

A MURDI PAAKI REGION COMMUNITY

GOODOOGA



COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN 2005

FEBRUARY 2005

An initiative of the Goodooga Community Working Party

A MURDI PAAKI REGION COMMUNITY

GOODOOGA

COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN 2005

FEBRUARY 2005

GOODOOGA COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN 2005

INDEX

Section	Page
COMMUNITY VISION and COMMUNITY MISSION	i
COMMUNITY AIMS and COMMUNITY VALUES	ii
STRATEGIC ACTIONS	
TARGET AREA 1 – LOCAL DECISION-MAKING	1
TARGET AREA 2 – TAKING PART IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS	2
TARGET AREA 3 – WORKING OUT OF WELFARE	3
TARGET AREA 4 – LEARNING	4
TARGET AREA 5 – SPIRITUAL WELLBEING	7
TARGET AREA 6 – PHYSICAL and EMOTIONAL WELLBEING	11
TARGET AREA 7 – COMMUNITY SERVICES GENERALLY	12
TARGET AREA 8 – HOUSING	14
TARGET AREA 9 – TOWN INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS	16
COMMUNITY PROFILE	20
REFERENCES	24



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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

Community Working Party
Community Members

Ron Mason, Chairman and all Delegates
All those Community Members who shared in the meetings

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



COMMUNITY VISION and COMMUNITY MISSION

Our Vision for our future is to:

Restore Goodooga to a busy town we are proud to live in and call home
Take leadership in our own affairs at Community level
Succeed using our imagination and initiative
Provide a good example to our children through what we do and the way we do it, and
Re-establish our traditions and cultural identity for those that come after us



Our Mission; the task we set ourselves, is to:

Improve the quality of the lives of our Community's individuals, families, elders and organisations through our own ideas and energies



COMMUNITY AIMS and COMMUNITY VALUES

Our Aims are to:

Make our decision-making processes stronger through consultation and leadership
See our children grow in knowledge and wisdom to become our future leaders
Remove harmful influences from the Community
Improve our health status
Live in adequate, secure, safe and affordable housing providing a healthy living environment
Move from a welfare economy to self-sufficiency
Provide meaningful work through acquiring our own income-generating businesses
Exercise our full rights as citizens



The Values which we hold close are:

Respect
Inclusion
Equality
Action
Fairness
Openness
Accountability



STRATEGIC ACTIONS



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

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Advocate the Community case through reasoned and balanced argument
COMMUNITY ACTION	Consult, discuss, decide on issues and take a part in achieving results
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	Recognise we have a long way to go so work with us in partnership
PROVIDER ACTION	Accept our decisions and frame services and programmes to provide success on our terms

The CWP aims to be the strongest voice in contributing to local decision-making, and a force in regional decision-making

The CWP aims to be inclusive, strategic, accountable, and professional in all its actions

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

HOW WE DO THINGS

- 1.01 Review the structure and form of representation of the CWP. Set out the process by which delegates are elected, the nature of the leadership role and powers of the CWP, and the way the CWP relates to the Community;
- 1.02 Prepare Code of Meeting procedure and Code of Ethical Practice suitable for local use as a guide to Delegates on how to work through issues and reach firm and reasoned decisions;
- 1.03 Stay faithful to, and promote, the Community's cultural, social, economic and environmental objectives as set out in this Community Action Plan and through other strategic initiatives that the CWP may develop or endorse.

PARTICIPATION

- 1.04 Encourage all local organisations to improve governance practices, including accountability to the Community for services and programmes delivered. Develop a process whereby local indigenous organisations and those under regional control report on operations to CWP regularly. Require funding bodies to seek CWP endorsement of documented organisation targets as a pre-requisite for continuity of funding;
- 1.05 Work out a way to involve all members of the Community, including those who feel disempowered for one reason or another, in the development and monitoring of strategic plans, services and programmes;
- 1.06 Talk with Community members about specific issues through properly called and run Community meetings;
- 1.07 Encourage participation by all Community people, but recognise that some may not wish to be involved. The CWP shall be comfortable in acting on their behalf;
- 1.08 Encourage participation by indigenous and non-indigenous service providers in CWP meetings as a means of consulting on policy matters with the Community's peak representative body, and being accountable to the Community generally.

STANDING

- 1.09 The CWP, in its capacity as the elected Community's peak governance body, is a political assembly and reserves the right to pursue political action where necessary to advance Community interests. The CWP will not involve itself in the day to day management of services and programmes rightly the responsibility of service providers.

IMPLEMENTATION

						PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANs	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
1.01	-							
1.02	1.01							
1.03	-							
1.04	-							
1.05	1.07							
1.06	1.06							
1.07	1.05 1.06							
1.08	1.04							
1.09	-							

DESIRED RESULTS

CWP is recognised by everybody as the peak policy-setting and decision-making body in 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 members of 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 seen as a positive contributor to a healthier society

The Community aims to participate with Local Government in jointly rebuilding civic pride

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

PLAYING OUR PART

- 2.01 Work to rebuild civic pride and increase motivation in local Community members by becoming fully involved in a democratic way in Community affairs at a political, CWP, organisational and individual level;
- 2.02 Engage on partnership basis with Local Government in guiding local strategic planning and service development in respect of the indigenous community.

RECOGNISING OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2.03 Focus and build on those things that keep Goodooga free of harmful social influences and generate a balanced, cohesive Community.

IMPLEMENTATION

						PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANs	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
2.01	1.03 1.05							
2.02	1.08 2.01							
2.03	1.03							

DESIRED RESULTS

The Community demonstrates leadership and fearless determination to advance the status of Aboriginal people as equal citizens

Our place in society as citizens is based on respect, tolerance and inclusion



TARGET AREA 3: WORKING OUT OF WELFARE**TA3**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Take every chance to reduce dependency on welfare
COMMUNITY ACTION	Contribute ideas that increase self-sufficiency and commit to lift skill levels
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	Be dedicated to accepting responsibility for, and innovation in, changing a culture of 'welfare'
PROVIDER ACTION	Reduce risk aversion and open up to Community solutions

The Community aims to show that it has the maturity and will to succeed in becoming economically self-reliant

The Community recognises the key part played by high employment levels in achieving social wellbeing

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

STRENGTHENING TECHNICAL ABILITY

- 3.01 Carry out a thorough skills audit of Community members as a basis for working out training needs and interests, and develop a 'whole of Community' training profile;
- 3.02 Develop a documented personal development strategy for interested individuals which works to improve their job readiness;
- 3.03 Review and update the 'whole of Community' employment creation strategy for all activities, including health, rural industry, building and national parks;
- 3.04 Focus vocational training efforts at achieving a higher skills base in the Community;
- 3.05 Resource full-time professional technical support to assist the Community in researching, developing, planning and implementing local initiatives, and fund a locally-based Trainee Project Manager to assist on a skills transfer basis.

