

A MURDI PAAKI REGION COMMUNITY

ENNGONIA



COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN 2005

MARCH 2005

An initiative of the Enngonia Community Working Party

A MURDI PAAKI REGION COMMUNITY

ENNGONIA

COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN 2005

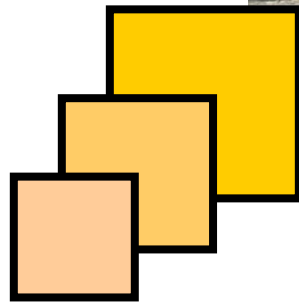
MARCH 2005

ENNGONIA COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN 2005

INDEX

Section	Page
COMMUNITY VISION and COMMUNITY MISSION	i
OUR GUIDING AIMS and GUIDING VALUES	ii
STRATEGIC ACTIONS	
TA1 – COMMUNITY DECISION-MAKING	1
TA2 – TAKING PART IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS	2
TA3 – FINDING OURSELVES WORK	3
TA4 - LEARNING	6
TA5 – KEEPING WELL	9
TA6 – HOUSING	11
TA7 – ROADS and PIPES and WIRES	12
TA8 – THINGS TO DO	16
TA9 – COMMUNITY SERVICES GENERALLY	18
COMMUNITY PROFILE	
REFERENCES	





ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Burns Aldis acknowledges the valuable contribution of the following in the preparation of this Community Action Plan:

Community Working Party	Max Sullivan, Chairman and Delegates
Community Working Party Secretariat	Judy Shillingsworth
Community Members	All those Community Members, young and older, who shared in the meetings
Organisation Staff	Murrawari Aboriginal Corporation and Enngonia Local Aboriginal Land Council management and administration staff

The ideas reported in this Plan are the intellectual property of the Enngonia Aboriginal Community and are the contribution of the Community to achieving higher levels of social, economic and environmental wellbeing.



COMMUNITY VISION and COMMUNITY MISSION

The Vision we have for our future is that:

- Through our efforts, our families remain united
- Through our efforts, we have created a future for our children of which we can be proud
- Through our efforts, we are enjoying living, working and spending our free time in surroundings which provide opportunity and encourage creativity
- Through our efforts, we have moved from welfare dependency to a sustainable existence



Our Mission, as a Community, is:

To turn around the slide of Enngonia to total dependency on welfare and on governments and build a new future for ourselves



OUR GUIDING AIMS and GUIDING VALUES

Our Aims are to:

Link in partnership with those who hold our vision and values so that, together, we can improve our Community

Bring together our families so that we are no longer separated by lack of local opportunities, resources and services

To negotiate improved facilities, services and programmes

To create jobs and work for our people so that we can have normal family lives without poverty

To improve our levels of learning and skills so that we can manage our own affairs



The Values by which we live our lives and by which we judge actions are:

Integrity

Unity

Decisiveness

Family

Commitment

Accountability



STRATEGIC ACTIONS

Our solutions

To making the rivers flow again in our country



TARGET AREA 1: COMMUNITY DECISION-MAKING**TA1**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Become involved with good ideas and speaking out
COMMUNITY ACTION	Continue to strengthen the way we talk about our issues and make our decisions
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	Commit to working with the Community in partnership and with best efforts
PROVIDER ACTION	Accept our decisions and develop services and programmes to provide success on our terms

The Community aims to be strong in working for the wellbeing of all Enngonia people through good decision-making

The Community aims to have its voice heard

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

HOW WE DO THINGS

- 1.01 Establish a community service centre and meeting place to provide a focus and centre for Working Party initiatives that offers confidentiality and identity;
- 1.02 Resource and support the Secretariat. Provide with a permanent office, including all equipment needed to operate effectively. Provide ongoing professional mentoring support;
- 1.03 Recognise that our Working Party is truly democratic in that all and any Community member is entitled to a say and in decision-making.

PARTICIPATION

- 1.04 Provide us with the means to show we can deliver so that our people know things are changing for the better and will take their place in the CWP.

STRENGTHENING ABILITY

- 1.05 Develop and implement training programmes for Delegates as a means of building skills in governance and making the CWP more effective;
- 1.06 Develop and implement training programmes for Directors of local organisations as a means of strengthening governance capacity and effectiveness of the local Aboriginal service providers;
- 1.07 Ask service providers to respond to the CWP fully in timely and supportive way that strengthens the position of the CWP as the peak representative body in the Community.

IMPLEMENTATION

						PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANs	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
1.01	-							
1.02	-							
1.03	-							
1.04	1.05 1.06 9.01							
1.05	1.04							
1.06	1.04							
1.07	1.04 9.07 9.08							

DESIRED RESULTS

CWP is recognised by everybody as the voice of the Community;

CWP is guiding the Community to a better future as seen by the results on the ground.



TARGET AREA 2: TAKING PART IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

TA2

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION

Work for the good of all people in the Community

COMMUNITY ACTION

Come together to set the agenda that leads the Community to success in the future

PROVIDER OBLIGATION

Approach us to serve with an enlightened attitude free of token participation

PROVIDER ACTION

Take responsibility for assisting the Community to achieve success on its own terms

The Community aims to be contributing to a better Enngonia through its own social, economic and environmental initiatives

The Community aims to take pride in all things Enngonia

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

PLAYING OUR PART

- 2.01 Give us the chance to show what **we** can do by supporting us and those that work with us;
- 2.02 Seek to make Bourke Shire understand that the Enngonia Aboriginal Community are citizens of the Shire just as the non-indigenous community and are deserving of the same courtesies and services;
- 2.03 Work to rebuild civic pride and increase motivation in local Community members by becoming fully involved in an equal way in Community affairs at CWP, organisation and individual level;
- 2.04 Participate in local and regional economic and social strategic planning and service and programme development, and be accountable for contributing in a positive way to the development of our Community;
- 2.05 Encourage Bourke Shire to work with us on a partnership basis to allow us to influence local strategic planning and service development in respect of our Community;
- 2.06 Encourage Bourke Shire to work with us on a partnership basis to improve the delivery and quality of culturally suitable community services and programmes;
- 2.07 Engage as the traditional owners of our land on partnership basis with Local Government to ensure that cultural resource and environmental management is agreeable to us, that it does not erode our heritage.

PRACTICAL THINGS WE CAN DO

- 2.08 Encourage greater participation by Community members as volunteers in the Enngonia Bush Fire Brigade unit;
- 2.09 Continue to look after our streets and yards.

IMPLEMENTATION

						PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANs	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
2.01	1.04							
2.02	2.05 2.06 2.07							
2.03	2.01							
2.04	2.03							
2.05	2.02 2.06 2.07							
2.06	2.02 2.05 7.13 7.19							
2.07	2.02 2.05 2.06							
2.08	2.03							
2.09	2.03							

DESIRED RESULTS

The Community demonstrates leadership in making Enngonia the place we want it to be

Our place in society as citizens is recognised by all Community residents and their representative and elected bodies



TARGET AREA 3: FINDING OURSELVES WORK**TA3**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Put effort into improving skill levels and lifting commitment to succeed
COMMUNITY ACTION	Change our way of thinking to allow us to move beyond welfare dependency
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	Support us in every way to create meaningful and paid work through our businesses
PROVIDER ACTION	Adequately resource planned Community Development initiatives

The Community aims to have all those, young and older, that wish to work in work

The Community aims to defeat welfare dependence through development of its own small business solutions

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

STRENGTHENING TECHNICAL ABILITY

- 3.01 Update the skills audit of Community members as a basis for working out the full range of interests and training needs, and develop a 'whole of Community' capability and training profile;
- 3.02 Update the 'Whole of Community' Employment Strategy as the first step in identifying opportunities within CDEP and in small-scale Community-owned business ventures for permanent employment;
- 3.03 Develop training strategies aimed at building the ability of the Community to own and successfully operate small business ventures through CDEP, individuals and families;
- 3.04 Resource full-time professional technical support to assist the Community in researching, developing, planning and implementing local initiatives;
- 3.05 Negotiate a 'big business brother' mentor to assist in sustaining our employment and commercial operations.

ORGANISATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

- 3.06 Develop collaborative arrangements between Community organisations, between Community organisations and service providers, and between service providers, which provide for a 'joined up' approach to the timely and financially and intellectually adequate support of Community based economic development initiatives;
- 3.07 Review current CDEP operations with a view to strengthening existing and implementing other meaningful civic or income generating activities that have the benefit of helping the Community to become more economically sustainable. Work with the Murrawari Directors to focus on outcomes;
- 3.08 Consider re-establishing the market garden through CDEP to fulfil the dual purpose of generating income and providing a supply of fresh fruit and vegetables as a step in making available a more nutritious diet;

IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION							PROGRESS			
CAN	LINKED CANs			SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
3.01	3.02	3.03								
3.02	3.01	3.03								
3.03	3.01	3.02	4.11							
3.04	2.01	3.05								
3.05	3.04									
3.06	9.02									
3.07	3.04	3.08	3.09							
3.08	3.07	3.09	3.15							

DESIRED RESULTS

More people are working in jobs which are providing an income over and above CDEP

The Community is operating a number of small-scale income generating business operations



TARGET AREA 3: FINDING OURSELVES WORK**TA3**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Put effort into improving skill levels and lifting commitment to succeed
COMMUNITY ACTION	Change our way of thinking to allow us to move beyond welfare dependency
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	Support us in every way to create meaningful and paid work through our businesses
PROVIDER ACTION	Adequately resource planned Community Development initiatives

The Community aims to have all those, young and older, that wish to work in work

The Community aims to defeat welfare dependence through development of its own small business solutions

STRATEGIC ACTIONS**CAN**

- 3.09 Prepare an updated inventory of plant and equipment owned by Murrawari CDEP. Recover items of plant stored in people's yards and restore to working condition so that plant and equipment is available to support employment and business initiatives;
- 3.10 Resource Murrawari CDEP adequately in capital plant and equipment to allow it to start offering a professional service to the Community (eg ride on mower for maintenance of street footpaths and grassed public spaces);
- 3.11 Look at the sheds owned by Murrawari CDEP and develop a plan of use based around employment and business operations, and interest activities such as car repair and maintenance, tyre changing.

EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVES

- 3.12 Through the Budjite Tribal Elders, negotiate Sites Officer positions with National Parks and Wildlife Service to identify, record and safeguard sites of cultural significance on traditional lands.

COMMERCIAL INITIATIVES

- 3.13 Arrange with TAFE to continue non-vocational courses (eg small motors, car mechanics, arts and crafts, gardening, sewing) as a means of engaging Community members in adult education/training, and raising the skills base in the Community and to provide individuals and families with the ability to operate small businesses;
- 3.14 Refurbish the Store and modify to provide for service-only type operation as a measure to increase profitability to keep the store viable;
- 3.15 Refurbish the Store cooking/eating facilities, including adding a fuel outlet, to provide a stopping point and road-house type service for travellers;
- 3.16 Continue to negotiate with DEWR funding for the development of the Business Plan for our headstone making enterprise;

IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION							PROGRESS			
CAN	LINKED CANs			SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
3.09	3.07	3.08								
3.10	3.07	3.09								
3.11	3.07									
3.12	2.07	3.02								
3.13	3.01	3.03	3.06							
3.14	3.07									
3.15	3.07	3.08								
3.16	3.02	3.06	3.07							

DESIRED RESULTS

More people are working in jobs which are providing an income over and above CDEP

The Community is operating a number of small-scale income generating business operations



TARGET AREA 3: FINDING OURSELVES WORK**TA3**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Put effort into improving skill levels and lifting commitment to succeed
COMMUNITY ACTION	Change our way of thinking to allow us to move beyond welfare dependency
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	Support us in every way to create meaningful and paid work through our businesses
PROVIDER ACTION	Adequately resource planned Community Development initiatives

The Community aims to have all those, young and older, that wish to work in work

The Community aims to defeat welfare dependence through development of its own small business solutions

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

3.17 Negotiate with DEWR funding for the development of a Business Plan for a shearing and rural industries enterprise.

POLICY CHANGES

- 3.18 Review the lack of connection between end of schooling for older children and moving into work for those who wish to remain with family and continue to live in the Community on their own country. Develop strategies that reverse the decline in opportunities for young people in Communities such as Enngonia. Look for radical solutions such as:
- linking our Community with a large producer/manufacturer prepared to support Community input to a product range, and resource us to do it;
 - extending triple bottom line principles for governments and business to four to include cultural achievement alongside financial, social and environmental benefits;
 - treating environment as a business, and allowing us to participate in large scale rehabilitation or commercial development projects on our traditional lands;
- 3.19 Change CDEP funding and employment arrangements so that CDEP is only for people who will work and/or undertake training; for those who want to do something for themselves and the Community;
- 3.20 Investigate a co-operative arrangement with Bourke Shire Council that allows the Community, through Murrawari, access to Enngonia-based facilities and equipment, including the Depot, for maintaining Community assets.

IMPLEMENTATION**PROGRESS**

CAN	LINKED CANS					SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
3.17	3.02	3.07										
3.18	3.02	3.03	3.04	3.05	3.07							
3.19	3.02	3.07										
3.20	2.06	2.09	3.09	3.10								

DESIRED RESULTS

More people are working in jobs which are providing an income over and above CDEP

The Community is operating a number of small-scale income generating business operations



TARGET AREA 4: LEARNING**TA4**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Help in developing and supporting initiatives which raise standards in learning
COMMUNITY ACTION	Encourage all groups in the Community to participate in learning activities
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	Create a learning environment in which pre-schoolers, school and mature students do well
PROVIDER ACTION	In conjunction with the Community, develop and resource new approaches to learning

The Community aims to create a culture of achievement in learning

The Community aims to participate in the development of ways of learning around heritage and culture that raise educational standards

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

PRE-SCHOOL

- 4.01 Develop a child care centre where mothers wishing to participate in training and in the work force may leave their children in supervised care;
- 4.02 In recognition of the importance of early childhood learning, reinstate ASSPA funding, or equivalent, and direct in part to resource the operation of the pre-school including introduction to culture and heritage.

SCHOOL

- 4.03 Adequately resource Enngonia School to provide school excursions for all children for educational, cultural and sporting purposes;
- 4.04 Seek to establish within Aboriginal Hostels a more effective support network that provides greater mentoring and behavioural guidance for those of our children at risk of suspension and expulsion;
- 4.05 Seek to resolve with Aboriginal Hostels an acceptable procedure for the management of boarders expelled from school and sent home. Concern relates to young children getting lost on the way, and to lack of notification of parents;
- 4.06 Seek to resolve with Aboriginal Hostels an acceptable procedure for the management of boarders expelled from school and sent home;
- 4.07 Remove the effective financial penalties put on parents by Aboriginal Hostels when children are not able to take up residence at start of term because of delays in processing Abstudy payments;
- 4.08 Rectify the anomaly whereby children that travel to boarding school in Sydney travel free while those boarders travelling to Dubbo have to pay their own travel costs;
- 4.09 Rectify the anomaly whereby Sydney boarders are provided with taxi from Bourke to Enngonia whereas Dubbo boarders have to make their own way home. Consider cashing out transport funding to allow the Land Council to be contracted to provide transport services between Enngonia and Bourke;

IMPLEMENTATION

						PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANs	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
4.01	4.02							
4.02	4.01							
4.03	-							
4.04	4.05 4.06							
4.05	4.04 4.06							
4.06	4.04 4.05							
4.07	9.11							
4.08	4.09							
4.09	4.08							

DESIRED RESULTS

Standards of school education have measurably improved in all grades

Advantage is being taken of adult education, and skill levels are measurably higher



TARGET AREA 4: LEARNING**TA4**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Help in developing and supporting initiatives which raise standards in learning
COMMUNITY ACTION	Encourage all groups in the Community to participate in learning activities
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	Create a learning environment in which pre-schoolers, school and mature students do well
PROVIDER ACTION	In conjunction with the Community, develop and resource new approaches to learning

The Community aims to create a culture of achievement in learning

The Community aims to participate in the development of ways of learning around heritage and culture that raise educational standards

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

4.10 Work out a way of providing a local education programme for boarders while at home during holiday periods.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

4.11 Update the 'Whole of Community' training strategy as a means of establishing a current community development framework;

4.12 Arrange for numeracy and literacy improvement courses for youth and adults;

4.13 Negotiate training through TAFE to upgrade skill levels generally, focussing on the objective of increasing job readiness and ability to produce quality products/services, and thus ensure that enterprises and programmes be successful and sustainable;

4.14 Lobby to have the TAFE criterion relating to course numbers removed so that specialist training can be delivered selectively to smaller groups;

4.15 Lobby to secure a commitment for TAFE and other Registered Training Organisations to be resourced, possibly using satellite technology, to deliver vocational training in Enngonia on a structured, long term basis to support community initiatives in a way which overcomes the insurmountable obstacle of travel by participants;

4.16 Work out demand for business administration and computer skills training, and arrange with TAFE for training to be delivered in Enngonia. Alternatively, look at tutored correspondence courses conducted by a suitable Registered Training Organisation;

4.17 Provide a trainer full time for 6 months from Yanco Ag College or similar to work with the Community to get the market garden going again.

