical procedures, rehabilitation services, radiology and state funded services. In 2009, the Federal Government awarded funding to a private GP Super Clinic provider, to locate within the Warnervale Town Centre site. Construction commenced in August 2011. It is anticipated that the GP Super Clinic will significantly improve access to health service facilities within the Wyong LGA.

State Government

NSW Health

Health Initiatives: NSW Health has developed a range of initiatives to provide people with access to health care and to reduce the incidence of chronic disease, including Area Health Advisory Councils, Chronic Care Programs, Health Care Advisory Council, Health Priority Taskforces and the NSW General Practice Council. The State Government also has a role in providing community transport to people who cannot use public and/or private transport or who are disadvantaged by distance. NSW Health also provides the Aged Care Assessment Team (Gosford) and community nursing services.

Strategic Planning – Fit for the Future, Future Directions for Health in NSW: Developed by NSW Health and underpinned by the fundamental principle of equity in health, Fit for the Future, Future Directions for Health in NSW is a strategic planning framework to guide the development of services and investments in the NSW public health system over the next 10 to 20 years. This document identifies key areas for action, independent of any changes that may occur in arrangements for sharing health responsibilities between State and Federal Government. The overall aim is to ensure a healthier community and continuing access to high quality, affordable health services for NSW residents.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007

The Infrastructure SEPP was introduced to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure across NSW by providing a consistent planning regime that overrides provisions contained within LEPs. The policy permits establishment (with consent) of health services facilities in a wide range of zones.

The Standard Instrument, Wyong LEP 2013 and Wyong DCP 2013

What provisions can be incorporated into our Planning Instruments to ensure planning for OUR HEALTH can be met?

A review of all health services facilities should be undertaken, considering the provisions of the Infrastructure SEPP and LEP Practice Note 08-002 – Zoning for Infrastructure.

State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007

Subject to the Infrastructure SEPP, any person may develop a health service facility with consent on land in a prescribed zone. Prescribed zones identified by the Infrastructure SEPP are as follows:

RU4 Rural Small Holdings	B2 Local Centre
RU5 Village	B3 Commercial Core
RU6 Transition	B4 Mixed Use
R1 General Residential	B5 Business Development
R3 Medium Density Residential	B6 Enterprise Corridor
R4 High Density Residential	B7 Business Park
R5 Large Lot Residential	B8 Metropolitan Centre
SP1 Special Activities	SP2 Infrastructure

Table 12:
Prescribed Zones
for health service
facilities under
the Infrastructure
SEPP

Wyang LEP 2013

The following measures can be incorporated into Wyong LEP 2013 to improve our planning for health:

- Under the Standard Instrument, medical centres are a mandated permissible use within the B1 Neighbourhood Centre, B2 Local Centre, B3 Commercial Core, and B4 Mixed Use zones, however health services facilities are permissible within a wider range of zones, as follows:

Rural Zones	Residential Zones	Business Zones
RU5 Village	R1 General Residential	B2 Local Centre
RU6 Transition	R3 Medium Density Residential	B3 Commercial Core
	R4 High Density Residential	B4 Mixed Use
		B5 Business Development
		B6 Enterprise Corridor
		B7 Business Park

Table 13: Permissible Standard Instrument
Zones – Health Services Facilities

- Council is also proposing to permit medical centres in the IN1 General Industrial and IN2 Light Industrial zones. Under the Standard Instrument, 'respite day care centres' are required to be permissible with consent wherever childcare centres are permitted, as well as a requirement to insert a new definition for respite day care centres into Wyong LEP 2013, as follows:
'a building or place that is used for the care of seniors or people who have a disability and that does not provide overnight accommodation for people other than those related to the owner or operator of the centre).'

Wyang DCP 2013

The following measures can be incorporated into Wyong DCP 2013 to improve our planning for health:

- There are no relevant measures relating to Health Service Facilities in Wyong DCP 2013.

Key Considerations:

Key Considerations for improved HEALTH:

- Consider the Healthy Planning Checklist prepared by the Premier's Council for Active Living as part of master planning process for new and expanding communities, to encourage and facilitate active living.
- Continue to partner with Local Health Service and agencies to address issues, lobby for additional services and promote healthy lifestyle programs.