LEADERSHIP

- 3.06 Support Goodooga Co-op as the flagship for Community-based initiatives. Assist in making the Co-op operational such that a Community Development Committee can be set up and progress local initiatives.

ORGANISATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

- 3.07 Review operations of organisations generally with a view to identifying realistic employment and enterprise opportunities that have the benefit of sustaining the Community economically in the future;
- 3.08 Review current CDEP operations with a view to identifying other meaningful services or income generating activities that have the benefit of building capacity. Re-establish canteen operations as a way of assisting with childhood obesity and providing nutritional diets either through the school facilities or CDEP commercial kitchen. Link with TAFE hospitality course at school;

IMPLEMENTATION**PROGRESS**

CAN	LINKED CANs	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
3.01	-							
3.02	3.01							
3.03	3.01 3.02							
3.04	3.01 3.02 3.03							
3.05	3.06							
3.06	3.03							
3.07	3.03							
3.08	-							

DESIRED RESULTS

Employment levels have increased substantially in meaningful paid work requiring greater skill

The Community is successfully operating a number of income generating business enterprises which, in turn are investing in a social benefit



TARGET AREA 3: WORKING OUT OF WELFARE**TA3**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Take every chance to reduce dependency on welfare
COMMUNITY ACTION	Contribute ideas that increase self-sufficiency and commit to lift skill levels
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	Be dedicated to accepting responsibility for, and innovation in, changing a culture of 'welfare'
PROVIDER ACTION	Reduce risk aversion and open up to Community solutions

The Community aims to show that it has the maturity and will to succeed in becoming economically self-reliant

The Community recognises the key part played by high employment levels in achieving social wellbeing

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

ORGANISATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

- 3.09 Develop a co-operative relationship between the Community, through its preferred provider, and Brewarrina Shire Council to maintain town streets and public areas;
- 3.10 Develop a strategy that provides for the early acquisition or management of existing local businesses or Community facilities, such as the Bowling Club, as the basis for greater participation in local commercial activities;
- 3.11 Investigate the possibility of a single management unit to run the Store and Bowling Club, and other interested service organisations, as a means of best utilising available skills and reducing administration costs;
- 3.12 Consider options for developing the Bowling Club as a social as well as sporting venue. Integrate with other sporting facilities to form a recreational precinct. Try to recover the liquor licence, and meet the need for kino, TAB and poker machines;
- 3.13 Arrange for the return of Mogila Station to the control of the Community and development of the property as a Community business operation based around sheep. Resolve the limited access to water. Develop value added operations around shearing and the wool clip;
- 3.14 Expand the core business of Mogila Station to include a small market garden, poultry production operation, the MERCY Camp and/or tourism-based activities. Provide the necessary infrastructure;
- 3.15 Review the operations of the Goodooga Store and raise the number of product lines to encourage greater patronage by Community people. Investigate value adding opportunities such as a fast food outlet and games parlour;
- 3.16 Revisit the long-standing proposal that Pulkurru Building set up a kitchen cabinet fabrication workshop.

NEW ENTERPRISE INITIATIVES

- 3.17 Prepare a Business Plan for a tourism-based enterprise;

IMPLEMENTATION								PROGRESS				
CAN	LINKED CANs					SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
3.09	2.02	3.08	3.23									
3.10	3.03	3.06	3.07									
3.11	3.03	3.07	3.08	3.10								
3.12	3.07	3.10	3.11	9.22	9.23							
3.13	3.03	3.07	3.08	3.14								
3.14	3.13											
3.15	3.03	3.07										
3.16	3.07											
3.17	3.03											

DESIRED RESULTS

Employment levels have increased substantially in meaningful paid work requiring greater skill

The Community is successfully operating a number of income generating business enterprises which, in turn are investing in a social benefit



TARGET AREA 3: WORKING OUT OF WELFARE**TA3****COMMUNITY OBLIGATION**

Take every chance to reduce dependency on welfare

COMMUNITY ACTION

Contribute ideas that increase self-sufficiency and commit to lift skill levels

PROVIDER OBLIGATION

Be dedicated to accepting responsibility for, and innovation in, changing a culture of 'welfare'

PROVIDER ACTION

Reduce risk aversion and open up to Community solutions

The Community aims to show that it has the maturity and will to succeed in becoming economically self-reliant

The Community recognises the key part played by high employment levels in achieving social wellbeing

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

NEW ENTERPRISE INITIATIVES

- 3.18 Refurbish and develop the old store as a museum to focus on Aboriginal culture, the history of the school, the history of the hospital, the contribution made by the community during the two World Wars;
- 3.19 Investigate the feasibility of setting up a caravan park for use by Community people in need of short term accommodation and travellers;
- 3.20 Prepare a Business Plan for a fully supported contract shearing unit to service sheep properties within the region;
- 3.21 Prepare a Business Plan to test the feasibility of establishing a waste recycling operation as an enterprise, based on the Goolooga tip;
- 3.22 Review the possibility of a mud-brick making plant similar to Dareton to allow the introduction of alternative building materials and methods, and the provision of low cost singles accommodation in the area.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- 3.23 Negotiate with Brewarrina Shire Council to improve semi-skilled employment opportunities for Goolooga people in such areas as road maintenance;
- 3.24 Discuss with State Forests the possibility of implementing a tree cultivation and planting programme resulting in employment of Community members;
- 3.25 Negotiate a role with National Parks and Wildlife Service for Community members in the management and maintenance of local National Parks;
- 3.26 Continue to offer permanent nursing and health worker positions through FWAHS at the Goolooga MPS;
- 3.27 Pursue the possibility of creating permanent positions associated with the Bowling Club, being groundsman, bar staff, administration staff;

IMPLEMENTATION**PROGRESS**

CAN	LINKED CANs	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
3.18	3.03 3.07							
3.19	3.03 3.07 3.17							
3.20	3.03 3.07							
3.21	3.03 3.07							
3.22	3.03 3.07							
3.23	2.02 3.09							
3.24	3.03							
3.25	3.03							
3.26	3.03							
3.27	3.10							