IMPLEMENTATION**PROGRESS**

CAN	LINKED CANs	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
4.10	-							
4.11	3.02 3.03 4.13							
4.12	-							
4.13	3.13 4.11							
4.14	4.13							
4.15	7.17							
4.16	3.02 3.07 4.11							
4.17	3.02 3.08							

DESIRED RESULTS

Standards of school education have measurably improved in all grades

Advantage is being taken of adult education, and skill levels are measurably higher



TARGET AREA 4: LEARNING**TA4**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Help in developing and supporting initiatives which raise standards in learning
COMMUNITY ACTION	Encourage all groups in the Community to participate in learning activities
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	Create a learning environment in which pre-schoolers, school and mature students do well
PROVIDER ACTION	In conjunction with the Community, develop and resource new approaches to learning

The Community aims to create a culture of achievement in learning

The Community aims to participate in the development of ways of learning around heritage and culture that raise educational standards

STRATEGIC ACTIONS**CAN**

- 4.18 Arrange with TAFE to continue non-vocational courses (eg small motors, car mechanics, arts and crafts, gardening, sewing) as a means of engaging Community members in adult education/training, raising the skills base in the Community and providing diversionary but useful activities;
- 4.19 Provide training in shearing and rural industries practice with a view to supporting a shearing enterprise;
- 4.20 Through the Budjite Tribal Elders, and the National Parks and Wildlife Service, negotiate for Sites Officer cadetships as the means of training selected Community members in the identification, recording and protecting of sites of cultural significance.

IMPLEMENTATION**PROGRESS**

CAN	LINKED CANs				SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
4.18	3.03	3.06	3.13	4.13							
4.19	3.02	3.17	4.13								
4.20	3.02	3.12	4.13	5.16							

DESIRED RESULTS

Standards of school education have measurably improved in all grades

Advantage is being taken of adult education, and skill levels are measurably higher



TARGET AREA 5: KEEPING WELL**TA5**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Lead caring, healthy and respectful lives
COMMUNITY ACTION	Look after our bodies and minds, avoiding harmful influences and substances
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	To provide an accessible and adequate standard of health-care irrespective of means to pay
PROVIDER ACTION	Care for the bodies and minds of all Community members in all circumstances at all times

The Community aims to have access to the full range of health-care services for all

The Community aims to improve the health and wellbeing of members through prevention programmes

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

COMMUNITY HEALTH GENERALLY

- 5.01 Develop and implement primary health prevention programs that are accessible and effective in responding to the full range of community health issues;
- 5.02 Improve access to local family and individual counselling services generally, providing gender specific counsellors if necessary; and grief and loss specifically;
- 5.03 Seek to have a greater involvement of Bourke Aboriginal Health Service (BAHS) in regular delivery, in conjunction with Community Health, of primary prevention programmes, such as women's health, diabetes and sexual health;
- 5.04 Negotiate a health primary prevention agreement with Bourke AHS to provide a documented basis for improved service delivery;
- 5.05 Develop an exchange programme which allows our children to have experiences in coastal Communities;
- 5.06 Deliver the Well Persons Health Check on a yearly basis as a means of identifying trends in health needs, and as a means of engaging community members in a continuing program of health improvement;
- 5.07 Develop and implement a responsive patient transport strategy that allows discharged patients to return home after treatment without worry and discomfort, and without having to incur an overnight stay;
- 5.08 Resource a full-time nursing presence at the Community Health Outpost and increase the frequency of visits by a GP to one per week. Provide sufficient emergency equipment for the nurse to be able to respond to road traffic accidents;
- 5.09 Develop a career path for, and train, two Community members as health workers/rural nurses so that they can assist mainstream Community Health and BAHS from the Community Health Outpost;
- 5.10 Build living quarters at the Community Health Outpost to encourage a qualified nurse to live and work in the community on a full-time basis.

IMPLEMENTATION**PROGRESS**

CAN	LINKED CANs	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
5.01	5.02 5.06							
5.02	5.01							
5.03	5.01 5.04							
5.04	5.03							
5.05	4.03							
5.06	5.01							
5.07	9.18							
5.08	5.01 5.09 5.10							
5.09	5.04 5.08							
5.10	5.01 5.08							

DESIRED RESULTS

The health and well-being of the Community has measurably improved across the range of conditions causing illness and ill-health

Community members are living healthier lives for longer



TARGET AREA 6: KEEPING WELL**TA5**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Lead caring, healthy and respectful lives
COMMUNITY ACTION	Look after our bodies and minds, avoiding harmful influences and substances
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	To provide an accessible and adequate standard of health-care irrespective of means to pay
PROVIDER ACTION	Care for the bodies and minds of all Community members in all circumstances at all times

The Community aims to have access to the full range of health-care services for all

The Community aims to improve the health and wellbeing of members through prevention programmes

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

PARTICULAR PHYSICAL HEALTH STRATEGIES

- 5.11 There are no local sources of fresh food. Re-establish the Community Market Garden at Clara Hart Village as the basis of a local fruit and vegetable growing operation producing for sale in the store. Resource the repair of plant and equipment, including shade houses, and new plantings and consumables;
- 5.12 Continue with FWAHS Dog Health Programme on a yearly basis as a means controlling animal infections and diseases, and the transfer of transmissible diseases to owners. Develop a partnership arrangement with the Shire for removal of unwanted cats and dogs, and trapping of semi-wild animals;
- 5.13 Negotiate with BAHS for the Community to be represented at Director level as a means of the Community being able to influence the nature and quality of health services provided in the Community by the Community controlled health service.

PARTICULAR EMOTIONAL HEALTH STRATEGIES

- 5.14 Improve access to mental health counselling services available on a regular basis in Enngonia;
- 5.15 Develop and implement initiatives aimed at reducing the level of harmful and hazardous alcohol consumption in the Community.

PARTICULAR SPIRITUAL HEALTH STRATEGIES

- 5.16 Develop and implement initiatives aimed at providing easy access to traditional hunting and fishing areas for the re-establishment and continuation of cultural practices;
- 5.17 Save the Budjite Tribal Elders from receivership so that the organisation remains as the cultural identity of the Community. Recognise the Elders group as the traditional owners of our land, to be consulted and taken note of on land use, cultural resource and environmental issues.

IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION								PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANS			SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
5.11	3.08	3.15	5.01							
5.12	2.06	5.01								
5.13	2.04	5.03	5.04							
5.14	5.01	5.02								
5.15	5.01	5.02								
5.16	2.07	4.20								
5.17	2.07	4.20								

DESIRED RESULTS

The health and well-being of the Community has measurably improved across the range of conditions causing illness and ill-health

Community members are living healthier lives for longer



TARGET AREA 6: HOUSING**TA6****COMMUNITY OBLIGATION**

To keep our housing stock in safe and healthy condition

COMMUNITY ACTION

Keep to tenancy agreements

PROVIDER OBLIGATION

Provide adequate well managed and maintained housing stock

PROVIDER ACTION

Resource basic need adequately and comply with agreed policy and procedures in managing housing stock

The Community aims to see that families and singles in need of housing are properly accommodated

The Community aims to achieve acceptable standards of safety, security, comfort and amenity in its housing stock

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

NEW HOUSING

- 6.01 Carry out a two yearly population survey and analyse on a regular basis to verify a continuing need for new housing due to new family formations and changing population profile;
- 6.02 Negotiate a long-term major Capital Works Programme to provide for housing needs not met by ACDP due new family formations, population growth and returning young people;
- 6.03 Resource the Community to house recently returned young people in innovative low-cost flat-type accommodation.