Strategic Actions and Local Initiatives

HEALTH SERVICE FACILITIES

#	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY	IMPLEMENTATION					COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL STRATEGY
			LEP		DCP		Other		
			2013	Am.	2013	Am.			
CM24	Approach the State Government and advocate for improved services for the provision of emergency, maternity and GP access, particularly at Wyong Hospital.	SG					X	There are no CSP actions that apply to this component.	There are no CCRS actions that apply to this component.
CM25	Liaise with the State Government to develop community health care relief programs.	SG					X		
CM26	Approach the State Government and advocate for preparation of long-term strategic plans in accordance with the NWSSP and Settlement Strategy to ensure the coordinated approach to development, particularly in response to additional health and ambulance services	SG					X		
CM27	Facilitate the provision of additional GP services, and assist in the establishment of new GP services in high need areas.	SG					X		

Planning for EMERGENCY SERVICES

HOW DO WE SUSTAINABLY CATER FOR OUR RESIDENTS, BUSINESS AND VISITOR POPULATION, IN TERMS OF EMERGENCY SERVICES?

Background to our EMERGENCY SERVICES:

Under the Standard Instrument, 'emergency services facility' is defined as 'a building or place (including a helipad) used in connection with the provision of emergency services by an emergency services organisation.' Emergency services organisations include the Ambulance Service, Fire and Rescue, Rural Fire Service, Police Force, and State Emergency Service. The following emergency service facilities are located within Wyong LGA:

NSW Police Force – Tuggerah Lakes LAC

- The Entrance
- Toukley
- Wyong

NSW Rural Fire Service / Fire and Rescue NSW

- Wyong Fire Station
- Berkeley Vale Fire Station
- Bateau Bay Fire Station
- Budgewoi Fire Station
- The Entrance Fire Station
- Toukley Fire Station
- Doyalson Fire Station
- Hamlyn Terrace Fire Station

Ambulance Service of New South Wales

- Doyalson
- Toukley
- Wyong
- Bateau Bay

State Emergency Service (SES)

- Wyong Emergency Control Centre

Issues

What are the current and foreseeable issues that impact upon the provision and level of service within our EMERGENCY SERVICES?

Access to Emergency Services

Increasing population within Wyong LGA will create additional demand on emergency services, and the number of emergency services personnel will need to keep pace. In particular, the projected population increases within the north of the LGA requires strategic planning by Public Authorities for new and/or expanded emergency services.

Planning for our Population

How do we plan for improvements to our EMERGENCY SERVICES?

Facilitation Role

The planning and provision of emergency services and facilities is largely controlled by the State Government as well as the Infrastructure SEPP, which overrides Council's provisions. However, Council has a facilitation role in promoting and developing strategies that ensure ongoing provision of adequate emergency services in Wyong LGA. Council buildings are also often used in emergency situations as emergency shelters, for example during the June 2007 flood event, Council's Civic Centre became an emergency control centre for a number of State Government emergency response agencies.

Emergency Risk Management Report

The Wyong Emergency Risk Management Report has been prepared in accordance with the NSW State Emergency Management Committee's 'Implementation Guide for Emergency Risk Management'. The report considers the risks associated with a range of Natural, Technological, Biological and Other hazards that, if each hazard occurred, would require a "significant and coordinated emergency response" within the meaning of Section 4 of the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989* (as amended). The objective of the report is to create a prepared community by identifying, analysing, evaluating natural, technological and biological risks appropriate to the Wyong LGA, and recommending treatment options. The Report identifies the following hazard ratings within Wyong LGA:

- Extreme: Bushfire, flood, extreme heat, communicable disease (humans).
- High: Tornadoes, earthquake, coastal landslip, severe storm, tsunami, storm surge, bridge collapse, dam failure, hazardous materials, infrastructure failure (power and communications), transport accident (road), communicable diseases (animals).
- Moderate: Infrastructure failure (sewerage), transport accident (rail and/or air),
- Low: Land slip (rural), severe coastal erosion.

The Report includes Risk Assessments for each of the above hazards, including the likelihood, consequence and responsible authorities to lead a response to each hazard. For example, the lead agency for bushfire is the Rural Fire Service, whereas the lead agency for extreme heat events is NSW Health. Risks considered to be natural hazards of significant concern to Wyong LGA (including flooding and bushfire) are dealt with in more detail in the "Planning for NATURAL HAZARDS" chapter of the Settlement Strategy.

Telecommunications Infrastructure

Telecommunications are increasingly used to assist in the management of natural disasters and other emergency events, and therefore this type of infrastructure needs to be adequately planned for and protected from damage during emergency events.

Business Continuity Plan (BCP)

Council has prepared a draft BCP, addressing the risks that may arise as a result of emergency events causing interruption to Council's critical business processes. The draft

BCP is intended to provide guidance to build organisational capabilities to continue critical business functions in the face of disruption. The draft BCP identifies the required facilities, technical infrastructure, key responsibilities, and processes to position Council to recover from a business interruption event.