DESIRED RESULTS

Employment levels have increased substantially in meaningful paid work requiring greater skill

The Community is successfully operating a number of income generating business enterprises which, in turn are investing in a social benefit



TARGET AREA 3: WORKING OUT OF WELFARE**TA3**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Take every chance to reduce dependency on welfare
COMMUNITY ACTION	Contribute ideas that increase self-sufficiency and commit to lift skill levels
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	Be dedicated to accepting responsibility for, and innovation in, changing a culture of 'welfare'
PROVIDER ACTION	Reduce risk aversion and open up to Community solutions

The Community aims to show that it has the maturity and will to succeed in becoming economically self-reliant

The Community recognises the key part played by high employment levels in achieving social wellbeing

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- 3.28 Pursue the possibility of creating permanent positions associated with Mogila Station, being shearers and classers, fencers, stockmen, plant mechanic, administration staff;
- 3.29 Pursue the possibility of creating up to nine permanent positions associated with the MERCY Camp, being social welfare, supervisors, cultural workers, hospitality/catering staff and groundsman;
- 3.30 Re-establish the trainee Youth Worker position as a means of providing after-school diversionary programmes for young people;
- 3.31 Review the operation and potential scope of work for the landscape gardening crew and devise a work plan for the longer term. Locate the whereabouts of the greenhouse purchased with ACDP funding;
- 3.32 Investigate ways in which the Community can have better access to specialist trades such as an electrician, plumber and air-conditioning mechanic;
- 3.33 Develop an Aboriginal arts and crafts production unit, and market using the museum as a local retail outlet.

IMPLEMENTATION**PROGRESS**

CAN	LINKED CANS	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
3.28	3.03 3.13 3.14							
3.29	3.03 3.13 3.14 4.16 5.02							
3.30	3.03 7.13							
3.31	3.03 3.07 3.08							
3.32	-							
3.33	3.03 3.07 3.17 3.18							

DESIRED RESULTS

Employment levels have increased substantially in meaningful paid work requiring greater skill

The Community is successfully operating a number of income generating business enterprises which, in turn are investing in a social benefit



TARGET AREA 4: LEARNING**TA4**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Assist in developing and supporting initiatives which lift standards in learning
COMMUNITY ACTION	Actively 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 invest in learning at all levels as the means of raising the ability of the Community to service its own needs

The Community aims to achieve the best possible education for its children so that their future prospects are higher than their parents

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

PRE-SCHOOL

- 4.01 Develop and put in place a forum which encourages the local Aboriginal community to contribute ideas to the development and operation of the pre-school;
- 4.02 Develop and put in place domestic violence reduction strategies so that the impact of family disturbance on young children is reduced. Train pre-school staff in child counselling;
- 4.03 Resource staff to undertake skills development to improve the quality of service as a means of raising the level of personal development of young children;
- 4.04 Upgrade IT equipment, including software, and other resources such as books and play items so that the pre-school is able to operate effectively. Fund service sufficiently to provide adequate consumable materials for use by the children;
- 4.05 Fund the building of an educational bike track, including associated fencing and ancillary works, and provide fixed play equipment such as swings and climbing frame suitable for young children to replace dismantled unsafe equipment.

SCHOOL

- 4.06 Arrange for the Goodooga Central School to carry out a series of workshops with the Community through the CWP as a means of reviewing and making more culturally relevant school policy, general operating philosophy and curriculum;
- 4.07 Develop and put in place a forum which allows the local Aboriginal community to contribute ideas to the development of the school, and provides a framework for improved communication with parents and encouragement of students;
- 4.08 Continue to involve an Elder(s) to teach Aboriginal languages and culture in Goodooga Central School, and deliver an Aboriginal Studies unit;
- 4.09 Continue to involve voluntary Community tutors in Goodooga Central School to assist and encourage students to higher achievements;

IMPLEMENTATION**PROGRESS**

CAN	LINKED CANS	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
4.01	-							
4.02	6.06							
4.03	3.01 3.04							
4.04	-							
4.05	-							
4.06	1.05 2.01							
4.07	1.08 4.06							
4.08	3.03 5.01							
4.09	-							

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 to the point we are successfully running our own organisations



TARGET AREA 4: LEARNING**TA4**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Assist in developing and supporting initiatives which lift standards in learning
COMMUNITY ACTION	Actively 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 invest in learning at all levels as the means of raising the ability of the Community to service its own needs

The Community aims to achieve the best possible education for its children so that their future prospects are higher than their parents

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

SCHOOL

- 4.10 Provide greater numeracy and literacy support to under-achieving children;
- 4.11 Include in the school curriculum a greater emphasis on teaching living skills such as technics, home science including cooking and fitness;
- 4.12 Implement leadership programmes for children of Yr9 and beyond to allow students to become full citizens on leaving school;
- 4.13 Prepare individual Student Action Plans to guide teachers and students in improving numeracy and literacy, and which introduces work skills such that students wishing to are readily able to move to the workplace on completion of schooling;
- 4.14 Noting poor attendance levels, review, develop and implement strategies that encourage participation of students in education up to and beyond Year 10. Consider the option of delivering TAFE-based modules in non-traditional subject areas;
- 4.15 Review the achievements of those students completing Y12 and assess the suitability of the Northern Borders Education Network programme as the means of educating senior Aboriginal students;
- 4.16 In addition to the MERCY Camp, establish and maintain outdoor learning centre perhaps at Mogila Station to provide an off-school facility for children with learning difficulties and/or who have difficulty with classroom environment. Carefully put together a experiential programme that caters for a whole range of children;
- 4.17 In conjunction with the Community, review the discipline policy in place at the school and develop new strategies that encourage children to better behaviour in the classroom, school playground and outside;
- 4.18 Develop and implement a family-based programme that addresses the risk of children failing to attend school, being suspended from school, and falling into the hands of the Police;
- 4.19 Establish a school canteen service to include for providing breakfasts and lunches for children in need as a means of improving attendance and concentration;

IMPLEMENTATION

						PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANs	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
4.10	-							
4.11								
4.12	2.07							
4.13	4.17							
4.14	4.17							
4.15	-							
4.16	3.14 4.13 4.14							
4.17	4.06 4.07							
4.18	4.06 4.07 4.17							
4.19	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 to the point we are successfully running our own organisations



TARGET AREA 4: LEARNING**TA4**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Assist in developing and supporting initiatives which lift standards in learning
COMMUNITY ACTION	Actively 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 invest in learning at all levels as the means of raising the ability of the Community to service its own needs