HOUSING REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE

- 6.04 Lobby for funding to provide for shading and air-cooling to all Community-based housing as a means of improving the health and wellbeing of our Elders and children;
- 6.05 Install larger rainwater tanks to each house to provide a drinking water supply independent of the town bore.

HOUSING MANAGEMENT

- 6.06 Develop a pest control strategy to respond to the health risks associated with snakes, mice, flies, mosquitoes, cockroaches, spiders and ticks;
- 6.07 Work out a way in which a full-time handyman could be employed to work on the houses; possibly along the lines of the Healthy Housing Worker, to carry out simple electrical and plumbing repairs.

IMPLEMENTATION**PROGRESS**

CAN	LINKED CANs	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
6.01	-							
6.02	6.01							
6.03	6.01 6.02							
6.04	-							
6.05	7.09							
6.06	-							
6.07	-							

DESIRED RESULTS

Community members are adequately accommodated in safe and healthy housing sized to suit family need

All houses are maintained in good order at all times



TARGET AREA 7: ROADS and PIPES and WIRES**TA7****COMMUNITY OBLIGATION**

Keep our surroundings safe and clean, and use our resources responsibly

COMMUNITY ACTION

Work to make Enngonia a 'Tidy Town', and an example of how to treat the environment and resources with respect

PROVIDER OBLIGATION

To provide services and facilities equivalent to those enjoyed by others in the Shire

PROVIDER ACTION

Raise the level of commitment all round to action Community issues and solutions

The Community aims to live, work, rest and play in a safe and tidy town

The Community aims to restore those basic town services and facilities that are currently denied thereby adding to disadvantage

STRATEGIC ACTIONS**CAN****ROADS**

- 7.01 Continue to lobby for improved drainage and sealing of town roads serving Community-based housing in various locations to provide for safe and clean access. In particular, seal the length of McCabe and Paroo Streets where serving developed blocks to provide clean, all-weather access to homes;
- 7.02 Provide a pedestrian crossing to Belalie Street on the south side of McCabe Street;
- 7.03 Enforce the 50 km/hr speed limit past the school;
- 7.04 Seal Brewarrina Road to the north-east of the Reserve to prevent dust generated by passing traffic drifting back to Clara Hart Village;
- 7.05 Grade unsealed back roads with increased frequency to improve running surface, reduce the risk of accident and reduce the level of dust thrown up in the town areas;
- 7.06 Connect Clara Hart Village to town with a walking/bike track so that children can ride to school without conflict with car and truck traffic;
- 7.07 Fix up the drainage problem at the front of Clara Hart Village to stop the road surface breaking up and install speed humps as traffic control devices on Village roads;
- 7.08 Continue to lobby for improved all weather access to the municipal tip.

WATER SUPPLY

- 7.09 Upgrade town bore water supply capacity by drilling a secondary bore or connecting and distributing water from Town Common bore into reticulation for use as irrigation water;

IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION								PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANs			SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
7.01	7.04	7.07	7.15							
7.02	7.03									
7.03	7.02									
7.04	7.01									
7.05	7.04	7.08	7.26							
7.06	7.14									
7.07	7.01									
7.08	7.04									
7.09	6.05									

DESIRED RESULTS

Enngonia is safer, cleaner, more comfortable and pleasant town in which to live

The town looks a picture



TARGET AREA 7: ROADS and PIPES and WIRES**TA7**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Keep our surroundings safe and clean, and use our resources responsibly
COMMUNITY ACTION	Work to make Enngonia a 'Tidy Town', and an example of how to treat the environment and resources with respect
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	To provide services and facilities equivalent to those enjoyed by others in the Shire
PROVIDER ACTION	Raise the level of commitment all round to action Community issues and solutions

The Community aims to live, work, rest and play in a safe and tidy town

The Community aims to restore those basic town services and facilities that are currently denied thereby adding to disadvantage

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

WATER SUPPLY

7.10 Install water demand management measures, such as metering, to reduce wastage;

7.11 Improve pressures to provide acceptable fire-fighting supply;

7.12 In the longer term, aim to treat town bore supply to reduce water temperature.

SEWERAGE

7.13 Acknowledge the proposed town sewerage scheme as set out in our Community Housing and Environmental Health Plan will proceed, and start construction without further delay.

STREETLIGHTING

7.14 Provide lighting on the Brewarrina Road between town and Clara Hart Village to increase illumination at night to reduce the risk of involvement with snakes;

7.15 Improve the level of lighting in town; in McCabe and Paroo Streets, to increase public safety.

COMMUNICATIONS

7.16 Work out a way of making a public telephone available at Clara Hart Village at least for emergency purposes, perhaps with a direct link to the Police Station;

IMPLEMENTATION

						PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANs	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
7.10	7.09							
7.11	7.09							
7.12	7.09							
7.13	2.02							
7.14	7.06							
7.15	7.01							
7.16	-							

DESIRED RESULTS

Enngonia is safer, cleaner, more comfortable and pleasant town in which to live

The town looks a picture



TARGET AREA 7: ROADS and PIPES and WIRES**TA7**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Keep our surroundings safe and clean, and use our resources responsibly
COMMUNITY ACTION	Work to make Enngonia a 'Tidy Town', and an example of how to treat the environment and resources with respect
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	To provide services and facilities equivalent to those enjoyed by others in the Shire
PROVIDER ACTION	Raise the level of commitment all round to action Community issues and solutions

The Community aims to live, work, rest and play in a safe and tidy town

The Community aims to restore those basic town services and facilities that are currently denied thereby adding to disadvantage

STRATEGIC ACTIONS**CAN**

- 7.17 Make the satellite communication link for internet communications permanent;
- 7.18 Increase the number of TV channels available to the Community, in particular, to include SBS to allow greater choice in programme viewing away from American dominated features.

GARBAGE DISPOSAL

- 7.19 Review garbage collection and disposal arrangements to provide a more equitable and environmentally acceptable service;
- 7.20 Fence the tip to reduce the amount of wind-borne debris being scattered to the bush;
- 7.21 Provide new 44 gallon drums to each household before existing drums are rusted out. Supply with hinged lids as a deterrent to crows and dogs. Alternatively, provide the preferred Sulo bins;
- 7.22 Run an education campaign on the hazards of burning domestic refuse and items like car tyres and oil.

STREETSCAPE

- 7.23 Improve the visual appearance of the town by street signage, tree planting and erecting sculptures and other design items made by the CDEP with the aim of achieving Tidy Towns standards;
- 7.24 Arrange with Bourke Shire Council to require owners of unsightly blocks to have blocks cleared of debris, and properly maintained afterwards;
- 7.25 Arrange to remove car bodies, and associated rats, snakes and other hazardous animals.

IMPLEMENTATION

						PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANs	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
7.17	4.15							
7.18	-							
7.19	2.06 2.09 7.08 7.20 7.21							
7.20	7.19							
7.21	7.19							
7.22	5.01							
7.23	2.09 7.01 7.07 7.26							
7.24	2.06 7.23							
7.25	-							

DESIRED RESULTS

Enngonia is safer, cleaner, more comfortable and pleasant town in which to live

The town looks a picture



TARGET AREA 7: ROADS and PIPES and WIRES**TA7****COMMUNITY OBLIGATION**

Keep our surroundings safe and clean, and use our resources responsibly

COMMUNITY ACTION

Work to make Enngonia a 'Tidy Town', and an example of how to treat the environment and resources with respect

PROVIDER OBLIGATION

To provide services and facilities equivalent to those enjoyed by others in the Shire

PROVIDER ACTION

Raise the level of commitment all round to action Community issues and solutions

The Community aims to live, work, rest and play in a safe and tidy town

The Community aims to restore those basic town services and facilities that are currently denied thereby adding to disadvantage

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

CEMETERY

7.26 Recognise the important of maintaining the cemetery out of respect for those passed. Improve facilities at the cemetery by planting shade trees and ground covers to control dust. Irrigate as necessary to maintain plants.