What are other Government Authorities, currently doing?

State Government

NSW State Disaster Plan

Prepared subject to the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act, 1989*, the State Disaster Plan (2010) details emergency preparedness, response and recovery arrangements for NSW to ensure the coordinated response to emergencies by all agencies with responsible functions in emergencies. The Plan:

- Identifies the responsible agencies for leading the response to specific emergencies
- Provides for coordination of other agency activity to support responsible agencies
- Specifies the tasks to be performed by all agencies in the event of an emergency
- Specifies the responsibilities of the Minister.

A number of Sub-Plans have also been developed to counter a specific hazard, where the planning required is either more specialised or more detailed than that provided for in the State Disaster Plan. Sub-Plans include (but are not limited to):

- Aviation Emergency
- Bushfire
- Counter Terrorism
- Flood
- Tsunami Emergency
- Human Influenza Pandemic
- Lucas Heights Emergency
- Major Structure Collapse
- State Waters Marine Oil and Chemical Spill
- Sydney CBD Emergency

The Plan also requires that "Functional Area Supporting Plans" be produced to ensure appropriate support is provided for the efficient supply of the necessary assistance. The following supporting plans have been developed:

- Energy and Utilities
- Engineering Services
- Gas Supply Disruption
- Recovery plan
- Transport Services
- Agriculture and Animal Services
- Environmental Services
- Health Services
- Public Information Services
- Welfare Services Functional Area

The Standard Instrument, Wyong LEP 2013 and Wyong DCP 2013

What provisions can be incorporated into our Planning Instruments to ensure planning for EMERGENCY SERVICES can be met?

A review of all emergency services facilities should be undertaken in accordance with Council's LEP Review project and in consideration of the provisions of the Infrastructure SEPP and LEP Practice Note 08-002 – Zoning for Infrastructure.

SEPP (Infrastructure) 2007

Development for the purpose of an emergency services facility may be carried out by or on behalf of a public authority without consent in a prescribed zone. Development for the purpose of an emergency services facility may be carried out with consent by or on behalf of the Ambulance Service of NSW, NSW Fire Brigades or the NSW Rural Fire Service on land in any prescribed zone. Prescribed zones are prescribed by the Infrastructure SEPP:

RU1 Primary Production	RU2 Rural Landscape	RU3 Forestry
RU4 Rural Small Holdings	RU5 Village	B1 Neighbourhood Centre
B2 Local Centre	B3 Commercial Core	B4 Mixed Use
B5 Business Development	B6 Enterprise Corridor	B7 Business Park
B8 Metropolitan Centre	IN1 General Industrial	IN2 Light Industrial
IN3 Heavy Industrial	IN4 Working Waterfront	SP1 Special Activities
SP2 Infrastructure		

Table 14: Prescribed Zones for emergency service facilities under the Infrastructure SEPP

Wyong LEP 2013

The following measures can be incorporated into Wyong LEP 2013 to improve our planning for emergency services:

- Under the Standard Instrument, emergency services facilities are permissible within the following zones:
 - Rural - RU1 Primary Production, RU2 Rural Landscape, RU5 Village, RU6 Transition
 - Residential – R5 Large Lot Residential
 - Business – All (B1 – B7)
 - Industrial – All (IN1, IN2)
 - Special Use – SP2 Infrastructure
 - Recreation – All (RE1, RE2)
 - Environmental – E3 Environmental Management, E4 Environmental Living
 - Waterways – W2 Recreational Waterways

Wyong DCP 2013

The following measures can be incorporated into Wyong LEP 2013 to improve our planning for emergency services:

- Wyong DCP 2013 contains a chapter detailing Council's requirements in relation to Emergency Services Facilities.

Key Considerations:

Key Considerations for improved EMERGENCY SERVICES:

- Collaborate with State and Federal Government to improve planning and identify opportunities for improved emergency services within Wyong LGA.

Strategic Actions and Local Initiatives

EMERGENCY SERVICES

#	ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY	IMPLEMENTATION					Other	COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN	CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL STRATEGY
			LEP		DCP					
			2013	Am.	2013	Am.				
CM28	Approach the State Government and advocate for additional police officers to service our growing population.	SG					X	There are no CSP actions that apply to this component.	There are no CCRS actions that apply to this component.	
CM29	Finalise the draft Business Continuity Plan to support the continued achievement of critical business functions in the face of uncertainty or disruption.	WSC					X	There are no CSP actions that apply to this component.	There are no CCRS actions that apply to this component.	