The Community aims to achieve the best possible education for its children so that their future prospects are higher than their parents

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

- 4.20 Negotiate with the Goodooga Central School access to educational and sporting facilities outside of school hours. Upgrade external facilities including landscaping of areas behind the school;
- 4.21 Develop and implement affordable transport to allow children of low income families to participate in school excursions and sporting carnivals at venues away from Goodooga.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

- 4.22 Develop a 'Whole of Community' training strategy as a means of supporting community development initiatives;
- 4.23 Establish and resource the position of Training Co-ordinator to assess, arrange and monitor vocational training requirements and achievements;
- 4.24 Negotiate training through TAFE to be delivered locally to upgrade the skill levels generally, and thus ensure that enterprises and programmes be successful and sustainable;
- 4.25 Lobby to have the TAFE criterion relating to course numbers removed so that specialist training can be delivered selectively to smaller groups;
- 4.26 Determine the extent of accessible IT equipment and internet availability to Community members and upgrade as necessary to provide for distance learning by satellite;
- 4.27 Work out demand for business administration/management and computer skills training, and arrange with TAFE for training to be delivered in Goodooga;
- 4.28 Focus early training on the Rural Industry Sector to take advantage of the opportunities through Mogila Station and other sheep properties in the area;
- 4.29 Negotiate for non-vocational training in small motors, welding, cooking and catering through TAFE.

IMPLEMENTATION**PROGRESS**

CAN	LINKED CANs	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
4.20	3.30 9.20							
4.21	7.16 7.17							
4.22	3.01 3.03							
4.23	3.03 4.22							
4.24	3.01 3.04 3.07							
4.25	4.24							
4.26	4.20							
4.27	3.01 3.02 4.24 4.26							
4.28	3.13 3.20							
4.29	4.24							

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 to the point we are successfully running our own organisations



TARGET AREA 5: SPIRITUAL WELLBEING**TA5**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Lead caring, healthy and respectful lives according to our culture
COMMUNITY ACTION	Look after our hearts and minds, applying our traditional values
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	To provide the means for restoring cultural heritage, traditional values and connection to land
PROVIDER ACTION	Assist in developing and delivering programmes and services that reflect traditional values

The Community aims to be guided by its cultural roots in achieving a state of Community wellbeing

The Community aims to create an environment for all Community members that is free of harmful stresses

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

YOUNG PEOPLE

- 5.01 Continue involving Elders in organised supported activities aimed at restoring and maintaining the Aboriginal value of respect in young people;
- 5.02 If viable, re-establish the Mogila MERCY (Motivation Education Recreation Cultural Youth) Camps as a basis for Aboriginal children finding individual and collective identity, and re-engaging with cultural heritage and the natural environment.

ELDERS

- 5.03 Prepare a Plan of Management for the Goodooga Cemetery. Provide for improved access; grave restoration, vegetation management and amenities for adults and children. Involve CDEP in maintenance programme if mutually agreeable;
- 5.04 Negotiate for the return of environmental flows to the Bokhara River sufficient to allow traditional ways to be practised (eg fishing and yabbing). Become involved in the cross-border River Management Committee as representatives of the Community as distinct from a cultural group.

IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION						PROGRESS			
CAN	LINKED CANs		SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
5.01	4.08								
5.02	3.14	4.16							
5.03	2.02	3.08							
5.04	1.03	1.09							

DESIRED RESULTS

That our cultural and traditional values form the framework within which we lead our lives and relate to others

That our children are provided with balanced values to carry them into maturity



TARGET AREA 6: PHYSICAL and EMOTIONAL WELLBEING**TA6****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 reduce the level of illness and injury suffered by Community members

The Community aims to ensure that all Community members have access to ready and affordable health-care

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

COMMUNITY HEALTH

- 6.01 Promote continuing Community participation in the Goodooga Community Health Service through involvement in the HAC;
- 6.02 Develop and implement local food production operations to provide a ready supply of fresh fruit and vegetables as a means of improving nutrition;
- 6.03 Develop and implement primary health prevention programs that are accessible and effective in responding to the full range of community health issues;
- 6.04 Do not downgrade our hospital and Community Health Services any more;
- 6.05 Deliver the Well Persons Health Check on a two-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;
- 6.06 Reinforce the message that domestic violence is not acceptable, and that drinking and illicit substance use is very harmful to family relationships. Implement counselling and intervention strategies to reduce the incidence of domestic violence.

MENS HEALTH

- 6.07 Resource a Men's Issues group as the framework for identifying health and social needs, and implementing suitable intervention programmes.

IMPLEMENTATION

						PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANs	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
6.01	1.08							
6.02	3.14 4.19 6.03							
6.03	6.05							
6.04	1.09							
6.05	6.03 6.07							
6.06	4.02							
6.07	6.03							

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 7: COMMUNITY SERVICES GENERALLY**TA7**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Contribute with service providers to achieve the best for the Community
COMMUNITY ACTION	Talk up for Goodooga
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	Develop and deliver services and programmes that benefit the Community
PROVIDER ACTION	Become involved and take on Community solutions

The Community aims to work proactively with service providers in the best interests of the Community as a whole

The Community aims to see its solutions be reflected in tailored, accountable services and programmes delivered into the Community

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

SERVICES GENERALLY

- 7.01 Each service provider shall provide a service charter/profile to inform the Community of service and programme objectives, resources and communication protocols, and regularly update as circumstances change;
- 7.02 Mainstream service providers, including those responsible for indigenous affairs, shall commit to engaging with the Community through the Working Party on a regular basis to create a partnership for service improvement and ensure that the Community remains the focus of services and programmes;
- 7.03 Local and regional indigenous service providers shall commit to engaging with the Community through the Working Party on a regular basis to be accountable for the relevance of services and programmes, performance and endorsement of adequacy;
- 7.04 Service providers shall develop and commit to a self-assessment process that eliminates the duplication of services and programmes delivered to the Community, and provides a clear line of responsibility;
- 7.05 Ensure that service provider visiting agency personnel are fully briefed on subject areas, and able to respond effectively and professionally to Community;
- 7.06 Recognise the right and ability of the Working Party to assess service provider performance as a means of encouraging continuing service improvement and achieving sustainable results from services and programmes that meet 'whole of Community' objectives;
- 7.07 Provide nominated advisers within service agencies responsible for business development as a means of increasing the ability of the Community to obtain relevant guidance on, and access information relating to, enterprise development;
- 7.08 Establish a local service centre where agencies can operate on a part-time basis so that Community members are not disadvantaged by remoteness.