ENVIRONMENTAL

7.27 Restore environmental, cultural and recreational use of Warrego River in the vicinity of the town by providing regular environmental freshes and deepening the channel to provide a permanent storage. Equip with seating and BBQs so that use may be made of the river for recreational purposes.

IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION							PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANs		SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
7.26	2.06	7.23							
7.27	-								

DESIRED RESULTS

Enngonia is safer, cleaner, more comfortable and pleasant town in which to live

The town looks a picture



TARGET AREA 8: THINGS TO DO**TA8**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	▶ To participate fully in sporting and recreational activities
COMMUNITY ACTION	▶ Use facilities provided and take part in organised events as a route to improved health
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	▶ Recognise the important part played by sport and recreation in the life of the Community
PROVIDER ACTION	▶ Resource and support sport and recreational facilities, workers and programmes

The Community aims to encourage full participation in sporting and recreational activities as a means of improving health and well being

The Community aims to raise the profile of Enngonia by taking part in competitive sport

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

SPORTING ACTIVITIES

- 8.01 Prepare a sports and recreation Action Plan for the Community as a whole as a priority to provide a framework for development of sporting and recreation facilities for children, young people and adults. Use activities to improve the health status of the Community, to provide diversionary interests, to encourage development of high achievers in sport to raise the level of self-esteem, and to allow the Community to organise family reunions around sports days;
- 8.02 Grade, fill, top dress and seed football oval to give a playable surface for use by men and women's Enngonia RL teams, by a cricket team and children involved in athletics. Provide basic change rooms and toilet facilities that allow teams to visit for competitive sports, and provide bench seats. Complete fencing, upgrade irrigation and landscape the area around the sheds, including shade trees. Provide lights so that children and young people can play on the oval in the cooler evening hours;
- 8.03 Participate to a greater extent at all ages in regional competitive sports by making full use of local sporting facilities;
- 8.04 Enter into a partnership arrangement with the Tennis Club to make the tennis courts more accessible to Community members outside of school hours. Possibly extend to provide a multi-sport venue;
- 8.05 Resource the Community directly or through a service provider to allow talented children to take part in zone and regional sporting trials as a means of increasing the opportunities for achievement of smaller, remote Communities.

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 8.06 Prepare a Youth Action Plan to focus youth initiatives in the areas of most interest and need;
- 8.07 Resource a recreation centre for use by young people perhaps by converting a section of the Enngonia Store to a multi-purpose type recreation hall with a pool table, space invaders and so on for older children;
- 8.08 Reinstate subsidisation of school pool operating costs, including chemical costs, to allow children to use the pool under supervision after school or during holidays to encourage children away from playing in polluted, stagnant water pools in the river. Alternatively, provide a public pool or bore bath;

IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION										PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANs					SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
8.01	8.03	8.06										
8.02	2.06	5.01	7.23	8.01	8.15							
8.03	8.01	8.02	8.04	8.08								
8.04	8.01	8.03										
8.05	8.01	8.03										
8.06	8.01											
8.07	-											
8.08	8.03											

DESIRED RESULTS

The health of the Community is improved through access to active sports and recreational programmes

Talented children are able to reach higher levels of achievement and sense of self-worth through taking part in sporting activities



TARGET AREA 8: THINGS TO DO**TA8****COMMUNITY OBLIGATION**

To participate fully in sporting and recreational activities

COMMUNITY ACTION

Use facilities provided and take part in organised events as a route to improved health

PROVIDER OBLIGATION

Recognise the important part played by sport and recreation in the life of the Community

PROVIDER ACTION

Resource and support sport and recreational facilities, workers and programmes

The Community aims to encourage full participation in sporting and recreational activities as a means of improving health and well being

The Community aims to raise the profile of Enngonia by taking part in competitive sport

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

8.09 Provide a new playground in a position adjacent to the football oval and install play equipment to replace the old and dangerous equipment removed from the existing playground. Include benches for use by residents and tourists;

8.10 Provide a playground at Clara Hart Village for younger children;

8.11 Top-dress the school oval sufficient to cover broken glass which litters the surface.

MEETING

8.12 Develop an open space meeting place at the Reserve for social gatherings including the playing of bingo. Provide a bough shade and barbecue as part of the meeting place;

8.13 Construct a toilet block at Clara Hart Village for use by visitors;

8.14 Construct a laundromat block at Clara Hart Village for use by residents;

8.15 Set an area aside close to the park and oval where travellers, perhaps caravaners, can stop in the town;

8.16 Upgrade the appearance of the Community Hall by painting and fencing.

IMPLEMENTATION

							PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANs				SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P S F
8.09	2.06	8.06	8.10	8.15					
8.10	8.06	8.09							
8.11	-								
8.12	8.13	8.14							
8.13	8.12	8.14							
8.14	8.12	8.13							
8.15	8.02	8.09							
8.16	2.09	7.23							

DESIRED RESULTS

The health of the Community is improved through access to active sports and recreational programmes

Talented children are able to reach higher levels of achievement and sense of self-worth through taking part in sporting activities



TARGET AREA 9: COMMUNITY SERVICES GENERALLY**TA9**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Contribute with service providers to achieve the best for the Community
COMMUNITY ACTION	Talk up for Enngonia
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	To carry out set duties and responsibilities within the context of Community disadvantage
PROVIDER ACTION	Become involved and take on Community solutions

The Community aims to put across its solutions as a means of bringing about a continuing improvement of agency services/programmes

The Community aims to engage with service providers on the basis of informed equals

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS

- 9.01 Policy makers shall recognise that the Enngonia Community is remote, disadvantaged and requires preferential action to ensure the Community is in a position to benefit from a lifestyle that most would take for granted;
- 9.02 Policy makers shall develop greatly improved collaborative cross-agency arrangements that allow the Community access to facilities and services that would improve the quality of life and wellbeing of residents but which are presently denied;
- 9.03 Raise the quality of service delivery, particularly in respect of timely decision-making, so that the Community and its organisations are not left exposed financially or are unable to carry out their required functions (ie delay in resolving replacement of Land Council vehicle);
- 9.04 The Community expects that service provider visiting agency personnel are fully briefed on subject areas, and able to respond effectively and professionally to Community, and able to make decisions.

SERVICE PROVIDER COMMITMENTS

- 9.05 Each service provider shall provide a service charter/profile to inform the Community of service and programme objectives, resources and communication protocols;
- 9.06 Service providers shall commit to engaging with the Community through the Working Party on a regular basis to create a partnership for service improvement;
- 9.07 Service providers to commit to respect the status of the Working Party as the peak representative body of the Community and not use their position to coerce the Working Party to unwanted actions;
- 9.08 Service providers to respect the status of the Working Party by seeking authority of the Working Party to approach the Community through Community forums on issues of interest;

IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION							PROGRESS				
CAN	LINKED CANs				SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
9.01	1.04	1.07	9.02								
9.02	3.06	9.01									
9.03	9.01	9.04									
9.04	9.03										
9.05	9.01	9.02	9.03								
9.06	9.01	9.03	9.04	9.05							
9.07	1.07	9.06	9.08								
9.08	1.07	9.06	9.07								

DESIRED RESULTS

Service providers are responding to us as citizens

Better targeted services and programmes are contributing to a more fulfilling life for Community members



TARGET AREA 9: COMMUNITY SERVICES GENERALLY

TA9

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Contribute with service providers to achieve the best for the Community
COMMUNITY ACTION	Talk up for Enngonia
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	To carry out set duties and responsibilities within the context of Community disadvantage
PROVIDER ACTION	Become involved and take on Community solutions

The Community aims to put across its solutions as a means of bringing about a continuing improvement of agency services/programmes

The Community aims to engage with service providers on the basis of informed equals

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

- 9.09 Service providers to recognise the right and ability of the Working Party to assess service provider performance as a means of encouraging continuing service improvement;
- 9.10 Bourke Shire to be open and accountable in letting the Community know how much it receives under the Financial Assistance Grants on account of the number of Aboriginal residents.

PARTICULAR ACTIONS

- 9.11 Improve the process that causes the unacceptable delay in Community members receiving approval to Abstudy payments, thus allowing children to attend boarding school at the start of term;
- 9.12 Develop an 'identity card' type proof of Aboriginality that allows Community members to access services without the need of regularly having to obtain a letter of confirmation from a local organisation;
- 9.13 Establish a relationship with the Local Area Command so that policing issues can be talked through face to face;
- 9.14 Negotiate with the Local Area Command when and how the Police may obtain access to Clara Hart Village;
- 9.15 Arrange with the NSW Police Service to have male and female serving officers based in Enngonia so that the Service is able to respond sensitively in those circumstances where intervention by a male officer is inappropriate;
- 9.16 Arrange for the Community to have ready access to Enngonia-based male and female ACLOs to assist with policing matters;

IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION							PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANs		SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
9.09	9.05	9.06							
9.10	2.02								
9.11	4.07								
9.12	-								
9.13	-								
9.14	9.13								
9.15	9.13								
9.16	9.13								

DESIRED RESULTS

Service providers are responding to us as citizens

Better targeted services and programmes are contributing to a more fulfilling life for Community members



TARGET AREA 9: COMMUNITY SERVICES GENERALLY

TA9

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Contribute with service providers to achieve the best for the Community
COMMUNITY ACTION	Talk up for Enngonia
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	To carry out set duties and responsibilities within the context of Community disadvantage
PROVIDER ACTION	Become involved and take on Community solutions

The Community aims to put across its solutions as a means of bringing about a continuing improvement of agency services/programmes

The Community aims to engage with service providers on the basis of informed equals

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

- 9.17 Resource the Community through joint Police Service/Community initiatives to achieve freedom from illicit drugs;
- 9.18 Resource an Enngonia – Bourke – Enngonia transport service that responds to the needs of all community people, including those at Clara Hart Village. Provide a covered bus shelter at the Village;
- 9.19 Establish a mobile service unit within RTA that is able to visit Enngonia on a regular basis to educate young people in safe driving practices and traffic regulations, and allow the knowledge part of driving tests to be undertaken.

IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION								PROGRESS			
CAN	LINKED CANS				SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
9.17	3.07	5.01	8.01	9.13							
9.18	5.07										
9.19	1.01	9.02									

DESIRED RESULTS

Service providers are responding to us as citizens

Better targeted services and programmes are contributing to a more fulfilling life for Community members



COMMUNITY PROFILE

1. PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Population

This Community Action Plan is prepared for the Aboriginal community of Enngonia, a small town located 100 km north of Bourke, on the Mitchell Highway, in Bourke Shire, in north-western NSW.

The 1996 Census enumerated fewer than 80 Aboriginal people in Enngonia. The National Housing and Community Infrastructure Needs Survey conducted in 1992, estimated the total Aboriginal population of Enngonia to be 195 people: 135 living in town, and 60 at the Reserve. An earlier survey of former reserves carried out jointly by the then Commonwealth Department of Aboriginal Affairs and NSW Office Aboriginal Affairs in 1988 estimated the population of Enngonia Reserve to be between 110 and 130. A Community Survey conducted in late-1999 to obtain information about Aboriginal households in Enngonia enumerated:

TABLE 1.1
Summary Data – Population Survey, Enngonia, September - November, 1999

	Town	Reserve	Total
Number of households	11	11	22
Number of families	12	16	28
Number of people	46	50	96
Number of males	25	27	52
Number of females	21	23	44
Number of people aged 19 or less	27	21	48
Number of people aged 50 or over	2	5	7

The age and sex distribution for the survey sample is shown in Table 1.2.

TABLE 1.2
Age and Sex Distribution – Enngonia, September to November 1999

Age Group	Males	Females	Total	Difference (M-F)
0 to 4	11	4	15	7
5 to 14	13	16	29	-3
15 to 19	1	3	4	-2
20 to 29	11	7	18	4
30 to 49	13	10	23	3
50 to 64	2	2	4	0
65 and over	1	2	3	-1
Total	52	44	96	8

Overall, Enngonia is a young community, with 50% of the population aged under 20 years. The ratio of males to females for the total Aboriginal population is high, there being 18% more males in the population surveyed than women. Ratios vary markedly between age cohorts.

The masculinity ratio, the ratio of males to females, calculated from the survey data for the Aboriginal community of Enngonia is higher than that for the total population of NSW, but is identical to that calculated from the 1996 census data for the two Enngonia collection districts as a whole. The child to woman ratio is



considerably higher than that for indigenous population of NSW as a whole, and is also higher than that calculated for the total population of Enngonia in the 1996 Census. The relatively high dependency ratio at Enngonia reflects the youthful age structure of the community and indicates the Community to be more vulnerable to economic hardship, because fewer people are available to carry the economic load of supporting their families.

1.2 Geography

Enngonia is accessible by sealed road from Bourke and Cunnamulla, and by unsealed road from Brewarrina and Weilmoringle. The unsealed roads are dry weather roads, and become impassable after minimal rainfalls. Enngonia has an unsealed air strip but there are no commercial flights. The strip is lit by flares when necessary.

The town has little topographic relief. Local variations in ground level occur but overall grades do not exceed 1%. Ground levels vary from approximately RL 133 m AHD to RL 134.5 m AHD. Although the town is bounded on the west by the Warrego River, Enngonia is generally flood free. Because most of the town is on red sand country, drainage and ponding of runoff are generally not problematic, although localised ponding occurs during long periods of heavy rain. Native vegetation communities include open to dense mulga, brigalow, white cypress pine. (Walker 1991, pp. 162 and 558).

Within the town area, Belalie Street (Mitchell Highway), part of Shearer Street and part of McCabe Street are sealed, but Culgoa Street, Paroo Street and Irrarra Street are unsealed. All road shoulders are unsealed and there is no kerb and gutter.

There is no public transport within the town. The distance from the Reserve to town is approximately 1 km, and residents without working cars (nine households out of eleven) walk to and from town.

1.3 Climate

The nearest Bureau of Meteorology recording stations for which climate observations available are Bourke Post Office, located 100 km south of Enngonia, and Cunnamulla Post Office located 156 km north of Enngonia. Key climatological data from these recording stations are summarised in Table 1.3.

TABLE 1.3
Key Climatological Data – Bourke Post Office and Cunnamulla Post Office

Mean daily maximum temperature	°C	Bourke	Summer	35.7
			Winter	19.0
		Cunnamulla	Summer	35.3
			Winter	19.7
Mean daily minimum temperature	°C	Bourke	Summer	20.3
			Winter	5.6
		Cunnamulla	Summer	21.4
			Winter	6.5
Mean number of days over 35°		Bourke		63.0
		Cunnamulla		75.9
Highest temperature	°C	Bourke		51.7
		Cunnamulla		46.9
Lowest temperature	°C	Bourke		-2.4
		Cunnamulla		-2.2
Mean annual rainfall	mm	Bourke		355.1
		Cunnamulla		374.7
Mean number of rain days		Bourke		47.2
		Cunnamulla		43.0



2. CONNECTION TO LAND

Enngonia is located within the country traditionally belonging to the Murrawari language group, and many community members identify as being Murrawari, although some community members are of Kunja and/or Badjuri descent.