IMPLEMENTATION

CAN	LINKED CANs	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	PROGRESS		
						P	S	F
7.01	1.08 7.02							
7.02	1.08 7.01 7.04							
7.03	1.04 1.08							
7.04	7.01 7.02							
7.05	7.01 7.02							
7.06	7.02							
7.07	3.05 3.06							
7.08	-							

DESIRED RESULTS

Service providers are responding to us as citizens and not consumers of government services

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



TARGET AREA 7: COMMUNITY SERVICES GENERALLY**TA7**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	Contribute with service providers to achieve the best for the Community
COMMUNITY ACTION	Talk up for Goodooga
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	Develop and deliver services and programmes that benefit the Community
PROVIDER ACTION	Become involved and take on Community solutions

The Community aims to work proactively with service providers in the best interests of the Community as a whole

The Community aims to see its solutions be reflected in tailored, accountable services and programmes delivered into the Community

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

RURAL FIRE SERVICE

7.09 Encourage participation by Community members in the local Rural Fire Service unit.

POLICE SERVICE

7.10 Establish a relationship with the Local Area Command so that policing issues can be talked through regularly face to face. Staff Goodooga Police Station to a level where there is a permanent police presence at all times;

7.11 Negotiate to have an ACLO permanently based in Goodooga;

7.12 Lobby to have bail rules changed so that those charged with offences are not forced by residency restrictions to move temporarily to towns like Goodooga;

7.13 Work with the Police, Attorney General's and other agencies to introduce structured diversionary programmes for children and young people as a means of reducing the potential for juvenile crime. Consider Junior RL and netball competitions among local communities to extend the initiative and make sustainable;

7.14 Review the suitability of 'Circle sentencing' as a method of dealing with offenders and, if suitable, introduce to Goodooga;

7.15 Negotiate to have the Goodooga Oval alcohol free zone rules rigorously enforced.

TRANSPORT SERVICES

7.16 Replace the existing 22-seater bus with a larger 43-seater to cater for increased numbers wishing to be involved in excursions and sporting activities. Assist interested Community members in obtaining the appropriate driver's licenses;

7.17 Provide and resource a community bus to allow participation of all sections of the Community in education, recreation and traditional practices.

IMPLEMENTATION

						PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANs	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
7.09	2.01							
7.10	-							
7.11	-							
7.12	-							
7.13	3.30 9.20 9.22							
7.14	-							
7.15	7.10							
7.16	4.21 7.16							
7.17	4.21							

DESIRED RESULTS

Service providers are responding to us as citizens and not consumers of government services

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



TARGET AREA 8: HOUSING**TA8**

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 have an adequate supply of housing to satisfy the unmet demand of existing and future singles and families

The Community aims to have all housing stock kept in the highest state of repair; secure, safe and comfortable

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

NEW HOUSING

- 8.01 Carry out a bi-annual population survey and analysis on a regular basis as a means of verifying a continuing need for new housing due to new family formations, returning families and changing population profile;
- 8.02 Act to improve the physical and emotional wellbeing of Community members through providing sufficient and appropriate shelter, including comfort, amenity and accessibility;
- 8.03 Negotiate a long-term major Capital Works Programme to provide for housing needs not met by NAHS, HACP or ACDP due to budget escalation, new family formations and population growth;
- 8.04 Lobby for adequate funding for new housing sufficient that housing is available to singles.

HOUSING REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE

- 8.05 Encourage responsible funding agencies to develop a programme of progressive replacement of all community-based housing stock in Goodooga containing asbestos materials;
- 8.06 Review remaining life of existing housing stock and develop a replacement programme that schedules replacement of all houses before stock becomes too old and dangerous;
- 8.07 Lobby for funding to provide for air-cooling to all Community-based housing as a means of improving the health and wellbeing of our Elders and children;
- 8.08 Lobby for assistance to either demolish, demolish and replace, or renovate the existing condemned Land Council house located in the main street to make safe and remove a striking eyesore;
- 8.09 Ensure that modifications required to homes of frail aged and those with disabilities are carried out to improve accessibility and safety;

IMPLEMENTATION

						PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANs	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
8.01	-							
8.02	8.01							
8.03	8.01 8.02							
8.04	8.01 8.02 8.03							
8.05	-							
8.06	8.02							
8.07	8.02							
8.08	-							
8.09	8.02							

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 8: HOUSING**TA8**

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 have an adequate supply of housing to satisfy the unmet demand of existing and future singles and families

The Community aims to have all housing stock kept in the highest state of repair; secure, safe and comfortable

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

HOUSING REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE

- 8.10 Provide large rainwater tanks to all dwellings to give a supply of drinking water that is not dosed to high levels with chlorine;
- 8.11 Recognise the health benefits arising from having functional refrigerators and washing machines and provide as standard inclusions in Community-based housing;
- 8.12 Improve the quality of outdoor areas by landscaping, including shade and fruit tree plantings, mulching, providing outdoor covered seating and cooking areas, and screening to increase privacy;
- 8.13 Develop a policy that provides for the repair of private homes where the health or safety of frail aged or children is at risk.

HOUSING MANAGEMENT

- 8.14 Reinstate Murdi Paaki Regional Housing Corporation as the housing manager of Bodha Ltd homes and negotiate for NSWALC (Western Zone) to take responsibility for managing houses of Goodooga Local Aboriginal Land Council;
- 8.15 Combine Bodha and Land Council waiting lists and subject applicants to the same eligibility test to ensure that those most in need are treated as priorities;
- 8.16 Encourage Murdi Paaki Regional Housing Corporation to set rent levels on the basis of local cost factors rather than adopting an equalisation approach;
- 8.17 Support a negotiated maintenance contract between Pulkurru Building and Murdi Paaki Regional Housing Corporation as the best approach to keeping houses repaired, and tenants living in a safe and healthy environment;
- 8.18 Review Home Ownership opportunities available and work out a way of increasing the number of families owning their own homes in Goodooga.

IMPLEMENTATION

IMPLEMENTATION							PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANs		SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
8.10	8.02	9.08							
8.11	-								
8.12	8.02								
8.13	8.02								
8.14	-								
8.15	-								
8.16	8.14								
8.17	8.05	8.06							
8.18	-								

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 9: TOWN INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS**TA9**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	To assist in keeping our environment free of harmful influences and risks
COMMUNITY ACTION	Reduce, or see that other responsible bodies take action to reduce, dangerous practices
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	To provide the services expected at a benchmarked level and quality
PROVIDER ACTION	Upgrade infrastructure elements to required level of provision and standard

The Community aims to see Goodooga municipal services contribute at all times to the health and wellbeing of Community members

The Community aims to enhance the amenity of the town and Reserve through improvements in streetscape and public facilities

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

BLOCK IMPROVEMENTS

- 9.01 Adequately fence all residential blocks, including those at Goodooga Reserve, to improve privacy and security, and to reduce the risk of attacks by yard dogs;
- 9.02 Encourage Brewarrina Shire Council to use its powers to instruct landholders to remove dumped materials from yards and surrounding areas as part of a Community-wide clean up of the town.

ROADS and DRAINAGE

- 9.03 Continue to lobby for improved drainage and sealing of town and Goodooga Reserve roads serving Community-based housing to provide for safe and clean access. Widen the sealed access to Goodooga Reserve to improve safety;
- 9.04 Lobby for extension of the sealed road being formed from Brewarrina 40km to Weilmoringle to Goodooga via Lang Boyd to provide all weather access to Brewarrina and Bourke;
- 9.05 Lobby for extension of the bitumen seal to the Hebel road to at least 200 m beyond the town limits to minimise the nuisance to town and Reserve residents from dust in dry weather. Extend 50 km/hr speed limit to reduce the speed of heavy vehicles entering town on this road;
- 9.06 Upgrade the coverage of street lighting in the town area, extending to Goodooga Reserve to improve safety;
- 9.07 Provide bus shelters at Goodooga Reserve for use of school children.

POWER SUPPLY

- 9.08 Upgrade the CountryEnergy power supply feeder and distribution network to improve the reliability of supply and reduce the incidence of loss of frozen foods in the Goodooga Store and homes;

IMPLEMENTATION

						PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANs	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
9.01	8.12							
9.02	2.01							
9.03	-							
9.04	-							
9.05	-							
9.06	9.03							
9.07	9.03 9.06							
9.08	-							

DESIRED RESULTS

The quality of all municipal services is raised to the level expected of regional centres generally

Goodooga streetscape and amenities are a reflection of the Community's civic pride



TARGET AREA 9: TOWN INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS**TA9**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	To assist in keeping our environment free of harmful influences and risks
COMMUNITY ACTION	Reduce, or see that other responsible bodies take action to reduce, dangerous practices
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	To provide the services expected at a benchmarked level and quality
PROVIDER ACTION	Upgrade infrastructure elements to required level of provision and standard

The Community aims to see Goodooga municipal services contribute at all times to the health and wellbeing of Community members

The Community aims to enhance the amenity of the town and Reserve through improvements in streetscape and public facilities

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

WATER AND SEWERAGE

- 9.08 Review adequacy and quality of bore and river water supplies to the town and rectify any deficiencies. Ensure demand management measures have Community support, and impacts are identified and discussed, before introduction;
- 9.09 Upgrade sewerage infrastructure to avoid the spillage of untreated sewage to house yards.

GARBAGE DISPOSAL

- 9.10 Upgrade the garbage disposal service to include for kerbside collection using wheelie bins;
- 9.11 Continue to lobby for improved management of the municipal tip.

COMMUNICATIONS

- 9.12 Improve communications and general interest in the Community by establishing a local Community radio station and printing a Community newsletter;
- 9.13 Upgrade the airstrip through sealing to provide for all weather access.

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

- 9.14 Upgrade Doreen Peter Park to reflect its significance as the central passive open space in town, including provision of covered seating for residents and visitors, BBQs, replacement children's play equipment; and shade plantings;
- 9.15 Relocate the public toilets to Doreen Peter Park to make more accessible to residents and visitors, and the improve the usability of the park;

IMPLEMENTATION						PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANS	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
9.08	8.10							
9.09	-							
9.10	2.02							
9.11	2.02							
9.12	-							
9.13	2.02							
9.14	2.02 9.15 9.16							
9.15	2.02 9.14							

DESIRED RESULTS

The quality of all municipal services is raised to the level expected of regional centres generally

Goodooga streetscape and amenities are a reflection of the Community's civic pride



TARGET AREA 9: TOWN INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS**TA9**

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	To assist in keeping our environment free of harmful influences and risks
COMMUNITY ACTION	Reduce, or see that other responsible bodies take action to reduce, dangerous practices
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	To provide the services expected at a benchmarked level and quality
PROVIDER ACTION	Upgrade infrastructure elements to required level of provision and standard

The Community aims to see Goodooga municipal services contribute at all times to the health and wellbeing of Community members

The Community aims to enhance the amenity of the town and Reserve through improvements in streetscape and public facilities

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

- 9.16 Provide an ANZAC memorial in Doreen Peter Park so that residents can honour those that have gone before;
- 9.17 Provide a children's park at Goodooga Reserve;
- 9.18 Renovate the Community tennis courts and re-establish the Tennis Club;
- 9.19 Provide a Community swimming pool or bore bath suitable for use by children of all ages to reduce the health and safety risks inherent in children swimming in the river weir pool.

SPORTING FACILITIES

- 9.20 Prepare a sports and recreation Action Plan to guide development of sporting and recreation facilities for children and adults;
- 9.21 Seek further improvements to the Goodooga football oval to provide an all-weather facility based around rugby league and cricket. Upgrade existing facilities and provide new features such as children's playground, kiosk, cooking areas and change rooms. Re-fence complete with extra access point, landscape surroundings and provide adequate lighting;
- 9.22 Update the Goodooga Multi-Purpose Community Centre Feasibility Study and seek funding to provide adequate meeting, recreational and sporting facilities for the Community. Provide for indoor cricket, soccer, basketball and netball activities and for health fitness programmes. Operate facilities through the weekend where necessary to cater for children and young people;
- 9.23 Resource the building of the Goodooga Multi-Purpose Community Centre.