In 1882, the Aborigines Protection Act passed through the NSW Parliament, and a Protector of Aborigines was appointed; commencing the establishment of reserves and government ration stations for Aboriginal people in the 1880s. Enngonia was not the site of a Government ration station, reserve or mission under the Aborigines Protection Act in the way that, for example, Angledool and Brewarrina were. As a locality, it attracted Aboriginal pastoral workers who wanted to be easily accessible to potential employers. Many of the Murrawari people living at Enngonia came from Weilmoringle and nearby localities, and still have ties with families living at Weilmoringle. When Tinnenburra, a large pastoral station in southern Queensland, was broken up in the 1930s, some Aboriginal residents (Kunja, Badjuri and some Murrawari people) were moved to settlements such as Cherbourg; some moved to Eulo or Cunnamulla, but others, including families still represented in the community, moved south to settle in Enngonia. One elderly resident whose family migrated to Enngonia from Tinnenburra via Yantabulla recalled that her parents had moved from their own traditional country to gain access to a school, for the children. This would have been during the 1930s. Some families were taken from Enngonia to Brewarrina Mission. The site of Enngonia Reserve was gazetted for Use by Aborigines in May, 1957.

Only one site at Enngonia: the Enngonia Reserve, is registered as being a site of cultural or heritage significance.

In the thirty-five years since Aboriginal people took up residence at the Reserve, self-determination has become Government policy but continuing restructuring of the rural sector has put independent employment out of reach of all Aboriginal residents of Enngonia.

3. COMMUNITY CHARACTERISTICS

3.1 Housing

Two Aboriginal organisations own land and housing in Enngonia: Enngonia Local Aboriginal Land Council and Murrawari Aboriginal Corporation. Enngonia Local Aboriginal Land Council is the owner of the Reserve known as Clara Hart Village where thirteen dwellings are built. The Land Council also owns five house blocks in town, although Murrawari owns the houses situated on two of the blocks; collects rent and is rated for them. Murrawari Aboriginal Corporation owns eight blocks in town.

Only one family owns their own home, all others are tenants.

Of the housing-related issues confronting the two housing providers that of wastewater management is one of the most serious. Dwellings and institutional buildings are serviced by septic tanks which, generally, are too small and are too close to houses. The associated absorption trenches are too short and consequently overflow to the surface in wet conditions.

3.2 Economic Status

The economy of the region depends on sheep and cattle grazing, with broad acre farming increasing in importance. Employment for Aboriginal people is, however, generally concentrated in Aboriginal organisations and public sector agencies rather than the pastoral sector. Table 3.1 gives details of the employment status of the Enngonia community.



TABLE 3.1
Employment Status, Aboriginal community, Enngonia, September to November 1999

	Town	Reserve	Total
Number of people in workforce	16	23	39
Participation rate	76%	77%	76%
Number of people unemployed	3	3	6
Unemployment rate	19%	13%	15%

Workforce participation rates for town residents and Reserve residents are similar, but town residents are more likely to be unemployed. The overall unemployment rate of 15% is considerably lower than for most other communities in the Murdi Paaki Region. This figure, however, masks the true underlying level of unemployment: the unemployment rate rises to 85% if those employed part-time on CDEP are acknowledged as being still the recipients of welfare benefits. Only five community members responded as working full-time so, whether CDEP participants are regarded as being among the unemployed or not, there is a high level of underemployment in the community, and a great need for economic programmes. There is an overwhelming desire on the part of Community members to be in some form of meaningful work.

Murrawari CDEP operate the store on a shoe-string budget as the only commercial operation in the Community apart from the pub. The store is said to be expensive, and is not stocking enough fruit and vegetables. Fruit and vegetables are carted in once a week; fresh bread and milk twice a week. The CDEP has 33 participants of which two are placed at the school as AEAs. There are few productive activities. A market garden located at Clara Hart Village provided a useful training vehicle but failed through lack of maintenance of equipment and high salinity of the irrigation supply.

As a civic duty, the CDEP undertakes the garbage run to avoid an increase in town rates. CDEP also keeps the municipal tip clean and tipped waste graded. Residents are provided with a 44 gallon drum for garbage disposal, which bins are emptied once a week. The Community have voiced disapproval that, although families are required to pay for a plot, the CDEP is placed in the position of having to dig the graves at the cemetery.

3.3 Mobility

Overall, 73% of households surveyed in 1999 did not have a registered car in working order. Two households, or 9%, had a car which was broken down and waiting to be repaired. People without their own cars either hitchhike or pay for a lift to their destination.

Only one of the households surveyed does not leave town to go shopping. Because very limited medical services are available in Enngonia, everyone has to travel to Bourke or other destinations to visit the doctor or the Aboriginal Medical Service. All but two households had to leave town to access banking services. Both the modal and median frequency of visits to Bourke or other service centres is once per week.

Lack of transport effectively prevents people going away for training or employment, thereby keeping the Community in a state of perpetual under-achievement.

4. HEALTH

4.1 Population Health Generally

At the time of the preparation of the Community Housing and Environmental Health Plan in 2000, Far West Area Health Service Population Health Unit made available information about the health status of the Bourke Local Government Area, which includes Enngonia, within the context of the population of the Far West Area. Data for Enngonia residents are not separable. The information that follows was abstracted from their unpublished report (C. Mahon pers. comm.).



Over the three-year period 1993/94 to 1995/96 there were 8,800 admissions of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal residents of Bourke LGA to any hospital in NSW. Of these admissions 43.9% were male and 56.1% were female. The crude admission rate for this period was 675.6 per 1000 population per year, which is higher than the rates experienced in the Far West and NSW. Males in Bourke LGA are 2.2 times as likely to be admitted to hospital at any age for any cause compared to NSW males. Females in Bourke LGA are 2.6 times more likely to be admitted to hospital at any age for any cause compared to NSW females.

Bourke LGA residents are more likely to be admitted for diseases of the respiratory system and symptoms and signs of disease. Table 4.1 sets out the principal reasons for admission to hospital.

TABLE 4.1
TOP FOUR REASONS FOR ADMISSION IN FAR WEST AREA COMPARED TO BOURKE LGA

Cause	Bourke LGA	Far West
Diseases of the digestive system	10.6%	10.2%
Diseases of the respiratory system	14.4%	10.0%
Injury and poisoning	10.0%	9.7%
Symptoms, signs and ill-defined conditions	11.9%	8.4%

Causes of death for the period 1979 to 1995 are shown in Table 4.2.

TABLE 4.2
CAUSES OF DEATH

Cause	Bourke LGA	Far West
Heart Disease	42.2%	46.2%
Cancer	18.9%	27.7%
Respiratory disease	9.8%	7.9%
Injury	10.7%	9.3%
Other	18.4%	15.2%

Between 1972 and 1994 there were 241 residents of Bourke LGA diagnosed with a form of cancer. Of these 137 (56.8%) were male and 104 (43.2%) were female. The incidence of the most common cancers is not significantly different in Bourke LGA from other localities. Bourke LGA residents have a higher incidence of lung cancer in males and colon cancers in women than the average incidence for the NSW population. Between 1972 and 1994 there were 162 deaths due to cancer. The rate of cancer death in Bourke LGA is not significantly different to NSW.

Between 1987 and 1996 (excluding 1989), there were 868 babies born to women who resided in the Bourke LGA and delivered in any NSW hospital. Of these births, 39% were to Aboriginal women who represent 27% of the total Bourke LGA female population. In Bourke LGA, an Aboriginal woman aged 15 to 19 years is sixteen times more likely to give birth than the average for NSW. Aboriginal women in Bourke LGA have a significantly higher number of babies born with low birth weight than would be expected.

4.2 Health of Enngonia People

A broad indication of the physical and emotional health of the Community is given by the Well Persons Health Check (WPHC) carried out by Far West Area Health Service in 2004. About 92% of the Enngonia population over the age of 15 took part in the screening if the ABS 2001 Census data is used as the benchmark. Men and women participated equally.



69% (n=61) of participants screened were either overweight or obese and over 78% (n=69) had a high level of belly fat. Nevertheless, more than half the Community members screened state they are doing enough physical activity to benefit their health. Although 47% (n=41) of participants screened said they were eating enough vegetables, only 25% (n=22) said they were eating enough fruit. Despite this, 73% (n=64) of participants screened had normal folate levels.