IMPLEMENTATION							PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANs		SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
9.16	2.02	9.14							
9.17	-								
9.18	9.20								
9.19	4.20	9.20							
9.20	9.22								
9.21	2.02								
9.22	3.12	9.20							
9.23	3.12	9.22							

DESIRED RESULTS

The quality of all municipal services is raised to the level expected of regional centres generally

Goodooga streetscape and amenities are a reflection of the Community's civic pride



TARGET AREA 9: TOWN INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS

TA9

COMMUNITY OBLIGATION	To assist in keeping our environment free of harmful influences and risks
COMMUNITY ACTION	Reduce, or see that other responsible bodies take action to reduce, dangerous practices
PROVIDER OBLIGATION	To provide the services expected at a benchmarked level and quality
PROVIDER ACTION	Upgrade infrastructure elements to required level of provision and standard

The Community aims to see Goodooga municipal services contribute at all times to the health and wellbeing of Community members

The Community aims to enhance the amenity of the town and Reserve through improvements in streetscape and public facilities

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

CAN

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

- 9.24 Improve the maintenance of open spaces at Goodooga Reserve to reduce weed infestation and risk to children from snakes, and reduce the fuel load for grass fires;
- 9.25 In conjunction with Brewarrina Shire Council and the Hall Committee, develop a Plan of Management to restore the amenity and usefulness of the Community Hall as a meeting venue. Reinststate Community dance nights. Relocate the CYSS Hall as part of the block refurbishment.

IMPLEMENTATION

						PROGRESS		
CAN	LINKED CANs	SECTOR	PROVIDER	PROGRAM	TARGET END	P	S	F
9.24	9.03 9.17							
9.25	2.02							

DESIRED RESULTS

The quality of all municipal services is raised to the level expected of regional centres generally

Goodooga streetscape and amenities are a reflection of the Community's civic pride



COMMUNITY PROFILE

Some details about our

GOODOOGA

community:

Who we are

Our people are members of the Yuwaalaraay language group although people of other language groups live in town. The boundaries of our country are close to the towns and villages of Hebel in the north, Lightning Ridge in the east, Brewarrina and Walgett in the south and Weilmoringle in the west. We live on the banks of the Bokhara River on the flat black soil plains. Some of our traditional ways are still known to us.

Twelve families live at the former Reserve at the northern end of town, two in humpies.

Our population

The ABS 2001 Census recorded 300 people living in Goodooga. Some details taken from the ABS 2001 Census about our population are:

Number of households	67
Number of families	62
Number of people	242
Number of males	121
Number of females	121
Number of people aged 19 or less	115
Number of people aged 50 or over	35

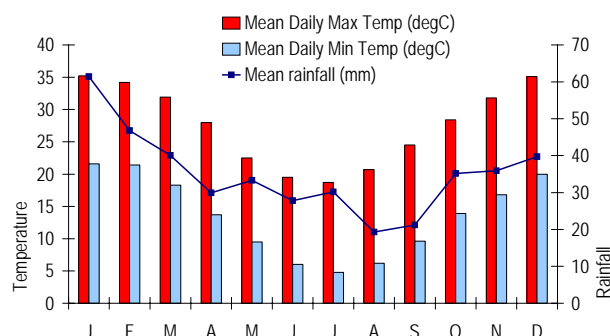
Our population by age and by sex is:

Age Group	Males	Females	Total
0 to 4	15	13	28
5 to 14	33	38	71
15 to 19	13	3	16
20 to 29	20	18	38
30 to 49	33	31	64
50 to 64	12	14	26
65 and over	6	3	9
Total	132	120	252

Our population has remained steady since a Community survey carried out in 1998.



Our weather



Weather data shown is for the BoM station at Goodooga PO

Mean number of days over 35°C	60.6
Highest temperature °C	46.4
Lowest temperature °C	-3.3
Mean annual rainfall mm	420.6
Mean number of rain days	44.1

Working

The economy of Goodooga depends on the rural and service sectors. Employment is strongest in these sectors although most people are on the CDEP. Employment-related figures for our community people recorded in the ABS 2001 Census are:

Number of people employed on CDEP	48
Number of people employed elsewhere	40
Number of people in workforce	96
Participation rate	66%
Number of people unemployed	5
Number of people not in labour force	50
Unemployment rate	5%

These figures mask the high dependency on CDEP part-time employment and the levels of underemployment associated with seasonal work in the rural sector, especially in the current drought conditions.

Training is important to us as a way of securing our future by way of raising our skill levels and operating our own businesses but it is hard to come by.

Income:

ABS 2001 Census indicates the community to be heavily dependent upon welfare payments since the predominant income levels for individuals are in the \$200 to \$299/week range. Median family weekly income is \$600 to \$699/week.

Our health:

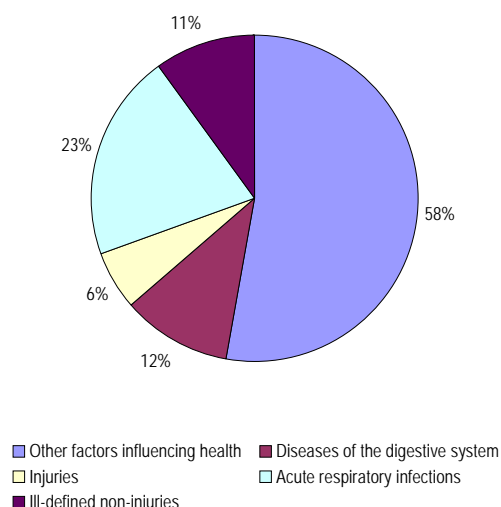
The top four causes of death of our people in the Brewarrina Shire are cancer, respiratory disease, heart disease, injury and poisoning. Average life expectancy is about 37 years for a Goodooga man and 45 years for a Goodooga woman.

Men and women in FWAHS area are more likely to die at any age and from any cause than men and women in NSW generally. The death rate for men in the Shire is higher than the NSW rate.

Admission rate to hospital for any cause is higher than the rate for NSW by a factor of 3 for men and women. Goodooga residents are more likely to be admitted for diseases of the respiratory system and symptoms and signs of disease. We are less likely to be admitted for social reasons and injury and poisoning compared to Far West. On average, there are about 250 occasions of residents of Goodooga being hospitalised with an acute illness every year. Access rates at Goodooga MPS are:

Period	Non-admitted patients (Occasions of service)	Emergency Department Attendance (No)
2001-02	5,477	1,584
2002-03	6,905	1,618
2003-04	6,183	1,878

The following diagram shows a breakdown of the causes of hospitalisations:



Health services are provided by the Goodooga Multi-purpose Service (MPS) and Community Health. The MPS is a 24 hour emergency service and accommodates also six residential aged patients. The ambulance service operates from the MPS using volunteer drivers. Focus of service delivery is on primary health. Community Aged Care Packages are accessed by Community members.