91% (n=80) of participants screened had normal healthy blood pressure. Three new cases of high blood pressure were detected. 45% (n=40) of participants screened are at risk or very high risk of heart attack because of high homocystine level with half being at very high risk. A high homocystine level is one risk factor for heart attacks. A healthier diet and exercise lowers homocystine levels. A weekly visiting nursing service is provided at the Enngonia Health Outpost by Bourke Community Health Service and rigorous monitoring of blood pressures may account for the fact that this risk factor is tested and more readily identified than others.

The proportion of the indigenous population screened with fasting cholesterol levels above the desirable level was 45% (n=15) and 53% (n=29) for those non-indigenous Community members who took part in the WPHC. Thirteen people (15%) were assessed as being above the level considered to pose a high risk. Ten new cases of elevated cholesterol level were identified among the indigenous participants and were referred to their GP for further examination.

The proportion of the indigenous population screened with fasting glucose levels above the upper limit indicative of diabetes was 33% (n=11) compared with 7% (n=4) for the non-indigenous participants. Eight people said they had diabetes but five new potential cases were identified among the indigenous participants.

51% (n=45) of participants screened had normal kidney function. The remainder exhibited signs of either suspicious kidney function or signs of early or bad kidney damage. Thirteen new cases of possible kidney disease were identified.

12% (n=11) of participants screened said they were ex-drinkers or had never consumed alcohol. Of those that did drink, 43% (n=11) of indigenous participants said they had drunk at safe levels in the preceding week. Others had drunk to hazardous or harmful levels. 42% (n=37) of participants screened currently smoked. Eleven cases of sexually transmitted disease were identified.

Based on the methodology adopted for the Well Persons Health Check, 48% (n=41) of participants screened had experienced low levels of social and emotional distress within the four weeks preceding the screening and were coping well with life.

Dental health is poor. A quarter of the participants screened required follow up treatment by a dentist within a month. Seven out of ten people had gum disease. About two-thirds of participants screened had not been to see a dentist in the preceding twelve months.

4.3 Disability Status

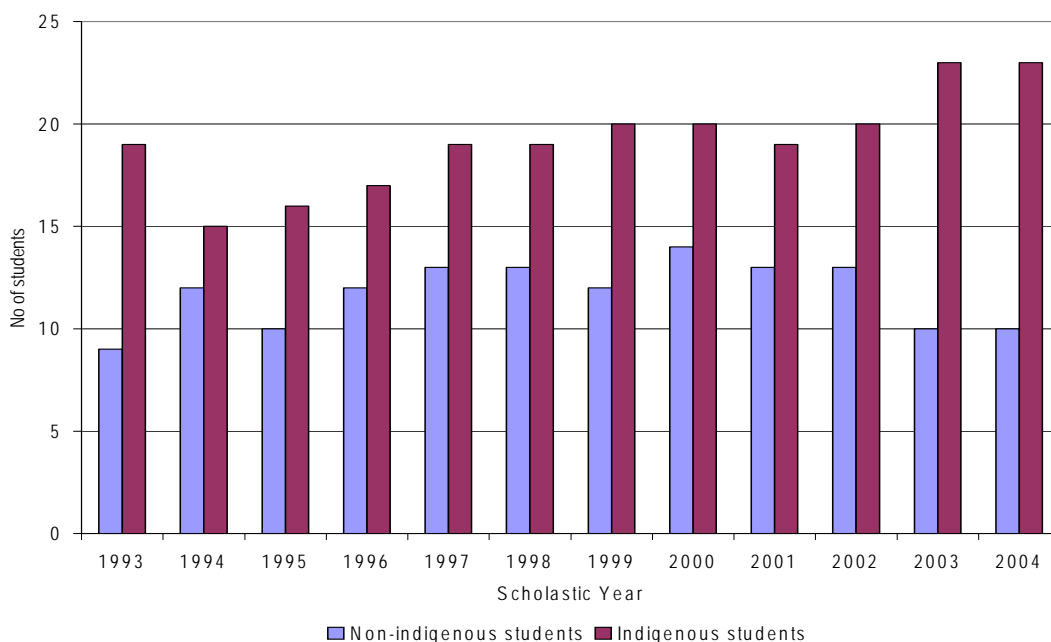
Seven households at the Reserve and two households in town have members who have disabilities, are chronically ill or are frail aged. One Reserve resident is non-ambulatory and his dwelling is equipped with ramps. Conditions and disabilities include mobility-related disabilities arising from age, arthritis or stroke; asthma, deafness, diabetes and heart disease. The Community has a high number of asthmatics and diabetics, and two current cases of leprosy.

5. EDUCATION

The Enngonia Public School teaches from Kindergarten to Year 6 level after which children continue their education as boarders in Sydney or Dubbo. There are no children on correspondence, which the Community view as unsatisfactory. There is a preschool but no child care facilities which results in parents taking their small children to work at the CDEP. Enrolments for the period 1993 to 2004 are shown in Chart 5.1 and attendance levels in Chart 5.2.

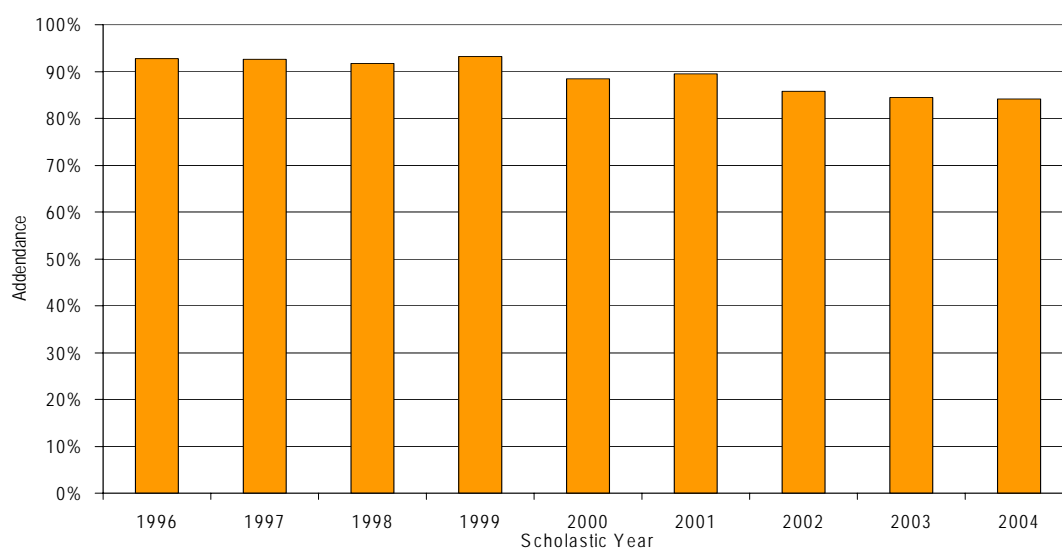


CHART 5.1
ENNGONIA PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLMENTS 1993 - 2004



Students are taught as one class on a team teaching basis. Apart from the Principal, the school has one full-time teacher and one part-time teacher supported by a number of tutors and a full-time AEA. The pre-school operates with entirely part-time staff.

CHART 5.2
Enngonia Public School Attendance 1996 - 2004



REFERENCES

- Burns Aldis, 1995 *Regional Plan for the Murdi Paaki Region: Regional Profile*. Murdi Paaki Regional Council, Bourke
- Burns Aldis, 2000 *Housing and Environmental Health Plan for the Enngonia Community*, Sydney
- Far West Area Health Service Population Health Unit, (C. Mahon pers. comm.) unpublished *Health in the Far West – The Health of the People in Enngonia*, Broken Hill
- Far West Area Health Service, 2004 *Enngonia Well Persons Health Check*, Broken Hill
- Gutteridge, Haskins and Davey, 2003 *Regional Plan for the Murdi Paaki Region 2003 – 2005*, Brisbane
- McKellar, H. 1984, *Matya-Mundu: A History of the Aboriginal People of South West Queensland*, ed. T. Blake, Cunnamulla Australian Native Welfare Association, Cunnamulla, Queensland
- Public Health Division, 1997 *The Health of the People of New South Wales – Report of the Chief Health Officer*, NSW Health Department, Sydney
- Walker, PJ, 1991 *Land Systems of Western NSW. Technical Report No. 25*. Soil Conservation Service of NSW, Sydney