Specialist services are provided by visiting health professionals on an out-patient basis.

Goodooga is fortunate to have a resident GP. The nearest pharmacy is located in Lightning Ridge and dentist in Walgett.

An Aboriginal Health/Primary Health Care Worker position is funded.

Housing:

Most of our houses are old and getting to a stage where it is not economical to repair them any more. Some are original Lands Trust houses from the 1960s which are very small and inadequate for a family by current standards. Even newer houses at Goodooga Reserve are distressed by ground movement and poor workmanship.

Our housing is owned by Bodha Ltd or Goodooga Local Aboriginal Land Council. Bodha's houses are managed by Murdi Paaki Regional Housing Corporation and market rents are charged.



Learning:

Development of thinking and listening skills, social skills and confidence can start as young as 3 years of age at the Pre School but places are limited to twenty children.

The Goodooga Central School teaches from Kindergarten to Year 12 level. The ABS 2001 Census recorded the numbers of children of community members attending schools in the town as:

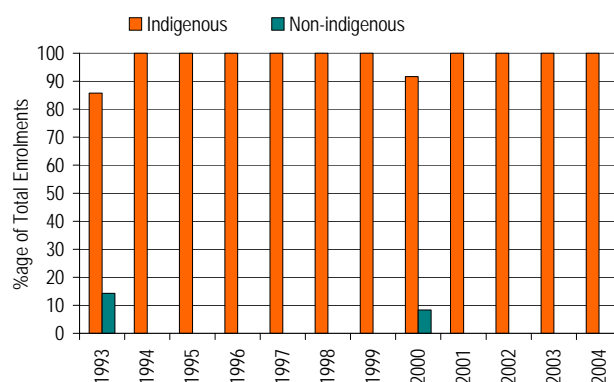
School	Boys	Girls
Pre school	3	6
Infants/Primary		
Government	23	23
Secondary		
Government	9	12
Total	35	41

Some children may go away to schools in other towns and board.

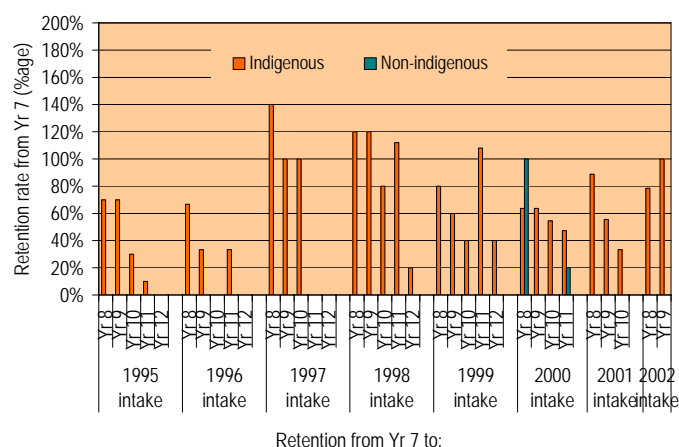
The highest level of schooling completed by people over the age of 15 years is stated to be:

	Boys	Girls
Year 8 or below	10	19
Year 9 or equivalent	20	7
Year 10 or equivalent	23	22
Year 11 or equivalent	4	4
Year 12 or equivalent	4	10
Still at school	4	3
Did not go to school	3	0
Not stated	10	8

The Census indicated that there were no persons attending a Technical or Further Education College, but three persons attending a University or undertaking a course at tertiary level.

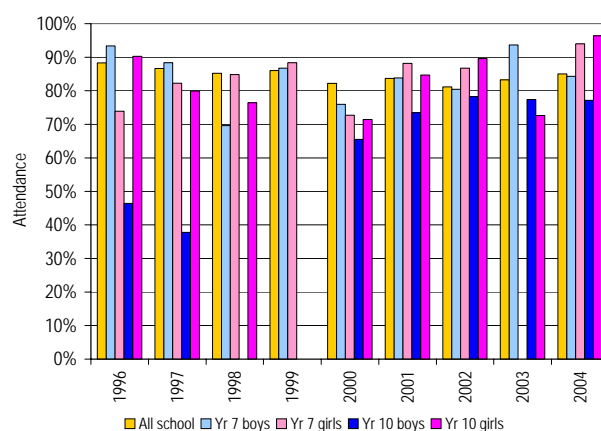


Typically, between 75 and 100 students enrol each year. The percentage of students of each intake from 1997 remaining at the beginning of following years is:



Retention from Yr 7 to:

Over the years since 1996, attendance at the school for our children and non-indigenous children has been:



Only three Aboriginal people of 146 respondents over the age of 15 years used a computer at home. Three Aboriginal people used the internet at home.

Ten Aboriginal people are recorded as having a formal qualifications at Certificate level and three to Diploma level. No people have more advanced qualifications.

Services available in town:

Almost all of our services have been cut and those that remain are delivered by the Post Office, Land Council Store or the pub. We do not have a supermarket, butcher, baker, service station for fuel or newsagency.

Brewarrina Shire Council are responsible for the town's community, recreational and sporting facilities. The town has golf, tennis and bowling clubs but the tennis courts and bowling greens are unplayable. The sports oval is usable in daylight hours. The Community Hall is a dangerous building.

The school has a small pool and covered basketball court.

Our police station is staffed by two officers but they are generally on duty in another town.

The town infrastructure of water, sewerage, power, and telephones are working but water and power are not to an acceptable standard. We have too many blackouts.

There are no facilities or services for young and teenage children.

Transport:

There is no bus service to allow us to attend doctor's or medical appointments, go shopping, or go visiting in other towns.

Environmental issues:

For us, the biggest environmental issue is the lack of water in the river. The long periods of low or no flow threaten our raw water supply, and prevent us from following our traditional practices of fishing and yabbying to supplement our diets.

The high levels of salt in the bore water means that we cannot grow vegetables or keep our yards dust free.



References

1. Burns Aldis, 1998 *Housing and Environmental Health Plan for the Goodooga Community*, Sydney
2. C Mahon et al, 2000 *Health in the Far West – The health of the people in Goodooga*, Broken Hill
3. Far West Area Health Service, 2004 *Goodooga Health Services Directory 2004*, Broken Hill
4. Far West Area Health Service 2004, *FWAHS Annual Report 03/04*, Broken Hill
5. Gutteridge, Haskins and Davey, 2003 *Regional Plan for the Murdi Paaki Region 2003 – 2005*, Brisbane

